BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners,
Baker County, Florida:

Report on the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, discretely presented component unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Baker County, Florida (the County), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Unmodified Opinion on Major Funds and Aggregate Remaining Fund Information

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the General Fund, Transportation Trust Fund, Road Paving Fund, Fines and Forfeitures Fund, SHIP Fund and the aggregate remaining fund information for the County as of September 30, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Qualified Opinion on Governmental Activities

In our opinion, based on our audit and the report of the other auditors, except for the effects, if any, of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph on the governmental activities, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities of the County, as of September 30, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position thereof 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) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standard*s, 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 County 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.

Basis for Qualified Opinion on Governmental Activities

Management has not acquired an actuarial valuation to determine the amount of its total OPEB (Other Postemployment Benefits) liability and has not presented such liability and related deferred inflows, deferred outflows and expenses in its government-wide financial statements as required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The impact of such departure from generally accepted accounting principles on the liabilities, deferred inflows, deferred outflows, net position and expenses of the government-wide financial statements of the County is unknown. Such departure has no impact on the County's fund financial statements.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the County'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.

Auditors' 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 auditors' 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 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 GAAS 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 County'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 County'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 supplementary information, as listed in the table of contents be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context.

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

Management has omitted the schedule of changes in the County's total OPEB liability and related ratios that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. Our opinion on the basic financial statements are not affected by this missing information.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the County's financial statements. The combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements and other schedules, and schedule of expenditures of federal awards and state financial assistance as required by the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance), and Section 215.97, Florida Statutes, *Florida Single Audit Act*, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated April 10, 2025, on our consideration of the County's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the County'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 County's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

James Moore & Co., P.L.

Daytona Beach, Florida
April 10, 2025

As management of the Baker County, Florida, we offer readers of this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Baker County, Florida for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023.

Financial Highlights

The following are various financial highlights for fiscal year 2023:

- The County's overall net position increased (decreased) by $(2,926,934).
- Total ending net position was approximately $58.9 million, which includes negative unrestricted net position of approximately $4.6 million.

Overview of the Basic Financial Statements

This annual report contains government-wide financial statements that report on the County's activities as a whole and fund financial statements that report on the County's individual funds.

Government-wide Financial Statements

The first financial statement is the Statement of Net Position. This statement includes all of the County's assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting. Accrual accounting is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. All of the current year revenues and expenditures are recorded, regardless of when cash is received or paid. Net Position – the difference between assets, liabilities, and deferred outflows/inflows – can be used to measure the County's financial position.

The second financial statement is the Statement of Activities. This statement is also shown using the accrual basis of accounting. It shows the increases and decreases in net position during the fiscal year. Over time, the increases or decreases in net position are useful indicators of whether the County's financial health is improving or deteriorating. However, other non-financial factors, such as road conditions or changes in the tax base, must also be considered when assessing the overall health of the County.

In these statements, the County's activities are reported as follows:

- Governmental activities – The County's basic services are reported here, including administration, law enforcement and corrections, fire services, road and bridge maintenance, and garbage. Taxes and charges for services finance most of these activities.

The government-wide financial statements include not only the County itself (known as the primary government), but also a legally separate component unit, the Baker County Correctional Management Corporation. Financial information for the component unit is reported separately from the financial information presented for the primary government itself.

Fund Financial Statements

A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that are segregated for specific activities or objectives. The County, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds of the County can be divided into two categories: governmental funds and fiduciary 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 on spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be used in evaluating a government'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 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 governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities.

The County maintains numerous individual governmental funds. Information is presented separately in the governmental fund balance sheet and in the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances for the General Fund, the Road Paving Fund, the Transportation Trust Fund, the Fine and Forfeiture Fund and the SHIP Fund, which are considered to be major funds. Data from the other governmental funds are combined into a single, aggregated presentation. Individual fund data for each of the non-major governmental funds is provided in the form of combining statements elsewhere in this report.

Fiduciary Funds – Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the government. Fiduciary funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statements because resources of those funds are not available to support the County's own programs.

Notes to the Financial Statements

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

Other Information

In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain required supplementary information containing budget to actual comparisons for the general fund and major special revenue funds and certain information pertaining to the County's participation in the Florida Retirement System. Following the required supplementary information can be found combining balance sheets and combining statements of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances for the non-major governmental funds, a combining statement of fiduciary net position, and a schedule of expenditures of federal and state awards.

Schedule of Net Position

	2023	2022
ASSETS		
Current and other assets	$ 30,408,241	$ 28,964,580
Capital assets	58,167,087	57,017,740
Total assets	88,575,328	85,982,320
Deferred outflows of resources	7,743,642	6,872,657
LIABILITIES		
Current and other liabilities	4,864,743	3,237,974
Long-term liabilities	30,995,771	25,894,560
Total liabilities	35,860,514	29,132,534
Deferred inflows of resources	1,505,737	1,842,790
NET POSITION		
Net investment in capital assets	$ 57,202,421	$ 55,701,768
Restricted	6,432,282	7,156,803
Unrestricted	(4,681,984)	(978,918)
Total net position	$ 58,952,719	$ 61,879,653

Schedule of Changes in Net Position

	2023	2022
REVENUES		
Program revenues:		
Charges for services	$ 18,471,584	$ 16,123,339
Operating grants and contributions	4,423,740	11,309,245
Capital grants and contributions	671,884	4,285,914
General revenues		
Property taxes	8,719,701	7,572,196
Other taxes	4,471,366	4,334,636
Unrestricted shared revenue	6,026,641	5,563,001
Other	1,758,293	1,123,227
Total revenues	44,543,209	50,311,558
EXPENSES		
General government	3,941,852	5,124,578
Public safety	29,632,317	24,281,186
Physical environment	1,193,569	1,128,048
Transportation	7,238,356	4,551,172
Economic environment	380,740	720,442
Human services	2,532,691	1,467,819
Culture and recreation	962,113	650,945
Court related	1,549,080	1,545,165
Interest on long-term debt	39,425	36,304
Total expenses	47,470,143	39,505,659
Change in net position	(2,926,934)	10,805,899
Net position, beginning of year	61,879,653	51,073,754
Net position, end of year	$ 58,952,719	$ 61,879,653

OVERALL FINANCIAL POSITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Governmental Activities

The governmental activities generated $44.5 million in revenues and incurred $47.5 million of expenses. This resulted in an decrease in net position of approximately $2.9 million. This compares with a prior year increase in net position of approximately $10.8 million. The largest factor in the positive fluctuation in net position compared to prior year related to favorable changes in the County's net pension liability related to participation in the Florida Retirement System (FRS).

The County's Individual Funds

- The General Fund's total fund balance increased by $3,623,690, compared with an increase of approximately $2,595,207 last year. The most significant cause of this fluctuation was an increase in ad valorem taxes.
- The fund balance of the Fine & Forfeiture Fund decreased by $113,207 due to the timing of expenditures and transfers to/from the general fund.
- Revenues were equal to expenditures in the State Housing Initiative Project fund.
- The Transportation Trust Fund's total fund balance decreased by $389,837, primarily due to the timing of certain capital outlay expenditures.
- The Road Paving Fund's total fund balance decreased by $160,152, primarily due to transfers in from the general fund.

GENERAL FUND – BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS

Revenues of the General Fund were approximately $3,200,000 more than budgeted amounts. The largest variance between final budget amounts and actual results occurred with intergovernmental revenues. The primary source of intergovernmental activity that caused the fluctuation was intergovernmental grant revenue. The County budgeted less than the full grant revenue that recognized in the financial statements. Expenditures were greater than budgeted amounts by about approximately $399,000.

CAPITAL ASSETS

The County's capital assets, net of depreciation, increased by approximately $1.1 million during the year. Please refer to the note to the accompanying financial statements entitled Capital Assets for more detailed information about the County's capital asset activity.

DEBT ADMINISTRATION

Long-term debt increased by approximately $5.1 million during the year. Please refer to a note to the accompanying financial statements entitled Changes in Long-Term Liabilities for more detailed information about the County's long-term debt activity.

ECONOMIC FACTORS

Baker County has relied on property taxes, intergovernmental resources, and accumulated reserves to fund its operations. The County is addressing the reliance upon reserves for operational cost going forward. The County has utilized grants, road, EMS, and park impact fees to help fund the infrastructure needs.

The Board of County Commissioners adopted a General Fund millage rate of 7.2916 mills for fiscal year 2024, equal to the millage rate adopted for fiscal year 2023.

CONTACTING THE COUNTY'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, customers, and creditors with a general overview of the County's finances and to show the County's accountability for the money it receives. If you have any questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact Baker County at 55 N. Third St., Macclenny, Florida 32063.

BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Primary Government	Component Unit
	Governmental Activities	Baker County Corrections Management Corporation
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 25,764,763	$ 4,141,693
Investments	1,639,142	-
Receivables, net	602,107	1,555,225
Due from other governments	2,330,764	-
Prepaids	71,465	1,500
Restricted assets:		
Equity in pooled cash	-	1,794,414
Capital assets:		
Capital assets, not being depreciated	8,843,082	2,874,982
Capital assets, net of depreciation	49,324,005	24,055,052
Total assets	$ 88,575,328	$ 34,422,866
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Deferred outflows related to pensions	$ 7,743,642	$ -
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	$ 3,272,274	$ 75,443
Due to other governments	135,516	-
Unearned revenue	1,456,953	-
Noncurrent liabilities:		
Due within one year:		
Bonds and notes payable	45,080	954,287
Leases payable	407,719	18,638
Compensated absences	1,033,139	-
Due in more than one year:		
Bonds and notes payable	69,804	26,848,211
Leases payable	442,063	256,874
Compensated absences	182,319	-
Net pension liability	28,815,647	-
Total liabilities	$ 35,860,514	$ 28,153,453
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Deferred inflows related to pensions	$ 1,505,737	$ -
NET POSITION		
Net investment in capital assets	$ 57,202,421	$ 2,498,584
Restricted for:		
Health reimbursements	350,254	-
Law enforcement	1,125,744	-
Recreation	191,822	-
Human services	94,331	-
Physical environment	38,434	-
Transportation	2,823,394	-
Economic environment	1,062,423	-
Court costs	560,677	-
Equitable sharing	121,139	-
Other purposes	64,064	1,794,414
Unrestricted	(4,681,984)	1,976,415
Total net position	$ 58,952,719	$ 6,269,413

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

BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

Functions/Programs	Expenses	Program Revenues: Charges for Services	Program Revenues: Operating Grants and Contributions	Program Revenues: Capital Grants and Contributions	Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position: Primary Government: Governmental Activities	Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position: Component Unit: Baker County Corrections Management Corporation
Governmental activities:						
General government	$ 3,941,852	$ 1,377,689	$ 263,391	$ -	$ (2,300,772)	$ -
Public safety	29,632,317	15,668,764	1,726,856	145,580	(12,091,117)	-
Physical environment	1,193,569	600,270	199,083	-	(394,216)	-
Transportation	7,238,356	-	1,285,796	526,304	(5,426,256)	-
Economic environment	380,740	-	569,780	-	189,040	-
Human services	2,532,691	-	4,482	-	(2,528,209)	-
Culture and recreation	962,113	51,628	82,868	-	(827,617)	-
Court related	1,549,080	773,233	291,484		(484,363)	-
Interest on long-term debt	39,425	-	-	-	(39,425)	-
Total governmental activities	47,470,143	18,471,584	4,423,740	671,884	(23,902,935)	-
Total primary government	$ 47,470,143	$ 18,471,584	$ 4,423,740	$ 671,884	(23,902,935)	-
Component units:						
Baker County Corrections Management Corporation	$ 13,345,958	$ 13,513,801	$ -	$ -	-	167,843
General revenues:						
Property taxes					8,719,701	-
Sales taxes					2,846,711	-
Other taxes					1,624,655	-
Franchise fees					756,989	-
State revenue sharing					6,026,641	-
Investment earnings					377,627	-
Miscellaneous revenues					623,677	-
Total general revenues					20,976,001	-
Special items:						
Loss on sale of Baker Correctional Development Corporation					-	-
Change in net position					(2,926,934)	167,843
Net position, beginning of year					61,879,653	6,101,570
Net position, end of year					$ 58,952,719	$ 6,269,413

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

BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
BALANCE SHEET
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	General	Transportation Trust	Road Paving	Fine and Forfeiture	SHIP	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS							
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	$ 18,179,842	$ 611,557	$ 280,421	$ 317,813	$ 984,766	$ 5,390,364	$ 25,764,763
Investments	37,075	1,602,067	-	-	-	-	1,639,142
Receivables, net	369,450	-	-	-	-	82,267	451,717
Due from other governments	1,628,651	361,391	69,899	-	-	429,797	2,489,738
Due from other funds	560,622	-	-	-	-	5,792	566,414
Prepaid items	66,001	-	-	-	-	5,464	71,465
Total Assets	$ 20,841,641	$ 2,575,015	$ 350,320	$ 317,813	$ 984,766	$ 5,913,684	$ 30,983,239
LIABILITIES							
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	$ 2,649,487	$ 92,902	$ 9,039	$ 78,913	$ 38,699	$ 411,818	$ 3,280,858
Due to other governments	55,216	-	-	-	-	80,300	135,516
Due to other funds	5,792	-	-	-	-	560,622	566,414
Unearned revenue	-	-	-	-	946,067	510,886	1,456,953
Total liabilities	2,710,495	92,902	9,039	78,913	984,766	1,563,626	5,439,741
FUND BALANCES							
Nonspendable:							
Prepaid items	66,001	-	-	-	-	5,464	71,465
Restricted for:							
Health reimbursements	-	-	-	-	-	350,254	350,254
Law enforcement	-	-	-	238,900	-	886,844	1,125,744
Transportation	-	2,482,113	341,281	-	-	-	2,823,394
Recreation	-	-	-	-	-	191,822	191,822
Human services	-	-	-	-	-	94,331	94,331
Physical environment	-	-	-	-	-	38,434	38,434
Law library	-	-	-	-	-	35	35
Juvenile program	-	-	-	-	-	35	35
Crime prevention	-	-	-	-	-	63,994	63,994
Court costs	-	-	-	-	-	560,677	560,677
Equitable sharing	-	-	-	-	-	121,139	121,139
Economic environment	-	-	-	-	-	1,062,423	1,062,423
Assigned to:							
Capital projects	-	-	-	-	-	1,494,998	1,494,998
Jail operations	350,684	-	-	-	-	-	350,684
Court operations	222,510	-	-	-	-	-	222,510
Subsequent year's budget	269,813	-	-	-	-	-	269,813
Unassigned	17,222,138	-	-	-	-	(520,392)	16,701,746
Total fund balances	18,131,146	2,482,113	341,281	238,900	-	4,350,058	25,543,498
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	$ 20,841,641	$ 2,575,015	$ 350,320	$ 317,813	$ 984,766	$ 5,913,684	$ 30,983,239

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

BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
RECONCILIATION OF THE BALANCE SHEET OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

Fund balances - total governmental funds		$ 25,543,498
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:		
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.		
Total governmental capital assets - nondepreciable	8,843,082	
Total governmental capital assets - depreciable	116,870,549	
Less: accumulated depreciation	(67,546,544)	58,167,087
On the statement of net position, the County's net pension liability of the defined benefit pension plans is reported as a noncurrent liability. Additionally, deferred outflows and deferred inflows related to pensions are also reported.		
Net pension liability	(28,815,647)	
Deferred outflows related to pensions	7,743,642	
Deferred inflows related to pensions	(1,505,737)	(22,577,742)
Long-term liabilities, including bonds payable and notes payable, are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the funds. These liabilities, deferred outflows, and other debt-related deferred charges consist of the following:		
Bonds and notes payable	(114,884)	
Leases payable	(849,782)	
Compensated absences	(1,215,458)	(2,180,124)
Net position of governmental activities		$ 58,952,719

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

BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	General	Transportation Trust	Road Paving	Fine and Forfeiture	SHIP	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues							
Taxes	$ 6,781,036	$ 1,252,401	$ -	$ 5,670,011	$ -	$ 244,608	$ 13,948,056
Permits and fees	117,970	-	-	-	-	168,875	286,845
Intergovernmental	7,683,544	1,388,729	528,704	-	329,850	1,096,395	11,027,222
Charges for services	15,821,411	-	-	-	-	2,073,626	17,895,037
Fines and forfeitures	126,592	-	-	430	-	182,823	309,845
Investment income	175,281	132,485	-	13,056	4,949	52,348	378,119
Miscellaneous	508,062	95,983	-	68,153	-	247,477	919,675
Total revenues	31,213,896	2,869,598	528,704	5,751,650	334,799	4,066,152	44,764,799
Expenditures							
Current:							
General government	5,220,645	-	-	-	-	162,651	5,383,296
Public safety	19,554,168	-	-	3,004,423	-	3,535,341	26,093,932
Physical environment	197,164	-	-	-	-	897,860	1,095,024
Transportation	-	2,734,560	370,543	-	-	-	3,105,103
Economic environment	73,101	-	-	-	-	-	73,101
Human services	978,445	-	-	-	334,799	241,519	1,554,763
Culture and recreation	456,229	-	-	-	-	281,930	738,159
Court related	1,125,527	-	-	-	-	107,612	1,233,139
Capital outlay	2,644,133	350,280	318,313	-	-	1,977,250	5,289,976
Debt service:							
Principal retirement	83,722	167,002	-	-	-	100,582	351,306
Interest and fiscal charges	4,982	7,593	-	-	-	17,533	30,108
Total expenditures	30,338,116	3,259,435	688,856	3,004,423	334,799	7,322,278	44,947,907
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	875,780	(389,837)	(160,152)	2,747,227	-	(3,256,126)	(183,108)
Other financing sources (uses)							
Transfers in	5,681,122	-	-	2,752,212	-	291,650	8,724,984
Transfers out	(2,933,212)	-	-	(5,612,646)	-	(179,126)	(8,724,984)
Total other financing sources (uses)	2,747,910	-	-	(2,860,434)	-	112,524	-
Net change in fund balances	3,623,690	(389,837)	(160,152)	(113,207)	-	(3,143,602)	(183,108)
Fund balances, beginning of year	14,507,456	2,871,950	501,433	352,107	-	7,493,660	25,726,606
Fund balances, end of year	$ 18,131,146	$ 2,482,113	$ 341,281	$ 238,900	$ -	$ 4,350,058	$ 25,543,498

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

BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds	$ (183,108)
Differences in amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are:	
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is depreciated over their estimated useful lives.	
Capital outlay expenditures	5,289,976
Depreciation expense	(4,135,211)
Net book value of disposition of capital assets	(5,418)
Repayment of notes payable, leases, and other long-term liabilities are expenditures in the governmental funds, but the repayment of debt principal reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net position. These amounts are as follows:	
Principal repayment of general long-term debt	351,306
Governmental funds report contributions to defined benefit pension plans as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities, the amount contributed to defined benefit pension plans reduces future net pension liability. Also included in pension expense in the Statement of Activities are amounts required to be amortized.	
Change in net pension liability and deferred inflows/outflows related to pensions	(4,008,039)
Under the modified accrual basis of accounting used in the governmental funds, expenditures are not recognized for transactions that are not normally paid with expendable available financial resources. In the statement of activities, however, which is presented on the accrual basis, expenses and liabilities are reported regardless of when financial resources are available. In addition, interest on long-term debt is not recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting until due, rather than as it accrues. These adjustments are as follows:	
Change in compensated absences liability	(236,440)
Change in net position of governmental activities	$ (2,926,934)

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

BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Custodial Funds
ASSETS	
Cash and equivalents	$ 1,808,441
Total assets	$ 1,808,441
LIABILITIES	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	$ 20
Deposits held in escrow	2,017
Due to other governments	519,614
Due to others	1,067,454
Total liabilities	$ 1,589,105
NET POSITION	$ 219,336

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

BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Custodial Funds
Additions	
Taxes	$ 25,198,171
Seizures	40,423
Permits, fees, and special assessments	2,448,130
Deposits and trusts	1,550,929
Fines and forfeitures	25,113
Miscellaneous	20,909
Court related	3,623,890
Total additions	32,907,565
Deductions	
Payments to individuals	1,527,041
Payments to other governments	15,928,796
Inmate services	1,325,352
Payments to other funds	10,476,591
Miscellaneous	7,505
Court related	3,623,890
Total deductions	32,889,175
Net change in fiduciary net position	18,390
Net position, beginning of year	200,946
Net position, end of year	$ 219,336

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

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:

The financial statements of Baker County, Florida (the County), have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as applicable to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted body for promulgating governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The following is a summary of the County's significant accounting policies:

(a) **Reporting entity**—Baker County, Florida is a non-charter, general purpose local government established under the legal authority of the Constitution of the State of Florida. It is composed of an elected five-member Board of County Commissioners (the Board) and five elected constitutional officers, who are governed by state statutes and regulations. The Board and the constitutional officers – the Clerk of the Circuit Court, the Sheriff, the Tax Collector, the Property Appraiser, and the Supervisor of Elections – each operate as a separate county agency. Pursuant to Florida law, the Clerk of the Circuit Court is the clerk and accountant of the Board and serves as the auditor, recorder, and custodian of the Board's funds.

Component units are entities for which the County is considered to be financially accountable or entities that would be misleading to exclude.

The County is financially accountable for the organizations that make up its legal entity. It is also financially accountable for legally separate organizations if its officials appoint a voting majority of an organization's governing body and either it is able to impose its will on that organization or there is a potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or to impose specific financial burdens on, the County. The County may also be financially accountable for governmental organizations that are fiscally dependent on it.

Blended Component Units – Although legally separate entities, blended component units are in substance part of the primary government's operations and, accordingly, data from these units, if any, would be combined with the data of the primary government. There are no blended component units included in the accompanying financial statements.

Discretely Presented Component Units – Discretely presented component units, on the other hand, are reported in a separate column in the financial statements to emphasize that they are legally separate entities.

There was a positive response to the criteria used for establishing financial accountability for the Baker County Corrections Management Corporation's (the BCCMC). Accordingly, the BCCMC has been included in the County's financial statements as a discretely presented component unit.

The BCCMC, a not-for-profit organization, was authorized by Sections 125.01 and 130.01, Florida Statutes, as amended. The Organization was established to issue revenue bonds to finance the construction of a new jail facility for the County, and to operate the facility upon completion. The Baker Corrections Management Corporation was formed in the February 2019 in order to facilitate bond refinancing. The facility has 512 beds and became operational on June 13, 2009. The members of the original governing board of the Baker County Development Corporation (a previous component unit that dissolved prior to the beginning of the current fiscal year) were appointed by the Baker County Board of County Commissioners. Baker County Board of County Commissioners retains the right to remove the Component Unit's board members with or without cause. Financial statements of the Component Unit are separately issued and can be requested at PO Box 749, Macclenny, FL 32063.

(1) **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:** (Continued)

(b) **Joint ventures—**The governments of Baker, Bradford, and Union Counties established the New River Solid Waste Association (the "Association") through an interlocal agreement. The Association was established to provide a regional approach to solid waste management for the citizens of the tri-county region. The Association is governed by a Board of Directors whose members are appointed by each participating government. The County does not have an ongoing financial interest in the Association. However, the County does have an ongoing financial responsibility to the Association in that the Association's continued existence depends on the County's continuing participation. A copy of the Association's separate financial statements may be obtained from its administrative offices in Raiford, Florida.

The governments of Baker, Bradford, and Union Counties established the New River Public Library Cooperative (the "Cooperative") through an interlocal agreement. The Cooperative was established to provide unified library services to the citizens of the tri-county region. The Cooperative is governed by a Board of Directors whose members are appointed by each participating government. The County does not have an ongoing financial interest in the Cooperative, however, the County does have an ongoing financial responsibility to the Cooperative in that the Cooperative's continued existence depends on the County's continuing participation. A copy of the Cooperative's separate financial statements may be obtained from its administrative offices in Lake Butler, Florida.

