

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

❖

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

LANIGAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

THIS REPORT CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS

Gulf County, Florida Board of County Commissioners (Government-wide)

Gulf County, Florida Clerk of the Circuit Court

Gulf County, Florida Property Appraiser

Gulf County, Florida Sheriff

Gulf County, Florida Supervisor of Elections

Gulf County, Florida Tax Collector



GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

❖

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT AND OTHER INFORMATION

SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT
SEPETEMBER 30, 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page

INTRODUCTORY SECTION

List of Elected and Appointed Officials..... A-1

FINANCIAL SECTION

Independent Auditor's Report..... B-1

Management's Discussion and Analysis..... C-1

Basic Financial Statements

Government-wide Financial Statements:
- Statement of Net Position..... D-1
- Statement of Activities..... D-2

Fund Financial Statements:
- Balance Sheet - Governmental Funds..... E-1
- Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Net Position..... E-3
- Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds..... E-4
- Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities..... E-6
- Statement of Net Position - Proprietary Funds..... E-7
- Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Fund Net Position - Proprietary Funds..... E-9
- Statement of Cash Flows - Proprietary Funds..... E-11
- Statement of Fiduciary Net Position - Custodial Funds..... E-13
- Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position - Custodial Funds..... E-14

Notes to Financial Statements..... F-1

Required Supplementary Information:
- Schedule of Changes in the County's Total Other Post Employment Benefits Liability and Related Ratios..... G-1
- Schedule of Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability - Florida Retirement System..... G-2
- Schedule of Contributions - Florida Retirement System..... G-4
- Schedule of Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability - Health Insurance Subsidy Program..... G-6
- Schedule of Contributions - Health Insurance Subsidy Program..... G-8

Notes to Required Supplementary Information..... G-10

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT
SEPETEMBER 30, 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page

Schedules of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances - Budget to Actual:
- General Fund..... H-1
- Disaster Fund..... H-2
- Hurricane Housing Recovery Fund..... H-3
- Tourist Development Fund..... H-4
- General Grants Fund..... H-5
- SHIP Fund..... H-6

Combining Financial Statements (Non-Major Governmental Funds)

Description of Nonmajor Governmental Funds I-1

Nonmajor Fund Financial Statements
- Combining Balance Sheet - Nonmajor Governmental Funds..... I-3
- Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances - Nonmajor Governmental Funds..... I-9

COMPLIANCE SECTION

Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* J-1

Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program and State Project and Report on Internal Control Over Compliance in Accordance with the Uniform Guidance and Required by Chapter 10.550, *Rules of the Auditor General* J-3

Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards and State Financial Assistance..... J-6

Notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards and State Financial Assistance..... J-9

Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs..... J-10

Summary Schedule of Prior Year Audit Findings..... J-13

Independent Auditor's Management Letter..... J-14

Independent Accountant's Report on Compliance with Section 218.415, Florida Statutes..... J-25

Independent Accountant's Report on Compliance with Sections 365.712(10) and 365.173(2)(d), Florida Statutes..... J-26

Management's Response to Management Letter Recommendation..... J-27

INTRODUCTORY SECTION

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT
LIST OF ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

David Rich	District 1
Jack Husband	District 2
Patrick Farrell	District 3
Sandy Quinn, Jr.	District 4
Phillip McCroan	District 5

CLERK OF THE COURT AND COMPTROLLER

Rebecca L. Norris

SHERIFF

Mike Harrison

TAX COLLECTOR

Shirley J. Jenkins

PROPERTY APPRAISER

Mitch Burke

SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

John M. Hanlon

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Michael Hammond

COUNTY ATTORNEY

Jeremy Novak

FINANCIAL SECTION

LANIGAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS
www.lanigancpa.com

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners and Constitutional Officers
Gulf County, Florida

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Gulf 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 Gulf County, Florida's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the County, as of September 30, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows 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 Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the 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.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the County's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may arise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with 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, pension and other post-employment benefit schedules, and budgetary comparison 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 County's basic financial statements. The combining and individual non-major fund financial statements are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards and state financial assistance, as required by 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*, respectively, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is also not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The description of the non-major governmental funds, combining non-major governmental fund financial statements, and schedule of expenditures of federal awards and state financial assistance are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the accompanying supplementary information listed above 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 May 23, 2024, 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 County's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Lanigan & Associates, PC

Tallahassee, Florida
May 23, 2024

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

The Management of the Board of County Commissioners of Gulf County has prepared the following discussion and analysis to (a) assist the reader in focusing on significant financial issues, (b) provide an overview and analysis of the County's financial activities, (c) identify changes in the County's financial position, (d) identify material deviations from the financial plan (approved budget), and (e) highlight significant issues in individual funds. Because the information contained in the Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) is intended to highlight significant transactions, events and conditions, it should be considered in conjunction with the County's financial statements.

The information presented in this financial statement is perhaps best understood when it is considered from the broader perspective of the environment in which the County operates.

General Information

Gulf County was incorporated in 1925 and is in northwest Florida on the Gulf of Mexico. With an area of 557 square miles, 2020 Federal Census data shows Gulf County has a population of approximately 14,200. The U. S. Census Bureau estimates the population of Gulf County has grown to almost 15,700 as of July 1, 2023. Gulf County is a sparse, low- density county. Gulf County is a non-charter county governed by a Board of County Commissioners.

The Board of County Commissioners (Board) is the legislative and policy making body of the County. Each of the five commissioners is elected from a separate district. Annually, the Board elects a chairman that serves as the presiding officer. Elections are held every two years for staggered four-year terms. Billy Traylor, District 2 Commissioner, passed away after his election to the Board of County Commissioners. On July 28, 2023, Governor Ron DeSantis appointed Lloyd "Jack" Husband III to the Commission seat. There will be a special election in November 2024 to fill the position for the remaining two years of the term. The Board employs the County Administrator to implement the policies of the Board, provide organizational leadership and direct business and administrative procedures.

Gulf County provides a broad range of services, including law enforcement; fire protection; rescue; emergency medical services; maintenance of streets, highways, bridges, and traffic signals; parks; libraries; drinking water; and certain other community and human services.

Financial Highlights

- The County's assets and deferred outflows of resources exceeded its liabilities and deferred inflows of resources at September 30, 2023 by $114,709,203. Of this amount, $71,939,993 represents net investment in capital assets; $22,814,500 is restricted for specific purposes (restricted net position); and the remaining portion represents unrestricted net position of $19,954,710.

- As of September 30, 2023 and 2022, the County's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of $60,516,268 and $52,627,229, respectively.

- The County's general fund (primary operating fund) reported a total fund balance of $24,495,285, an increase of $1,419,709 from the prior year (fund balance).

- For the year ended September 30, 2023, the County's capital assets net of accumulated depreciation increased by approximately $4.8 million, or by 5.7%.

- The County's loans (Notes from Direct Borrowing) decreased by $2,090,000 in fiscal year 2023. The County's percentage of loans compared to net position decreased from 18% to 15%. The other components of long-term debt are discussed in further detail later in this report.

Non-Financial Highlights

Hurricane Michael

On October 10, 2018, Hurricane Michael made landfall less than twenty miles from Port St. Joe (Gulf County seat) between Mexico Beach and Tyndall Airforce Base in the Florida panhandle. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) rated Hurricane Michael a Category 5 with 155 mph sustained winds as the strongest hurricane on record to affect the Florida Panhandle. FEMA categorized Gulf County's damage as catastrophic. Great progress has been made in the recovery; however, efforts continue to the rebuilding of Gulf County infrastructure and economy. Additionally, Gulf County has been awarded additional grants for projects for mitigation of future hurricanes and funding for projects to improve the County's infrastructure.

Population Changes

It should be noted that the population of Gulf County changed due to residents relocating in the aftermath of Hurricane Michael. Federal Census data from the 2010 and 2020 censuses shows that the population of Gulf County changed from 15,863 to 14,192, a decrease of 1,671 or 10.6%. As recovery from Hurricane Michael and new development has occurred, Census data for July 2023 indicates the population has grown to 15,693, an increase of 10.5% in three years. In addition, Hurricane Michael also caused substantial damage to Gulf Correctional Institution in Wewahitchka. Inmates housed at this facility were relocated to other State facilities. Before Hurricane Michael, the 2010 Census recorded a population in the facility of 3,328. The current population is 1,750, a 4.1% increase over last year. While more than half of the population prior to Hurricane Michael, the current population numbers represent an increase of 55.0% increase over the 2020 census population of 1,129. The Department of Corrections continues to repair the damaged buildings with hopes of returning to full capacity over time. It is important to note that inmates are counted as residents by the Federal Census.

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

The global novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic had unprecedented economic, operational, and financial impact in Gulf County. As the COVID-19 crisis has stabilized, COVID-19 and its infectious results continue to cause global shortages on goods and services. Businesses and their employees have returned to work. Gulf County government and court facilities closed on March 19, 2020, providing only essential services with minimal staff. Government and Court facilities reopened on May 14, 2020, and now provide full government services. Federal funding through various grants and programs provides for continued benefits and programs for new equipment and infrastructure.

Employment

With the population decrease resulting from Hurricane Michael and the return to the new normal of the Coronavirus pandemic, unemployment rates have fallen. The Gulf County unemployment rate in

September 2023 was 2.9%. The State of Florida unemployment rate was 2.7%. Expectations are that the numbers of unemployed persons will continue to decline. Public and private employers are unable to find needed persons to fill available job openings.

Revenue

The County wide valuation of the taxable property values increased from $2.04 billion for 2021-2022 to $2.5 billion in 2022-2023. The Board of County Commissioners voted to adopt a millage rate of 6.5000%. The original operating budget for fiscal year 2022-2023 was $86,711,742. For fiscal year 2022-2023 countywide ad valorem revenue received was $15,687,168 an increase of 13.4% over the prior fiscal year.

In addition to ad valorem taxes, the county relies on other revenue and grants to meet the budget requirements and needs. The following highlights are some of the relevant revenues and changes in revenue received during fiscal year 2022-2023:

- The Five Points Transfer Station generated $2,120,882 of revenue during the third year of operations, an increase of 9.5%. The landfill continues to accept vegetation, concrete debris, and other debris. The County opened the new transfer station to the public in July 2020 and moved from a 3rd party operating agreement to an in-house operation on October 1, 2020. After the destruction of the old facility by Hurricane Michael, the facility was rebuilt with a $750,000 grant from the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, Division of Community Development. Additionally, in October 2023, the County opened the Wetappo Transfer Station to service the north end of the county.