(c) **Government-wide and fund financial statements—**The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net position and the statement of activities) concentrate on the County as a whole. In addition, they report information on all of the non-fiduciary activities of the County. For the most part, the effect of inter-fund activity has been removed from these statements.

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

Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds and fiduciary funds even though the latter are excluded from the government-wide financial statements. Major individual governmental funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements. The nonmajor funds are combined in one column in the fund financial statements.

(d) **Measurement focus and basis of accounting—**The accounts of the County 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 balance, revenues, and expenditures. Government resources are allocated to, and accounted for in, individual funds based upon the purposes for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled.

The accounting and financial reporting treatment is determined by the applicable measurement focus and the basis of accounting. The basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. The basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the measurement focus applied. Measurement focus indicates the type of resources being measured such as current financial resources (current assets less current liabilities) or economic resources (all assets and liabilities).

(1) **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:** (Continued)

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the *economic resources measurement focus* and the *accrual basis of accounting*, as are the fiduciary fund financial statements. 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.

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 County considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 90 days of the end of the current fiscal period; except for property taxes which is 60 days.

Property taxes, special assessments, intergovernmental revenues, charges for services, 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. All other revenue items are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received by the County.

Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures, certain expenditure relating to future periods, as well as expenditures related to compensated absences and claims and judgments, are recorded only when payment is due.

The County reports the following major governmental funds:

General Fund – The General Fund is the primary operating fund. It is used to account for and report all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund.

Transportation Trust Fund – This special revenue fund is used primarily to account for the receipt and expenditure of gas taxes and other funds restricted for transportation.

Road Paving Fund – This special revenue fund is used primarily to account for the grants and other revenues received by the County that are restricted to road paving and road infrastructure needs of the County.

Fine and Forfeiture Fund – This special revenue fund is used primarily to fund operations of the Sheriff's Office. The operations are primarily financed by ad-valorem taxes and miscellaneous court surcharges.

SHIP Fund – This special revenue fund is used to account for the state housing initiatives partnership (SHIP) grant.

The County reports the following other fund type:

Custodial Funds - Custodial funds are used to account for assets held by the County in a custodial or trustee capacity. Custodial funds do not involve the measurement of results of operations.

(1) **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:** (Continued)

(e) **Cash and investments**—The institutions in which the County's monies are deposited are certified as a "Qualified Public Depository," as required under the Florida Public Deposits Act. This law requires every qualified public depository to deposit with the State Treasurer eligible collateral equal to or in excess of an amount to be determined by the State Treasurer and requires the State Treasurer to ensure that funds are entirely collateralized throughout the fiscal year. Therefore, the County's total deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation and the Bureau of Collateral Securities, Division of Treasury, State Department of Insurance.

The County categorizes of fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy, based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the asset. Investments in external pools, though measured at fair value, are not categorized within the fair value hierarchy.

(f) **Receivables**—Activity between funds that are representative of lending/borrowing arrangements outstanding at the end of the fiscal year are referred to as either "due to/from other funds" (i.e., the current portion of interfund loans) or "advances to/from other funds" (i.e., the non-current portion of interfund loans). All other outstanding balances between funds are reported as "due to/from other funds" and are eliminated in the government-wide financial statements. All trade and property tax receivables are reported net of an allowance for uncollectible accounts, which is based upon management's analysis of historical trends.

(g) **Allowance for uncollectible accounts**—Receivables are reported net of an allowance for uncollectible amounts of $746,475.

(h) **Capital assets**—Capital assets include property, plant, equipment and infrastructure assets. The terms general capital assets and general infrastructure assets relate only to the assets associated with governmental activities, whereas the terms capital assets and infrastructure assets relate to all such assets belonging to the County. Capital assets are defined by the County as property and equipment with an initial individual cost of $5,000 or more and infrastructure of $50,000 or more 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 acquisition value as of the date received. Additions, improvements and other capital outlays that significantly extend the useful life of an asset are only capitalized if they meet the dollar threshold above for capitalization. Donated capital assets are recorded at acquisition value. Maintenance and repairs of capital assets are charged to operating expenses.

Depreciation is reported for the primary government using the straight-line method calculated on a service-life basis to amortize the cost of the asset over their estimated economic useful lives, which are as follows:

Assets	Years
Buildings and Improvements	15 – 100 years
Infrastructure (Roads and Bridges)	40 – 50 years
Machinery and Equipment	3 – 20 years

(i) **Compensated absences**—The various County agencies maintain policies that permit employees to accumulate earned but unused vacation and sick pay benefits that will be paid to employees upon separation of service if certain criteria are met. These benefits, plus their related tax and retirement costs, are classified as compensated absences. The policies of the various County agencies vary as to the amount and the vesting of employee vacation leave time and, in some instances, sick time. The amount of vacation time is determined by the period of employment. The compensated absences liability is primarily liquidated by the general fund.

(1) **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:** (Continued)

(j) **Long-term obligations—**In the government-wide financial statements, long-term debt obligations are reported as liabilities on the statement of net position. The compensated absences and net pension liabilities have been liquidated in the past by the reporting units of the underlying employees, including primarily the general fund, with some smaller amounts paid by other governmental funds.

(k) **Deferred outflows/inflows of resources—**In addition to assets, the statement of financial position will, if required, report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred 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. Currently, the only item in this category consisted of deferred amounts related to pensions, as discussed further in Note (9).

In addition to liabilities, the statement of net 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 financial position or fund balance that applies to future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. Currently, the item in this category consisted of deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, as discussed further in Note (9).

(l) **Fund balance—**Fund balance for governmental funds report classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which the government is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in the funds may be spent. The following classifications describe the relative strength of applicable spending constraints:

Nonspendable – amounts not available to be spent or not in spendable form, such as inventory and prepaid items.

Restricted – amounts constrained to specific purposes by their providers (such as grantors and higher levels of government), through constitutional provisions or by enabling legislation.

Committed – amounts the County intends to use for a specific purpose as expressed at the highest level of decision-making authority by the Board of County Commissioners.

Assigned – amounts the County intends to use for a specific purpose. Intent can be expressed by Board of County Commissioners or by an official or body which the Board delegates authority.

Unassigned – amounts that are available for any purpose. Positive amounts are reported only in the General Fund.

The County does not have a formal written policy regarding whether restricted or unrestricted amounts are considered to be spent when an expenditure for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balances are available. However, it has been the County's general practice when expenditure is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available; the County considers restricted funds to have been spent first. When expenditure is incurred for which assigned or unassigned fund balances are available, the County considers amounts to have been spent first out of assigned funds then unassigned funds, as needed.

(1) **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:** (Continued)

(m) **Net position flow assumption—**Sometimes the County will fund outlays for a particular purpose from both restricted and unrestricted resources. In order to determine amounts reported as restricted and unrestricted net position, it is the County's policy to consider restricted net position to have been used before unrestricted net position is applied.

(n) **Property taxes—** Property tax revenues are recognized when levied, to the extent that they result in current receivables. Details of the property tax calendar are presented below:

Lien date	January 1
Levy date	October 1
Discount periods	November – February
No discount period	March
Delinquent date	April 1

(o) **Budgets and budgetary accounting—**Annual budgets are legally adopted by the Board of County Commissioners, on a basis consistent with generally accepted principles for the General Fund and special revenue funds. Formal budgetary integration is employed as a management control device during the year for all governmental funds.

The annual budget is prepared at the fund, department, and division level. The department directors submit requests for appropriations to the Clerk of Courts. The Clerk submits a recommended budget to the Board of County Commissioners. Public hearings on the proposed budget are held in September. On or before October 1, the budget is adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. Transfers between funds require Board approval. If during the fiscal year, there are additional available revenues for appropriation in excess of those estimated in the budget; the Board may make supplemental appropriations for the year, up to the amount of such excess revenues. Appropriations in all funds lapse at the close of the fiscal year to the extent that it has not been re-budgeted in the following fiscal year. The fund is the legal level of budgetary control. Expenditures exceed appropriations in the EMS fund by $149,036, the Drivers Education Trust fund by $468, the Equitable Sharing fund by $38,900, and the ARPA fund by $1,975,533.

(p) **Impact fees—**The County has not adopted any ordinances or resolutions to levy impact fees in accordance with Section 163.31801, *Florida Statutes*.

(q) **Use of estimates—**Management uses estimates and assumptions in preparing financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America. Those estimates and assumptions affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities, and the reported revenue and expenses. Actual results could vary from the estimates assumed in preparing the financial statements.

(2) **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**—Following the governmental fund balance sheet is a reconciliation between fund balance – total governmental funds and net position – governmental activities as reported in the government-wide statement of net position. A detailed explanation of these differences is provided in this reconciliation.

(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**—Following the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances, there is a reconciliation between net changes in fund balances - total governmental funds and changes in net position of governmental activities as reported in the government-wide statement of activities. A detailed explanation of these differences is provided in this reconciliation.

(3) **Deposits and Investments:**

Florida Statutes authorize the County to invest in bonds, notes or other obligations of the U.S. Government, certificates of deposits, repurchase agreements, certain bonds of any State or local government unit and the State Treasurer's Investment Pool.

The State Board of Administration PRIME pool (Florida PRIME) is an external investment pool that meets all of the necessary criteria to elect to measure all of the investments in Florida PRIME at amortized cost. Therefore, the County's investment in Florida PRIME is reported at amortized cost. The fair value of the position in the pool is equal to the value of the pool shares. As of September 30, 2023, there were no redemption fees or maximum transaction amounts, or any other requirements that serve to limit a participant's daily access to 100% of their account value. The weighted average maturity of the fund was 35 days and the rating by S&P Global Ratings was AAAm. At September 30, 2023, the County had $1,639,142 invested with Florida PRIME.

Interest Rate Risk. The County does not have a formal investment policy that limits investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates.

Concentration of Credit Risk. The County places no limit on the amount that may be invested in any one issuer.

(4) **Interfund Balances and Transfers:**

Transfers from/to other funds for the year ended September 30, 2023, were as follows:

Recipient Fund	Amount Transferred	Reason for Transfer
Fine and Forfeiture	$ 2,752,212	Transfer from General Fund to aid in operating costs
General Fund	5,681,122	Transfer from fine and forfeiture fund for public safety reimbursements.
Sheriff Special Law Fund	38,900	Transfer from Equitable Sharing Fund for fund reimbursements
12.50 SC Fund	17,000	Transfer from General Fund to aid in operating costs
Emergency Management	57,871	Transfer from General Fund to aid in operating costs
Solid Waste Fund	164,000	Transfer from General Fund to aid in operating costs
Court Innovations Trust	6,911	Transfer from Law Library Trust to Court Innovations Trust for funds
Court Innovations Trust	6,968	Transfer from Juvenile Trust to Court Innovations Trust for funds owed
	$ 8,724,984	

(4) **Interfund Balances and Transfers:** (Continued)

As of September 30, 2023, interfund balances consisted of:

	Due From Other Funds	Due To Other Funds
General Fund	$ 560,622	$ 5,792
Major Funds:		
Non-Major Funds:		
Fire	-	398,625
EMS Grant	-	132,461
Grants	-	29,536
Equitable Sharing Fund	5,792	-
Total	$ 566,414	$ 566,414

(5) **Capital Assets:**

Capital asset activity for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, was as follows:

Governmental activities:	Beginning Balance	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Land	$ 5,427,944	$ -	$ -	$ 5,427,944
Construction in progress	1,793,923	1,778,155	(156,940)	3,415,138
Total assets not being depreciated	7,221,867	1,778,155	(156,940)	8,843,082
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Building & Improvements	18,479,083	231,239	-	18,710,322
Infrastructure	74,152,137	156,940	-	74,309,077
Machinery and equipment	18,428,413	3,280,582	(42,540)	21,666,455
Right to use leased machinery and equipment	2,184,695	-	-	2,184,695
Total assets being depreciated	113,244,328	3,668,761	(42,540)	116,870,549
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Buildings, Improvements	(6,430,758)	(416,169)	-	(6,846,927)
Infrastructure	(42,173,970)	(1,845,497)	-	(44,019,467)
Machinery and equipment	(13,535,945)	(1,873,545)	37,122	(15,372,368)
Right to use leased machinery and equipment	(1,307,782)	-	-	(1,307,782)
Total accumulated depreciation	(63,448,455)	(4,135,211)	37,122	(67,546,544)
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	49,795,873	(466,450)	(5,418)	49,324,005
Governmental activities capital assets, net	$ 57,017,740	$ 1,311,705	$ (162,358)	$ 58,167,087

(5) **Capital Assets:** (Continued)

Depreciation expense was charged to programs for the County as follows:

General Government	$ 531,586
Public Safety	1,289,822
Physical Environment	89,680
Transportation	2,049,031
Human Service	4,660
Culture and Recreation	26,216
Court Related	144,216
	$ 4,135,211

Capital assets activity for the Component Units for the year ended September 30, 2023, was as follows:

Governmental Activities:	Beginning Balance	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Land	$ 1,635,160	$ -	$ -	$ 1,635,160
Construction in progress	-	1,239,823	-	1,239,823
Total capital assets not being depreciated	1,635,160	1,239,823	-	2,874,983
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Furniture and equipment	1,273,540	96,771	-	1,370,311
Buildings	26,276,600	-	-	26,276,600
Improvements other than buildings	360,206	41,527	-	401,733
Right to use leased assets	320,531	-	-	320,531
Total capital assets being depreciated	28,230,877	138,298	-	28,369,175
Less accumulated depreciation on equipment, buildings and improvements	(3,350,202)	(910,288)	-	(4,260,490)
Less accumulated depreciation on right to use leased assets	(32,264)	(21,369)	-	(53,633)
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	24,848,411	(793,359)	-	24,055,052
Total capital assets, net	$ 26,483,571	$ (793,359)	$ -	$ 25,690,212

(6) **Long-Term Debt:**

Notes Payable

The County has entered into various long-term note agreements, which are summarized below:

Note payable to financial institution for ambulance, interest rate of 2.50%, payable from General Fund through March 2026. Loan is secured by vehicle.	$ 114,884

(6) **Long-Term Debt:** (Continued)

The following schedule provides future debt service requirements of the notes payable:

Year Ending September 30,	Principal	Interest	Total
2024	$ 45,080	$ 2,396	$ 47,476
2025	46,241	1,233	47,474
2026	23,563	174	23,737
Total	$ 114,884	$ 3,803	$ 118,687

Leases Payable

The County leases heavy equipment under agreements with interest rates ranging from 2.71% to 4.6%. The future minimum lease payments required and the present value of the net minimum lease payments at September 30, 2023, are as follows:

Year Ending September 30,	Payment
2024	$ 429,249
2025	118,115
2026	118,116
2027	118,115
2028	118,116
Total minimum lease payments	901,711
Less: amount representing interest	51,929
Present value of minimum lease payments	$ 849,782

Amortization of leased equipment under capital assets is included with depreciation expense.

The following is a summary of changes in long-term debt of the County for the year ended September 30, 2023:

	Balance 10/01/22	Increases	Decreases	Balance 09/30/23	Current Portion
Capital lease obligations	$ 1,157,130	$ -	$ (307,348)	$ 849,782	$ 407,719
Compensated absences	979,018	1,190,857	(954,417)	1,215,458	1,033,139
Notes payable	158,842	-	(43,958)	114,884	45,080
Totals	$ 2,294,990	$ 1,190,857	$ (1,305,723)	$ 2,180,124	$ 1,485,938

The following is a summary of changes in long-term debt of the Component Units for the year ended September 30, 2023:

	Beginning Balance	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance	Due Within One Year
USDA loan	$ 28,720,641	-	$ (918,043)	$ 27,802,598	$ 954,287
Capital lease obligations	293,600	-	(18,088)	275,512	18,638
Totals	$ 29,014,241	$ -	$ (936,131)	$ 28,078,110	$ 972,925

(7) Risk Management:

Commercial Insurance

The County is exposed to various risks of loss related to general liability, auto liability, collision, property, island marine and crime liability. The County carries commercial insurance for coverage of those risks. Settled claims have not exceeded commercial insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

Public Entity Risk Pool

The County is exposed to a risk of loss related to worker's compensation. To manage this risk, the County joined a public entity risk pool (the "pool"). The County pays annual premiums to the pool for its coverage. Premiums paid to the pool are designed to fund the risks assumed by the pool and are based on certain actual exposures of each member.

(8) Related Party Transactions:

Facility operations agreements between the Component Unit and the Baker County Sheriff's Office were executed to facilitate operations of the correctional facility. The Component Unit is the owner of the correctional facility and issuer of revenue bonds for the cost of construction of the facility. Construction of the correctional facility was completed in May 2009. The Sheriff's Office is responsible for the operation of the facility and resources are provided from the Component Unit to the Sheriff's Office to cover the costs associated with correctional operations and facility management.

Costs covering the correctional operations, such as salaries and benefits of corrections officers and administrative staff, insurance, inmate medical costs, compensatory time for detention staff and other various reimbursements are reimbursed by the Component Unit to the Sheriff's Office at the actual costs incurred; approximately $12,300,000 during 2023.

Due to Component Unit

At September 30, 2023, there was no amount due to the Component Unit from the County's Office.

(9) Employees' Retirement Plans:

Florida Retirement System

Plan Description and Administration

The County participates in the Florida Retirement System (FRS), a multiple-employer, cost-sharing defined public employee retirement system which covers all of the County's eligible employees. The System is administered by the State of Florida, Department of Administration, Division of Retirement to provide retirement and survivor benefits to participating public employees. Provisions relating to the FRS are established by Chapters 121 and 122, Florida Statutes; Chapter 112, Part IV, Florida Statutes; Chapter 238, Florida Statutes; and FRS Rules, Chapter 60S, Florida Administrative Code; wherein eligibility, contributions, and benefits are defined and described in detail. The FRS is a single retirement system administered by the Department of Management Services, Division of Retirement, and consists of two cost-sharing, multiple-employer retirement plans and other nonintegrated programs.

These include a defined-benefit pension plan (Plan), with a Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP), and a defined-contribution plan, referred to as the FRS Investment Plan (Investment Plan).

In addition, all regular employees of the entity are eligible to enroll as members of the Retiree Health Insurance Subsidy (HIS) Program. The HIS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan established and administered in accordance with section 112.363, Florida Statutes. The benefit is a monthly payment to assist retirees of the state-administered retirement systems in paying their health insurance costs. Eligible retirees and beneficiaries receive a monthly HIS payment equal to the number of years of service credited at retirement multiplied by $7.5. The minimum payment is $45 and the maximum payment is $225 per month, pursuant to section 112.363, Florida Statutes. To be eligible to receive a HIS benefit, a retiree under one of the state-administered retirement systems must provide proof of eligible health insurance coverage, which can include Medicare.

Benefits Provided and Employees Covered

Employees enrolled in the Plan prior to July 1, 2011, vest at six years of creditable service and employees enrolled in the Plan on or after July 1, 2011, vest at eight years of creditable service. All vested members, enrolled prior to July 1, 2011, are eligible for normal retirement benefits at age 62 or at any age after 30 years of service. All members enrolled in the Plan on or after July 1, 2011, once vested, are eligible for normal retirement benefits at age 65 or any time after 33 years of creditable service. Members of both Plans may include up to four years of credit for military service toward creditable service. The Plan also includes an early retirement provision; however, there is a benefit reduction for each year a member retires before his or her normal retirement date. The Plan provides retirement, disability, death benefits, and annual cost-of-living adjustments. Benefits under the Plan are computed on the basis of age and/or years of service, average final compensation, and service credit. Credit for each year of service is expressed as a percentage of the average final compensation. For members initially enrolled before July 1, 2011, the average final compensation is the average of the five highest fiscal years' earnings; for members initially enrolled on or after July 1, 2011, the average final compensation is the average of the eight highest fiscal years' earnings. The total percentage value of the benefit received is determined by calculating the total value of all service, which is based on the retirement plan and/or class to which the member belonged when the service credit was earned.

(9) **Employees' Retirement Plans:** (Continued)

DROP, subject to provisions of Section 121.091, Florida Statutes, permits employees eligible for normal retirement under the Plan to defer receipt of monthly benefit payments while continuing employment with an FRS employer. An employee may participate in DROP for a period not to exceed 60 months after electing to participate, except that certain instructional personnel may participate for up to 96 months. During the period of DROP participation, deferred monthly benefits are held in the FRS Trust Fund and accrue interest.

Employees may elect to participate in the Investment Plan in lieu of the FRS defined-benefit plan. Employer and employee contributions are defined by law, but the ultimate benefit depends in part on the performance of investment funds. The Investment Plan is funded by employer and employee contributions that are based on salary and membership class (Regular, DROP, etc.). Contributions are directed to individual member accounts, and the individual members allocate contributions and account balances among various approved investment choices. Employees in the Investment Plan vest at one year of service.

Financial Statements

Financial statements and other supplementary information of the FRS are included in the State's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, which is available from the Florida Department of Financial Services, Bureau of Financial Reporting Statewide Financial Reporting Section by mail at 200 E. Gaines Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0364; by telephone at (850) 413-5511; or at the Department's Web site (www.myfloridacfo.com). An annual report on the FRS, which includes its financial statements, required supplementary information, actuarial report, and other relevant information, is available from:

Florida Department of Management Services
Division of Retirement, Research and Education Services
P.O. Box 9000
Tallahassee, FL 32315-9000
850-488-5706 or toll free at 877-377-1737

Contributions

The County participates in certain classes of FRS membership. Each class had descriptions and contribution rates in effect during the year ended September 30, 2023, as follows (contribution rates are in agreement with the actuarially determined rates):

FRS Membership Plan & Class	Through June 30, 2023	After June 30, 2023
Regular Class	11.91%	13.57%
Senior Management (SMSC)	31.57%	34.52%
Special Risk	27.83%	32.67%
Elected Official Class	57.00%	58.68%

Current-year employer HIS contributions were made at a rate of 1.66% of covered payroll through June 30, 2023, and 2.00% thereafter, which are included in the above rates.

(9) **Employees' Retirement Plans:** (Continued)

For the plan year ended June 30, 2023, actual contributions made for employees participating in FRS and HIS were as follows:

Entity Contributions – FRS	$ 2,769,946
Entity Contributions – HIS	243,224
Employee Contributions – FRS	439,561

Net Pension Liability, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows and Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions

At September 30, 2023, the entity reported a net pension liability related to FRS and HIS as follows:

Plan	Net Pension Liability
FRS	$ 22,943,622
HIS	5,872,025
Total	$ 28,815,647

The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2023, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The employer proportion of the net pension liability was based on a projection of the organization's long-term share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating governmental entities, as actuarially determined. At June 30, 2023 and 2022, the organization's proportionate share of the FRS and HIS net pension liabilities were as follows:

Plan	2023	2022
FRS	0.057579535%	0.053333234%
HIS	0.036974381%	0.035455667%

For the plan year ended June 30, 2023, pension expense was recognized related to the FRS and HIS plans as follows:

FRS	$ 4,865,952
HIS	2,284,883
Total	$ 7,150,835

Deferred outflows/inflows related to pensions:

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

	FRS		HIS	
	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	$ 2,154,208	$ -	$ 85,962	$ (13,783)
Changes of assumptions	1,495,656	-	154,374	(508,831)
Net difference between projected and actual investment earnings	958,188	-	3,032	-
Change in proportionate share	1,690,122	(930,377)	398,859	(52,746)
Contributions subsequent to measurement date	734,384	-	68,857	-
Total	$ 7,032,558	$ (930,377)	$ 711,084	$ (575,360)

(9) **Employees' Retirement Plans:** (Continued)

The above amounts for deferred outflows of resources for contributions related to pensions resulting from County contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ended September 30, 2024.

Other amounts reported as deferred outflows and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions being amortized for a period of greater than one year will be recognized in pension expense in succeeding years as follows:

	FRS	HIS	Total
2024	$ 750,717	$ 40,461	$ 791,178
2025	(125,079)	48,502	(76,577)
2026	3,931,456	25,305	3,956,761
2027	639,946	(37,878)	602,068
2028	170,757	(13,742)	157,015
Thereafter	-	4,219	4,219
	$ 5,367,797	$ 66,867	$ 5,434,664

Actuarial assumptions:

The actuarial assumptions for both defined benefit plans are reviewed annually by the Florida Retirement System Actuarial Assumptions Conference. The FRS has a valuation performed annually. The HIS Program has a valuation performed biennially that is updated for GASB reporting in the year a valuation is not performed. The most recent experience study for the FRS was completed in 2019 for the period July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2018. Because HIS is funded on a pay-as-you-go basis, no experience study has been completed.

The total pension liability for each of the defined benefit plans was determined by an actuarial valuation, using the entry age normal actuarial cost method. Inflation increases for both plans is assumed at 2.40%. Payroll growth, including inflation, for both plans is assumed at 3.25%. Both the discount rate and the long-term expected rate of return used for FRS investments is 6.70%. This rate is consistent with the prior year rate of 6.70%. The 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 discount rate for calculating the total pension liability is equal to the long-term expected rate of return. Because HIS Program uses a pay-as-you-go funding structure, a municipal bond rate of 3.65% was used to determine the total pension for the program. This rate increased from the prior year rate, which was 3.54%. Mortality assumptions for both plans were based on the PUB-2010 base table varies by member category and sex, projected generationally with Scale MP-2018 details.

Long-term expected rate of return:

To develop an analytical basis for the selection of the long-term expected rate of return assumption, in October 2023, the FRS Actuarial Assumptions conference reviewed long-term assumptions developed by both Milliman's capital market assumptions team and by a capital market assumptions team from Aon Hewitt Investment Consulting, which consults to the Florida State Board of Administration. The table below shows Milliman's assumptions for each of the asset classes in which the plan was invested at that time based on the long-term target asset allocation. The allocation policy's description of each asset class was used to map the target allocation to the asset classes shown below. Each asset class assumption is based on a consistent set of underlying assumptions, and includes an adjustment for the inflation assumption. These assumptions are not based on historical returns, but instead are based on a forward-looking capital market economic model.

(9) **Employees' Retirement Plans:** (Continued)

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Arithmetic Expected Rate of Return
Cash	1.0%	2.9%
Fixed income	19.8%	4.5%
Global equities	54.0%	8.7%
Real estate	10.3%	7.6%
Private equity	11.1%	11.9%
Strategic investments	3.8%	6.3%
Total	100.0%	

Sensitivity of the net pension liability to changes in the discount rate:

The following presents the proportionate shares of the FRS and HIS net pension liability of the entity calculated using the current discount rates, as well as what the entity's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1% lower or 1% higher than the current rate:

Plan	Current Discount Rate	NPL with 1% Decrease	NPL at Current Discount Rate	NPL with 1% Increase
FRS	6.70%	$ 39,192,379	$ 22,943,622	$ 9,349,593
HIS	3.65%	6,699,064	5,872,025	5,186,465

(10) **Recent Accounting Pronouncements:**

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has issued several pronouncements that have effective dates that may impact future financial statements. Listed below are pronouncements with required implementation dates effective for subsequent fiscal years that have not yet been implemented. Management has not currently determined what, if any, impact implementation of the following will have on the County's financial statements:

GASB issued Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences*, in June 2022. GASB Statement No. 101 amends the existing guidance related to the calculation and disclosures surrounding the liability for compensated absences. The provisions for GASB 101 are effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2023.

GASB issued Statement No. 102, *Certain Risk Disclosures*, in December 2023. The objective of GASB 102 is to provide users of government financial statements with essential information about risks related to a government's vulnerabilities due to certain concentrations or constraints. The effective date for implementation is fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2024, and all reporting periods thereafter.

GASB issued Statement No. 103, *Financial Reporting Model Improvements*, in April 2024. The objective of GASB 103 improve key components of the financial reporting model to enhance its effectiveness in providing information that is essential for decision making and assessing a government's accountability. The effective date for implementation is fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2025, and all reporting periods thereafter.

(10) **Recent Accounting Pronouncements:** (Continued)

GASB issued Statement No. 104, *Disclosure of Certain Capital Assets*, in September 2024. GASB Statement No. 104 requires governments to disclose separate information about specific types of capital assets and establishes criteria for identifying and reporting capital assets held for sale. The objective of GASB 104 is to enhance transparency and improve the usefulness of financial statements for stakeholders by providing more detailed information on these assets. The provisions are effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2025.

(11) **Deficit Fund Balances:**

At September 30, 2023, each of the funds listed below reported a fund balance deficit. If not recovered through future grant reimbursements, this deficit will ultimately recovered via a general fund subsidy.

Fund	Deficit Amount
Fire	$ (431,039)
EMS Grant	(14,131)
Legal Aid Trust	(546)
Solid Waste	(44,521)
Drivers Ed Trust	(619)
Grants	(29,536)
	$ (520,392)

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts			
	Original	Final	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
Revenues				
Taxes	$ 5,755,893	$ 5,755,893	$ 6,781,036	$ 1,025,143
Permits and fees	124,500	124,500	117,970	(6,530)
Intergovernmental	6,210,056	6,279,388	7,683,544	1,404,156
Charges for services	14,085,583	15,550,652	15,821,411	270,759
Fines and forfeitures	147,232	147,232	126,592	(20,640)
Investment income	6,503	6,503	175,281	168,778
Miscellaneous	87,134	88,134	508,062	419,928
Total revenues	26,416,901	27,952,302	31,213,896	3,261,594
Expenditures				
Current:				
General government	5,672,673	5,860,266	5,220,645	639,621
Public safety	19,511,327	20,927,125	19,554,168	1,372,957
Physical environment	223,943	223,943	197,164	26,779
Economic environment	87,342	87,342	73,101	14,241
Human services	805,872	805,872	978,445	(172,573)
Culture and recreation	589,091	589,091	456,229	132,862
Court related	1,177,197	1,177,197	1,125,527	51,670
Capital outlay	219,184	268,455	2,644,133	(2,375,678)
Debt service:				
Principal retirement	-	-	83,722	(83,722)
Interest and fiscal charges	-	-	4,982	(4,982)
Total expenditures	28,286,629	29,939,291	30,338,116	(398,825)
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(1,869,728)	(1,986,989)	875,780	2,862,769
Other financing sources (uses)				
Transfers in	73,359	73,359	5,681,122	5,607,763
Transfers out	(3,619,326)	(3,619,326)	(2,933,212)	686,114
Appropriations to constitutional officers	5,433,455	5,446,551	-	(5,446,551)
Reversions from constitutional officers	(85,175)	(72,292)	-	72,292
Total other financing sources (uses)	1,802,313	1,828,292	2,747,910	919,618
Net change in fund balances	(67,415)	(158,697)	3,623,690	3,782,387
Fund balances, beginning of year	14,507,456	14,507,456	14,507,456	-
Fund balances, end of year	$ 14,440,041	$ 14,348,759	$ 18,131,146	$ 3,782,387

The accompanying note to schedules of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balance - budgetary information is an integral part of this schedule.

BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - TRANSPORTATION TRUST FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts			
	Original	**Final**	**Actual**	**Variance with Final Budget**
Revenues				
Taxes	$ 1,208,101	$ 1,208,101	$ 1,252,401	$ 44,300
Intergovernmental	1,379,243	1,379,243	1,388,729	9,486
Investment income	9,000	9,000	132,485	123,485
Miscellaneous	35,000	35,000	95,983	60,983
Total revenues	2,631,344	2,631,344	2,869,598	238,254
Expenditures				
Current:				
Transportation	3,270,214	3,361,214	2,734,560	626,654
Capital outlay	-	-	350,280	(350,280)
Debt service:				
Principal retirement	174,597	174,597	167,002	7,595
Interest and fiscal charges	-	-	7,593	(7,593)
Total expenditures	3,444,811	3,535,811	3,259,435	276,376
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(813,467)	(904,467)	(389,837)	514,630
Net change in fund balances	(813,467)	(904,467)	(389,837)	514,630
Fund balances, beginning of year	2,871,950	2,871,950	2,871,950	-
Fund balances, end of year	$ 2,058,483	$ 1,967,483	$ 2,482,113	$ 514,630

The accompanying note to schedules of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balance - budgetary information is an integral part of this schedule.

BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - ROAD PAVING FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts			
	Original	Final	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
Revenues				
Intergovernmental	$ 21,744,030	$ 21,744,030	$ 528,704	$ (21,215,326)
Total revenues	21,744,030	21,744,030	528,704	(21,215,326)
Expenditures				
Current:				
Transportation	8,085,000	8,085,000	370,543	7,714,457
Capital outlay	13,659,030	13,659,030	318,313	13,340,717
Total expenditures	21,744,030	21,744,030	688,856	21,055,174
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	-	-	(160,152)	(160,152)
Net change in fund balances	-	-	(160,152)	(160,152)
Fund balances, beginning of year	501,433	501,433	501,433	-
Fund balances, end of year	$ 501,433	$ 501,433	$ 341,281	$ (160,152)

The accompanying note to schedules of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balance - budgetary information is an integral part of this schedule.

BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - FINE AND FORFEITURE FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts			
	Original	Final	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
Revenues				
Taxes	$ 5,396,252	$ 5,396,252	$ 5,670,011	$ 273,759
Intergovernmental	228,000	228,000	-	(228,000)
Fines and forfeitures	300	300	430	130
Investment income	125	125	13,056	12,931
Miscellaneous	17,000	17,000	68,153	51,153
Total revenues	5,641,677	5,641,677	5,751,650	109,973
Expenditures				
Current:				
Public safety	3,359,484	3,359,484	3,004,423	355,061
Total expenditures	3,359,484	3,359,484	3,004,423	355,061
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	2,282,193	2,282,193	2,747,227	465,034
Other financing sources (uses)				
Transfers in	3,477,371	3,477,371	2,752,212	(725,159)
Transfers out	-	-	-	-
Transfers out	(5,759,564)	(5,759,564)	(5,612,646)	146,918
Total other financing sources (uses)	(2,282,193)	(2,282,193)	(2,860,434)	(578,241)
Net change in fund balances	-	-	(113,207)	(113,207)
Fund balances, beginning of year	352,107	352,107	352,107	-
Fund balances, end of year	$ 352,107	$ 352,107	$ 238,900	$ (113,207)

The accompanying note to schedules of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balance - budgetary information is an integral part of this schedule.

BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - SHIP FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts			
	Original	Final	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
Revenues				
Intergovernmental	$ -	$ -	$ 329,850	$ 329,850
Investment income	800	800	4,949	4,149
Total revenues	800	800	334,799	333,999
Expenditures				
Current:				
Human services	477,197	477,197	334,799	142,398
Total expenditures	477,197	477,197	334,799	142,398
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(476,397)	(476,397)	-	476,397
Net change in fund balances	(476,397)	(476,397)	-	476,397
Fund balances, beginning of year	-	-	-	-
Fund balances, end of year	$ (476,397)	$ (476,397)	$ -	$ 476,397

The accompanying note to schedules of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balance - budgetary information is an integral part of this schedule.

BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
NOTE TO SCHEDULES OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

Note to Budgetary Comparison Schedules:

The preparation, adoption and amendment of the budgets are governed by Florida Statutes. The fund is the legal level of control. Budgets are prepared on a basis that does not differ materially from generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). Appropriations lapse at year-end. Budgeted excess expenditures over revenues are funded through transfers in and use of fund balance reserves.

BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF NET PENSION LIABILITY
LAST 10 FISCAL YEAR AS OF SEPTEMBER 30
(UNAUDITED)

	For the Plan Year Ending June 30,								
	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Florida Retirement System (FRS)									
Proportion of the net pension liability	0.057579535%	0.053333233%	0.051151621%	0.055667836%	0.054654622%	0.055003836%	0.054897926%	0.055978745%	0.056326104%
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	$ 22,943,622	$ 19,844,249	$ 3,863,924	$ 24,127,261	$ 18,822,291	$ 16,657,441	$ 16,238,437	$ 14,134,677	$ 7,275,272
Covered payroll	14,652,049	12,923,894	12,053,539	11,639,205	10,922,406	10,652,133	10,051,718	9,991,268	10,028,017
Proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered payroll	156.59%	153.55%	32.06%	207.29%	172.33%	156.38%	161.55%	143.32%	72.55%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	82.38%	82.89%	96.40%	78.85%	82.61%	84.26%	83.89%	84.88%	92.00%
Health Insurance Subsidy Program (HIS)									
Proportion of the net pension liability	0.036974381%	0.035455667%	0.034040228%	0.033528808%	0.032651738%	0.032606414%	0.031526930%	0.031886264%	0.033689953%
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	$ 5,872,025	$ 3,755,321	$ 4,175,546	$ 4,093,813	$ 3,653,403	$ 3,451,099	$ 3,371,004	$ 3,716,212	$ 3,435,846
Covered payroll	14,652,049	12,923,894	12,053,539	11,639,205	10,922,406	10,652,133	10,051,718	9,991,268	10,028,017
Proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered payroll	40.08%	29.06%	34.64%	35.17%	33.45%	32.40%	33.54%	37.68%	34.26%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	4.12%	4.81%	3.56%	3.00%	2.63%	2.15%	1.64%	0.97%	0.50%

Note 1: GASB 68 requires information for 10 years. However, until a full 10-year trend is compiled, the County will present information for only those years for which information is available.

BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS
LAST 10 FISCAL YEAR AS OF SEPTEMBER 30
(UNAUDITED)

	For the Plan Year Ending June 30,								
	2023	**2022**	**2021**	**2020**	**2019**	**2018**	**2017**	**2016**	**2015**
Florida Retirement System (FRS)									
Contractually required contribution	$ 2,885,246	$ 2,343,423	$ 1,948,656	$ 1,849,596	$ 1,694,688	$ 1,567,565	$ 1,538,209	$ 1,365,131	$ 1,373,194
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	(2,885,246)	(2,343,423)	(1,948,656)	(1,849,596)	(1,694,688)	(1,567,565)	(1,538,209)	(1,365,131)	(1,373,194)
Contribution deficiency (excess)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Covered payroll	$ 14,809,915	$ 13,075,574	$ 11,639,205	$ 10,922,406	$ 10,922,406	$ 10,652,133	$ 10,051,718	$ 9,991,268	$ 10,028,017
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	19.48%	17.92%	16.74%	16.93%	15.52%	14.72%	15.30%	13.66%	13.57%
Health Insurance Subsidy Program (HIS)									
Contractually required contribution	$ 257,550	$ 217,055	$ 200,089	$ 193,211	$ 181,312	$ 176,825	$ 166,859	$ 163,437	$ 138,657
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	(257,550)	(217,055)	(200,089)	(193,211)	(181,312)	(176,825)	(166,859)	(163,437)	(138,657)
Contribution deficiency (excess)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Covered payroll	$ 14,809,915	$ 13,075,574	$ 11,639,205	$ 10,922,406	$ 10,922,406	$ 10,652,133	$ 10,051,718	$ 9,991,268	$ 10,028,017
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	1.74%	1.66%	1.72%	1.77%	1.66%	1.66%	1.66%	1.66%	1.37%

Note 1: GASB 68 requires information for 10 years. However, until a full 10-year trend is compiled, the County will present information for only those years for which information is available.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
COMBINING BALANCE SHEET
GENERAL FUND
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	BCC	Sheriff	Property Appraiser	Supervisor of Elections	Tax Collector	Clerk of Courts	Subtotals	Interfund Eliminations	Total General Fund
ASSETS									
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 15,435,756	$ 2,009,104	$ 102,137	$ 43,720	$ 159,211	$ 429,914	$ 18,179,842	$ -	$ 18,179,842
Investments	37,075	-	-	-	-	-	37,075	-	37,075
Receivables, net	348,100	21,350	-	-	-	-	369,450	-	369,450
Due from other governments	1,043,143	548,966	-	-	-	36,542	1,628,651	-	1,628,651
Due from other funds	1,001,517	-	-	-	-	-	1,001,517	(440,895)	560,622
Inventories	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Due from component unit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Prepaid items	-	61,001	-	-	-	5,000	66,001	-	66,001
Total Assets	$ 17,865,591	$ 2,640,421	$ 102,137	$ 43,720	$ 159,211	$ 471,456	$ 21,282,536	$ (440,895)	$ 20,841,641
LIABILITIES									
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	$ 373,640	$ 2,222,944	$ -	$ 7,288	$ 1,028	$ 44,587	$ 2,649,487	$ -	$ 2,649,487
Due to other governments	-	-	8,263	-	-	46,953	55,216	-	55,216
Customer deposits	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Due to other funds	-	5,792	93,874	36,432	158,183	152,406	446,687	(440,895)	5,792
Due to component unit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unearned revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total liabilities	373,640	2,228,736	102,137	43,720	159,211	243,946	3,151,390	(440,895)	2,710,495
FUND BALANCES									
Nonspendable:									
Prepaid items	-	61,001	-	-	-	5,000	66,001	-	66,001
Assigned to:									
Jail operations	-	350,684	-	-	-	-	350,684	-	350,684
Court operations	-	-	-	-	-	222,510	222,510	-	222,510
Subsequent year's budget	269,813	-	-	-	-	-	269,813	-	269,813
Unassigned	17,222,138	-	-	-	-	-	17,222,138	-	17,222,138
Total fund balances	17,491,951	411,685	-	-	-	227,510	18,131,146	-	18,131,146
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	$ 17,865,591	$ 2,640,421	$ 102,137	$ 43,720	$ 159,211	$ 471,456	$ 21,282,536	$ (440,895)	$ 20,841,641

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	BCC	Sheriff	Property Appraiser	Supervisor of Elections	Tax Collector	Clerk of Courts	Subtotals	Interfund Eliminations	Total General Fund
Revenues									
Taxes	$ 6,781,036	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 6,781,036	$ -	$ 6,781,036
Permits and fees	117,970	-	-	-	-	-	117,970	-	117,970
Intergovernmental	6,479,470	816,223	-	69,332	-	318,519	7,683,544	-	7,683,544
Charges for services	1,137,188	13,317,261	101,967	-	802,892	462,103	15,821,411	-	15,821,411
Fines and forfeitures	17,090	-	-	-	-	109,502	126,592	-	126,592
Investment income	164,077	3,342	-	-	742	7,120	175,281	-	175,281
Miscellaneous	260,877	245,271	-	-	-	1,914	508,062	-	508,062
Total revenues	14,957,708	14,382,097	101,967	69,332	803,634	899,158	31,213,896	-	31,213,896
Expenditures									
Current:									
General government	2,403,477	-	751,350	673,893	914,161	477,764	5,220,645	-	5,220,645
Public safety	2,690,506	16,863,662	-	-	-	-	19,554,168	-	19,554,168
Physical environment	197,164	-	-	-	-	-	197,164	-	197,164
Economic environment	73,101	-	-	-	-	-	73,101	-	73,101
Human services	978,445	-	-	-	-	-	978,445	-	978,445
Culture and recreation	456,229	-	-	-	-	-	456,229	-	456,229
Court related	1,656	349,772	-	-	-	774,099	1,125,527	-	1,125,527
Capital outlay	-	2,644,133	-	-	-	-	2,644,133	-	2,644,133
Debt service:									
Principal retirement	83,722	-	-	-	-	-	83,722	-	83,722
Interest and fiscal charges	4,982	-	-	-	-	-	4,982	-	4,982
Total expenditures	6,889,282	19,857,567	751,350	673,893	914,161	1,251,863	30,338,116	-	30,338,116
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	8,068,426	(5,475,470)	(649,383)	(604,561)	(110,527)	(352,705)	875,780	-	875,780
Other financing sources (uses)									
Transfers in	3,525	-	-	-	-	15,803	19,328	5,661,794	5,681,122
Transfers out	(2,933,212)	-	-	-	-	-	(2,933,212)	-	(2,933,212)
Appropriations to constitutional officers	(2,131,765)	5,712,327	743,257	639,872	268,710	429,393	5,661,794	(5,661,794)	-
Reversions from constitutional officers	439,809	(35)	(93,874)	(35,311)	(158,183)	(152,406)	-	-	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	(4,621,643)	5,712,292	649,383	604,561	110,527	292,790	2,747,910	-	2,747,910
Net change in fund balances	3,446,783	236,822	-	-	-	(59,915)	3,623,690	-	3,623,690
Fund balances, beginning of year	14,045,168	174,863	-	-	-	287,425	14,507,456	-	14,507,456
Fund balances, end of year	$ 17,491,951	$ 411,685	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 227,510	$ 18,131,146	$ -	$ 18,131,146

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
COMBINING BALANCE SHEET
NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Fire	National Forest Title III	EMS Grant	Health Reimbursement	Civic Center	Law Library Trust	Legal Aid Trust	Juvenile Trust	Crime Prevention Trust	Solid Waste	Alcohol and Drug Abuse Trust	Court Facility	Drivers Ed Trust	Special Law Enforcement Trust	Shoals Park	Boating Improvement	Court Innovations Trust
ASSETS																	
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	$ -	$ 138,560	$ -	$ 359,695	$ 1,062,423	$ 35	$ -	$ 35	$ 63,994	$ 78,566	$ 38,434	$ 89,089	$ 2,258	$ 1,236	$ 111,269	$ 81,241	$ 213,439
Receivables, net	-	-	1,500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Due from other governments	-	-	116,830	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Due from other funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Prepaid items	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Assets	$ -	$ 138,560	$ 118,330	$ 359,695	$ 1,062,423	$ 35	$ -	$ 35	$ 63,994	$ 78,566	$ 38,434	$ 89,089	$ 2,258	$ 1,236	$ 111,269	$ 81,241	$ 213,439
LIABILITIES																	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	$ 32,414	$ 40	$ -	$ 9,441	$ -	$ -	$ 546	$ -	$ -	$ 123,087	$ -	$ 3,125	$ -	$ -	$ 688	$ -	$ -
Due to other governments	-	44,189	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,877	-	-	-	-
Due to other funds	398,625	-	132,461	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unearned revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total liabilities	431,039	44,229	132,461	9,441	-	-	546	-	-	123,087	-	3,125	2,877	-	688	-	-
FUND BALANCES																	
Nonspendable:																	
Prepaid items	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted for:																	
Health reimbursements	-	-	-	350,254	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Law enforcement	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,236	-	-	-
Recreation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	110,581	81,241	-
Physical environment	-	94,331	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Human services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	38,434	-	-	-	-	-	-
Law library	-	-	-	-	-	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Juvenile program	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Crime prevention	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	63,994	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Court costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	85,964	-	-	-	-	213,439
Economic environment	-	-	-	-	1,062,423	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Equitable sharing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Assigned to:																	
Capital projects	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unassigned	(431,039)	-	(14,131)	-	-	-	(546)	-	-	(44,521)	-	-	(619)	-	-	-	-
Total fund balances	(431,039)	94,331	(14,131)	350,254	1,062,423	35	(546)	35	63,994	(44,521)	38,434	85,964	(619)	1,236	110,581	81,241	213,439
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	$ -	$ 138,560	$ 118,330	$ 359,695	$ 1,062,423	$ 35	$ -	$ 35	$ 63,994	$ 78,566	$ 38,434	$ 89,089	$ 2,258	$ 1,236	$ 111,269	$ 81,241	$ 213,439