- The St. Joe Bay Golf Club (SJBGC) generated $1,028,752 in revenues for its third year of operation, an increase of 24.1%. The County transferred $788,825 to the Golf Course. This funding was comprised of the recurring annual transfer of $200,000 and an additional $588,825 for construction of the new irrigation system. The County purchased the SJBGC from private owners for $380,937. The assessed value of the SJBGC was $1,724,816 on January 1, 2018. The SJBGC is an 18-hole Golf Course located near Port St. Joe with approximately 173 acres. In addition to the 18-hole course, SJBGC offers a driving range, putting green, pool, and clubhouse. The full-service restaurant located inside the clubhouse is leased to a third party which operates the kitchen, bar, and dining area. A professional golf club manager is employed to manage the day-to-day operations. The SJBGC is open to the public for daily play. Annual and monthly memberships are available. The major improvement to the golf course, including a new irrigation system is now completed.

- Building permit revenue was $691,911, a decrease of 6.1%, reflecting a slight slowdown in new construction in the County.

- Planning and zoning fees were $62,749. An increase of 63.0% indicating further new projects and construction in the County.

- The Tourist Development Council (TDC) local option bed tax was $4,742,397. Revenues increased 6.0% from the prior fiscal year. This growth reflects the increase in the number of beds available in Gulf County for short-term rental and high occupancy levels.

- The Small County Surtax collections were $1,221,933, a decrease of 1.3%. Ascension Sacred Heart Gulf Hospital, part of the Ascension Sacred Heart Health System, opened in March 2010. The County adopted by ordinance in 2005 providing for a discretionary ½ cent small county surtax to help fund the construction of the hospital. An inter-local agreement was entered into with the City of Wewahitchka and the City of Port St. Joe whereby the County will receive all funds generated from the small county surtax and such funds will be used as set forth in the agreement. The additional tax was effective January 1, 2006.

- State shared revenues increased to $496,114, an increase of 7.9% from the prior fiscal year. Revenues well exceed levels prior to the impacts of Hurricane Michael and the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Sales of sand and soil from the Honeyville Borrow Pit generated $2,789,492 of revenue for the Gulf County Community Development Fund. The revenues are used by the County for public works, roads, drainage, and other projects.

- During its second full year of operation, fiscal 2022-2023, the Gulf County Water System had total revenues of $1,691,336 not including funds received from the Florida State Revolving Fund. The county involvement in public utilities increased with the growth of population and infrastructure in District V. In 2020, the County determined that to further public health and safety as well as economic growth and development in District V., the Gulf County should purchase assets and operations from Lighthouse Utilities Company, Inc. (LUCI) The county completed the purchase on November 30, 2020 for $3,028,412. The County established a new proprietary fund, the Gulf County Water System, which operates the system to provide water to south Gulf County including Cape San Blas and Indian Pass.

- In February 2022, Gulf County entered into a loan agreement with the State of Florida, Department of Environmental Protection, State Revolving Fund (SRF), for a Principal Forgiveness Loan funded by the Federal Drinking Water Act. Amendments to this agreement have been executed. This loan in the amount of $932,200 will be used to finance construction of improvements to the Gulf County Water System (GCWS). Actual amounts of the final loan and amounts forgiven will not be calculated until the completion of the construction project, which was expected to be in the summer of 2023, and was not completed as of September 30, 2023. Initial estimates included in the Agreement estimate principal forgiveness of $393,625 resulting in a total loan of $540,175 which includes capitalized interest. Revenues of the GCWS after payment of operation and maintenance expenses will be used for repayment of the debt.

Bonds

In November 2020, the County issued $4,500,000 in new Capital Improvement Revenue Bonds, Series 2020. The funds from these bonds were used for the purchase the assets of Lighthouse Utilities Company, Inc. (LUCI). Additional funds from this bond issue will be used for improvements to the Gulf County Water System.

Previously, the County issued two bonds during FY2016-2017. The County issued $3,440,000 in Limited Ad Valorem Tax Bonds, Series 2016. These bonds are a limited obligation of the County, the principal and interest on the bonds are payable from and secured by a pledge of the ad valorem taxing power of the County within its three Cape San Blas Municipal Taxing Units of Bayside, Gulfside Beachfront, and

Gulfside Interior. At the time of bond issuance, the County estimated that, based on the 2016 tax rolls, the initial levy necessary to comply with the requirements of the bonds, were 1.1052 mills for the Bayside, 1.3139 mills for the Gulfside Beachfront, and 1.1549 mills in the Gulfside Interior. For the 2023 Fiscal Year, per the current tax rolls, the County reduced the millage rates from 0.8175 mills to 0.7115 mills for Bayside, 1.0232 mills to 0.8537 for Gulfside Beachfront, and 0.7785 mills to 0.7065 mills for Gulfside Interior. The County also issued $4,000,000 non-ad valorem Revenue Bonds, Series 2016. The principal and interest payments of these bonds are paid from the general non-committed and non-restricted revenues of the County. These Bonds will be applied for the renourishment and reconstruction of the beachfront at Cape San Blas. Grant funding allowed the County to reduce the non-ad valorem revenue bond to a principal balance of $690,000 as of 9/30/2020. The remaining principal balance of $690,000 was paid in full on October 1, 2022.

Grants

The County received both Federal and State grants during the fiscal year 2022-2023. The following is a sampling of the grants received and their uses. See the Statement of State and Federal Assistance included in the financial statements for additional information.

- Road widening, resurfacing, and bridge repair projects utilized funds from Florida Department of Transportation CIGP, SCOP, and SCRAP grants in the amount of $3,261,718.

- The Hurricane Housing Recovery Program expended $1,005,266 in grant funds to assist residents with repairs and purchase assistance in response to Hurricane Michael.

- The Federal Emergency Management Agency Public Assistance from Hurricane Michael (2018) totaled $7,461,624.

- The County expended a total of $2,562,193 in Coronavirus and American Recovery Plan Related Grants (CLFRF, FRP01 & MIH), which were used to meet the various needs of the County.

Overview of the Financial Statements

Management's discussion and analysis serves as an introduction to the basic financial statements of the County. The basic financial statements consist of three components:

1. Government-wide financial statements
2. Fund financial statements
3. Notes to the financial statements

In addition, this report presents certain required supplementary information.

Government-wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements provide both short-term and long-term information related to the overall financial condition of the County similarly to those of a private-sector business.These statements combine and consolidate the governmental fund current financial resources (short-term expendable resources) with capital assets and long-term obligations. They include a *Statement of Net Position* and a *Statement of Activities* that are designed to provide consolidated financial information about the governmental activities of the County presented on the accrual basis of accounting.

- ❖ The *Statement of Net Position* provides information about the financial position of the County assets and liabilities, using an economic resources measurement focus. The difference between the assets and liabilities, the net position, is a measure of the financial health of the County.

- ❖ The *Statement of Activities* presents information showing how the County's net position changed during the 2023 fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods (e.g., uncollected taxes earned, and earned but unused vacation leave). This statement is intended to summarize and simplify the user's analysis of cost of various governmental services. An increase or decrease in net position is an indication of whether the financial health of the County is improving or deteriorating.

These two financial statements present the functions of the County that are principally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues (governmental activities) from other functions that are intended to recover all or a significant portion of their costs through user fees and charges (business-type activities). The governmental activities of the County include general government, public health and safety, physical environment, transportation, economic environment, human services, culture and recreation, and court related activities. The business-type activities of the County include the golf course, the transfer station, and water system. Separate water and sewer systems, which are not currently operational, are reported as residual assets associated with those activities.

Over time, changes in the net position of the County are an indication of improving or deteriorating financial condition. This information should be evaluated in conjunction with other nonfinancial factors, such as changes in the County's property tax base and the condition of the County's capital assets including infrastructure assets.

Fund Financial Statements

Fund financial statements are one of the components of the basic financial statements. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The County uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements and prudent fiscal management. Certain funds are established by law while others are created by legal agreements, such as bond covenants. Fund financial statements provide more detailed information about the County's financial activities, focusing on its most significant or major funds rather than fund types. This contrasts with the entity-wide perspective contained in the government-wide statements. All the County's funds may be classified in the broad category of *governmental funds, proprietary funds,* and *fiduciary (agency) funds* as discussed below.

- ❖ Governmental funds – these funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, the governmental funds utilize a spendable financial resources measurement focus rather than the economic resources measurement focus found in the government-wide financial statements. This financial resource measurement focus allows the governmental fund statements to provide information on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources as well as balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Consequently, the governmental fund

statements provide a detailed short-term view that may be used to evaluate the County's near-term financing requirements. This short-term view is useful when compared to the long-term view presented as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. To facilitate this comparison, both the Balance Sheet – Governmental Funds and the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance – Governmental Funds provide a reconciliation of governmental funds to governmental activities.

- Proprietary funds – the County maintains proprietary funds (enterprise funds). These funds are used to report business-type activities in the government-wide financial statements. The County uses enterprise funds to account for the fiscal activities relating to water and sewer systems (Gulf County Water System), the St. Joseph Bay Golf Club, and the Five Points Transfer Station. The proprietary funds provide the same type of information as the government-wide financial statements, only in more detail.

- Fiduciary (agency) funds – fiduciary funds are used to report assets held in a trustee or fiduciary capacity for the benefit of parties outside the government. Fiduciary funds are not reflected in the government-wide statements because the resources are not available to support County programs. In its fiduciary capacity, the County is responsible for ensuring that the assets reported in these funds are used only for their intended purposes.

Infrastructure Assets

Generally, a government's largest group of assets (infrastructure – roads, bridges, sidewalks, traffic signals, and underground pipes not associated with a utility, etc.) are not reported nor depreciated in governmental fund financial statements. GASB Statement No. 34 requires these assets be valued and reported in the governmental column of the government-wide statements. Additionally, the government must elect to either (a) depreciate the assets over the estimated useful life or (b) develop a system of asset management designed to maintain the service delivery potential to near perpetuity. If the government elects the asset management (the modified approach), which periodically (at least every third year), by category, measures and demonstrates its maintenance of locally established levels of service standards, the government may record its costs of maintenance in lieu of depreciation. The County has elected to depreciate its infrastructure assets.

Government-wide Financial Analysis

Statement of Net Position

Net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. The County's assets and deferred outflows exceeded liabilities and deferred inflows (governmental and business-type activities) by $114,709,203 at the close of the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023 and $102,697,572 million on September 30, 2022.

NET POSITION

	Governmental Activities		Business-type Activities		Total	
	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022
ASSETS						
Current and other assets	$ 68,203,665	$ 63,627,669	$ 2,793,246	$ 2,643,732	$ 70,996,911	$ 66,271,401
Capital assets	81,501,800	77,890,837	7,868,239	6,673,290	89,370,039	84,564,127
Total assets	149,705,465	141,518,506	10,661,485	9,317,022	160,366,950	150,835,528
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	4,861,521	4,907,954	214,779	174,370	5,076,300	5,082,324
LIABILITIES						
Current liabilities	7,687,397	12,718,319	332,603	694,087	8,020,000	13,412,406
Noncurrent liabilities	34,970,387	32,413,976	6,026,371	5,354,099	40,996,758	37,768,075
Total liabilities	42,657,784	45,132,295	6,358,974	6,048,186	49,016,758	51,180,481
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	1,662,887	1,983,647	54,402	56,152	1,717,289	2,039,799
NET POSITION						
Net investment in capital assets	68,941,987	63,372,462	2,998,006	2,190,751	71,939,993	65,563,213
Restricted	22,814,500	19,992,695	-	-	22,814,500	19,992,695
Unrestricted	18,489,828	15,945,361	1,464,882	1,196,303	19,954,710	17,141,664
Total net position	$ 110,246,315	$ 99,310,518	$ 4,462,888	$ 3,387,054	$ 114,709,203	$ 102,697,572

Statement of Activities

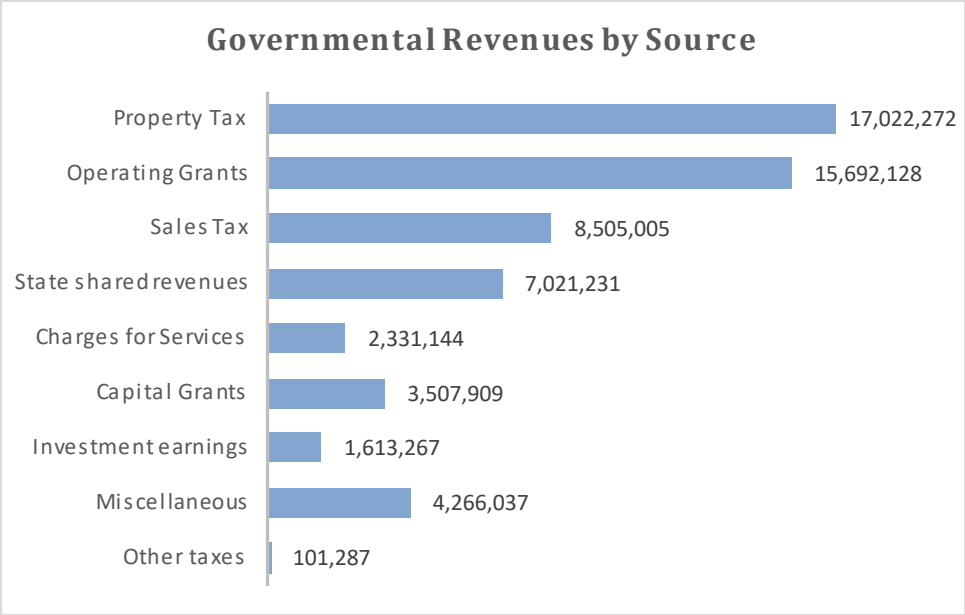
The following schedule summarizes revenues and expenses for the years ended September 30, 2023 and 2022.

CHANGES IN NET POSITION

	Governmental Activities		Business-type Activities		Total	
	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022
Revenues:						
Program revenues:						
Charges for services	$ 2,331,144	$ 5,875,106	$ 4,603,597	$ 4,405,562	$ 6,934,741	$ 10,280,668
Operating grants	15,692,128	15,125,115	-	-	15,692,128	15,125,115
Capital grants	3,507,909	6,110,151	149,806	-	3,657,715	6,110,151
General revenues:						
Property taxes	17,022,272	14,695,540	-	-	17,022,272	14,695,540
Sales taxes	8,505,005	8,005,879	-	-	8,505,005	8,005,879
State shared revenue	7,021,231	4,894,484	-	-	7,021,231	4,894,484
Other	5,980,591	2,749,784	237,373	11,667	6,217,964	2,761,451
Total revenues	60,060,280	57,456,059	4,990,776	4,417,229	65,051,056	61,873,288
Expenses:						
General government	11,832,206	11,497,972	-	-	11,832,206	11,497,972
Public safety	11,862,359	10,141,880	-	-	11,862,359	10,141,880
Physical environment	9,028,301	11,650,941	-	-	9,028,301	11,650,941
Transportation	4,133,490	2,918,166	-	-	4,133,490	2,918,166
Economic development	6,398,133	3,166,337	-	-	6,398,133	3,166,337
Human services	760,485	855,619	-	-	760,485	855,619
Culture and recreation	2,958,681	2,016,746	-	-	2,958,681	2,016,746
Court related	862,804	835,331	-	-	862,804	835,331
Interest on debt	499,199	550,392	-	-	499,199	550,392
Business-type	-	-	4,703,767	3,710,464	4,703,767	3,710,464
Total expenses	48,335,658	43,633,384	4,703,767	3,710,464	53,039,425	47,343,848
Change in net position before transfers	11,724,622	13,822,675	287,009	706,765	12,011,631	14,529,440
Transfers	(788,825)	(507,350)	788,825	507,350	-	-
Increase in net position	10,935,797	13,315,325	1,075,834	1,214,115	12,011,631	14,529,440
Net position - beginning	99,310,518	85,995,193	3,387,054	2,172,939	102,697,572	88,168,132
Net position - ending	$ 110,246,315	$ 99,310,518	$ 4,462,888	$ 3,387,054	$ 114,709,203	$ 102,697,572

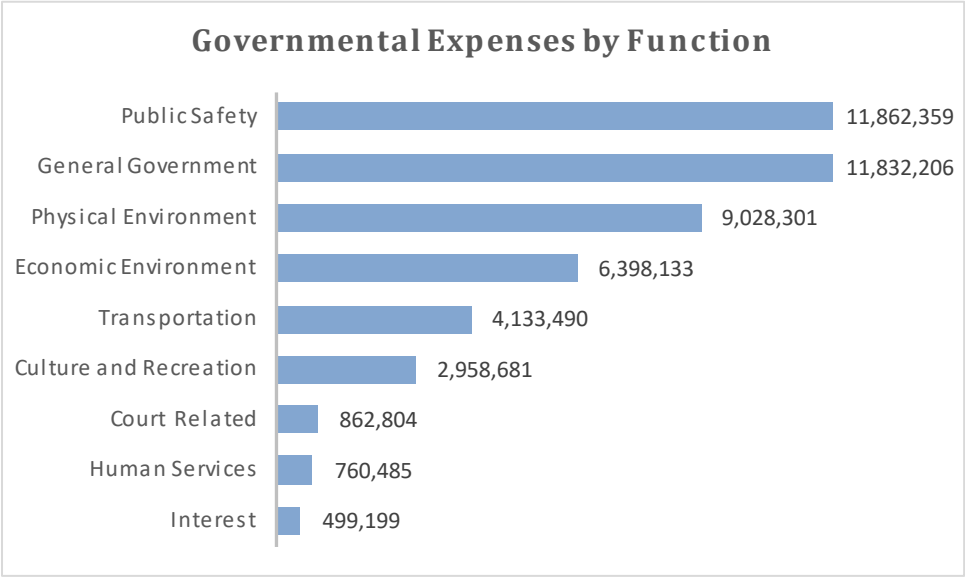
Governmental Activities Revenues by Source

The following graph depicts the County's total governmental activities revenue by source for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2023.



Governmental Activities Expenses by Functions

The following graph depicts the County's total governmental activities expenses by function for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2023.



Financial Analysis of Individual Funds

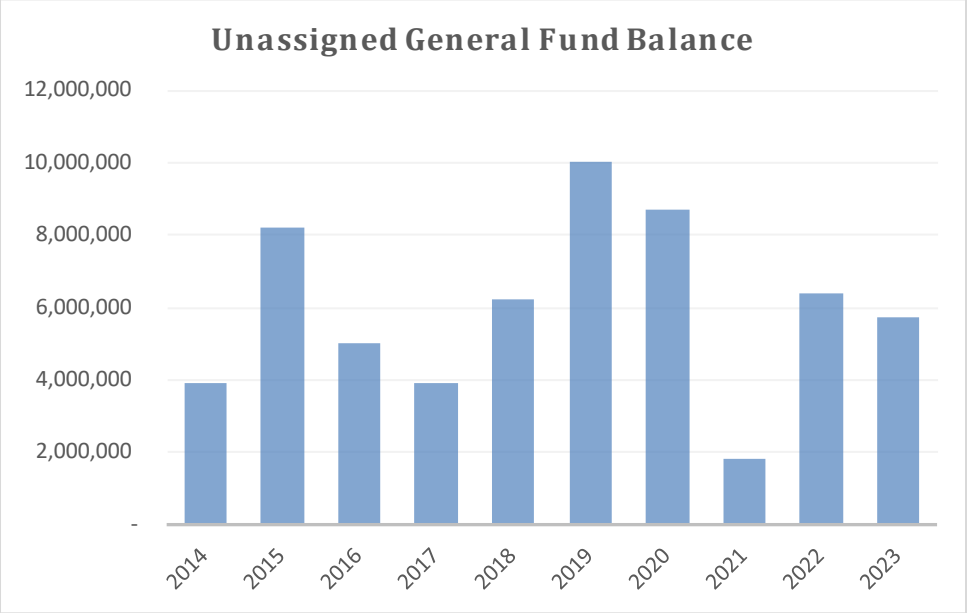
This section provides an analysis of the balances and transactions of individual funds. The County uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

❖ Governmental Funds

The primary purpose of the County's Balance Sheet – Governmental Funds and the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance – Governmental Funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the County's financing requirements. Unassigned fund balance may serve as useful measure of a government's net resources, available for spending, at the end of the current and prior fiscal year. As of September 30, 2023, Gulf County governmental funds reported combined fund balances of $60,516,268 an increase of $7,889,039 when compared to prior year combined fund balances. The governmental funds had non-spendable fund balances of $1,627,322. The restricted fund balance was $22,814,500 and consists of monies whose expenditure is externally constrained by grantors, creditors, binding law, or enabling legislation. Of the remaining $36,074,446 in fund balance, $10,445,519 is classified as committed, $19,892,791 is classified as assigned, and $5,736,136 is recorded as unassigned.