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
COMBINING BALANCE SHEET
NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	12.50 SC	Equitable Sharing	Impact Fees	Grants	ARPA	LATCF Grant	Clerk Records Modernization	Sheriff 911	Sheriff Special Law	Sheriff Inmate Welfare	Sheriff Second Dollar	Sheriff School Crossing Guards	Sheriff Emergency Management	Total Nonmajor Governmental Funds
ASSETS														
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	$ 3,620	$ 97,790	$ 33,234	$ -	$ 1,662,274	$ 510,886	$ 257,620	$ 118,500	$ 17,557	$ 282,660	$ -	$ 93,714	$ 72,235	$ 5,390,364
Receivables, net	-	17,557	-	-	-	-	34	-	-	63,176	-	-	-	82,267
Due from other governments	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	145,605	-	-	-	17,724	149,638	429,797
Due from other funds	-	5,792	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,792
Prepaid items	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,464	-	-	-	-	-	5,464
Total Assets	$ 3,620	$ 121,139	$ 33,234	$ -	$ 1,662,274	$ 510,886	$ 257,654	$ 269,569	$ 17,557	$ 345,836	$ -	$ 111,438	$ 221,873	$ 5,913,684
LIABILITIES														
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 167,276	$ -	$ -	$ 6,837	$ 17,557	$ 26,625	$ -	$ 114	$ 24,068	$ 411,818
Due to other governments	-	-	33,234	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	80,300
Due to other funds	-	-	-	29,536	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	560,622
Unearned revenue	-	-	-	-	-	510,886	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	510,886
Total liabilities	-	-	33,234	29,536	167,276	510,886	-	6,837	17,557	26,625	-	114	24,068	1,563,626
FUND BALANCES														
Nonspendable:														
Prepaid items	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,464	-	-	-	-	-	5,464
Restricted for:														
Health reimbursements	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	350,254
Law enforcement	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	257,268	-	319,211	-	111,324	197,805	886,844
Recreation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	191,822
Physical environment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	94,331
Human services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	38,434
Law library	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35
Juvenile program	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35
Crime prevention	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	63,994
Court costs	3,620	-	-	-	-	-	257,654	-	-	-	-	-	-	560,677
Economic environment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,062,423
Equitable sharing	-	121,139	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	121,139
Assigned to:														
Capital projects	-	-	-	-	1,494,998									1,494,998
Unassigned	-	-	-	(29,536)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(520,392)
Total fund balances	3,620	121,139	-	(29,536)	1,494,998	-	257,654	262,732	-	319,211	-	111,324	197,805	4,350,058
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	$ 3,620	$ 121,139	$ 33,234	$ -	$ 1,662,274	$ 510,886	$ 257,654	$ 269,569	$ 17,557	$ 345,836	$ -	$ 111,438	$ 221,873	$ 5,913,684

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
COMBINING SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES,
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Fire	National Forest Title III	EMS Grant	Health Reimbursement	Civic Center	Law Library Trust	Legal Aid Trust	Juvenile Trust	Crime Prevention Trust	Solid Waste	Alcohol and Drug Abuse Trust	Court Facility	Drivers Ed Trust	Special Law Enforcement Trust	Shoals Park	Boating Improvement	Court Innovations Trust
REVENUES																	
Taxes	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 244,608	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Permits and fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intergovernmental	-	25,194	221,299	-	-	-	-	-	-	93,750	-	-	-	-	-	10,600	-
Charges for services	931,519	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	600,270	-	-	-	-	34,573	-	-
Fines and forfeitures	-	-	-	-	-	6,911	6,911	6,968	12,106	-	414	48,371	7,349	-	-	-	6,917
Investment income	3,275	1,021	41	3,284	1,425	35	-	35	55	251	2	58	-	1	142	48	1,869
Miscellaneous	5,441	-	-	217,095	450	-	-	-	-	13,495	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total revenues	940,235	26,215	221,340	220,379	246,483	6,946	6,911	7,003	12,161	707,766	416	48,429	7,349	1	34,715	10,648	8,786
EXPENDITURES																	
Current:																	
General government	-	-	-	147,228	-	-	7,455	-	-	-	-	-	7,968	-	-	-	-
Public safety	1,241,719	-	1,500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Physical environment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	875,110	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transportation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Economic environment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Human services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Culture and recreation	-	25,384	-	-	59,125	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	124,130	26,257	-
Court related	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	41,842	-	-	-	-	960
Capital outlay	-	-	197,536	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	91,189	65,900	-
Debt service:																	
Principal retirement	100,582	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Interest and fiscal charges	17,533	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditures	1,359,834	25,384	199,036	147,228	59,125	-	7,455	-	-	875,110	-	41,842	7,968	-	215,319	92,157	960
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(419,599)	831	22,304	73,151	187,358	6,946	(544)	7,003	12,161	(167,344)	416	6,587	(619)	1	(180,604)	(81,509)	7,826
Other financing sources (uses)																	
Issuance of debt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers in	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	164,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,879
Transfers out	-	-	-	-	(7,338)	(6,911)	-	(6,968)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	-	-	-	-	(7,338)	(6,911)	-	(6,968)	-	164,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,879
Net change in fund balances	(419,599)	831	22,304	73,151	180,020	35	(544)	35	12,161	(3,344)	416	6,587	(619)	1	(180,604)	(81,509)	21,705
Fund balances, beginning of year	(11,440)	93,500	(36,435)	277,103	882,403	-	(2)	-	51,833	(41,177)	38,018	79,377	-	1,235	291,185	162,750	191,734
Fund balances, end of year	$ (431,039)	$ 94,331	$ (14,131)	$ 350,254	$ 1,062,423	$ 35	$ (546)	$ 35	$ 63,994	$ (44,521)	$ 38,434	$ 85,964	$ (619)	$ 1,236	$ 110,581	$ 81,241	$ 213,439

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
COMBINING SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES,
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	12.50 SC	Equitable Sharing	Impact Fees	Grants	ARPA	Clerk Records Modernization	Sheriff 911	Sheriff Special Law	Sheriff Inmate Welfare	Sheriff Second Dollar	Sheriff School Crossing Guards	Sheriff Emergency Management	Total Nonmajor Governmental Funds
REVENUES													
Taxes	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 244,608
Permits and fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	168,875	-	-	-	-	-	168,875
Intergovernmental	-	22,282	-	240,539	-	-	103,952	22,282	199	-	79,757	276,541	1,096,395
Charges for services	-	-	3,525	-	-	34,660	-	-	469,079	-	-	-	2,073,626
Fines and forfeitures	13,117	-	-	41,228	-	27,344	-	-	-	5,187	-	-	182,823
Investment income	53	1,175	-	-	27,933	5,768	1,255	-	1,799	31	1,356	1,436	52,348
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,996	-	-	-	247,477
Total revenues	13,170	23,457	3,525	281,767	27,933	67,772	274,082	22,282	482,073	5,218	81,113	277,977	4,066,152
EXPENDITURES													
Current:													
General government	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	162,651
Public safety	29,135	38,900	-	-	1,012,330	-	243,695	38,900	534,274	5,259	93,346	296,283	3,535,341
Physical environment	-	-	-	22,750	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	897,860
Transportation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Economic environment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Human services	-	-	-	241,519	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	241,519
Culture and recreation	-	-	-	47,034	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	281,930
Court related	-	-	-	-	-	64,810	-	-	-	-	-	-	107,612
Capital outlay	-	-	-	-	1,567,119	-	-	-	-	-	-	55,506	1,977,250
Debt service:													
Principal retirement	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100,582
Interest and fiscal charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17,533
Total expenditures	29,135	38,900	-	311,303	2,579,449	64,810	243,695	38,900	534,274	5,259	93,346	351,789	7,322,278
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(15,965)	(15,443)	3,525	(29,536)	(2,551,516)	2,962	30,387	(16,618)	(52,201)	(41)	(12,233)	(73,812)	(3,256,126)
Other financing sources (uses)													
Issuance of debt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers in	17,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	38,900	-	-	-	57,871	291,650
Transfers out	-	(16,618)	(3,525)	-	(99,681)	(15,803)	-	(22,282)	-	-	-	-	(179,126)
Total other financing sources (uses)	17,000	(16,618)	(3,525)	-	(99,681)	(15,803)	-	16,618	-	-	-	57,871	112,524
Net change in fund balances	1,035	(32,061)	-	(29,536)	(2,651,197)	(12,841)	30,387	-	(52,201)	(41)	(12,233)	(15,941)	(3,143,602)
Fund balances, beginning of year	2,585	153,200	-	-	4,146,195	270,495	232,345	-	371,412	41	123,557	213,746	7,493,660
Fund balances, end of year	$ 3,620	$ 121,139	$ -	$ (29,536)	$ 1,494,998	$ 257,654	$ 262,732	$ -	$ 319,211	$ -	$ 111,324	$ 197,805	$ 4,350,058

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
COMBINING SCHEDULE OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Clerk of Circuit Court	Sheriff	Tax Collector	Total Custodial Funds
ASSETS				
Cash and equivalents	$ 1,014,643	$ 264,842	$ 528,956	$ 1,808,441
Total assets	$ 1,014,643	$ 264,842	$ 528,956	$ 1,808,441
LIABILITIES				
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	$ -	$ -	$ 20	$ 20
Deposits held in escrow	-	-	2,017	2,017
Due to other governments	-	-	519,614	519,614
Due to others	1,014,643	45,506	7,305	1,067,454
Total liabilities	$ 1,014,643	$ 45,506	$ 528,956	$ 1,589,105
NET POSITION	$ -	$ 219,336	$ -	$ 219,336

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
COMBINING SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Clerk of Circuit Court	Sheriff	Tax Collector	Total Custodial Funds
Additions				
Taxes	$ -	$ -	$ 25,198,171	$ 25,198,171
Seizures	-	40,423	-	40,423
Permits, fees, and special assessments	-	2,000	2,446,130	2,448,130
Deposits and trusts	-	1,508,990	41,939	1,550,929
Fines and forfeitures	-	25,113	-	25,113
Miscellaneous	-	1,025	19,884	20,909
Court related	3,623,890	-	-	3,623,890
Total additions	3,623,890	1,577,551	27,706,124	32,907,565
Deductions				
Payments to individuals	-	190,857	1,336,184	1,527,041
Payments to other governments	-	15,872	15,912,924	15,928,796
Inmate services	-	1,325,352	-	1,325,352
Payments to other funds	-	21,364	10,455,227	10,476,591
Miscellaneous	-	5,716	1,789	7,505
Court related	3,623,890	-	-	3,623,890
Total deductions	3,623,890	1,559,161	27,706,124	32,889,175
Net change in fiduciary net position	-	18,390	-	18,390
Net position, beginning of year	-	200,946	-	200,946
Net position, end of year	$ -	$ 219,336	$ -	$ 219,336

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS AND STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

Federal/State Grantor/Pass Through Grantor/Program Title	AL/ CSFA Number	Contract Number	Expenditures
FEDERAL AGENCY			
Department of the Interior			
Direct:			
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	15.226	N/A	$ 193,059
Fish and Wildlife Service National Wildlife Refuge Grant	15.659	N/A	4,557
Total Department of the Interior			197,616
Department of Justice			
Direct:			
Public Safety Partnership and Community Policing Grants	16.710	N/A	20,021
Passed through the Florida Attorney General:			
Crime Victim Assistance	16.575	VE809	38,042
Passed-through Florida Department of Law Enforcement:			
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program	16.738	2021-JAGC-BAKE-1-3B-037	27,872
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program	16.738	2022-JAGD-BAKE-1-4B-036	3,796
Total Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program			31,668
Equitable Sharing Program	16.922	N/A	22,282
Total Department of Justice			112,013
Department of Transportation			
Passed through the Florida Department of Transportation:			
National Priority Safety Programs	20.616	G2E50	48,965
Total Highway Safety Cluster			48,965
Total Department of Transportation			48,965
Election Assistance Commission			
Passed through the Florida Department of State:			
Helping America Vote Act Election Security Grants	90.404	23.e.es.100.002	69,332
Total Election Assistance Commission			69,332
Department of Health and Human Services			
Passed through Florida Department of Revenue:			
Child Support Services	93.563	COC02	42,772
Total Department of Health and Human Services			42,772
Department of Homeland Security			
Passed through Florida Division of Emergency Management:			
Disaster Grants - Public Assistance (Presidentially Declared Disasters)	97.036	Z2381	120,864
Disaster Grants - Public Assistance (Presidentially Declared Disasters)	97.036	Z3127	12,321
Disaster Grants - Public Assistance (Presidentially Declared Disasters)	97.036	24-AA-0000-99-EF-D1324	62,562
Disaster Grants - Public Assistance (Presidentially Declared Disasters)	97.036	D0751	151,768
Total Disaster Grants - Public Assistance (Presidentially Declared Disasters)			347,515
Emergency Management Performance Grant	97.042	G0417	43,822
Total Department of Homeland Security			391,337
TOTAL EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS			$ 862,035

See accompanying notes to schedule of expenditures of federal awards and state financial assistance.

BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS AND STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023
(CONTINUED)

Federal/State Grantor/Pass Through Grantor/Program Title	AL/ CSFA Number	Contract Number	Expenditures
STATE AGENCY			
Executive Office of the Governor			
Direct:			
Emergency Management Programs	31.063	A0283	105,806
Total Executive Office of the Governor			105,806
Florida Department of Environmental Protection			
Direct:			
Small County Consolidated Grants	37.012	SC301	93,750
Total Florida Department of Environmental Protection			93,750
Florida Housing Finance Corporation			
Direct:			
State Housing Initiatives Partnership Program	40.901	N/A	329,241
Total Florida Housing Finance Corporation			329,241
Florida Department of Financial Services			
Direct:			
Volunteer Firefighter Grant Assistance Program	43.006	FM720	49,700
Local Government Fire Service Grants	43.009	FM769	116,830
Total Florida Department of Financial Services			166,530
Florida Department of State			
Direct:			
State Aid to Libraries	45.030	23-ST-38	47,074
Total Florida Department of State			47,074
Florida Department of Education			
Direct:			
Coach Aaron Feis Guardian Program	48.140	L0283	90,946
Total Florida Department of Education			90,946
Florida Department of Transportation			
Direct:			
County Incentive Grant Program	55.008	G1850	17,475
Small County Outreach Program	55.009	G0L19	138,448
Small County Outreach Program	55.009	G1E11	2,400
Total Small County Outreach Program			140,848
Small County Road Assistance Program	55.016	G0T84	317,957
Transportation Regional Incentive Program	55.026	G1850	52,424
Total Florida Department of Transportation			528,704
Florida Department of Health			
Direct:			
Emergency Medical Services Matching Grant	64.003	M230201	26,019
Total Florida Department of Health			26,019
Florida Department of Management Services			
Direct:			
Wireless 911 Emergency Telephone System Rural County Grant Program	72.001	22-11-07	51,718
Wireless 911 Emergency Telephone System Rural County Grant Program	72.001	23-04-20	7,873
Total Wireless 911 Emergency Telephone System Rural County Grant Program			59,591
Prepaid Next Generation 911 State Grant Program	72.003	17-21-02-01	34,186
Total Department of Management Services			93,777
Florida Department of Law Enforcement			
Direct:			
Law Enforcement Salary Assistance for Fiscally Constrained Counties	71.067	7G015	167,250
Law Enforcement Salary Assistance for Fiscally Constrained Counties	71.067	5V001	73,189
Total Law Enforcement Salary Assistance for Fiscally Constrained Counties			240,439
Florida Department of Law Enforcement			240,439
TOTAL EXPENDITURES OF STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE			$ 1,722,286

See accompanying notes to schedule of expenditures of federal awards and state financial assistance.

BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS AND STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

(1) **Basis of Presentation:**

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards and state financial assistance includes the state grant activity of Baker County, Florida (the County). The information in this schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance) and Section 215.97, Florida Statutes, *Florida Single Audit Act*. Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the County, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position, changes in net position, or cash flows of the County.

(2) **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:**

Expenditures reported on the schedule are reported on the accrual basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following, as applicable, either the cost principles contained in Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance) and Section 215, Florida Statutes, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement.

(3) **Subrecipients:**

During the year ended September 30, 2023, the County provided no federal or state awards to subrecipients.

(4) **Contingency:**

Project expenditures are subject to audit and adjustment. If any expenditures were to be disallowed by the grantor agency as a result of such an audit, any claim for reimbursement to the grantor agency would become a liability of the County. In the opinion of management, all project expenditures included on the accompanying schedule are in compliance with the terms of the project agreements and applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

(5) **De Minimis Indirect Cost Rate Election:**

The County has elected not to use the 10 percent de minimis indirect cost rate as allowed under Uniform Guidance.

(6) **Deferred FEMA Expenditures:**

During the previous two fiscal years, the City incurred substantial costs related to Hurricane Ian and Hurricane Nicole. Per the OMB Compliance Supplement, any reimbursements from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) under ALN 97.036 are not to be recognized as expenditures for purposes of the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards until the respective Project Worksheets (PW) have been approved.

OTHER REPORTS AND SCHEDULE

BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

A. **Summary of Auditors' Results:**

Financial Statements:

Type of audit report issued on the financial statements:		*Modified*
Internal control over financial reporting:		
Material weakness(es) identified?	X yes	____ no
Significant deficiency(ies) identified?	X yes	____ none reported
Noncompliance material to financial statements noted?	____ yes	X no

Federal Awards:

Internal control over major Federal programs:		
Material weakness(es) identified?	____ yes	X no
Significant deficiency(ies) identified?	____ yes	X none reported
Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for major Federal programs:		*Unmodified*
Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a)?	____ yes	X none reported
Auditee qualified as a low-risk auditee?	____ yes	X no
Dollar threshold used to distinguish between type A and type B programs:		$750,000

Identification of major Federal programs:

Assistance Listing Number	Program Name
97.036	Disaster Grants – Public Assistance (Presidentially Declared Disasters)

State Financial Assistance:

Internal control over major State projects:

Material weakness(es) identified?	_____ yes	__X__ no
Significant deficiency(ies) identified?	_____ yes	__X__ none reported

Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for major State projects: *Unmodified*

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported for state financial assistance projects in accordance with Chapter 10.550?	_____ yes	__X__ none reported

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between type A and type B programs: $516,686

Identification of major State projects:

CSFA Number	Project Name
40.901	State Housing Initiatives Partnership Program
55.016	Small County Road Assistance Program
71.067	Law Enforcement Salary Asst. for Fiscally Constrained Counties

B. **Financial Statement Findings:**

2023-001: Cash to Accrual Basis Audit Adjustments and Preparation of Financial Statements

Criteria: Internal controls over financial reporting should include year-end adjustments of all significant account balances, with such adjustments to also include procedures related to the proper cutoff of significant revenue and expense activities. In addition, 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 ("GAAP"). The capability of management to prepare the financial statements and related disclosures is considered a crucial element of the internal control structure.

Condition: For the year ended September 30, 2023, various significant adjustments were required to be made to the accounting records subsequent to the start of the audit process related to year-end accrual entries. In addition, management did not retain an individual with expertise to oversee preparation of the financial statements.

Cause: Various internal balances were not adjusted for final year-end accrual adjustments at the start of audit fieldwork. In addition, management did not retain an individual with expertise to oversee preparation of the financial statements.

Effect: Financial statements would be materially misstated if significant adjustments were not made. In addition, management's reliance on auditors for expertise in drafting the financial statements and related disclosures indicates a material weakness in the controls structure.

Recommendation: We recommend management select and apply the appropriate accounting principles to record year-end accrual basis adjustments to prepare the financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. We recommend management retain or

train individuals or contractors to assist in the reconciliation of all year-end balances in accordance with GAAP.

2023-002: Timeliness of Year-End Close and Financial Reporting

Criteria: Timely financial reporting is essential for effective public fund management and oversight. The state of Florida mandates that financial audits be completed within nine months after the fiscal year-end to ensure stakeholders receive accurate and timely information.

Condition: The current audit was completed well after the statutory deadline.

Cause: While an accounting system conversion contributed to various delays in year-end closing procedures, other responsibilities of core finance personnel and limited overall staffing also adversely impacted the County's ability to produce timely financial reports.

Effect: This substantial delay hampers the County's ability to provide timely and reliable financial information for accounting and budget purposes. It also increases the risk of undetected errors and/or fraud. Lastly, this issue (as it related to the prior year audit) contributed to the County forfeiting it's June 2024 half-cent sales tax distribution totaling $66,212.80.

Recommendation: The County should review and improve its financial reporting processes to ensure timely completion. This includes optimizing internal procedures and a consideration of the need to increase staffing and resources dedicated to the accounting function.

2023-003: Timeliness of Bank Reconciliations

Criteria: Timely completion of bank reconciliations is a fundamental internal control to ensure the accuracy of financial records, detect errors, and prevent or identify fraudulent transactions. Best practices recommend that bank reconciliations be completed within a reasonable period after month-end.

Condition: Bank reconciliations were not consistently completed on a timely basis. Several reconciliations were delayed by multiple months, increasing the risk of undetected errors or fraudulent transactions.

Cause: Limited staffing and competing priorities within the finance department contributed to delays in completing reconciliations. Additionally, a lack of formalized procedures for monitoring and enforcing reconciliation deadlines further exacerbated the issue.

Effect: The failure to perform timely bank reconciliations increases the risk of financial misstatements and reduces the ability to detect and address unauthorized transactions or errors promptly. This could impact the accuracy of financial reporting and weaken internal controls over cash management.

Recommendation: Management should implement a structured process to ensure that all bank reconciliations are completed within a defined timeframe. This may include assigning specific responsibilities, establishing monitoring procedures, and providing additional training or resources as necessary to improve efficiency.

2023-004: Preparation of Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards

Criteria: Federal regulations – and similar rules to meet Florida Single Audit requirements – require entities expending federal funds to prepare an accurate and complete Schedule of

Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA) to support the Single Audit process. The SEFA should properly classify federal expenditures by program and Assistance Listing number to ensure compliance with reporting requirements.

Condition: Management was unable to independently prepare an accurate SEFA without significant assistance. The initial schedule provided contained inaccuracies, including missing or misclassified federal expenditures.

Cause: A lack of internal expertise and training related to federal grant reporting requirements contributed to the inability to prepare the SEFA accurately. Additionally, insufficient documentation and reconciliation processes hindered management's ability to compile complete and accurate information.

Effect: The inability to prepare an accurate SEFA without auditor assistance increases the risk of noncompliance with federal reporting requirements and may result in audit findings or questioned costs. It also diminishes management's ability to oversee federal and state grant activity effectively.

Recommendation: Management should establish procedures to ensure the accurate and timely preparation of the SEFA. This may include providing training on federal and state grant reporting requirements, implementing reconciliation processes to verify completeness and accuracy, and/or contracting with outside assistance for SEFA preparation.

2023-005: Internal Control Monitoring over EMS Billing System

Criteria: Internal controls over financial reporting should include the monitoring of certain internal control functions over services that are outsourced.

Condition: For the year ended September 30, 2023, the County contracted with an organization to perform billing services for its EMS billing and no SOC-1 for the company was available for review during the audit as the company had not procured one to date. The County did not install various internal controls needed to ensure proper billing and collection of EMS services.

Cause: Monitoring over the outsourced billing company was not performed during the fiscal year under audit.

Effect: Misappropriation of asset and a misstatement of the financial statements could occur if monitoring over the EMS services is not performed.

Recommendation: We recommend management develop internal controls to perform oversight over the activities of the outsourced EMS billing company and/or utilize a SOC-1 report from the outsourced EMS billing company and perform the complimentary user entity controls contained within that report.

C. **Federal Program Findings and Questioned Costs:** None

D. **State Project Findings and Questioned Costs:** None

E. **Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings:** See accompanying Schedule of Prior Audit Findings as included in the Independent Auditors' Management Letter Required by Chapter 10.550, Rules of the State of Florida Office of the Auditor General.