❖ General Fund Unrestricted/Undesignated Fund Balance

As depicted in the following graph, the unassigned fund balance of the Board's general fund (the general operating fund of the County) decreased over the past year.



Major Funds

Governmental Funds

The general, disaster, hurricane housing recovery, tourist development, general grants, and state housing initiative partnership are reported as major governmental funds.

- The general fund is the general operating fund of the County. All general tax revenues and other receipts that are not required either legally or by generally accepted accounting principles to be accounted for in other funds are accounted for in the general fund.

- General operating funds of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Property Appraiser, Sheriff, Tax Collector, and Supervisor of Elections represent funds included in the County's general fund that are held and accounted for individually but are presented with the balance of the Board of County Commissioner operating funds.

- Disaster Fund – This fund accounts for grants received from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

- The Hurricane Housing Recovery Fund is used to account for grants and other funds used to aid in the housing recovery from damage caused by Hurricane Michael.

- The Tourist Development Fund are revenues generated from a 5% local option tourist development tax. The tax is a charge which is collected on all leases or rentals of any living quarters or accommodations with a term of less than six months. Funds are used to promote tourism in the County.

- The General Grants Fund accounts for the activity of various grants.

- State Housing Initiative Partnership (SHIP) – To account for activity relating to the program's revenues and expenses.

Proprietary Funds

The County uses enterprise funds to account for the fiscal activities relating to water and sewer systems, the St. Joseph Bay Golf Club and the Five Points Transfer Station. The County owns the two remaining water systems, Williamsburg/Methodist Hill and Oak Grove. The City of Wewahitchka operates the Williamsburg/Methodist Hill Water System. Although there is not an active inter-local agreement this water system continues to be operated by the City of Wewahitchka under the terms of the 1993 inter-local agreement which terminated in 1994. The City of Port St. Joe operates the Oak Grove Water System. Neither one of these water systems brings any revenue to the County. The only expense to the County for either of these two water systems is depreciation.

Budget Variances in Major Funds

The following budget variances occurred in the major funds during the year ended September 30, 2023.

- Intergovernmental revenue (federal, state, and other local government sources in the form of grants, shared revenues, and payments in lieu of taxes) is $2,751,362 more than budgeted in the general fund. The fiscally constrained – ad valorem tax offset funding came in higher than expected during the year.

- General Fund charges for services include County officer fees, ambulance fees, tipping fees, and other charges for services. The negative variance of $406,807 is the result of charges being less than budgeted.

- General Fund license and permit revenue shows a positive variance of $259,066. This positive variance is from permits being higher than expected.

- Current expenditures for all governmental funds had positive variances.

Other variances disclosed on the major fund budget and actual statements and not noted herein are within expected ranges. It should be noted that budget expenditure variances shown on the individual major funds are favorable in total.

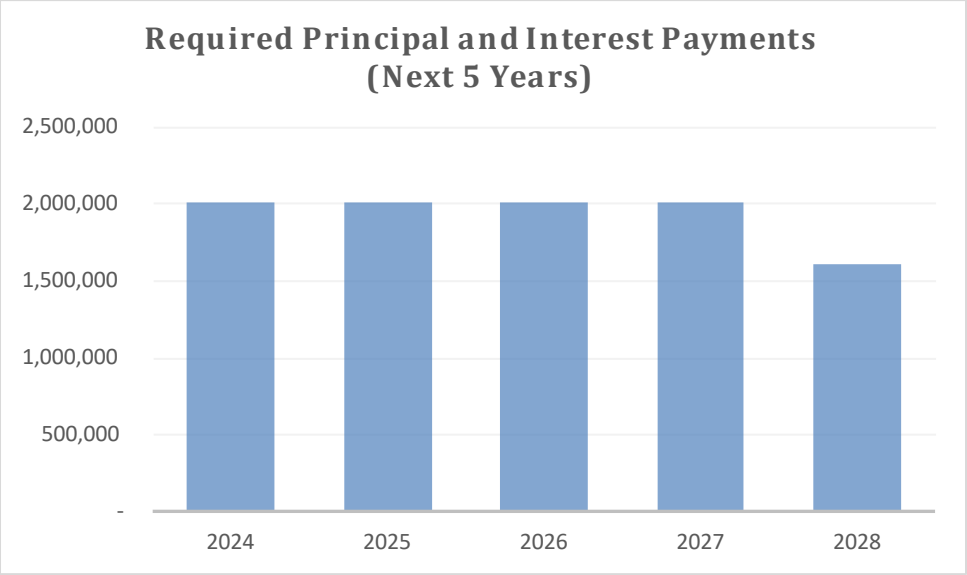
Capital Assets and Long-Term Debt

Capital assets. The County's financial statements present capital assets in two categories: those assets subject to depreciation, such as buildings, infrastructure, and equipment; and those not subject to depreciation, such as land and construction in progress. At September 30, 2023, the County had $89,370,039 invested in a variety of capital assets, as reflected in the following schedule, which represents a net increase (additions less retirements and depreciation) of $4,805,912, or 5.7%, from the end of last year.

CAPITAL ASSETS (NET OF DEPRECIATION)

	Governmental Activities		Business-type Activities		Total	
	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022
Land	$ 7,249,044	$ 7,249,044	$ 962,125	$ 962,125	$ 8,211,169	$ 8,211,169
Buildings and Improvements	10,403,581	10,550,502	1,016,373	1,070,030	11,419,954	11,620,532
Equipment	6,910,829	6,132,028	614,633	344,581	7,525,462	6,476,609
Infrastructure	44,526,317	45,523,500	3,656,557	3,878,213	48,182,874	49,401,713
Work In Progress	12,412,029	8,435,763	1,618,551	418,341	14,030,580	8,854,104
Total	$81,501,800	$77,890,837	$ 7,868,239	$ 6,673,290	$89,370,039	$84,564,127

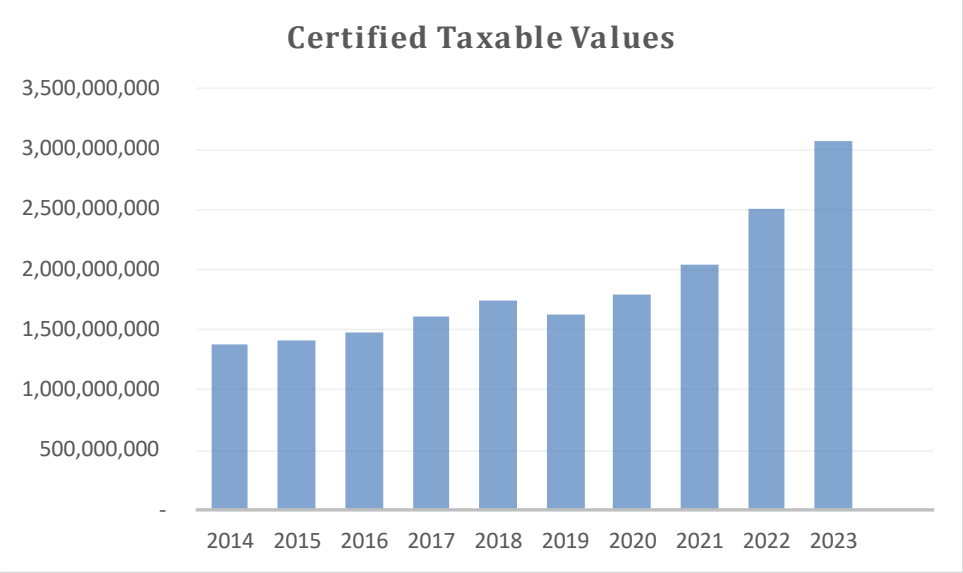
Long-term Obligations. The following graph depicts future principal and interest payments required to be paid by the County on outstanding debt as of September 30, 2023. *Not shown on this graph are existing scheduled debt repayments for years 2029 through 2035.*



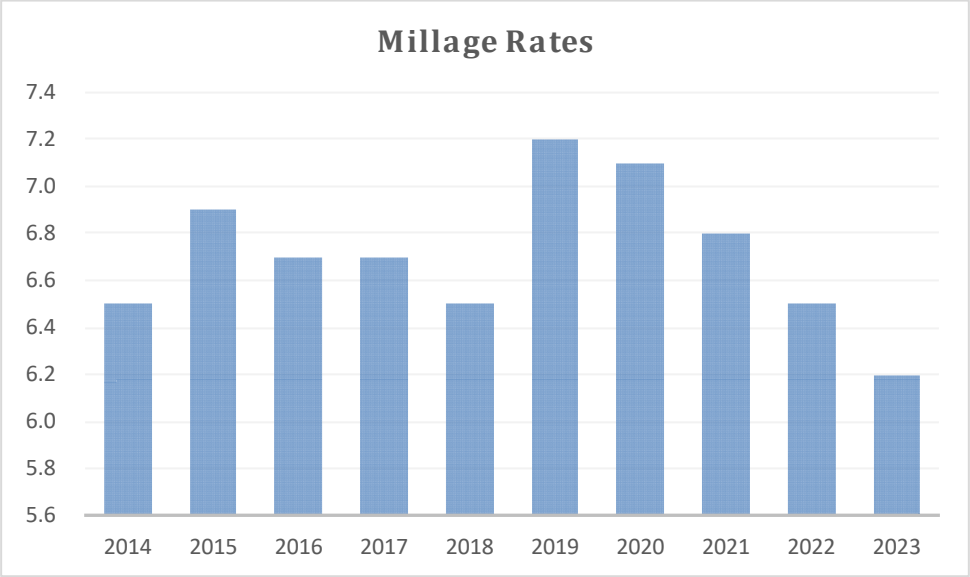
Taxable Value of Property and Millage Rates

For the year ended September 30, 2023, Gulf County calculated an estimate of $15,687,168 for property taxes based on the certified taxable value of property of $2,503,294,823.