F. **Corrective Action Plan:** See Management's Response to Findings as listed in the table of contents.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM AND STATE PROJECT AND REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY UNIFORM GUIDANCE AND CHAPTER 10.550, RULES OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

To the Honorable Board of County Commissioners,
Baker County, Florida:

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program and Major State Project

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program and State Project

We have audited Baker County, Florida (the County)'s compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget Compliance Supplement and the requirements described in the Florida Department of Financial Services *State Projects Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of the County's major federal programs and state projects for the year ended September 30, 2023. The County's major federal programs and state projects are identified in the summary of auditors' results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

In our opinion, the County complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs and state projects for the year ended September 30, 2023.

Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program and State Project

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations, Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance); and Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General. Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of the County and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with 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 opinion on compliance for each major federal program and state project. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the County's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to the County's federal programs and state projects.

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on the County's compliance based on our audit. 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, *Government Auditing Standards*, the Uniform Guidance, and Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material, if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about the County's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program and state project as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, the Uniform Guidance, and Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, 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 County's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of the County's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Report on Internal Control over Compliance

A *deficiency in internal control over compliance* exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program or state project on a timely basis. A *material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program or state project will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or as combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with the type of compliance requirement of a federal program or state project that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses, or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance and Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

James Moore & Co., P.L.

Daytona Beach, Florida
April 10, 2025

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

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners,
Baker County, Florida:

We have audited, 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, the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Baker County, Florida (the County) as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated April 10, 2025. Our report includes a reference to other auditors who audited the financial statements of the Baker County Corrections Management Corporation (BCCMC), as described in our report on the County's financial statements.

Because the County's management has not acquired an actuarial valuation to determine the amount of its OPEB (Other Postemployment Benefits) liability and has not presented such liability in its government-wide financial statements as required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, we issued a qualified opinion on the governmental activities. The impact of such departure from generally accepted accounting principles on the liabilities, net position and expenditures of the government-wide financial statements of the County is unknown.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

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

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. However, as identified in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses and significant deficiencies.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. We consider the deficiencies identified in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as items 2023-001, 2023-002, 2034-003, and 2023-004 to be material weaknesses.

A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance. We consider the deficiency identified in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as item 2023-005 to be a significant deficiency.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

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

Management's Response to Findings

Management's response to the findings identified in our audit is described in the accompanying Schedule of Prior Audit Findings/Management's Response to Current Audit Findings. The County's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the 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.

James Moore & Co., P.L.

Daytona Beach, Florida
April 10, 2025

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' MANAGEMENT LETTER REQUIRED BY CHAPTER 10.550, RULES OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

To the Honorable Board of County Commissioners,
Baker County, Florida:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of Baker County, Florida (the County), as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated April 10, 2025. We did not audit the financial statements of the Baker County Corrections Management Corporation (the BCCMC), which is the County's discretely presented component unit. Those financial statements were audited by another auditor whose reports thereon have been furnished to us, and our opinions, insofar as they relate to the amounts included for the BCCMC, are based solely on the report of the other auditor.

Because the County's management has not acquired an actuarial valuation to determine the amount of its OPEB (Other Postemployment Benefits) liability and has not presented such liability in its government-wide financial statements as required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, we issued a qualified opinion on the governmental activities. The impact of such departure from generally accepted accounting principles on the liabilities, net position and expenditures of the government-wide financial statements of the County is unknown.

Auditors' 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; the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* and Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General.

Other Reporting Requirements

We have issued our Independent Auditors' Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of the Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards;* Independent Auditors' Report on Compliance for Each Major State Project and Report on Internal Control over Compliance in Accordance with Chapter 10.550 Rules of the Florida Auditor General; Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs; and Independent Accountant's Report on an examination conducted in accordance with *AICPA Professional Standards*, Section 315, regarding compliance requirements in accordance with Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General. Disclosures in those reports and schedule, which are dated April 10, 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. Findings 2023-001, 2023-005, 2023-006, and 2023-007 remain uncorrected from the second preceding audit report. A full summary of the status of prior year findings follows:

Tabulation of Uncorrected Audit Findings		
Current Year Finding #	**2022 Finding #**	**2021 Finding #**
2023-001	2022-001	2021-001
2023-002	2022-002	N/A
2023-005	2022-003	2022-002
2023-006	2022-005	2021-004
2023-007	2022-004	2021-003

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. See Note 1 to the financial statements for the relevant disclosure. The County included the following component unit: Baker County Corrections Management Corporation.

Financial Condition and Management

Section 10.554(1)(i)5.a. and 10.556(7), Rules of the Auditor General, requires us to apply appropriate procedures and communicate the results of our determination as to whether or not the County has met one or more of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes, and identification of the specific condition(s) met. In connection with our audit, we determined that the County 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. It is management's responsibility to monitor the County'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 10.554(1)(i)2., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we communicate any recommendations to improve financial management. In connection with our audit, we had the following recommendations:

2023-006 Solid Waste Fund

During our audit, we noted that the Solid Waste Fund required significant transfers from the General Fund to subsidize the operations of the Solid Waste fund. We recommend the County perform an analysis of the annual costs required to operate the Solid Waste fund and consider the need to adjust solid waste rates in order to cover the associated service cost.

2023-007 Budgetary Compliance

During our audit, we noted funds were expended in excess of budgeted amounts due to a timing difference in grant expenditures that were not factored as part of the budget process. Based upon that

budget approach, the County's expenditures exceeded appropriations in the EMS fund by $149,036, the Drivers Education Trust fund by $468, the Equitable Sharing fund by $38,900, and the ARPA fund by $1,975,533. Additionally, the General Fund actual expenditures exceeded the budget by approximately $399,000. We recommend the County budget on an accrual basis in order to ensure expenditures do not exceed appropriations.

2023-008 Budgetary Operations

During our testing of the budget, we noted difficulties in tracing the approved budget amendments to the calculated differences between the original and final budget. We recommend the County develop a method of tracking the budgetary amendments via a crosswalk of columns for each amendment. Additionally, we noted that budgetary amounts were provided during the year that did not agree to the BOCC-approved budget in various instances. We recommend the County carefully review the budget and implement measures to address to ensure agreement.

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; therefore, we did not note any such component units that failed to provide the necessary information, nor is any specific special district information required to be reported.

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.

Management's Response to Findings

Management's response to the findings identified in our audit is described in the accompanying Schedule of Prior Audit Findings/Management's Response to Current Audit Findings. The County's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

Purpose of this 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 State grant agencies, the Board of County Commissioners, management, and others within the County and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

James Moore & Co., P.L.

Daytona Beach, Florida
April 10, 2025

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' EXAMINATION REPORT

To the Honorable Board of County Commissioners,
Baker County, Florida

We have examined the compliance of Baker County, Florida (the County) with Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, *Local Government Investment Policies* (the Statute), for the year ended September 30, 2023. County's Management is responsible for the compliance with those requirements. Our responsibility is to obtain reasonable assurance by evaluating against aforementioned statutes and performing other procedures to obtain sufficient appropriate evidence to express an opinion that conveys the results of our evaluation based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with the attestation standards for a direct examination engagement established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). Those standards require that we obtain reasonable assurance for evaluating the County's compliance with the Statute during the year ended September 30, 2023 and performing other procedures to obtain sufficient appropriate evidence to express an opinion that conveys the results of our evaluation of the County's compliance with the Statute during the year ended September 30, 2023. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgment, including an assessment of the risks that the County was not in compliance with the Statute in all material respects, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

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

In our opinion, for the year ended September 30, 2023, the County complied with the Statute in all material respects.

James Moore & Co., P.L.

Daytona Beach, Florida
April 10, 2025

Baker County
Board of Commissioners
55 NORTH THIRD STREET
MACCLENNY, FLORIDA 32063
(904) 259-3613 • (904) 259-7610
www.bakercountyfl.org

STACIE D. HARVEY
CLERK TO BOARD

OLIVER ANDERSON
CHAIRMAN

April 11, 2025

James Moore, CPA
121 Executive Circle
Daytona Beach, FL 32114-1180

This letter is in response to the Auditor's Financial Statement findings for the Baker County Board of County Commissioner's audit for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2023.

2023-001 Cash to Accrual Audit Adjustments and Preparation of Financial Statements
Audit closing entries for fiscal year 2023 have been recognized and noted. The County Finance Director has been coached and relayed additional training to the County Finance Staff. In addition, staff have been communicating with the finance system programmer for additional controls to be put in place.
Anticipated Completion Date: FY2024/2025 **Responsible Official: Stacie Harvey**

2023-002 Timeliness of Year-End Close and Financial Reporting
In addition to the explanation above, County Finance Staff has been modifying their previous finance program year-end procedures to meet this requirement.
Anticipated Completion Date: FY2024/2025 **Responsible Official: Stacie Harvey**

2023-003 Timeliness of Bank Reconciliations
County Finance Staff have obtained completed bank reconciliations within 30 days of the month end date since fiscal year 2023.
Anticipated Completion Date: FY2024 **Responsible Official: Stacie Harvey**

2023-004 Preparation of Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards
County Finance Director has been working jointly with another county to establish procedures for preparing State and Federal Grants schedules.
Anticipated Completion Date: FY2024/2025 **Responsible Official: Stacie Harvey**

2023-005 Internal Control Monitoring over EMS Billing System
The County staff is continuously working with the EMS Billing Contractor to develop a process to oversee daily billing and collection of EMS services. EMS Billing Processor has advised County staff they are converting their systems to the cloud base in early 2024.
Anticipated Completion Date: FY2024 **Responsible Official: Stacie Harvey**

2023-006 Solid Waste Fund
The County is continuously discussing professional analysis to propose a financial remedy, whether to keep the General Fund supplementing or to raise the Solid Waste Tax for this fund.
Anticipated Completion Date: To be determined **Responsible Official:** Stacie Harvey

RONALD MANN DISTRICT 1 | JIMMY ANDERSON DISTRICT 2 | TYLER MOBLEY DISTRICT 3 | JAMES G. BENNETT DISTRICT 4 | MARK HARTLEY DISTRICT 5

"AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER"

2023-007 Budgetary Compliance and 2023-008 Budgetary Operations

Throughout the year, the high volume of departmental financial requests were not submitted to the finance staff in a timely manner. This, coupled with the challenge of mastering the new finance software, caused delays in budgetary amendments. Since this time, the County Finance Director has increased communication with the finance software programmer to build a more efficient platform, which should enable more timely submission of adjustments.

Anticipated Completion Date: FY2025 **Responsible Official:** Stacie Harvey

If you have any questions, please contact me at 259-1863.

Sincerely,

Stacie D Harvey

Baker County Clerk of Court
County Comptroller
339 E. Macclenny Ave.
Macclenny, FL 32063
Ph: (904) 259-3121
Fx: (904) 259-4176

BAKER COUNTY CLERK OF COURTS

SPECIAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

BAKER COUNTY CLERK OF COURTS

SPECIAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

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JAMESMOORE

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

The Honorable Stacie D. Harvey, Clerk of Courts,
Baker County, Florida:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Baker County Clerk of the Courts (the Office), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Office's financial statements, as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Office as of September 30, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the fiscal 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) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* (GAS), issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Office and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note (1) to the financial statements, the financial statements referred to above were prepared solely for the purpose of complying with the Rules of the Auditor General of the State of Florida. In conformity with the Rules, the accompanying financial statements are intended to present the financial position and changes in financial position of each major fund and aggregate remaining fund information, only for that portion of the major funds and aggregate remaining fund information, of Baker County, Florida (the County) that is attributable to the Office. They do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of the County as of September 30, 2023, the changes in its financial position for the fiscal year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

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 Office'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.

Auditors' 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 auditors' 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 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 these financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS 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 Office'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 Office'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 required supplementary information, as listed in the table of contents, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with GAAS, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Office's financial statements. The supplementary information, as listed in the table of contents, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS. In our opinion, the combining schedule of fiduciary net position is fairly stated, in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated April 10, 2025 on our consideration of the Office's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Office'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 Office's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

James Moore & Co., P.L.

Daytona Beach, Florida
April 10, 2025

BAKER COUNTY CLERK OF COURTS
BALANCE SHEET
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	General Fund	Records Modernization Fund	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 429,914	$ 257,620	$ 687,534
Accounts receivable	-	34	34
Due from other governments	36,542	-	36,542
Prepaid items	5,000	-	5,000
Total Assets	$ 471,456	$ 257,654	$ 729,110
LIABILITIES			
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	$ 44,587	$ -	$ 44,587
Due to other governments	46,953	-	46,953
Due to Board of County Commissioners	152,406	-	152,406
Total liabilities	243,946	-	243,946
FUND BALANCES			
Restricted for:			
Records modernization	-	257,654	257,654
Assigned to:			
Court operations	227,510	-	227,510
Total fund balances	227,510	257,654	485,164
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	$ 471,456	$ 257,654	$ 729,110

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

BAKER COUNTY CLERK OF COURTS
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	General Fund	Records Modernization Fund	Governmental Funds
Revenues			
Intergovernmental	$ 318,519	$ -	$ 318,519
Charges for services	462,103	34,660	496,763
Fines and forfeitures	109,502	27,344	136,846
Investment income	7,120	5,768	12,888
Miscellaneous	1,914	-	1,914
Total revenues	899,158	67,772	966,930
Expenditures			
Current:			
General government	477,764	-	477,764
Court related	774,099	64,810	838,909
Total expenditures	1,251,863	64,810	1,316,673
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(352,705)	2,962	(349,743)
Other financing sources (uses)			
Transfers in	15,803	-	15,803
Transfers out	-	(15,803)	(15,803)
Appropriations from Board of County Commissioners	429,393	-	429,393
Reversions to Board of County Commissioners	(152,406)	-	(152,406)
Total other financing sources (uses)	292,790	(15,803)	276,987
Net change in fund balances	(59,915)	(12,841)	(72,756)
Fund balances, beginning of year	287,425	270,495	557,920
Fund balances, end of year	$ 227,510	$ 257,654	$ 485,164

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

BAKER COUNTY CLERK OF COURTS
STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Custodial Funds
Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 1,014,643
Total Assets	$ 1,014,643
Liabilities	
Due to others	$ 1,014,643
Total Liabilities	$ 1,014,643
Total Net Position	$ -

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

BAKER COUNTY CLERK OF COURTS
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
CUSTODIAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Total Custodial Funds
Additions	
Court-related	$ 3,623,890
Total additions	3,623,890
Deductions	
Court-related	3,623,890
Net change in fiduciary net position	-
Net position, beginning of year	-
Net position, end of year	$ -

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

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:

The accounting policies of the Baker County Clerk of Courts (the Office) conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governments in the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Codification. The following is a summary of the more significant policies.

(a) **Reporting entity**—The Clerk is an elected constitutional officer, whose office is established by Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Florida and is governed by various provisions of state law. Baker County, Florida (the County), including the Office of the Clerk, was established by Chapter 8516, Laws of Florida in 1921. The Office is an integral part of the County, the reporting entity for financial reporting purposes.

(b) **Basis of presentation**—The Office's financial statements are special-purpose financial statements that have been prepared for the purpose of complying with the Rules of the Auditor General of the State of Florida (the Rules). In conformity with the Rules, the Office has not presented the government-wide financial statements, the reconciliations to the government-wide statements or management's discussion and analysis.

(c) **Fund accounting**—Accounts 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, as appropriate for each fund type. Government resources are allocated to, and accounted for in, individual funds based upon the purposes for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled. The focus of fund financial statements is on major funds, each displayed in a separate column.

The Office reports the following major governmental funds;

General Fund – The principal operating fund of the office. It is used to account for all financial resources, except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

The Office reports the following Special Revenue fund:

Records Modernization Trust Fund – Used to account for additional recording fees, which are collected by the Clerk's office and are earmarked for the modernization of recording service operations.

Additionally, the Office reports the following fiduciary fund type:

Custodial Fund – A custodial fund is used to account for assets held by the Clerk as an agent for individuals, other County funds, and other governmental units. The Clerk functions purely as custodian for others in the maintenance of these funds.

(d) **Measurement focus/basis of accounting**—All governmental funds are accounted for on a spending or current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. This means that only current assets and current liabilities are generally included on their balance sheets. Their reported fund balance (net current assets) is considered a measure of "available spendable resources". Their operating statements present increases (revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (expenditures and other financing uses) in net current assets and, accordingly, are said to present a summary of sources and uses of "available spendable resources" during a period.

(1) **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:** (Continued)

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the measurement focus applied. All governmental funds are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. Their revenues are recognized when they become measurable and available as net current assets. The Office follows the County's policy for revenue recognition in which it considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 90 days of the end of the current fiscal period; except for property taxes which is 60 days.

Expenditures are generally recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related fund liability is incurred. However, principal and interest on general long-term debt are recognized when due.

(e) **Cash and cash equivalents**—The Office'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.

(f) **Capital assets and long-term liabilities**—Capital assets used by the Office are capitalized (recorded and accounted for) by the Baker County Board of County Commissioners.

Because of their spending measurement focus, expenditure recognition for governmental fund types is limited to exclude amounts represented by non-current liabilities. Since they do not affect net current assets, such long-term amounts are not recognized as governmental fund type expenditures or fund liabilities. They are instead reported as liabilities in the financial statements of the County.

(g) **Accounts payable**—Accounts payable balances in the general fund are primarily payable to third-party vendors for goods provided and services rendered.

(h) **Compensated absences**—The Office follows generally accepted accounting principles in accounting for accrued compensated absences. The Office allows limited vesting of unused employee leave time. Since the annual and sick leave liability is considered long-term, it is recorded in the government-wide financial statements of the County. Compensated absences are expected to be paid out of the General Fund of the Office and this practice is expected to continue in the future. The Office maintained compensated absence records for the hours earned, used and available.

(i) **Fund balance**—Fund balance for governmental funds report classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which the government is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in the funds may be spent. In as much as the Clerk is a county constitutional officer, any funds remaining at the end of the fiscal year are returned to the Board of County Commissioners. Unassigned fund balance represents funds available for spending at the government's discretion.

The Office does not have a formal written policy regarding whether restricted or unrestricted amounts are considered to be spent when an expenditure for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balances are available. However, it has been the Office's general practice when expenditure is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available; the Office considers restricted funds to have been spent first. When expenditure is incurred for which committed, assigned or unassigned fund balances are available, the Office considers amounts to have been spent first out of committed funds, then assigned funds, and lastly unassigned funds, as needed.

(j) **Use of estimates**—The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make various estimates. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

(2) **Budgets and Budgetary Accounting:**

Governmental fund revenues and expenditures accounted for in budgetary funds are controlled by a formal integrated budgetary accounting system in accordance with the Florida Statutes. An annual budget was legally adopted for the General Fund. All budget amounts presented in the accompanying special-purpose financial statements have been adjusted for legally authorized amendments of the annual budget for the year. The annual budget is monitored at varying levels of classification detail. However, for purposes of budgetary control, expenditures cannot legally exceed the total budget appropriations at the individual fund level. All appropriations lapse at year-end.

(3) **Investments:**

Florida Statutes authorize the Office to invest in bonds, notes or other obligations of the U.S. Government, certificates of deposits, repurchase agreements, certain bonds of any State or local government unit and the State Treasurer's Investment Pool.

Interest Rate Risk. The Office does not have a formal investment policy that limits investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates.

Concentration of Credit Risk. The Office places no limit on the amount the Office may invest in any one issuer. The Office maintained 100 percent of excess deposits in a checking account with a local financial institution subject to Federal Depository Insurance Corporation (FDIC) insurance, and/or the State of Florida collateral pool established under the Florida Security for Public Deposits Act (the Act).

(4) **Risk Management:**

The County purchased commercial insurance to limit the exposure of the following risks of loss: theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; natural disasters and injuries to employees. Commercial insurance has been purchased by the Office to cover the risks of loss due to employee errors or omissions and health insurance. Settled claims resulting from all risks have not exceeded insurance coverage in any of the past three years.

(5) **Pension Plan:**

The entity participates in the Florida Retirement System (FRS), a multiple-employer, cost-sharing defined public employee retirement system which covers all of the Office's eligible employees. The System is administered by the State of Florida, Department of Administration, Division of Retirement to provide retirement and survivor benefits to participating public employees. Provisions relating to the FRS are established by Chapters 121 and 122, Florida Statutes; Chapter 112, Part IV, Florida Statutes; Chapter 238, Florida Statutes; and FRS Rules, Chapter 60S, Florida Administrative Code; wherein eligibility, contributions, and benefits are defined and described in detail. The FRS is a single retirement system administered by the Department of Management Services, Division of Retirement, and consists of two cost-sharing, multiple-employer retirement plans and other nonintegrated programs. These include a defined-benefit pension plan (Plan), with a Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP), and a defined-contribution plan, referred to as the FRS Investment Plan (Investment Plan).

(5) Pension Plan: (Continued)

In addition, all regular employees of the Office are eligible to enroll as members of the Retiree Health Insurance Subsidy (HIS) Program. The HIS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan established and administered in accordance with section 112.363, Florida Statutes. The benefit is a monthly payment to assist retirees of the state-administered retirement systems in paying their health insurance costs. For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, eligible retirees and beneficiaries received a monthly HIS payment equal to the number of years of service credited at retirement multiplied by $7.50. The minimum payment is $45 and the maximum payment is $225 per month, pursuant to section 112.363, Florida Statutes. To be eligible to receive a HIS benefit, a retiree under one of the state-administered retirement systems must provide proof of eligible health insurance coverage, which can include Medicare.

For financial reporting purposes, the Office is deemed to be part of the primary government of the County. A liability related to the Office's proportionate share of FRS retirement benefits, along with a detailed plan description, is reported in the financial statements of the County for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

BAKER COUNTY CLERK OF COURTS
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts			
	Original	Final	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
Revenues				
Intergovernmental	$ 350,091	$ 350,091	$ 318,519	$ (31,572)
Charges for services	414,566	414,566	462,103	47,537
Fines and forfeitures	125,732	125,732	109,502	(16,230)
Investment income	1,311	1,311	7,120	5,809
Miscellaneous	454	454	1,914	1,460
Total revenues	892,154	892,154	899,158	7,004
Expenditures				
Current:				
General government	474,746	474,746	477,764	(3,018)
Court related	794,844	794,844	774,099	20,745
Total expenditures	1,269,590	1,269,590	1,251,863	17,727
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(377,436)	(377,436)	(352,705)	24,731
Other financing sources (uses)				
Transfers in	70,359	70,359	15,803	(54,556)
Appropriations from Board of County Commissioners	376,813	376,813	429,393	52,580
Reversions to Board of County Commissioners	(69,736)	(69,736)	(152,406)	(82,670)
Total other financing sources (uses)	377,436	377,436	292,790	(84,646)
Net change in fund balances	-	-	(59,915)	(59,915)
Fund balances, beginning of year	287,425	287,425	287,425	-
Fund balances, end of year	$ 287,425	$ 287,425	$ 227,510	$ (59,915)

The accompanying notes to schedules of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances - budget and actual - governmental fundss are an integral part of this schedule.

BAKER COUNTY CLERK OF COURTS
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - RECORDS MODERNIZATION FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts			
	Original	Final	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
Revenues				
Charges for services	$ 42,000	$ 42,000	$ 34,660	$ (7,340)
Fines and forfeitures	33,000	33,000	27,344	(5,656)
Investment income	300	300	5,768	5,468
Miscellaneous	35,850	35,850	-	(35,850)
Total revenues	111,150	111,150	67,772	(43,378)
Expenditures				
Current:				
Court related	92,150	92,150	64,810	27,340
Total expenditures	92,150	92,150	64,810	27,340
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	19,000	19,000	2,962	(16,038)
Other financing sources (uses)				
Transfers out	(19,000)	(19,000)	(15,803)	3,197
Total other financing sources (uses)	(19,000)	(19,000)	(15,803)	3,197
Net change in fund balances	-	-	(12,841)	(12,841)
Fund balances, beginning of year	270,495	270,495	270,495	-
Fund balances, end of year	$ 270,495	$ 270,495	$ 257,654	$ (12,841)

The accompanying notes to schedules of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances - budget and actual - governmental fundss are an integral part of this schedule.