Certified Taxable Value by Tax Year



Millage Rates by Tax Year



Requests for Information

This report is designed to provide citizens, taxpayers, investors, and creditors with a general overview of the County's finances and to demonstrate compliance and accountability for its resources. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to:

Rebecca L. Norris
Clerk of Circuit Court of Gulf County
1000 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd., Room 148
Port St. Joe, Florida 32456

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

	Primary Government		
	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 56,333,488	$ 2,241,237	$ 58,574,725
Receivables (net):			
Accounts receivable	500,820	59,839	560,659
Notes receivable	301,458	-	301,458
Prepaid items	1,627,322	243,040	1,870,362
Internal balances	(81,314)	81,314	-
Due from other governments	9,521,891	95,453	9,617,344
Inventory	-	72,363	72,363
Total current assets	68,203,665	2,793,246	70,996,911
Noncurrent assets			
Capital assets:			
Nondepreciable	19,661,073	2,580,676	22,241,749
Depreciable (net)	61,840,727	5,287,563	67,128,290
Total noncurrent assets	81,501,800	7,868,239	89,370,039
Total assets	149,705,465	10,661,485	160,366,950
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES			
Pension related	4,557,992	214,779	4,772,771
OPEB related	303,529	-	303,529
Total deferred outflows of resources	4,861,521	214,779	5,076,300
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	2,601,975	332,603	2,934,578
Due to other governments	115,325	-	115,325
Unearned revenue	4,970,097	-	4,970,097
Total current liabilities	7,687,397	332,603	8,020,000
Noncurrent liabilities			
Due in less than one year	1,750,544	262,882	2,013,426
Due in more than one year	33,219,843	5,763,489	38,983,332
Total noncurrent liabilities	34,970,387	6,026,371	40,996,758
Total liabilities	42,657,784	6,358,974	49,016,758
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES			
Pension related	1,154,555	54,402	1,208,957
OPEB related	508,332	-	508,332
Total deferred inflows of resources	1,662,887	54,402	1,717,289
NET POSITION			
Net investment in capital assets	68,941,987	2,998,006	71,939,993
Restricted	22,814,500	-	22,814,500
Unrestricted	18,489,828	1,464,882	19,954,710
Total net position	$ 110,246,315	$ 4,462,888	$ 114,709,203

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

GULF 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: Governmental Activities	Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position: Business-type Activities	Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position: Total
Primary government:							
Governmental activities:							
General government	$ 11,832,206	$ 694,593	$ 683,069	$ -	$ (10,454,544)	$ -	$ (10,454,544)
Public safety	11,862,359	1,240,415	658,288	-	(9,963,656)	-	(9,963,656)
Physical environment	9,028,301	-	1,019,891	93,750	(7,914,660)	-	(7,914,660)
Transportation	4,133,490	75,564	36,394	3,414,159	(607,373)	-	(607,373)
Economic environment	6,398,133	27,795	12,562,521	-	6,192,183	-	6,192,183
Human services	760,485	7,500	605,938	-	(147,047)	-	(147,047)
Culture and recreation	2,958,681	24,126	122,238	-	(2,812,317)	-	(2,812,317)
Court related	862,804	261,151	3,789	-	(597,864)	-	(597,864)
Interest on long-term debt	499,199	-	-	-	(499,199)	-	(499,199)
Total governmental activities	48,335,658	2,331,144	15,692,128	3,507,909	(26,804,477)	-	(26,804,477)
Business-type activities:							
Water	1,294,873	1,637,160	-	149,806	-	492,093	641,899
County Golf Course	1,158,884	877,763	-	-	-	(281,121)	(281,121)
Williamsburg & Methodist Hill	14,292	-	-	-	-	(14,292)	(14,292)
Solid Waste	2,235,718	2,088,674	-	-	-	(147,044)	(147,044)
Total business-type activities	4,703,767	4,603,597	-	149,806	-	49,636	199,442
Total primary government	$ 53,039,425	$ 6,934,741	$ 15,692,128	$ 3,657,715	$ (26,804,477)	$ 49,636	$ (26,605,035)
General revenues:							
Taxes							
Property tax					17,022,272	-	17,022,272
Sales tax					8,505,005	-	8,505,005
Other taxes					101,287	-	101,287
State shared revenues					7,021,231	-	7,021,231
Investment earnings					1,613,267	-	1,613,267
Miscellaneous					4,266,037	237,373	4,503,410
Transfers					(788,825)	788,825	-
Total general revenues					37,740,274	1,026,198	38,766,472
Changes in net position					10,935,797	1,075,834	12,011,631
Net position - beginning of year					99,310,518	3,387,054	102,697,572
Net position - end of year					$ 110,246,315	$ 4,462,888	$ 114,709,203

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

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

	General Fund	Disaster Fund	Hurricane Housing Recovery	Tourist Development
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 20,826,546	$ 3,288,394	$ 2,178,610	$ 9,412,859
Accounts receivable	496,249	-	-	500
Notes receivable	-	-	-	-
Prepaid items	495,175	-	-	4,199
Due from other funds	3,815,083	-	-	79,105
Due from other governments	522,390	1,319,808	-	709,123
Total assets	$ 26,155,443	$ 4,608,202	$ 2,178,610	$ 10,205,786
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES				
Liabilities				
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	$ 962,840	$ -	$ 1,222	$ 74,458
Due to other funds	153,795	-	-	26,804
Due to other governments	115,177	-	148	-
Unearned revenue	428,346	-	2,177,240	19,220
Total liabilities	1,660,158	-	2,178,610	120,482
Fund balances				
Nonspendable	495,175	-	-	4,199
Restricted	690,677	-	-	10,081,105
Committed	442,941	4,608,202	-	-
Assigned	17,130,356	-	-	-
Unassigned	5,736,136	-	-	-
Total fund balances	24,495,285	4,608,202	-	10,085,304
Total liabilities and fund balances	$ 26,155,443	$ 4,608,202	$ 2,178,610	$ 10,205,786

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

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

	General Grants	SHIP	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	$ -	$ 1,187,444	$ 19,439,635	$ 56,333,488
Accounts receivable	2,059	-	2,012	500,820
Notes receivable	-	-	301,458	301,458
Prepaid expenses	-	-	1,127,948	1,627,322
Due from other funds	-	-	81,921	3,976,109
Due from other governments	5,482,722	-	1,487,848	9,521,891
Total assets	$ 5,484,781	$ 1,187,444	$ 22,440,822	$ 72,261,088
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES				
Liabilities				
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	$ 1,472,331	$ 331	$ 90,793	$ 2,601,975
Due to other funds	3,109,097	-	767,727	4,057,423
Due to other governments	-	-	-	115,325
Unearned revenue	903,353	1,187,113	254,825	4,970,097
Total liabilities	5,484,781	1,187,444	1,113,345	11,744,820
Fund balances				
Nonspendable	-	-	1,127,948	1,627,322
Restricted	-	-	12,042,718	22,814,500
Committed	-	-	5,394,376	10,445,519
Assigned	-	-	2,762,435	19,892,791
Unassigned	-	-	-	5,736,136
Total fund balances	-	-	21,327,477	60,516,268
Total liabilities and fund balances	$ 5,484,781	$ 1,187,444	$ 22,440,822	$ 72,261,088

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

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

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

Ending fund balance - governmental funds		$	60,516,268
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.			
Cost of capital assets	130,780,205		
Less: accumulated depreciation	(49,278,405)		
			81,501,800
Deferred outflows and inflows of resources are not available in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.			
Deferred outflows and inflows of resources at year-end consist of:			
Deferred outflows related to pensions	4,557,992		
Deferred outflows related to other post employment benefits	303,529		
Deferred inflows related to pensions	(1,154,555)		
Deferred inflows related to other post employment benefits	(508,332)		
			3,198,634
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.			
Liability for compensated absences	(2,268,159)		
Bonds payable	(12,465,000)		
Lease liability	(94,813)		
Net pension liability	(18,936,053)		
Oher post employment benefits liability	(415,848)		
Landfill closure liability	(790,514)		
			(34,970,387)
Total net position of governmental activities		$	110,246,315

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

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

	General Fund	Disaster Fund	Hurricane Housing Recovery	Tourist Development
REVENUES				
Taxes	$ 17,000,189	$ -	$ -	$ 4,752,596
Licenses and permits	1,016,066	-	-	1,200
Intergovernmental	6,290,732	7,461,624	921,588	-
Charges for services	2,149,937	-	-	27,795
Fines and forfeitures	130,360	-	-	-
Investment earnings	973,039	5,087	83,679	222,285
Miscellaneous	115,513	-	-	-
Total revenues	27,675,836	7,466,711	1,005,267	5,003,876
EXPENDITURES				
Current				
General government	8,728,709	7,983	-	-
Public safety	9,440,977	17,950	-	-
Physical environment	199,945	7,419,441	-	108,231
Economic environment	1,340,562	-	1,005,267	1,306,402
Transportation	1,149,811	2,241	-	-
Court related	666,812	-	-	-
Human services	827,392	448	-	-
Culture and recreation	113,027	490	-	333,362
Capital outlay	352,207	-	-	113,643
Debt service				
Principal	38,561	-	-	-
Interest and other charges	1,299	-	-	-
Total expenditures	22,859,302	7,448,553	1,005,267	1,861,638
Excess (deficiency) of revenues Over (under) expenditures	4,816,534	18,158	-	3,142,238
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers in	390,546	2,184,312	-	79,105
Transfers (out)	(3,787,371)	-	-	(788,825)
Total other financing sources (uses)	(3,396,825)	2,184,312	-	(709,720)
Net changes in fund balances	1,419,709	2,202,470	-	2,432,518
Fund balances - beginning	23,075,576	2,405,732	-	7,652,786
Fund balances - ending	$ 24,495,285	$ 4,608,202	$ -	$ 10,085,304

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

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

	General Grants	SHIP	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES				
Taxes	$ -	$ -	$ 3,875,779	$ 25,628,564
Licenses and permits	-	-	-	1,017,266
Intergovernmental	8,667,385	174,697	2,705,243	26,221,269
Charges for services	-	-	153,412	2,331,144
Fines and forfeitures	-	-	-	130,360
Investment earnings	-	25,662	303,515	1,613,267
Miscellaneous	-	2,650	3,000,248	3,118,411
Total revenues	8,667,385	203,009	10,038,197	60,060,281
EXPENDITURES				
Current				
General government	27,250	-	2,130,903	10,894,845
Public safety	344,509	-	756,112	10,559,548
Physical environment	302,672	-	5,852	8,036,141
Economic environment	-	203,009	-	3,855,240
Transportation	2,924,037	-	50,256	4,126,345
Court related	-	-	27,884	694,696
Human services	-	-	1,783,995	2,611,835
Culture and recreation	49,904	-	135,426	632,209
Capital outlay	4,822,823	-	2,225,125	7,513,798
Debt service				
Principal	-	-	1,920,000	1,958,561
Interest and other charges	-	-	497,900	499,199
Total expenditures	8,471,195	203,009	9,533,453	51,382,417
Excess (deficiency) of revenues Over (under) expenditures	196,190	-	504,744	8,677,864
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers in	-	-	1,640,198	4,294,161
Transfers (out)	(196,190)	-	(310,600)	(5,082,986)
Total other financing sources (uses)	(196,190)	-	1,329,598	(788,825)
Net changes in fund balances	-	-	1,834,342	7,889,039
Fund balances - beginning	-	-	19,493,135	52,627,229
Fund balances - ending	$ -	$ -	$ 21,327,477	$ 60,516,268

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

GULF 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

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:		
Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds		$ 7,889,039
Governmental funds report capital purchases as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities, the cost of those assets is depreciated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which capital purchases exceeds depreciation expense in the current period.		
Capital outlay	7,513,798	
Less: depreciation expense	(3,788,865)	
		3,724,933
The net effect of certain capital asset transactions (disposals) including the sale of land.		(73,852)
Debt proceeds provides current financial resources while repayment of the principal of long-term debt consumes the current financial resources of government funds. Neither transaction, however, has any effect of net assets.		1,958,561
Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.		
Change in compensated absences	(21,573)	
Change in lease right-of-use assets	(40,120)	
Change in pension related	(2,495,965)	
Change in other post employment benefits related	16,707	
Change in Landfill payable	(21,933)	
		(2,562,884)
Change in net position of governmental activities		$ 10,935,797

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
PROPRIETARY FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	BUSINESS-TYPE ACTIVITIES AND ENTERPRISE FUNDS		
	Water	County Golf Course	Oak Grove
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 1,145,542	$ 333,277	$ 26,092
Accounts receivable	39,667	20,172	-
Prepaid items	242,925	115	-
Due from other funds	3,910	9,877	-
Due from other governments	95,453	-	-
Inventory	37,059	35,304	-
Total current assets	1,564,556	398,745	26,092
Noncurrent assets			
Capital assets:			
Land	237,450	334,601	737
Right of use asset	5,361	108,307	-
Buildings and utility system	101,240	47,978	269,453
Infrastructure	4,048,990	206,955	-
Machinery and equipment	133,589	384,192	-
Construction in progress	819,263	799,288	-
Less: accumulated depreciation	(660,576)	(183,584)	(269,453)
Total noncurrent assets	4,685,317	1,697,737	737
Total assets	6,249,873	2,096,482	26,829
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES			
Pension related	71,593	71,593	-
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	165,685	39,157	-
Due to other funds	322	64	-
Current portion of operating lease liability	928	24,132	-
Current portion of capital lease liability	-	57,822	-
Current portion of note payable	-	-	-
Current portion of bond payable	180,000	-	-
Total current liabilities	346,935	121,175	-
Noncurrent liabilities			
Net pension liability	297,425	297,425	-
Operating lease liability, net of current portion	-	38,689	-
Capital lease liability, net of current portion	-	64,273	-
Note payable, net of current portion	417,440	-	-
Bond payable, net of current portion	4,350,812	-	-
Total noncurrent liabilities	5,065,677	400,387	-
Total liabilities	5,412,612	521,562	-
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES			
Pension related	18,134	18,134	-
NET POSITION			
Net investment in capital assets	-	1,512,821	737
Unrestricted	890,720	115,558	26,092
Total net position	$ 890,720	$ 1,628,379	$ 26,829

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
PROPRIETARY FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	BUSINESS-TYPE ACTIVITIES AND ENTERPRISE FUNDS		
	Williamsburg and Methodist Hill	Solid Waste Fund	Total
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	$ -	$ 736,326	$ 2,241,237
Accounts receivable	-	-	59,839
Prepaid items	-	-	243,040
Due from other funds	-	67,964	81,751
Due from other governments	-	-	95,453
Inventory	-	-	72,363
Total current assets	-	804,290	2,793,683
Noncurrent assets			
Capital assets:			
Land	-	389,337	962,125
Right of use asset	-	-	113,668
Buildings and utility system	571,925	824,004	1,814,600
Infrastructure	-	-	4,255,945
Machinery and equipment	-	170,365	688,146
Construction in progress	-	-	1,618,551
Less: accumulated depreciation	(428,975)	(42,208)	(1,584,796)
Total noncurrent assets	142,950	1,341,498	7,868,239
Total assets	142,950	2,145,788	10,661,922
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES			
Pension related	-	71,593	214,779
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	-	127,761	332,603
Due to other funds	-	51	437
Current portion of operating lease liability	-	-	25,060
Current portion of capital lease liability	-	-	57,822
Current portion of note payable	-	-	-
Current portion of bond payable	-	-	180,000
Total current liabilities	-	127,812	595,922
Noncurrent liabilities			
Net pension liability	-	297,425	892,275
Operating lease liability, net of current portion	-	-	38,689
Capital lease liability, net of current portion	-	-	64,273
Notes payable, net of current portion	-	-	417,440
Bond payable, net of current portion	-	-	4,350,812
Total noncurrent liabilities	-	297,425	5,763,489
Total liabilities	-	425,237	6,359,411
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES			
Pension related	-	18,134	54,402
NET POSITION			
Net investment in capital assets	142,950	1,341,498	2,998,006
Unrestricted	-	432,512	1,464,882
Total net position	$ 142,950	$ 1,774,010	$ 4,462,888

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN FUND NET POSITION
PROPRIETARY FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	BUSINESS-TYPE ACTIVITIES AND ENTERPRISE FUNDS		
	Water	County Golf Course	Oak Grove
Operating revenues			
Charges for services	$ 1,637,160	$ 877,763	$ -
Other revenue	203,982	150,989	-
Total operating revenues	1,841,142	1,028,752	-
Operating expenses			
Payroll expenses	399,761	410,305	-
Professional	14,400	97,626	-
Contract services	171,324	150,706	-
Communications	9,569	6,804	-
Utilities	90,218	50,261	-
Rent	1,577	5,835	-
Repairs and maintenance	179,185	93,235	-
Advertising	274	1,274	-
Office supplies	4,326	9,488	-
Operating supplies	50,433	166,347	-
Cost of goods sold	-	94,363	-
Other	17,637	2,266	-
Other debt issuance costs	1,625	-	-
Depreciation	248,448	67,653	-
Total operating expenses	1,188,777	1,156,163	-
Net income before transfers and interest expense	652,365	(127,411)	-
Interest expense	(106,096)	(2,721)	-
Transfers in	-	788,825	-
Increase (decrease) in net position	546,269	658,693	-
Net position - beginning	344,451	969,686	26,829
Net position - ending	$ 890,720	$ 1,628,379	$ 26,829

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN FUND NET POSITION
PROPRIETARY FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	BUSINESS-TYPE ACTIVITIES AND ENTERPRISE FUNDS		
	Williamsburg and Methodist Hill	Solid Waste Fund	Total
Operating revenues			
Charges for services	$ -	$ 2,088,674	$ 4,603,597
Other revenue	-	32,208	387,179
Total operating revenues	-	2,120,882	4,990,776
Operating expenses			
Payroll expenses	-	473,492	1,283,558
Professional	-	-	112,026
Contract services	-	1,684,155	2,006,185
Communications	-	866	17,239
Utilities	-	3,369	143,848
Rent	-	1,698	9,110
Repairs and maintenance	-	14,268	286,688
Advertising	-	-	1,548
Office supplies	-	2,739	16,553
Operating supplies	-	30,276	247,056
Cost of goods sold	-	-	94,363
Other	-	501	20,404
Other debt issuance costs	-	-	1,625
Depreciation	14,292	24,354	354,747
Total operating expenses	14,292	2,235,718	4,594,950
Net income before transfers and interest expense	(14,292)	(114,836)	395,826
Interest expense	-	-	(108,817)
Transfers in	-	-	788,825
Increase (decrease) in net position	(14,292)	(114,836)	1,075,834
Net position - beginning	157,242	1,888,846	3,387,054
Net position - ending	$ 142,950	$ 1,774,010	$ 4,462,888

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
PROPRIETARY FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Water	County Golf Course	Oak Grove
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts from customers	$ 1,668,901	$ 884,243	$ -
Payments to suppliers	(763,789)	(705,043)	-
Payments to employees	(343,831)	(334,042)	-
Other receipts (payments)	258,919	141,422	-
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	820,200	(13,420)	-
Cash flows from capital and related financial activities			
Acquisition of capital assets	(724,946)	(654,386)	-
Debt proceeds	417,440	-	-
Debt service principal	(189,754)	(65,680)	-
Interest	(106,096)	(2,721)	-
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(603,356)	(722,787)	-
Cash flows from non-capital financial related activities			
Transfers in	-	788,825	-
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	216,844	52,618	-
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	928,698	280,659	26,092
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	$ 1,145,542	$ 333,277	$ 26,092
Reconciliation of net income (loss) to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:			
Operating income (loss)	$ 652,365	$ (127,411)	$ -
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:			
Depreciation	248,448	67,653	-
Change in assets and liabilities:			
Inventory	(37,059)	(11,718)	-
Accounts receivable	31,741	6,480	-
Due from other funds	(3,910)	(9,844)	-
Due from other governments	59,515	341	-
Prepaid expenses	(5,750)	(40)	-
Accounts payable	(178,192)	8,044	-
Due to other funds	322	(64)	-
Net pension related	55,930	76,263	-
Operating lease liabilities	(2,220)	(23,124)	-
Other liabilities	(990)	-	-
Total adjustments	167,835	113,991	-
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	$ 820,200	$ (13,420)	$ -