BAKER COUNTY CLERK OF COURTS
NOTE TO SCHEDULES OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES – BUDGET AND ACTUAL – GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

(1) **Budgetary Information:**

An annual budget is adopted on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America for the general fund and the records modernization trust fund. All annual appropriations lapse at fiscal year-end.

The Office follows these procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the financial statements:

a) The preparation, adoption and amendment of the budgets are governed by Florida Statutes. Public hearings are conducted to obtain taxpayer comments.

b) Budget excess expenditures over revenues are funded through appropriations from the Board of County Commissioners.

c) Formal budgetary integration is employed as a management control device during the year. The legal level of budgetary control is the fund level.

d) The budgets for the funds are adopted on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

BAKER COUNTY CLERK OF COURTS
COMBINING SCHEDULE OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Clerk's Trust Fund	Fine and Forfeiture Fund	Domestic Relations Fund	Witness Fund	Registry of the Court Fund	Total Custodial Funds
Assets						
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 242,301	$ 49,832	$ 3,143	$ 1,318	$ 718,049	$ 1,014,643
Total Assets	$ 242,301	$ 49,832	$ 3,143	$ 1,318	$ 718,049	$ 1,014,643
Liabilities						
Due to others	$ 242,301	$ 49,832	$ 3,143	$ 1,318	$ 718,049	$ 1,014,643
Total Liabilities	$ 242,301	$ 49,832	$ 3,143	$ 1,318	$ 718,049	$ 1,014,643
Total Net Position	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

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

BAKER COUNTY CLERK OF COURTS
COMBINING SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Clerk's Trust Fund	Fine and Forfeiture Fund	Domestic Relations Fund	Witness Fund	Registry of the Court Fund	Total Custodial Funds
Additions						
Court-related	$ 2,538,785	$ 569,342	$ 12,878	$ 908	$ 501,977	$ 3,623,890
Deductions						
Court-related	2,538,785	569,342	12,878	908	501,977	3,623,890
Net change in fiduciary net position	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net position, beginning of year	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net position, end of year	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

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

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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

The Honorable Stacie D. Harvey, Clerk of Courts,
Baker County, Florida:

We have audited, 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, the financial statements of each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Baker County Clerk of Courts (the Office) as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Office's special-purpose financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated April 10, 2025, which was modified to refer to a basis of accounting required for compliance with state filing requirements, and for other reasons.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

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

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

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified. We did identify a certain deficiency in internal control, described below as item 2023-001 that we consider to be a material weakness.

2023-001 – Audit Adjustments and Year-End Reconciliations

Audit adjustments were required to correct account balances for proper year-end cutoff related to various internal balances that were not adjusted for final year-end accrual adjustments at the start of fieldwork. To ensure the financial statements are accurately presented, we recommend management ensure all year-end balances are reconciled and adjusted as necessary on the accrual basis to prepare the financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

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

Management's Response to Findings

Management's response to the findings identified previously is included in the accompanying Management Response to the Findings. The Office's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Office'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 Office's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

James Moore & Co., P.L.

Daytona Beach, Florida
April 10, 2025

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' MANAGEMENT LETTER REQUIRED BY CHAPTER 10.550, RULES OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

The Honorable Stacie D. Harvey, Clerk of Courts,
Baker County, Florida:

Report on Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of the Baker County Clerk of Courts (the Office), as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated April 10, 2025.

Auditors' 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 Auditors' Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Special-Purpose Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, and Independent Accountants' Report on an 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 April 10, 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. Comment 2023-001 remains uncorrected from the second preceding audit. Corrective actions have been taken to address all findings and recommendations made in the preceding financial audit report except as follows:

> **2022-001– Audit Adjustments and Year-End Reconciliations –** Corrective action not taken. See repeat comment 2023-001.

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 Baker County Clerk of Courts is an elected constitutional officer, whose office is established by Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Florida and is governed by various provisions of state law. Baker County, including the Office of the Clerk, was established by Chapter 8516, Laws of Florida in 1921. There are no component units of the Baker County Clerk of Courts to be disclosed as required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Financial Management

Section 10.554(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.

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, fraud, waste, or abuse, that has occurred, or is likely to have occurred, that has an effect on the financial statements that is less than material but warrants the attention of those charged with governance. In connection with our audit, we did not note 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 Baker County Clerk of Courts, and applicable management, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

James Moore & Co., P.L.

Daytona Beach, Florida
April 10, 2025

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' EXAMINATION REPORT

The Honorable Stacie D. Harvey, Clerk of Courts,
Baker County, Florida:

We have examined the Baker County Clerk of Courts' (the Office) compliance with Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, *Local Government Investment Policies*, Section 28.35, Florida Statutes, *Florida Clerks of Court Operations Corporation*, Section 28.36, Florida Statutes, *Budget Procedure*, and Section 61.181, Florida Statutes, *Depository for Alimony Transactions, Support, Maintenance, and Support Payments; Fees* (collectively, "the Statutes"), for the year ended September 30, 2023. Management is responsible for the Office's compliance with those requirements. Our responsibility is to obtain reasonable assurance by evaluating against the aforementioned statutes and performing other procedures to obtain sufficient appropriate evidence to express an opinion that conveys the results of our evaluation based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with the attestation standards for a direct examination engagement established by the AICPA. Those standards require that we obtain reasonable assurance by evaluating against the aforementioned statutes during the year ended September 30, 2023 and performing other procedures to obtain sufficient appropriate evidence to express an opinion that conveys the results of our evaluation of the Office's compliance during the year ended September 30, 2023. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgment, including an assessment of the risks that were not in accordance with those requirements in all material respects, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

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

In our opinion, the Office complied, in all material respects, with the aforementioned requirements for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023.

James Moore & Co., P.L.

Daytona Beach, Florida
April 10, 2025

STACIE D. HARVEY

CLERK OF COURTS
BAKER COUNTY, FLORIDA

April 10, 2025

James Moore, CPA
121 Executive Circle
Daytona Beach, Fl 32114-1180

This letter is in response to the Auditor's Financial Statement findings for the Baker County Board of County Commissioner's audit for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2023.

2023-001 Cash to Accrual Basis

In year 2021 and continuing in 2022 and 2023, the County had contracted with a new finance software. Due to the timeliness of the conversion and training process of the software system the year-end accrual adjustments were not accurately posted in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. County Finance Director is currently taking corrective action on proper year-end procedures. Comptroller will review the financials for completeness.

Anticipated Completion Date: FY2024 **Responsible Official:** Stacie Harvey

If you have any questions, please contact me at 259-3121.

Sincerely,

Stacie D. Harvey

Baker County Clerk of Court
County Comptroller
339 E. Macclenny Ave.
Macclenny, FL 32063
Ph: (904) 259-3121

BAKER COUNTY PROPERTY APPRAISER

SPECIAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

BAKER COUNTY PROPERTY APPRAISER

SPECIAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
AND INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

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JAMESMOORE

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

The Honorable Timothy Sweat, Property Appraiser,
Baker County, Florida:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the general fund of the Baker County Property Appraiser (the Office), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Office's 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 general fund of the Office as of September 30, 2023, and the respective change in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audit contained in *Government Auditing Standards,* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Office, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note (1) to the financial statements, the financial statements referred to above were prepared solely for the purpose of complying with the Rules of the Auditor General of the State of Florida. In conformity with the Rules, the accompanying financial statements are intended to present the financial position and changes in financial position of the general fund, only for that portion of the general fund, of Baker County, Florida (the County), that is attributable to the Office. They do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of the County as of September 30, 2023, the changes in its financial position for the fiscal year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Office'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.

Auditors' 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 auditors' 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 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, 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 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 Office'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 Office'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 required supplementary information, as listed in the table of contents, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated April 10, 2025 on our consideration of the Office's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Office'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 Office's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

James Moore & Co., P.L.

Daytona Beach, Florida
April 10, 2025

BAKER COUNTY PROPERTY APPRAISER
BALANCE SHEET
GENERAL FUND
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	$	102,137
Total Assets	$	102,137
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES		
Liabilities		
Due to other governments	$	8,263
Due to Board of County Commissioners		93,874
Total liabilities		102,137
Fund Balance		
Unassigned		-
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	$	102,137

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

BAKER COUNTY PROPERTY APPRAISER
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

Revenues	
Charges for services	$ 101,967
Total revenues	101,967
Expenditures	
Current:	
General government	751,350
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(649,383)
Other financing sources (uses)	
Appropriations to constitutional officers	743,257
Reversions from constitutional officers	(93,874)
Total other financing sources (uses)	649,383
Net change in fund balances	-
Fund balances, beginning of year	-
Fund balances, end of year	$ -

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

BAKER COUNTY PROPERTY APPRAISER
NOTES TO SPECIAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

(1) **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:**

The accounting policies of the Baker County Property Appraiser (the "Office") conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governments in the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Codification. The following is a summary of the more significant policies.

(a) **Reporting entity—**The Baker County Property Appraiser is an elected constitutional officer, whose office is established by Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Florida and is governed by various provisions of state law. Baker County, Florida (the County), including the Office of the Property Appraiser, was established by Chapter 8516, Laws of Florida in 1921. The Office is an integral part of the County, the reporting entity for financial reporting purposes.

(b) **Basis of presentation—**The Office's financial statements are special-purpose financial statements that have been prepared for the purpose of complying with the Rules of the Auditor General of the State of Florida (the Rules). In conformity with the Rules, the Office has not presented the government-wide financial statements, the reconciliations to the government-wide statements or management's discussion and analysis.

(c) **Fund accounting—**Accounts 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, as appropriate for each fund type. Government resources are allocated to, and accounted for in, individual funds based upon the purposes for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled. The focus of fund financial statements is on major funds, each displayed in a separate column.

The Office reports the following major governmental fund; there are no non-major governmental funds:

General Fund – The principal operating fund of the Office. It is used to account for all financial resources.

(d) **Measurement focus/basis of accounting—**All governmental funds are accounted for on a spending or current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. This means that only current assets and current liabilities are generally included on their balance sheets. Their reported fund balance (net current assets) is considered a measure of "available spendable resources". Their operating statements present increases (revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (expenditures and other financing uses) in net current assets and, accordingly, are said to present a summary of sources and uses of "available spendable resources" during a period.

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the measurement focus applied. All governmental funds are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. Their revenues are recognized when they become measurable and available as net current assets. The Office considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 90 days of the end of the current fiscal period.

Expenditures are generally recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related fund liability is incurred. However, principal and interest on general long-term debt are recognized when due.

(1) **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:** (Continued)

(e) **Cash**—The Office'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.

(f) **Capital assets and long-term liabilities**—Capital assets used by the Office are capitalized (recorded and accounted for) by the Baker County Board of County Commissioners.

Because of their spending measurement focus, expenditure recognition for governmental fund types is limited to exclude amounts represented by non-current liabilities. Since they do not affect net current assets, such long-term amounts are not recognized as governmental fund type expenditures or fund liabilities. They are instead reported as liabilities in the financial statements of the County.

(g) **Accounts payable**—Accounts payable balances in the general fund are primarily payable to third-party vendors for goods provided and services rendered.

(h) **Compensated absences**—The Office follows generally accepted accounting principles in accounting for accrued compensated absences. The Office allows limited vesting of unused employee leave time. Since the annual and sick leave liability is considered long-term, it is recorded in the government-wide financial statements of the County. Compensated absences are expected to be paid out of the General Fund of the Office and this practice is expected to continue in the future. The Office kept compensated absence records for the hours earned, used and available.

(i) **Fund balance**—Fund balance for governmental funds report classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which the government is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in the funds may be spent. In as much as the Property Appraiser is a county constitutional officer, any funds remaining at the end of the fiscal year are returned to the Board of County Commissioners. Unassigned fund balance represents funds available for spending at the government's discretion.

The Office does not have a formal written policy regarding whether restricted or unrestricted amounts are considered to be spent when an expenditure for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balances are available. However, it has been the Office's general practice when expenditure is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available; the Office considers restricted funds to have been spent first. When expenditure is incurred for which committed, assigned or unassigned fund balances are available, the Office considers amounts to have been spent first out of committed funds, then assigned funds, and lastly unassigned funds, as needed.

(j) **Use of estimates**—The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make various estimates. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

(2) Budgets and Budgetary Accounting:

Governmental fund revenues and expenditures accounted for in budgetary funds are controlled by a formal integrated budgetary accounting system in accordance with the Florida Statutes. An annual budget was adopted for the General Fund. All budget amounts presented in the accompanying special-purpose financial statements have been adjusted for legally authorized amendments of the annual budget for the year. The annual budget is monitored at varying levels of classification detail. However, for purposes of budgetary control, expenditures cannot legally exceed the total budget appropriations at the individual fund level. All appropriations lapse at year-end.

(3) Investments:

Florida Statutes authorize the Office to invest in bonds, notes or other obligations of the U.S. Government, certificates of deposits, repurchase agreements, certain bonds of any State or local government unit and the State Treasurer's Investment Pool.

Interest Rate Risk. The Office does not have a formal investment policy that limits investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates.

Concentration of Credit Risk. The Office places no limit on the amount the Office may invest in any one issuer. The Office maintained 100 percent of excess deposits in a checking account with a local financial institution subject to Federal Depository Insurance Corporation (FDIC) insurance, and/or the State of Florida collateral pool established under the Florida Security for Public Deposits Act (the Act).

(4) Risk Management:

The County purchased commercial insurance to limit the exposure of the following risks of loss: theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; natural disasters and injuries to employees. Commercial insurance has been purchased by the Office to cover the risks of loss due to employee errors or omissions and health insurance. Settled claims resulting from all risks have not exceeded insurance coverage in any of the past three years.

(5) **Pension Plan:**

The entity participates in the Florida Retirement System (FRS), a multiple-employer, cost-sharing defined public employee retirement system which covers all of the Office's eligible employees. The System is administered by the State of Florida, Department of Administration, Division of Retirement to provide retirement and survivor benefits to participating public employees. Provisions relating to the FRS are established by Chapters 121 and 122, Florida Statutes; Chapter 112, Part IV, Florida Statutes; Chapter 238, Florida Statutes; and FRS Rules, Chapter 60S, Florida Administrative Code; wherein eligibility, contributions, and benefits are defined and described in detail. The FRS is a single retirement system administered by the Department of Management Services, Division of Retirement, and consists of two cost-sharing, multiple-employer retirement plans and other nonintegrated programs. These include a defined-benefit pension plan (Plan), with a Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP), and a defined-contribution plan, referred to as the FRS Investment Plan (Investment Plan).

In addition, all regular employees of the entity are eligible to enroll as members of the Retiree Health Insurance Subsidy (HIS) Program. The HIS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan established and administered in accordance with section 112.363, Florida Statutes. The benefit is a monthly payment to assist retirees of the state-administered retirement systems in paying their health insurance costs. For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, eligible retirees and beneficiaries received a monthly HIS payment equal to the number of years of service credited at retirement multiplied by $7.50. The minimum payment is $45 and the maximum payment is $225 per month, pursuant to section 112.363, Florida Statutes. To be eligible to receive a HIS benefit, a retiree under one of the state-administered retirement systems must provide proof of eligible health insurance coverage, which can include Medicare.

For financial reporting purposes, the Office is deemed to be part of the primary government of the County. A liability related to the Office's proportionate share of FRS retirement benefits, along with a detailed plan description, is reported in the financial statements of the County for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

BAKER COUNTY PROPERTY APPRAISER
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts			
	Original	**Final**	**Actual**	**Variance with Final Budget**
Revenues				
Charges for services	$ -	$ -	$ 101,967	$ 101,967
Total revenues	-	-	101,967	101,967
Expenditures				
Current:				
General government	834,481	847,577	751,350	96,227
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(834,481)	(847,577)	(649,383)	198,194
Other financing sources (uses)				
Appropriations to constitutional officers	834,481	847,577	743,257	(104,320)
Reversions from constitutional officers	-	-	(93,874)	(93,874)
Total other financing sources (uses)	834,481	847,577	649,383	(198,194)
Net change in fund balances	-	-	-	-
Fund balances, beginning of year	-	-	-	-
Fund balances, end of year	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

The accompanying note to schedule of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balance - budget and actual - general fund is an integral part of this schedule.

BAKER COUNTY PROPERTY APPRAISER
NOTE TO SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES – BUDGET AND ACTUAL – GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

(1) **Budgetary Information:**

An annual budget is adopted on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America for the general fund. All annual appropriations lapse at fiscal year-end.

The Property Appraiser follows these procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the financial statements:

a) The preparation, adoption and amendment of the budgets are governed by Florida Statutes. Public hearings are conducted to obtain taxpayer comments.

b) Budget excess expenditures over revenues are funded through appropriations from the Board of County Commissioners.

c) Formal budgetary integration is employed as a management control device during the year for the General Fund. The legal level of budgetary control is the fund level.

d) The budgets for the funds are adopted on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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

The Honorable Timothy Sweat, Property Appraiser,
Baker County, Florida:

We have audited, 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, the financial statements of the general fund of the Baker County Property Appraiser (the Office) as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Office's special-purpose financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated April 10, 2025, which was modified to refer to a basis of accounting required for compliance with state filing requirements, and for other reasons..

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the special-purpose financial statements, we considered the Office's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the special-purpose financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Office's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Office's internal control.

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

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

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

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

Purpose of this Report

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

James Moore & Co., P.L.

Daytona Beach, Florida
April 10, 2025

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' MANAGEMENT LETTER REQUIRED BY CHAPTER 10.550, RULES OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

The Honorable Timothy Sweat, Property Appraiser,
Baker County, Florida:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of the Baker County Property Appraiser (the Office), as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated April 10, 2025.

Auditors' 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 Auditors' Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Special-Purpose Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, and Independent Accountants' Report on an 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 April 10, 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. There were no findings or recommendations included in the preceding annual 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 Baker County Property Appraiser is an elected constitutional officer, whose office is established by Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Florida and is governed by various provisions of state law. Baker County, including the Office of the Property Appraiser, was established by Chapter 8516, Laws of Florida in 1921. There are no component units of the Office to be disclosed as required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Financial Management

Section 10.554(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.

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 note 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 Office and applicable management, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

James Moore & Co., P.L.

Daytona Beach, Florida
April 10, 2025

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' EXAMINATION REPORT

The Honorable Timothy Sweat, Property Appraiser,
Baker County, Florida:

We have examined the Baker County Property Appraiser's (the Office) compliance with Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, *Local Government Investment Policies* (the Statute), for the year ended September 30, 2023. Management is responsible for the Office's compliance with those requirements. Our responsibility is to obtain reasonable assurance by evaluating against the aforementioned statutes and performing other procedures to obtain sufficient appropriate evidence to express an opinion that conveys the results of our evaluation based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with the attestation standards for a direct examination engagement established by the AICPA. Those standards require that we obtain reasonable assurance by evaluating against the aforementioned statutes during the year ended September 30, 2023, and performing other procedures to obtain sufficient appropriate evidence to express an opinion that conveys the results of our evaluation of the Office's compliance during the year ended September 30, 2023. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgment, including an assessment of the risks that were not in accordance with those requirements in all material respects, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

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

In our opinion, for the year ended September 30, 2023, the Office complied with the Statute in all material respects.

James Moore & Co., P.L.

Daytona Beach, Florida
April 10, 2025

BAKER COUNTY SHERIFF

SPECIAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

BAKER COUNTY SHERIFF

SPECIAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

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JAMESMOORE

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

The Honorable Scotty Rhoden, Sheriff,
Baker County, Florida:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Baker County, Florida Sheriff (the Office), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Office's financial statements, as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of each major funds and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Office as of September 30, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position for thereof for the fiscal 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) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* (GAS), issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Office, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note (1) to the financial statements, the financial statements referred to above were prepared solely for the purpose of complying with the Rules of the Auditor General of the State of Florida. In conformity with the Rules, the accompanying financial statements are intended to present the financial position and changes in financial position of each major fund, and aggregate remaining fund information only for that portion of the major funds and aggregate remaining fund information of Baker County, Florida (the County), that is attributable to the Office. They do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of the County as of September 30, 2023, the changes in its financial position for the fiscal year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

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 Office'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.

Auditors' 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 auditors' 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 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 these financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS 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 Office'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 Office'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 required supplementary information, as listed in the table of contents, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with GAAS, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Office's basic financial statements. The supplementary information, as listed in the table of contents, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements.

Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated April 10, 2025 on our consideration of the Office's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Office'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 Office's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

James Moore & Co., P.L.

Daytona Beach, Florida
April 10, 2025

BAKER COUNTY SHERIFF
BALANCE SHEET
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	General Fund	Inmate Welfare Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 2,009,104	$ 282,660	$ 302,006	$ 2,593,770
Receivables, net	21,350	63,176	-	84,526
Due from other governments	548,966	-	312,967	861,933
Prepaid items	61,001	-	5,464	66,465
Total Assets	$ 2,640,421	$ 345,836	$ 620,437	$ 3,606,694
Liabilities and Fund Balances				
Liabilities				
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	$ 2,222,944	$ 26,625	$ 48,576	$ 2,298,145
Due to Board of County Commissioners	5,792	-	-	5,792
Total liabilities	2,228,736	26,625	48,576	2,303,937
Fund Balances				
Nonspendable:				
Prepaid items	61,001	-	5,464	66,465
Restricted for:				
Public safety	-	319,211	566,397	885,608
Assigned for:				
Jail operations	350,684	-	-	350,684
Total fund balances	411,685	319,211	571,861	1,302,757
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	$ 2,640,421	$ 345,836	$ 620,437	$ 3,606,694

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

BAKER COUNTY SHERIFF
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	General Fund	Inmate Welfare Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues				
Permits and fees	$ -	$ -	$ 168,875	$ 168,875
Intergovernmental	816,223	199	482,532	1,298,954
Charges for services	13,317,261	469,079	-	13,786,340
Fines and forfeitures	-	-	5,187	5,187
Investment income	3,342	1,799	4,078	9,219
Miscellaneous	245,271	10,996	-	256,267
Total revenues	14,382,097	482,073	660,672	15,524,842
Expenditures				
Current:				
Public safety	16,863,662	534,274	677,483	18,075,419
Court related	349,772	-	-	349,772
Capital outlay	2,644,133	-	55,506	2,699,639
Total expenditures	19,857,567	534,274	732,989	21,124,830
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(5,475,470)	(52,201)	(72,317)	(5,599,988)
Other financing sources (uses)				
Appropriations from Board of County Commissioners	5,712,327	-	96,771	5,809,098
Reversions to Board of County Commissioners	(35)	-	(22,282)	(22,317)
Total other financing sources (uses)	5,712,292	-	74,489	5,786,781
Net change in fund balances	236,822	(52,201)	2,172	186,793
Fund balances, beginning of year	174,863	371,412	569,689	1,115,964
Fund balances, end of year	$ 411,685	$ 319,211	$ 571,861	$ 1,302,757

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

BAKER COUNTY SHERIFF
STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Total Custodial Funds
Assets	
Cash and equivalents	$ 264,842
Total Assets	$ 264,842
Liabilities	
Due to others	$ 45,506
Total Liabilities	$ 45,506
Net Position	
Restricted for:	
Law enforcement	$ 219,336
Total Net Position	$ 219,336

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

BAKER COUNTY SHERIFF
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Total Custodial Funds
Additions:	
Seizures	$ 40,423
Permits, fees and special assessments	2,000
Deposits and trusts	1,508,990
Fines and forfeitures	25,113
Miscellaneous	1,025
Total additions	1,577,551
Deductions:	
Payments to individuals	190,857
Payments to other governments	15,872
Inmate services	1,325,352
Payments to Board of County Commissioners	1,489
Payments to other constitutional offices	19,875
Miscellaneous	5,716
Total deductions	1,559,161
Net change in fiduciary net position	18,390
Net position, beginning of year, as restated	200,946
Net position, end of year	$ 219,336

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

(1) **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:**

The accounting policies of the Baker County Sheriff (the "Office") conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governments in the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Codification. The following is a summary of the most significant policies.