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
PROPRIETARY FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Williamsburg and Methodist Hill	Solid Waste Fund	Total
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts from customers	$ -	$ 2,197,172	$ 4,750,316
Payments to suppliers	-	(1,676,694)	(3,145,526)
Payments to employees	-	(363,758)	(1,041,631)
Other receipts (payments)	-	(34,147)	366,194
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	-	122,573	929,353
Cash flow from capital and related financial activities			
Acquisition of capital assets	-	(170,364)	(1,549,696)
Debt proceeds	-	-	417,440
Debt service principal	-	-	(255,434)
Interest	-	-	(108,817)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	-	(170,364)	(1,496,507)
Cash flow from non-capital financial related activities			
Transfers in	-	-	788,825
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	-	(47,791)	221,671
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	-	784,117	2,019,566
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	$ -	$ 736,326	$ 2,241,237
Reconciliation of net income (loss) to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:			
Operating income (loss)	$ (14,292)	$ (114,836)	$ 395,826
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:			
Depreciation	14,292	24,354	354,747
Change in assets and liabilities:			
Inventory	-	-	(48,777)
Accounts receivable	-	108,498	146,719
Due from other funds	-	(66,406)	(80,160)
Due from other governments	-	-	59,856
Prepaid expenses	-	-	(5,790)
Accounts payable	-	61,178	(108,970)
Due to other funds	-	51	309
Net pension related	-	109,734	241,927
Lease liabilities	-	-	(25,344)
Other liabilities	-	-	(990)
Total adjustments	14,292	237,409	533,527
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	$ -	$ 122,573	$ 929,353

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

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

	Clerk of Court	Sheriff	Tax Collector	Total Custodial Funds
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 693,811	$ 31,574	$ 477,675	$ 1,203,060
Accounts receivable (net)	1,440	-	-	1,440
Due from other governments	2,398	-	-	2,398
Due from BOCC	-	-	-	-
Total assets	697,649	31,574	477,675	1,206,898
LIABILITIES				
Accounts payable	1,179	-	-	1,179
Due to individuals	-	31,574	29,882	61,456
Due to other governments	227,785	-	446,699	674,484
Due to BOCC	20,594	-	1,094	21,688
Total liabilities	249,558	31,574	477,675	758,807
NET POSITION				
Restricted	$ 448,091	$ -	$ -	$ 448,091

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
CUSTODIAL FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Clerk of Court	Sheriff	Tax Collector	Total Custodial Funds
ADDITIONS				
Taxes	$ -	$ -	$ 38,670,229	$ 38,670,229
Permits, fees, and special assessments	-	-	3,219,489	3,219,489
Deposits/escrow/surplus	299,548	-	-	299,548
Service charges/general government	5,077,312	77,601	-	5,154,913
Court related	1,383,253	-	-	1,383,253
Total additions	6,760,113	77,601	41,889,718	48,727,432
DEDUCTIONS				
Payments to other governments	-	-	22,925,963	22,925,963
Payments to BOCC	-	-	17,552,411	17,552,411
Payments to individuals	-	78,307	1,411,316	1,489,623
Payments to constitutional officers	-	-	28	28
Service charges	-	-	-	-
Deposits/escrow/surplus	261,393	-	-	261,393
Service charges/general government	5,078,966	-	-	5,078,966
Court related	1,296,410	-	-	1,296,410
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	6,636,769	78,307	41,889,718	48,604,794
Net change in fiduciary net position	123,344	(706)	-	122,638
Net position - beginning	324,747	706	-	325,453
Net position - ending	$ 448,091	$ -	$ -	$ 448,091

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Reporting Entity

Gulf County, Florida (the "County"), located in Northwest Florida, is a political subdivision of the State of Florida and provides services to approximately 16,000 residents in many areas including general government, public safety, physical environment, transportation, economic environment, human services, and culture and recreation. The County is governed by a five-member elected Board of County Commissioners (the "Board"), which derives its authority from Florida Statutes and regulations. In addition to the members of the Board, there are five elected constitutional officers: Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sheriff, Tax Collector, Property Appraiser, and Supervisor of Elections.

The elected offices of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sheriff, Tax Collector, Property Appraiser, and Supervisor of Elections are operated as separate County agencies in accordance with applicable provisions of Florida Statutes. These constitutional officers operate on a budget system whereby County-appropriated funds are received from the Board and unexpended funds are returned to the Board. The Clerk of the Circuit Court operates as a fee officer by retaining various fees collected by this office and billing the Board for certain services provided. Separate accounting records and budgets are maintained by each individual office.

As required by Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 14, *The Reporting Entity*, the financial reporting entity consists of the primary government (composed of the Board of County Commissioners and Constitutional Officers) and the County's component units, for which the primary government is financially accountable. Also included are other entities whose exclusion would cause the reporting entity's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete. Each potential component unit is individually evaluated using specific criteria outlined in GASB Statement No. 14 to determine whether the entity is: a) part of the primary government; b) a component unit which should be included in the reporting entity (blended or discretely presented); or c) an organization which should be excluded from the reporting entity entirely. The principal criteria for classifying a potential component unit include the legal separateness of the organization, the financial accountability of the primary government for the potential component unit resulting from the primary government's ability to impose its will on the potential component unit's fiscal dependency on the primary government. The dependent special districts, Howard Creek Fire Control, Overstreet Fire Control, St. Joe Fire Control, Tupelo Fire Control, and Highland View Water and Sewer District are considered component units and are blended in the financial statements of the County as part of the enterprise funds and the special revenue funds. There are no other entities for which there were positive responses to specific criteria used for establishing oversight responsibility that were excluded from the County's financial statements.

The County was established by the constitution of the State of Florida, Article VIII, Section 1 (e). Dependent special districts were created as follows: Highland View Water and Sewer District, Laws of Florida Chapter 61-2212; Howard Creek Fire District, Laws of Florida Chapter 79-467; Overstreet Fire District, Laws of Florida Chapter 78-513; St. Joe Fire District, Laws of Florida Chapter 47-24541; and Tupelo Fire District, Laws of Florida Chapter 70-696.

All fire Districts were conformed and re-established by County Ordinance #1996-12.

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

The accounting policies of the County conform to U.S. generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governments. The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies.

B. Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net position and the statement of activities) report information on all of the nonfiduciary activities of the primary government and its component units. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. Governmental activities, which are normally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, are reported separately from business-type activities, which rely to a significant extent on fees and charges for support. Likewise, the primary government is reported separately from certain legally separate component units, if any, for which the primary government is financially accountable.

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: a) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment; and b) 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, proprietary funds, and fiduciary funds, even though the latter are excluded from the government-wide financial statements. Major individual governmental funds and major individual enterprise funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

The County reports five major governmental funds:

- General Fund – The general fund is the County's primary operating fund. It is used to account for all resources traditionally associated with governmental activities except those required to be accounted for in other funds.
- Disaster Fund – This fund accounts for funding received from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).
- Hurricane Housing Recovery Program – This fund is used to account for the Hurricane Housing Recovery Program activity.
- Tourist Development Fund – This fund accounts for the 5% local option tourist development tax.
- General Grants Fund – This fund accounts for the receipt and disbursement of general grant monies to the appropriate recipients.
- State Housing Initiative Partnership (SHIP) – To account for activity relating to the program's revenues and expenses.

The County reports each of the enterprise funds as major funds. Each fund is used to account for the activity of the utility for the area served.

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

The County reports one type of fiduciary fund, custodial funds, which are used to account for the collection and disbursement of funds by the County on behalf of other governments and individuals.

C. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Financial Statement Presentation

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

Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of the related cash flows.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are 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 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures, as well as expenditures related to compensated absences are recorded only when payment is due.

Proprietary funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from nonoperating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with a proprietary fund's principal ongoing operations. The County's enterprise activities are operated and maintained by local cities. The County receives the amounts billed to customers for the required debt service and bond payments.

D. Enterprise Activities

For enterprise activities, the County applies all applicable GASB pronouncements.

E. Budgets and Budgetary Accounting

General governmental revenue and expenditures accounted for in budgetary funds are controlled by a budgetary accounting system in accordance with various legal requirements which govern the County's operations. Budgets are monitored at varying levels of classification detail; however, expenditures cannot legally exceed total appropriations at the individual fund level. All budget changes that affect the total of a fund's budget must be approved by the Board.

The budgetary information presented for the general fund and any major governmental funds is prepared on the modified accrual basis. Encumbrances are not recorded. Unexpended items at year-end must be reappropriated in the subsequent year.

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

F. Encumbrances

Encumbrances represent commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods and services which are chargeable to an appropriation and for which a part of the appropriation is reserved. Encumbrances do not represent expenditures or liabilities. Encumbrances outstanding at year end lapse and are reappropriated in the subsequent year.

G. Cash and Investments

Cash and cash equivalents consist of those deposits made locally in commercial banks and investments purchased through the Florida Local Government Investment Trust. All deposits in commercial banks are with qualified public depositories authorized by Chapter 280, Florida Statutes. The deposits are insured through FDIC and Florida's multiple financial institution collateral pool. The Florida Local Government Investment Trust deposits are maintained in investment pools which invest primarily in highly liquid commercial paper, repurchase agreements, bankers' acceptance notes, and United States Government obligations. The County follows GASB Statement No. 31, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Certain Investments and for External Investment Pools*, in reporting on investments owned. Generally, this statement requires various investments be reported at fair value, including debt securities and open-ended mutual funds.

H. Accounts Receivable

The County's and its component unit's accounts receivable, other than ambulance service accounts receivable as described in note 10, are deemed to be entirely collectible. Therefore, an allowance for uncollectible accounts receivable has not been recorded.

I. Due from (to) Other Funds

Activity between funds that are representative of lending/borrowing arrangements outstanding at the end of the fiscal year are referred to as "due to/from other funds." Any residual balances outstanding between the governmental activities and business-type activities are reported in the government-wide financial statements as "internal balances" when applicable.

J. Inventories

Inventory items of materials and supplies, which are not significant in amount, are considered expenditures when purchased in the governmental funds. The balance of physical inventory on hand at fiscal year-end has not been recorded because the amount is not considered material.