(a) **Reporting entity—** The Sheriff is an elected constitutional officer, whose office is established by Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Florida and is governed by various provisions of state law. Baker County, including the Office of the Sheriff, was established by Chapter 8516, Laws of Florida in 1921. The Office is an integral part of Baker County, the reporting entity for financial reporting purposes.

(b) **Basis of presentation—**The Office's financial statements are special-purpose financial statements that have been prepared for the purpose of complying with the Rules of the Auditor General of the State of Florida (the Rules). In conformity with the Rules, the Office has not presented the government-wide financial statements, the reconciliations to the government-wide statements or management's discussion and analysis.

(c) **Fund accounting—**Accounts 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, as appropriate for each fund type. Government resources are allocated to, and accounted for in, individual funds based upon the purposes for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled. The focus of fund financial statements is on major funds, each displayed in a separate column.

The Office reports the following major governmental funds:

General Fund - The principal operating fund of the office. It is used to account for all financial resources, except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

911 Fund – This fund is used to account for the proceeds of 911 charges which are restricted as to their authorized use.

Inmate Welfare Fund – The Inmate Welfare Fund is a Special Revenue Fund is used to account for the funds that are generated by phone commissions and commissary sales. The profits can only be spent for the benefit of the inmates.

Additionally, the Office reports the following fund types:

Custodial Funds – Custodial funds are used to account for assets held in a custodial capacity.

Special Revenue Funds – Various nonmajor special revenue funds are used to account for funds generated by grants, fines and forfeiture funds, intergovernmental agreements and other restricted funds from third party sources as passed through by the Board of County Commissioners.

(d) **Measurement focus/basis of accounting—**All governmental funds are accounted for on a spending or current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. This means that only current assets and current liabilities are generally included on their balance sheets. Their reported fund balance (net current assets) is considered a measure of "available spendable resources". Their operating statements present increases (revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (expenditures and other financing uses) in net current assets and, accordingly, are said to present a summary of sources and uses of "available spendable resources" during a period.

(1) **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:** (Continued)

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the measurement focus applied. All governmental funds are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. Their revenues are recognized when they become measurable and available as net current assets. The Office follows the County's policy for revenue recognition in which it considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 90 days of the current fiscal period.

Expenditures are generally recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related fund liability is incurred. However, principal and interest on general long-term debt are recognized when due.

(e) **Cash**—The Office'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.

(f) **Receivables**—Accounts receivable consist primarily of grant receivables. Management considers these fully collectible and no allowance for bad debts has been provided.

(g) **Capital assets and long-term liabilities**—Capital assets used by the Office are capitalized (recorded and accounted for) by the Baker County Board of County Commissioners.

Depreciation is reported for the primary government using the straight-line method calculated on a service-life basis to amortize the cost of the asset over their estimated economic useful lives.

Because of their spending measurement focus, expenditure recognition for governmental fund types is limited to exclude amounts represented by non-current liabilities. Since they do not affect net current assets, such long-term amounts are not recognized as governmental fund type expenditures or fund liabilities. They are instead reported as liabilities in the financial statements of the County.

(h) **Accounts payable**—Accounts payable balances in the general fund are primarily payable to third-party vendors for goods provided and services rendered.

(i) **Compensated absences**—The Office follows generally accepted accounting principles in accounting for accrued compensated absences. The Office allows limited vesting of unused employee leave time. Since the annual and sick leave liability is considered long-term, it is recorded in the government-wide financial statements of the County. Compensated absences are expected to be paid out of the General Fund of the Office and this practice is expected to continue in the future. The Office maintained compensated absence records for the hours earned, used and available.

(j) **Fund balance**—Fund balance for governmental funds report classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which the government is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in the funds may be spent. In as much as the Sheriff is a county constitutional officer, any funds remaining at the end of the fiscal year are returned to the Board of County Commissioners. Unassigned fund balance represents funds available for spending at the government's discretion.

(1) **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:** (Continued)

The Office does not have a formal written policy regarding whether restricted or unrestricted amounts are considered to be spent when an expenditure for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balances are available. However, it has been the Office's general practice when expenditure is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available; the Office considers restricted funds to have been spent first. When expenditure is incurred for which committed, assigned or unassigned fund balances are available, the Office considers amounts to have been spent first out of committed funds, then assigned funds, and lastly unassigned funds, as needed.

(k) **Use of estimates**—The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make various estimates. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

(2) **Budgets and Budgetary Accounting:**

Governmental fund revenues and expenditures accounted for in budgetary funds are controlled by a formal integrated budgetary accounting system in accordance with the Florida Statutes. An annual budget was adopted for the General Fund, Inmate Welfare Fund, and Special Law Fund. All budget amounts presented in the accompanying special-purpose financial statements have been adjusted for legally authorized amendments of the annual budget for the year. The annual budget is monitored at varying levels of classification detail. However, for purposes of budgetary control, expenditures cannot legally exceed the total budget appropriations at the individual fund level. All appropriations lapse at year-end. The budget is presented with actual expenditures exceeding the approved budget.

(3) **Investments:**

Florida Statutes authorize the Office to invest in bonds, notes or other obligations of the U.S. Government, certificates of deposits, repurchase agreements, certain bonds of any State or local government unit and the State Treasurer's Investment Pool.

Interest Rate Risk. The Office does not have a formal investment policy that limits investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates.

Concentration of Credit Risk. The Office places no limit on the amount the Office may invest in any one issuer. The Office maintained 100 percent of excess deposits in a checking account with a local financial institution subject to Federal Depository Insurance Corporation (FDIC) insurance, and/or the State of Florida collateral pool established under the Florida Security for Public Deposits Act (the Act).

(4) **Risk Management:**

The County purchased commercial insurance to limit the exposure of the following risks of loss: theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; natural disasters and injuries to employees. Commercial insurance has been purchased by the Office to cover the risks of loss due to employee errors or omissions and health insurance. Settled claims resulting from all risks have not exceeded insurance coverage in any of the past three years.

(5) **Capital Assets:**

Capital asset activity of the Office is incorporated in the County-wide financial statements. All applicable depreciation expense is recorded under the public safety function.

(7) **Pension Plan:**

The Office participates in the Florida Retirement System (FRS), a multiple-employer, cost-sharing defined public employee retirement system which covers all of the Office's full-time employees. The System is administered by the State of Florida, Department of Administration, Division of Retirement to provide retirement and survivor benefits to participating public employees. Provisions relating to the FRS are established by Chapters 121 and 122, Florida Statutes; Chapter 112, Part IV, Florida Statutes; Chapter 238, Florida Statutes; and FRS Rules, Chapter 60S, Florida Administrative Code; wherein eligibility, contributions, and benefits are defined and described in detail. The FRS is a single retirement system administered by the Department of Management Services, Division of Retirement, and consists of two cost-sharing, multiple-employer retirement plans and other nonintegrated programs. These include a defined-benefit pension plan (Plan), with a Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP), and a defined-contribution plan, referred to as the FRS Investment Plan (Investment Plan).

In addition, all regular employees of the Office are eligible to enroll as members of the Retiree Health Insurance Subsidy (HIS) Program. The HIS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan established and administered in accordance with section 112.363, Florida Statutes. The benefit is a monthly payment to assist retirees of the state-administered retirement systems in paying their health insurance costs. For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, eligible retirees and beneficiaries received a monthly HIS payment equal to the number of years of service credited at retirement multiplied by $7.50. The minimum payment is $45 and the maximum payment is $225 per month, pursuant to section 112.363, Florida Statutes. To be eligible to receive a HIS benefit, a retiree under one of the state-administered retirement systems must provide proof of eligible health insurance coverage, which can include Medicare.

For financial reporting purposes, the Office is deemed to be part of the primary government of the County. A liability related to the Office's proportionate share of FRS retirement benefits, along with a detailed plan description, is reported in the financial statements of the County for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

BAKER COUNTY SHERIFF
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts			
	Original	Final	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
Revenues				
Intergovernmental	$ 262,086	$ 262,086	$ 816,223	$ 554,137
Charges for services	11,573,261	13,038,330	13,317,261	278,931
Fines and forfeitures	10,000	10,000	-	(10,000)
Investment income	-	-	3,342	3,342
Miscellaneous	2,880	2,880	245,271	242,391
Total revenues	11,848,227	13,313,296	14,382,097	1,068,801
Expenditures				
Current:				
Public safety	16,862,336	18,278,134	16,863,662	1,414,472
Court related	379,353	379,353	349,772	29,581
Capital outlay	219,184	268,455	2,644,133	(2,375,678)
Total expenditures	17,460,873	18,925,942	19,857,567	(931,625)
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(5,612,646)	(5,612,646)	(5,475,470)	137,176
Other financing sources (uses)				
Appropriations from Board of County Commissioners	5,612,646	5,612,646	5,712,327	99,681
Reversions to Board of County Commissioners	-	-	(35)	(35)
Total other financing sources (uses)	5,612,646	5,612,646	5,712,292	99,646
Net change in fund balances	-	-	236,822	236,822
Fund balances, beginning of year	174,863	174,863	174,863	-
Fund balances, end of year	$ 174,863	$ 174,863	$ 411,685	$ 236,822

The accompanying note to schedules of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances - budget and actual - governmental funds is an integral part of this schedule.

BAKER COUNTY SHERIFF
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - INMATE WELFARE FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts			
	Original	Final	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
Revenues				
Intergovernmental	$ -	$ -	$ 199	$ 199
Charges for services	528,148	528,148	469,079	(59,069)
Investment income	-	-	1,799	1,799
Miscellaneous	1,368	1,368	10,996	9,628
Total revenues	529,516	529,516	482,073	(47,443)
Expenditures				
Current:				
Public safety	529,516	529,516	534,274	(4,758)
Total expenditures	529,516	529,516	534,274	(4,758)
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	-	-	(52,201)	(52,201)
Net change in fund balances	-	-	(52,201)	(52,201)
Fund balances, beginning of year	371,412	371,412	371,412	-
Fund balances, end of year	$ 371,412	$ 371,412	$ 319,211	$ (52,201)

The accompanying note to schedules of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances - budget and actual - governmental funds is an integral part of this schedule.

BAKER COUNTY SHERIFF
NOTE TO SCHEDULES OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES – BUDGET AND ACTUAL – GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

(1) **Budgetary Information:**

An annual budget is adopted on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America for the governmental funds, with the exception of long-term debt issuance and related items. All annual appropriations lapse at fiscal year-end.

The Office follows these procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the financial statements:

a) The preparation, adoption and amendment of the budgets are governed by Florida Statutes. Public hearings are conducted to obtain taxpayer comments.

b) Budget excess expenditures over revenues are funded through appropriations from the Board of County Commissioners.

c) Formal budgetary integration is employed as a management control device during the year. The legal level of budgetary control is the fund level.

d) The budgets for the funds are adopted on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

BAKER COUNTY SHERIFF
COMBINING BALANCE SHEET
NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	911 Fund	Second Dollar Fund	School Crossing Guards Fund	Emergency Management Fund	Special Law Fund	Total Nonmajor Governmental Funds
Assets						
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 118,500	$ -	$ 93,714	$ 72,235	$ 17,557	$ 302,006
Due from other governments	145,605	-	17,724	149,638	-	312,967
Prepaid items	5,464	-	-	-	-	5,464
Total Assets	$ 269,569	$ -	$ 111,438	$ 221,873	$ 17,557	$ 620,437
Liabilities						
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	$ 6,837	$ -	$ 114	$ 24,068	$ 17,557	$ 48,576
Total liabilities	6,837	-	114	24,068	17,557	48,576
Fund Balances:						
Nonspendable:						
Prepaid items	5,464	-	-	-	-	5,464
Restricted for:						
Public safety	257,268	-	111,324	197,805	-	566,397
Total fund balances	262,732	-	111,324	197,805	-	571,861
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	$ 269,569	$ -	$ 111,438	$ 221,873	$ 17,557	$ 620,437

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

BAKER COUNTY SHERIFF
COMBINING SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	911 Fund	Second Dollar Fund	School Crossing Guards Fund	Emergency Management Fund	Special Law Fund	Total Nonmajor Governmental Funds
Revenues						
Permits and fees	$ 168,875	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 168,875
Intergovernmental	103,952	-	79,757	276,541	22,282	482,532
Fines and forfeitures	-	5,187	-	-	-	5,187
Investment income	1,255	31	1,356	1,436	-	4,078
Total revenues	274,082	5,218	81,113	277,977	22,282	660,672
Expenditures						
Current:						
Public safety	243,695	5,259	93,346	296,283	38,900	677,483
Capital outlay	-	-	-	55,506	-	55,506
Total expenditures	243,695	5,259	93,346	351,789	38,900	732,989
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	30,387	(41)	(12,233)	(73,812)	(16,618)	(72,317)
Other financing sources (uses)						
Appropriations from Board of County Commissioners	-	-	-	57,871	38,900	96,771
Reversions from constitutional officers	-	-	-	-	(22,282)	(22,282)
Total other financing sources (uses)	-	-	-	57,871	16,618	74,489
Net change in fund balances	30,387	(41)	(12,233)	(15,941)	-	2,172
Fund balances, beginning of year	232,345	41	123,557	213,746	-	569,689
Fund balances, end of year	$ 262,732	$ -	$ 111,324	$ 197,805	$ -	$ 571,861

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

BAKER COUNTY SHERIFF
COMBINING SCHEDULE OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Donated Fund	Seized Fund	Individual Deposits Fund	Inmate Trust Fund	Total Custodial Funds
Assets					
Cash and equivalents	$ 22,169	$ 1,910	$ 85,225	$ 155,538	$ 264,842
Total Assets	$ 22,169	$ 1,910	$ 85,225	$ 155,538	$ 264,842
Liabilities					
Due to others	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 45,506	$ 45,506
Total Liabilities	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 45,506	$ 45,506
Net Position					
Restricted for:					
Law enforcement	$ 22,169	$ 1,910	$ 85,225	$ 110,032	$ 219,336
Total Net Position	$ 22,169	$ 1,910	$ 85,225	$ 110,032	$ 219,336

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

BAKER COUNTY SHERIFF
COMBINING SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Bond Fund	Individual Deposits Fund	Evidence Escrow Fund	Inmate Trust Fund	Total Custodial Funds
Additions:					
Seizures	$ 40,423	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 40,423
Permits, fees and special assessments	-	2,000	-	-	2,000
Deposits and trusts	-	-	19,910	1,489,080	1,508,990
Fines and forfeitures	25,113	-	-	-	25,113
Miscellaneous	1,025	-	-	-	1,025
Total additions	66,561	2,000	19,910	1,489,080	1,577,551
Deductions:					
Payments to individuals	17,007	-	13,928	159,922	190,857
Payments to other governments	15,872	-	-	-	15,872
Inmate services	-	-	-	1,325,352	1,325,352
Payments to Board of County Commissioners	1,179	310	-	-	1,489
Payments to other constitutional offices	19,875	-	-	-	19,875
Miscellaneous	1,910	-	-	3,806	5,716
Total deductions	55,843	310	13,928	1,489,080	1,559,161
Net change in fiduciary net position	10,718	1,690	5,982	-	18,390
Net position, beginning of year	11,451	220	79,243	110,032	200,946
Net position, end of year	$ 22,169	$ 1,910	$ 85,225	$ 110,032	$ 219,336

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS REQUIRED BY THE RULES OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

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

The Honorable Scotty Rhoden, Sheriff,
Baker County, Florida:

We have audited, 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, the financial statements of each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Baker County Sheriff (the Office) as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Office's special-purpose financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated April 10, 2025, which was modified to refer to a basis of accounting required for compliance with state filing requirements, and for other reasons.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

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

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

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

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

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

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Office'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 Office's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

James Moore & Co., P.L.

Daytona Beach, Florida
April 10, 2025

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' MANAGEMENT LETTER REQUIRED BY CHAPTER 10.550, RULES OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

The Honorable Scotty Rhoden, Sheriff,
Baker County, Florida:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of the Baker County Sheriff (the Office), as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated April 10, 2025.

Auditors' 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 Auditors' Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Special-Purpose Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, and Independent Accountants' Report on an 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 April 10, 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 all findings and recommendations made in the preceding financial audit report, if applicable.

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 Baker County Sheriff is an elected constitutional officer, whose office is established by Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Florida and is governed by various provisions of state law. Baker County, including the Office of the Sheriff, was established by Chapter 8516, Laws of Florida in 1921. There are no component units of the Baker County Sheriff to be disclosed as required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Financial Management

Section 10.554(1)(i)2., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we communicate any recommendations to improve financial management. In connection with our audit, we had the following recommendation:

2023-001 – Journal Entry Approvals

In our testing of journal entry activity, we noted a number of adjustments had no approval by the Undersheriff after being posted by the Finance Director, per the Office's policies. To ensure compliance with internal policy and to help mitigate the risk of error and/or fraud, we recommend the Office consistently follow its policy for the appropriate segregation of duties and approval of all journal entry activity.

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, fraud, waste, or abuse, that has occurred, or is likely to have occurred, that have an effect on the financial statements that is less than material but warrants the attention of those charged with governance. In connection with our audit, we noted the following:

2023-002 – Budgetary Compliance

During our audit, while actual expenditures were covered by either revenues or fund balance, we noted funds were expended in excess of budgeted amounts in the General Fund, Inmate Welfare, 911, School Crossing Guards, Second Dollar, and Emergency Management funds. We recommend the Office monitor the budget to actual results to determine the need for additional budget amendments and ensure budgetary compliance.

Management's Response to Findings

Government Auditing Standard requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the Office's response to the findings identified in our audit and described in the accompanying Management's Response. The Office's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

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 Office and applicable management, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

James Moore & Co., P.L.

Daytona Beach, Florida
April 10, 2025

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' EXAMINATION REPORT

The Honorable Scotty Rhoden, Sheriff,
Baker County, Florida:

We have examined the Baker County Sheriff's (the Office) compliance with Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, *Local Government Investment Policies*, Section 365.172, Florida Statutes, *Emergency Communications Number "E911"*, and Section 365.173, Florida Statutes, *Communications Number E911 System Fund* (the Statutes), for the year ended September 30, 2023. Management is responsible for the Office's compliance with those requirements. Our responsibility is to obtain reasonable assurance by evaluating against the aforementioned statutes and performing other procedures to obtain sufficient appropriate evidence to express an opinion that conveys the results of our evaluation based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with the attestation standards for a direct examination engagement established by the AICPA. Those standards require that we obtain reasonable assurance by evaluating against the aforementioned statutes during the year ended September 30, 2023, and performing other procedures to obtain sufficient appropriate evidence to express an opinion that conveys the results of our evaluation of Office's compliance during the year ended September 30, 2023. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgment, including an assessment of the risks that were not in accordance with those requirements in all material respects, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

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

In our opinion, the Office complied in all material respects, with the aforementioned requirements for the year ended September 30, 2023.

James Moore & Co., P.L.

Daytona Beach, Florida
April 10, 2025

BAKER COUNTY
SHERIFF SCOTTY RHODEN
1 Sheriff's Office Drive • Macclenny, Florida 32063-8833
Telephone (904) 259-2231

April 10, 2025

James Moore and Company
121 Executive Circle
Daytona Beach, FL 32114

This letter is a response to the Auditors' Financial Statement findings for the Baker County Sheriff's Office for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2023.

2023-001 – Journal Entry Approvals

This finding is duly noted. The Baker County Sheriff's Office will take the appropriate steps correct this finding. We will ensure that journal entries are prepared, reviewed, and signed according to policy.

2023-002 – Budgetary Compliance

This finding is duly noted. The Baker County Sheriff's Office will take the appropriate steps to better monitor the budget to actual to determine the need for budget adjustments. Please note that all expense overages were off-set by other revenue sources or from prior year fund balance. No additional funds were requested from the County.

Sincerely,

Sheriff Scotty Rhoden

BAKER COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

SPECIAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

BAKER COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

SPECIAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

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Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance – Governmental Fund 5

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JAMESMOORE

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

The Honorable Chris Milton, Supervisor of Elections,
Baker County, Florida:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the general fund of the Baker County Supervisor of Elections (the Office), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Office's 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 general fund for the Office as of September 30, 2023, and the respective change in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audit contained in *Government Auditing Standards,* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Office, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note (1) to the financial statements, the financial statements referred to above were prepared solely for the purpose of complying with the Rules of the Auditor General of the State of Florida. In conformity with the Rules, the accompanying financial statements are intended to present the financial position and changes in financial position of the general fund, only for that portion of the general fund, of Baker County, Florida (the County), that is attributable to the Office. They do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of the County as of September 30, 2023, the changes in its financial position for the fiscal year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Office'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.

Auditors' 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 auditors' report that includes our opinion. 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 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, 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 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 Office'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 Office'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 required supplementary information, as listed in the table of contents, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with GAAS, 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 April 10, 2025 on our consideration of the Office's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Office'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 Office's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

James Moore & Co., P.L.

Daytona Beach, Florida
April 10, 2025

BAKER COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS
BALANCE SHEET
GENERAL FUND
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	$	43,720
Total Assets	$	43,720
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE		
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	$	7,288
Due to Board of County Commissioners		36,432
Total liabilities		43,720
Fund Balance		
Unassigned		-
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	$	43,720

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

BAKER COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

Revenues	
Intergovernmental	$ 69,332
Total revenues	69,332
Expenditures	
Current:	
General government	673,893
Total expenditures	673,893
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(604,561)
Other financing sources (uses)	
Appropriations to constitutional officers	639,872
Reversions from constitutional officers	(35,311)
Total other financing sources (uses)	604,561
Net change in fund balances	-
Fund balances, beginning of year	-
Fund balances, end of year	$ -

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

(1) **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:**

The accounting policies of the Baker County Supervisor of Elections (the "Office") conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governments in the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Codification. The following is a summary of the more significant policies.

(a) **Reporting entity—**The Office is an elected constitutional officer, whose office is established by Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Florida and is governed by various provisions of state law. The Office is an integral part of Baker County, Florida (the County), the reporting entity for financial reporting purposes. The Office's General Fund is combined with the Board of County Commissioners in the County's financial statements to properly reflect the county-wide General Fund.

(b) **Basis of presentation—**The Office's financial statements are special-purpose financial statements that have been prepared for the purpose of complying with the Rules of the Auditor General of the State of Florida (the Rules). In conformity with the Rules, the Office has not presented the government-wide financial statements, the reconciliations to the government-wide statements or management's discussion and analysis.

(c) **Fund accounting—**Accounts 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, as appropriate for each fund type. Government resources are allocated to, and accounted for in, individual funds based upon the purposes for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled. The focus of fund financial statements is on major funds, each displayed in a separate column.

The Office reports the following major governmental fund; there are no non-major governmental funds:

General Fund – The principal operating fund of the Office. It is used to account for all financial resources.

(d) **Measurement focus/basis of accounting—** All governmental funds are accounted for on a spending or current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. This means that only current assets and current liabilities are generally included on their balance sheets. Their reported fund balance (net current assets) is considered a measure of "available spendable resources". Their operating statements present increases (revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (expenditures and other financing uses) in net current assets and, accordingly, are said to present a summary of sources and uses of "available spendable resources" during a period.

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the measurement focus applied. All governmental funds are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. Their revenues are recognized when they become measurable and available as net current assets. The Office follows the County's policy for revenue recognition in which it considers all revenues to be available except for property tax and Fire Rescue revenues, which are only considered available if collected within 60 days.

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies: (Continued)

Expenditures are generally recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related fund liability is incurred. However, principal and interest on general long-term debt are recognized when due.

(e) **Cash and cash equivalents**—The Office'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.

(f) **Capital assets and long-term liabilities**—Capital assets used by the Office are capitalized (recorded and accounted for) by the Baker County Board of County Commissioners.

Because of their spending measurement focus, expenditure recognition for governmental fund types is limited to exclude amounts represented by non-current liabilities. Since they do not affect net current assets, such long-term amounts are not recognized as governmental fund type expenditures or fund liabilities. They are instead reported as liabilities in the financial statements of the County.

(g) **Accounts payable**—Accounts payable balances in the general fund are primarily payable to third-party vendors for goods provided and services rendered.

(h) **Compensated absences**—The Office follows generally accepted accounting principles in accounting for accrued compensated absences. The Office allows limited vesting of unused employee leave time. Since the annual and sick leave liability is considered long-term, it is recorded in the government-wide financial statements of the County. Compensated absences are expected to be paid out of the General Fund of the Office and this practice is expected to continue in the future. The Office kept compensated absence records for the hours earned, used and available.

(i) **Fund balance**—Fund balance for governmental funds report classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which the government is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in the funds may be spent. In as much as the Supervisor of Elections is a county constitutional officer, any funds remaining at the end of the fiscal year are returned to the Board of County Commissioners. Unassigned fund balance represents funds available for spending at the government's discretion.

The Office does not have a formal written policy regarding whether restricted or unrestricted amounts are considered to be spent when an expenditure for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balances are available. However, it has been the Office's general practice when expenditure is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available; the Office considers restricted funds to have been spent first. When expenditure is incurred for which committed, assigned or unassigned fund balances are available, the Office considers amounts to have been spent first out of committed funds, then assigned funds, and lastly unassigned funds, as needed.

(j) **Use of estimates**—The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make various estimates. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

(2) Budgets and Budgetary Accounting:

Governmental fund revenues and expenditures accounted for in budgetary funds are controlled by a formal integrated budgetary accounting system in accordance with the Florida Statutes. An annual budget was adopted for the General Fund. All budget amounts presented in the accompanying special-purpose financial statements have been adjusted for legally authorized amendments of the annual budget for the year. The annual budget is monitored at varying levels of classification detail. However, for purposes of budgetary control, expenditures cannot legally exceed the total budget appropriations at the individual fund level. All appropriations lapse at year-end

(3) Investments:

Florida Statutes authorize the Office to invest in bonds, notes or other obligations of the U.S. Government, certificates of deposits, repurchase agreements, certain bonds of any State or local government unit and the State Treasurer's Investment Pool.

Interest Rate Risk. The Office does not have a formal investment policy that limits investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates.

Concentration of Credit Risk. The Office places no limit on the amount the Office may invest in any one issuer. The Office maintained 100 percent of excess deposits in a checking account with a local financial institution subject to Federal Depository Insurance Corporation (FDIC) insurance, and/or the State of Florida collateral pool established under the Florida Security for Public Deposits Act (the Act).

(4) Risk Management:

The County purchased commercial insurance to limit the exposure of the following risks of loss: theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; natural disasters and injuries to employees. Commercial insurance has been purchased by the Office to cover the risks of loss due to employee errors or omissions and health insurance. Settled claims resulting from all risks have not exceeded insurance coverage in any of the past three years.

(5) **Pension Plan:**

The Office participates in the Florida Retirement System (FRS), a multiple-employer, cost-sharing defined public employee retirement system which covers all of the Office's full-time employees. The System is administered by the State of Florida, Department of Administration, Division of Retirement to provide retirement and survivor benefits to participating public employees. Provisions relating to the FRS are established by Chapters 121 and 122, Florida Statutes; Chapter 112, Part IV, Florida Statutes; Chapter 238, Florida Statutes; and FRS Rules, Chapter 60S, Florida Administrative Code; wherein eligibility, contributions, and benefits are defined and described in detail. The FRS is a single retirement system administered by the Department of Management Services, Division of Retirement, and consists of two cost-sharing, multiple-employer retirement plans and other nonintegrated programs. These include a defined-benefit pension plan (Plan), with a Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP), and a defined-contribution plan, referred to as the FRS Investment Plan (Investment Plan).

In addition, all regular employees of the entity are eligible to enroll as members of the Retiree Health Insurance Subsidy (HIS) Program. The HIS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan established and administered in accordance with section 112.363, Florida Statutes. The benefit is a monthly payment to assist retirees of the state-administered retirement systems in paying their health insurance costs. For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, eligible retirees and beneficiaries received a monthly HIS payment equal to the number of years of service credited at retirement multiplied by $7.50. The minimum payment is $45 and the maximum payment is $255 per month, pursuant to section 112.363, Florida Statutes. To be eligible to receive a HIS benefit, a retiree under one of the state-administered retirement systems must provide proof of eligible health insurance coverage, which can include Medicare.

For financial reporting purposes, the Office is deemed to be part of the primary government of the County. A liability related to the Office's proportionate share of FRS retirement benefits, along with a detailed plan description, is reported in the financial statements of the County for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

BAKER COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts			
	Original	**Final**	**Actual**	**Variance with Final Budget**
Revenues				
Intergovernmental	$ -	$ 69,332	$ 69,332	$ -
Total revenues	-	69,332	69,332	-
Expenditures				
Current:				
General government	639,872	709,204	673,893	35,311
Total expenditures	639,872	709,204	673,893	35,311
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(639,872)	(639,872)	(604,561)	35,311
Other financing sources (uses)				
Appropriations to constitutional officers	639,872	639,872	639,872	-
Reversions from constitutional officers	-	-	(35,311)	(35,311)
Total other financing sources (uses)	639,872	639,872	604,561	(35,311)
Net change in fund balances	-	-	-	-
Fund balances, beginning of year	-	-	-	-
Fund balances, end of year	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

The accompanying note to schedule of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balance - budget and actual - general fund is an integral part of this schedule.

BAKER COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS
NOTE TO SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES – BUDGET AND ACTUAL – GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

(1) **Budgetary Information:**

An annual budget is adopted on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America for the general fund. All annual appropriations lapse at fiscal year-end.

The Supervisor of Elections follows these procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the financial statements:

a) The preparation, adoption and amendment of the budgets are governed by Florida Statutes. Public hearings are conducted to obtain taxpayer comments.

b) Budget excess expenditures over revenues are funded through appropriations from the Board of County Commissioners.

c) Formal budgetary integration is employed as a management control device during the year for the General Fund. The legal level of budgetary control is the fund level.

d) The budgets for the funds are adopted on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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

The Honorable Chris Milton, Supervisor of Elections,
Baker County, Florida:

We have audited, 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, the financial statements of the general fund of the Baker County Supervisor of Elections (the Office) as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Office's special-purpose financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated April 10, 2025, which was modified to refer to a basis of accounting required for compliance with state filing requirements, and for other reasons..

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the special-purpose financial statements, we considered the Office's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the special-purpose financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Office's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Office's internal control.

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

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

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

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

Purpose of this Report

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

James Moore & Co., P.L.

Daytona Beach, Florida
April 10, 2025

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' MANAGEMENT LETTER REQUIRED BY CHAPTER 10.550, RULES OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

The Honorable Chris Milton, Supervisor of Elections,
Baker County, Florida:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of the Baker County Supervisor of Elections (the Office), as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated April 10, 2025.

Auditors' 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 Auditors' Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Special-Purpose Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, and Independent Accountants' Report on an 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 April 10, 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. There were no findings or recommendations included in the preceding annual 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 Office is an elected constitutional officer, whose office is established by Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Florida and is governed by various provisions of state law. There are no component units of the Office to be disclosed as required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Financial Management

Section 10.554(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.

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 note 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 Office and applicable management, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

James Moore & Co., P.L.

Daytona Beach, Florida
April 10, 2025

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' EXAMINATION REPORT

The Honorable Chris Milton, Supervisor of Elections,
Baker County, Florida:

We have examined the Baker County Supervisor of Elections' (the Office) compliance with Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, Local Government Investment Policies (the Statute), for the year ended September 30, 2023. Management is responsible for the Office's compliance with those requirements. Our responsibility is to obtain reasonable assurance by evaluating against the aforementioned statutes and performing other procedures to obtain sufficient appropriate evidence to express an opinion that conveys the results of our evaluation based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with the attestation standards for a direct examination engagement established by the AICPA. Those standards require that we obtain reasonable assurance by evaluating against the aforementioned statutes during the year ended September 30, 2023 and performing other procedures to obtain sufficient appropriate evidence to express an opinion that conveys the results of our evaluation of Office's compliance during the year ended September 30, 2023. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgment, including an assessment of the risks that were not in accordance with those requirements in all material respects, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

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

In our opinion, for the year ended September 30, 2023, the Office complied with the Statute in all material respects.

James Moore & Co., P.L.

Daytona Beach, Florida
April 10, 2025

BAKER COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR

SPECIAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

BAKER COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR

SPECIAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

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JAMESMOORE

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

The Honorable Amy Dugger, Tax Collector,
Baker County, Florida:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Baker County Tax Collector (the Office), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Office's 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 each major fund of the Office 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) and the standards applicable to financial audit contained in *Government Auditing Standards,* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Office, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note (1) to the financial statements, the financial statements referred to above were prepared solely for the purpose of complying with the Rules of the Auditor General of the State of Florida. In conformity with the Rules, the accompanying financial statements are intended to present the financial position and changes in financial position of each major fund and aggregate remaining fund information, only for that portion of the major funds and aggregate remaining fund information, of Baker County, Florida (the County), that is attributable to the Office. They do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of the County as of September 30, 2023, the changes in its financial position for the fiscal year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Office'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.

Auditors' 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 auditors' 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 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 GAAS 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 Office'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 Office'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 required supplementary information, as listed in the table of contents, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Office's financial statements. The supplementary information, as listed in the table of contents, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated April 10, 2025 on our consideration of the Office's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Office'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 Office's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

James Moore & Co., P.L.

Daytona Beach, Florida
April 10, 2025

BAKER COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR
BALANCE SHEET
GENERAL FUND
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	$	159,211
Liabilities and Fund Balance		
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	$	1,028
Due to Board of County Commissioners		158,183
Total liabilities		159,211
Fund balance		
Unassigned		-
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	$	159,211

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

BAKER COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

Revenues		
Charges for services	$	802,892
Investment income		742
Total revenues		803,634
Expenditures		
Current:		
General government		914,161
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures		(110,527)
Other financing sources (uses)		
Appropriations from Board of County Commissioners		268,710
Reversions to Board of County Commissioners		(158,183)
Total other financing sources (uses)		110,527
Net change in fund balances		-
Fund balances, beginning of year		-
Fund balances, end of year	$	-

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

BAKER COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR
STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Custodial Funds
Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 528,956
Total Assets	$ 528,956
Liabilities	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	$ 20
Due to individuals	7,305
Due to other governments	519,614
Deposits and escrow	2,017
Total Liabilities	$ 528,956
Total Net Position	$ -

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

BAKER COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Custodial Funds
Additions	
Taxes	$ 25,198,171
Permits, fees, and special assessments	2,446,130
Payments for deposit and escrow	41,939
Miscellaneous	19,884
Total additions	27,706,124
Deductions	
Payments to individuals	1,336,184
Payments to other governments	15,912,924
Payments to Board of County Commissioners	10,455,227
Miscellaneous payments	1,789
Total deductions	27,706,124
Net change in fiduciary net position	-
Net position, beginning of year	-
Net position, end of year	$ -

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

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:

The accounting policies of the Baker County Tax Collector (the Office) conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governments in the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Codification. The following is a summary of the more significant policies.

(a) **Reporting entity**— The Tax Collector is an elected constitutional officer, whose office is established by Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Florida and is governed by various provisions of state law. Baker County, Florida (the County), including the Office of the Tax Collector, was established by Chapter 8516, Laws of Florida in 1921. The Office is an integral part of the County, which is the reporting entity for financial reporting purposes.

(b) **Basis of presentation**—The Office's financial statements are special-purpose financial statements that have been prepared for the purpose of complying with the Rules of the Auditor General of the State of Florida (the Rules). In conformity with the Rules, the Office has not presented the government-wide financial statements, the reconciliations to the government-wide statements or management's discussion and analysis.

(c) **Fund accounting**—Accounts 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, as appropriate for each fund type. Government resources are allocated to, and accounted for in, individual funds based upon the purposes for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled. The focus of fund financial statements is on major funds, each displayed in a separate column.

The Office reports the following major governmental fund; there are no non-major governmental funds:

General Fund - The principal operating fund of the office. It is used to account for all financial resources, except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

Additionally, the Office reports the following fiduciary fund type:

Custodial Fund - Used to account for assets held by the Office as an agent for individuals, private organizations, other governments, and/or other funds. The Tax Collector's Custodial Fund is used to account for the collection and distribution of property taxes, sales tax, vehicle tags and titles, boat registrations and titles, fishing licenses, and driver's licenses.

(d) **Measurement focus/basis of accounting**—All governmental funds are accounted for on a spending or current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. This means that only current assets and current liabilities are generally included on their balance sheets. Their reported fund balance (net current assets) is considered a measure of "available spendable resources". Their operating statements present increases (revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (expenditures and other financing uses) in net current assets and, accordingly, are said to present a summary of sources and uses of "available spendable resources" during a period.

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the measurement focus applied. All governmental funds are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. Their revenues are recognized when they become measurable and available as net current assets. The Office considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 90 days of the end of the current fiscal period.

(1) **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:** (Continued)

Expenditures are generally recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related fund liability is incurred. However, principal and interest on general long-term debt are recognized when due.

(e) **Cash**—The Office'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.

(f) **Capital assets and long-term liabilities**—Capital assets used by the Office are capitalized (recorded and accounted for) by the Baker County Board of County Commissioners.

Because of their spending measurement focus, expenditure recognition for governmental fund types is limited to exclude amounts represented by non-current liabilities. Since they do not affect net current assets, such long-term amounts are not recognized as governmental fund type expenditures or fund liabilities. They are instead reported as liabilities in the financial statements of the County.

(g) **Accounts payable**—Accounts payable balances in the general fund are primarily payable to third-party vendors for goods provided and services rendered.

(h) **Compensated absences**—The Office follows generally accepted accounting principles in accounting for accrued compensated absences. The Office allows limited vesting of unused employee leave time. Since the annual and sick leave liability is considered long-term, it is recorded in the government-wide financial statements of the County. Compensated absences are expected to be paid out of the General Fund of the Office and this practice is expected to continue in the future. The Office kept compensated absence records for the hours earned, used and available.

(i) **Fund balance**—Fund balance for governmental funds report classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which the government is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in the funds may be spent. In as much as the Tax Collector is a county constitutional officer, any funds remaining at the end of the fiscal year are returned to the Board of County Commissioners. Unassigned fund balance represents funds available for spending at the government's discretion.

The Office does not have a formal written policy regarding whether restricted or unrestricted amounts are considered to be spent when an expenditure for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balances are available. However, it has been the Office's general practice when expenditure is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available; the Office considers restricted funds to have been spent first. When expenditure is incurred for which committed, assigned or unassigned fund balances are available, the Office considers amounts to have been spent first out of committed funds, then assigned funds, and lastly unassigned funds, as needed.

(j) **Use of estimates**—The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make various estimates. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

(2) **Budgets and Budgetary Accounting:**

Governmental fund revenues and expenditures accounted for in budgetary funds are controlled by a formal integrated budgetary accounting system in accordance with the Florida Statutes. An annual budget was adopted for the General Fund. All budget amounts presented in the accompanying special-purpose financial statements have been adjusted for legally authorized amendments of the annual budget for the year. The annual budget is monitored at varying levels of classification detail. However, for purposes of budgetary control, expenditures cannot legally exceed the total budget appropriations at the individual fund level. All appropriations lapse at year-end

(3) **Investments:**

Florida Statutes authorize the Office to invest in bonds, notes or other obligations of the U.S. Government, certificates of deposits, repurchase agreements, certain bonds of any State or local government unit and the State Treasurer's Investment Pool.

Interest Rate Risk. The Office does not have a formal investment policy that limits investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates.

Concentration of Credit Risk. The Office places no limit on the amount the Office may invest in any one issuer. The Office maintained 100 percent of excess deposits in a checking account with a local financial institution subject to Federal Depository Insurance Corporation (FDIC) insurance, and/or the State of Florida collateral pool established under the Florida Security for Public Deposits Act (the Act).

(4) **Risk Management:**

The County purchased commercial insurance to limit the exposure of the following risks of loss: theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; natural disasters and injuries to employees. Commercial insurance has been purchased by the Office to cover the risks of loss due to employee errors or omissions and health insurance. Settled claims resulting from all risks have not exceeded insurance coverage in any of the past three years.

(5) **Pension Plan:**

The entity participates in the Florida Retirement System (FRS), a multiple-employer, cost-sharing defined public employee retirement system which covers all of the Office's full-time employees. The System is administered by the State of Florida, Department of Administration, Division of Retirement to provide retirement and survivor benefits to participating public employees. Provisions relating to the FRS are established by Chapters 121 and 122, Florida Statutes; Chapter 112, Part IV, Florida Statutes; Chapter 238, Florida Statutes; and FRS Rules, Chapter 60S, Florida Administrative Code; wherein eligibility, contributions, and benefits are defined and described in detail. The FRS is a single retirement system administered by the Department of Management Services, Division of Retirement, and consists of two cost-sharing, multiple-employer retirement plans and other nonintegrated programs. These include a defined-benefit pension plan (Plan), with a Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP), and a defined-contribution plan, referred to as the FRS Investment Plan (Investment Plan).

In addition, all regular employees of the entity are eligible to enroll as members of the Retiree Health Insurance Subsidy (HIS) Program. The HIS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan established and administered in accordance with section 112.363, Florida Statutes. The benefit is a monthly payment to assist retirees of the state-administered retirement systems in paying their health insurance costs. For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, eligible retirees and beneficiaries received a monthly HIS payment equal to the number of years of service credited at retirement multiplied by $7.50. The minimum payment is $45 and the maximum payment is $225 per month, pursuant to section 112.363, Florida Statutes. To be eligible to receive a HIS benefit, a retiree under one of the state-administered retirement systems must provide proof of eligible health insurance coverage, which can include Medicare.

For financial reporting purposes, the Office is deemed to be part of the primary government of the County. A liability related to the Office's proportionate share of FRS retirement benefits, along with a detailed plan description, is reported in the financial statements of the County for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

BAKER COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts			
	Original	Final	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
Revenues				
Charges for services	$ 1,104,206	$ 1,104,206	$ 802,892	$ (301,314)
Investment income	192	192	742	550
Total revenues	1,104,398	1,104,398	803,634	(300,764)
Expenditures				
Current:				
General government	926,459	939,342	914,161	25,181
Total expenditures	926,459	939,342	914,161	25,181
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	177,939	165,056	(110,527)	(275,583)
Other financing sources (uses)				
Appropriations to constitutional officers	-	-	268,710	268,710
Reversions from constitutional officers	(177,939)	(165,056)	(158,183)	6,873
Total other financing sources (uses)	(177,939)	(165,056)	110,527	275,583
Net change in fund balances	-	-	-	-
Fund balances, beginning of year	-	-	-	-
Fund balances, end of year	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

The accompanying note to schedule of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances - budget and actual - general fund is an integral part of this schedule.

BAKER COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR
NOTE TO SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES – BUDGET AND ACTUAL – GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

(1) **Budgetary Information:**

An annual budget is adopted on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America for the general fund. All annual appropriations lapse at fiscal year-end.

The Tax Collector follows these procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the financial statements:

a) The preparation, adoption and amendment of the budgets are governed by Florida Statutes. Public hearings are conducted to obtain taxpayer comments.

b) Budget excess expenditures over revenues are funded through appropriations from the Board of County Commissioners.

c) Formal budgetary integration is employed as a management control device during the year for the General Fund. The legal level of budgetary control is the fund level.

d) The budgets for the funds are adopted on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

BAKER COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR
COMBINING SCHEDULE OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Tax Fund	Tag Fund	Total Custodial Funds
Assets			
Cash and equivalents	$ 431,342	$ 97,614	$ 528,956
Total Assets	$ 431,342	$ 97,614	$ 528,956
Liabilities			
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	$ 20	$ -	$ 20
Due to individuals	7,043	262	7,305
Due to other governments	422,490	97,124	519,614
Deposits and escrow	1,789	228	2,017
Total Liabilities	$ 431,342	$ 97,614	$ 528,956
Total Net Position	$ -	$ -	$ -

See notes to financial statements.

BAKER COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR
COMBINING SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2022

	Tax Fund	Tag Fund	Total Custodial Funds
Additions			
Taxes	$ 20,364,856	$ 4,833,315	$ 25,198,171
Permits, fees, and special assessments	2,060,347	385,783	2,446,130
Payments for deposit and escrow	41,939	-	41,939
Miscellaneous	-	19,884	19,884
Total additions	22,467,142	5,238,982	27,706,124
Deductions			
Payments to individuals	1,327,653	8,531	1,336,184
Payments to other governments	10,693,077	5,219,847	15,912,924
Payments to Board of County Commissioners	10,444,623	10,604	10,455,227
Miscellaneous payments	1,789	-	1,789
Total deductions	22,467,142	5,238,982	27,706,124
Net change in fiduciary net position	-	-	-
Net position, beginning of year	-	-	-
Net position, end of year	$ -	$ -	$ -

See notes to financial statements.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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

The Honorable Amy Dugger, Tax Collector,
Baker County, Florida:

We have audited, 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, the financial statements of the major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Baker County Tax Collector (the Office) as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Office's special-purpose financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated April 10, 2025, which was modified to refer to a basis of accounting required for compliance with state filing requirements, and for other reasons.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the special-purpose financial statements, we considered the Office's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the special-purpose financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Office's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Office's internal control.

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

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

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

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

Purpose of this Report

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

James Moore & Co., P.L.

Daytona Beach, Florida
April 10, 2025

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' MANAGEMENT LETTER REQUIRED BY CHAPTER 10.550, RULES OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

The Honorable Amy Dugger, Tax Collector,
Baker County, Florida:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of the Baker County Tax Collector (the Office), as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated April 10, 2025.

Auditors' 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 Auditors' Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Special-Purpose Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, and Independent Accountants' Report on an 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 April 10, 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. There were no findings or 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 Baker County Tax Collector is an elected constitutional officer, whose office is established by Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Florida and is governed by various provisions of state law. Baker County, including the Office of the Tax Collector, was established by Chapter 8516, Laws of Florida in 1921. There are no component units of the Office to be disclosed as required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Financial Management

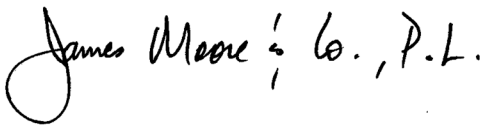
Section 10.554(1)(i)2., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we communicate any recommendations to improve financial management. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such recommendations.

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 note 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 Office and applicable management, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.



Daytona Beach, Florida
April 10, 2025

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' EXAMINATION REPORT

The Honorable Amy Dugger, Tax Collector,
Baker County, Florida:

We have examined the Baker County Tax Collector's (the Office) compliance with Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, *Local Government Investment Policies* (the Statute), for the year ended September 30, 2023. Management is responsible for the Office's compliance with those requirements. Our responsibility is to obtain reasonable assurance by evaluating against the aforementioned statutes and performing other procedures to obtain sufficient appropriate evidence to express an opinion that conveys the results of our evaluation based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with the attestation standards for a direct examination engagement established by the AICPA. Those standards require that we obtain reasonable assurance by evaluating against the aforementioned statutes during the year ended September 30, 2023, and performing other procedures to obtain sufficient appropriate evidence to express an opinion that conveys the results of our evaluation of the Office's compliance during the year ended September 30, 2023. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgment, including an assessment of the risks that were not in accordance with those requirements in all material respects, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

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

In our opinion, for the year ended September 30, 2023, the Office complied with the Statute in all material respects.

James Moore & Co., P.L.

Daytona Beach, Florida
April 10, 2025