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

K. Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include property, plant, equipment, and infrastructure assets (e.g., roads, right of ways, stormwater system, sidewalks, and similar items), are reported in the applicable governmental or business-type activities columns in the government-wide financial statements. Machinery and equipment with an initial, individual cost of more than $1,000 and an estimated useful life in excess of one year are recorded as capital assets. Buildings, roads, bridges, and sidewalks are capitalized when their initial costs exceed $25,000 and possess estimated useful lives of more than one year. Capital assets are recorded at historical cost when purchased or constructed or estimated historical cost if actual cost is unknown. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair market value at the date of donation. The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that does not add to the value of an asset or materially extend its useful life is expensed as incurred.

Property, plant and equipment are depreciated using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets, which are generally as follows:

Buildings	50 years
Improvements	50 years
Machinery and equipment	5-20 years
Infrastructure	15-25 years
Leased assets	Lease term

Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed. For assets constructed with governmental fund resources, interest during the construction period is not capitalized.

L. Compensated Absences

The County maintains a policy that permits employees to accumulate earned but unused vacation and sick pay benefits that will be paid to employees upon separation from County service if certain criteria are met. These benefits, plus their related tax and retirement costs are classified as compensated absences. Employees may be paid for unused vacation hours accrued up to a maximum amount. Payment of unused sick leave, upon termination, is also provided for up to varying amounts.

Both the current and long-term portion of compensated absences are accrued and reported in the government-wide financial statements. No expenditure is reported in the government fund level statements for these amounts until payment is made. Compensated absences liability is based on current rates of pay. This is accounted for pursuant to GASB Statement No.16, *Accounting for Compensated Absences*.

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

M. Property Taxes

Under Florida law, the assessment of all properties and the collection of all county, municipal, and school board property taxes are consolidated in the offices of the Property Appraiser and Tax Collector. The laws of the State regulating tax assessment are also designed to assure a consistent property valuation method statewide. Florida Statutes permit counties to levy property taxes at a rate of up to 10 mills for general operations. The 2023 tax year millage rate assessed by the County was 6.5 mils.

The tax levy of the County is established by the Board prior to October 1 of each year and the Property Appraiser incorporates the County millage rates into the total tax levy, which includes the various municipalities, the county school board, and other taxing authorities.

All property is assessed according to its fair market value January 1 of each year. Each assessment roll is submitted to the Executive Director of the Florida Department of Revenue for review to determine if the rolls meet all of the appropriate requirements of Florida Statutes.

All taxes become payable on November 1 of each year, or as soon thereafter as the assessment roll is certified and delivered to the Tax Collector. All unpaid taxes become delinquent on April 1 following the year in which they are assessed. Discounts are allowed for early payment at the rate of 4% in the month of November, 3% in the month of December, 2% in the month of January and 1% in the month of February. Taxes paid in March are without discount.

On or prior to June 1, following the tax year, tax certificates are sold for all delinquent taxes on real property. After sale, tax certificates bear interest of 18% per year or at any lower rate bid by the buyer. Application for a tax deed on any unredeemed tax certificates may be made by the certificate holder after a period of two years. Unsold tax certificates are held by the County.

N. Use of Estimates

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

O. Use of Restricted Assets

It is generally the practice of the County to utilize restricted net position before unrestricted net assets when possible.

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

P. Net Pension Liability

In the government-wide and proprietary fund statements, the net pension liability represents the County's proportionate share of the net pension liability of the cost-sharing pension plans in which it participates. This liability represents a share of the present value of projected benefit payments to be provided through cost-sharing plans, less the amount of the cost-sharing plans' fiduciary net position. The County participates in both the Florida Retirement System (FRS) defined benefit pension plan and the Health Insurance Subsidy Program (HIS) defined benefit plan administered by the Florida Division of Retirement. The County allocated the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources, deferred inflows of resources, and pension expense to the funds and functions/activities based on their respective contribution made to the pension plans for that fiscal year.

Q. Other Postemployment Benefits

The County has recorded a liability in the government-wide statements and the enterprise funds for postemployment benefits other than pensions. The financial reporting requirements for governments whose employees are provided with OPEB, include the recognition and measurement of liabilities, deferred outflows of resources, deferred inflows of resources, and expenses.

R. Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources

The statement of net position will sometimes report separate sections for deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources. Deferred outflows of resources represent a consumption of net assets that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until that time. Deferred inflows of resources represent an acquisition of net assets that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time.

The County also has items related to its retirement plan and OPEB plan which are reported in the government-wide and proprietary fund statements of net position as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources. Certain changes in the net pension liability and net OPEB liability are recognized as expense over time instead of all being recognized in the year of occurrence.

Experience gains or losses result from actuarial studies which adjust the net pension/OPEB liability (asset) for actual experience for certain trend information that was previously assumed, for example, the assumed dates of retirement plan members. These experience gains or losses are recorded as deferred outflows of resources or deferred inflows of resources and are amortized into expense over the expected remaining service lives of plan members. Changes in actuarial assumptions which adjust the net pension/OPEB liability (asset) are also recorded as deferred outflows of resources or deferred inflows of resources and are amortized into pension expense over the expected remaining service lives of plan members. The net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension/OPEB plan investments is deferred and amortized against pension expense over a five-year period.

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

S. Long-Term Obligations

In the government-wide financial statements and for proprietary fund types in the fund financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the applicable governmental activities, business-type activities, or proprietary fund statement of net position. Bond premiums and discounts are deferred and amortized over the life of the bonds using the effective interest method. Bonds payable are reported net of the applicable bond premium or discount.

T. Leases

The County is a lessee for various lease agreements and recognizes a lease liability and an intangible right-to-use lease asset (lease asset) in the government-wide financial statements. At the commencement of a lease, the County initially measures the lease liability at the present value of payments expected to be made during the lease term. Subsequently, the lease liability is reduced by the principal portion of the lease payments made at or before the lease commencement date, plus initial direct costs. Subsequently, the lease asset is amortized in accordance with principal amounts attributed over the term of the lease liability.

Key estimates and judgements related to leases include how the County determines (1) the discount rate is used to discount the expected lease payments to present value, (2) lease term, and (3) lease payments.

- The County uses the interest rate charged by the lessor as the discount rate. When the interest rate charged by the lessor is not provided, the County generally uses its estimated incremental borrowing rate as the discount rate for leases.
- The lease term includes the non-cancellable period of the lease. Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability are composed of fixed payments and purchase option price that the County is reasonably certain to exercise.

The County monitors changes in circumstances that would require a remeasurement of its lease and will remeasure the lease asset and liability if certain changes occur that are expected to significantly affect the amount of the lease liability.

Lease assets are reported with other capital assets and lease liabilities are reported with long-term debt on the statement of net position.

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

U. Change in Accounting Principles

Effective October 1, 2022, the County adopted GASB Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Agreements*. GASB Statement No. 96 enhances the relevance and consistency of information of the government's subscription IT activities. It establishes requirements for subscription-based information technology agreement accounting based on the principle that the agreements are financing of the right-to-use an underlying asset. A government entity is required to recognize a liability and an intangible right-to-use asset. For the year ended September 30, 2023, the County did not have any information technology agreements that qualified for recognition under this standard.

V. Subsequent Events

The County evaluated subsequent events through May 23, 2023, the date on which the financial statements were available to be issued. The County did not identify any subsequent events that impact these financial statements.

NOTE 2: DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

Deposits Policies:

The County's cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, demand deposits, and short-term highly liquid debt instruments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

Investments Policies:

Florida Statutes, Section 218.415, authorizes the County to invest surplus funds in the following:

- The Local Government Surplus Funds Trust Fund (State Board of Administration) or any intergovernmental investment pool authorized pursuant to the Florida Interlocal Cooperation Act as provided s.163.01.
- Securities and Exchange Commission registered money market funds with the highest credit quality rating from a nationally recognized rating agency.
- Interest – bearing time deposits or savings accounts in state-certified qualified public depositories as defined in s. 280.02.
- Direct obligations of the United States Treasury.
- Federal agencies and instrumentalities.
- Securities of, or other interests in, any open-end or closed-end management-type investment company or investment trust registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, 15 U.S.C.ss. 80a-1 et. seq., as amended from time to time, provided that the portfolio of such investment company or investment trust is limited to obligations of the United States Government or any agency or instrumentality thereof and to repurchase agreements full collateralized by such United States Government obligations, and provided that such investment company or investment trust takes delivery of such collateral either directly or through an authorized custodian.

NOTE 2: DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

In addition, the County is authorized by law or by county ordinance to invest funds in the following securities:

- Commercial Paper of U.S. Corporations having a rating of at least two of the following three ratings: A-1, P-1, and F-1, as rated by Standard & Poors, Moody's, and Fitch Investors Service rating services.
- Bankers' Acceptances that are eligible for purchase by the Federal Reserve Banks and have a Letter of Credit rating of A or better.
- Obligations, rated A+ or better, of the State of Florida and its various local governments, including Gulf County.
- Overnight Repos (Repurchase Agreement) and Term Repos with maturities of less than 30 days.
- Corporate Securities rated AA/Aa by Standard & Poors and Moody's.
- Qualified Purchaser Funds (3(c)7)funds) securities of an open-end management type investment company or investment fund advised by a Registered Advisor under rule 3(c)(7) of the Federal Investment Company Act of 1940, provided that the fund's investment guidelines state that the fund will seek to maintain a $1 per share net position value.
- Auction Rate Securities rated AAA/aaa.

Florida Statutes provide that funds awaiting clearing may be invested. Pursuant to an agreement with a local financial institution, cash on deposit, including the County's float, was invested overnight in United States Treasury Obligations per the repurchase agreement.

The Florida Local Government Investment Trust Fund (FLGIT) is a professionally managed fund available only to public entities in Florida. The investment policy of FLGIT restricts investments to direct obligations of or securities fully guaranteed by the United States; obligations of certain federal agencies, including collateralized obligations; repurchase agreements; and commercial paper.

As of September 30, 2023, the County's deposits consisted of the following:

	Fair Value	Weighted Average Maturity
Florida Local Government Investment Trust (FLGIT)	$ 6,086,086	Demand
Total investment portfolio	$ 6,086,086	

NOTE 2: DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

Custodial Credit Risk of Deposits:

All cash resources of the County are placed in banks that are qualified public depositories, as required by law (Florida Security for Public Deposits Act). Every qualified public depository is required by this law to deposit with the State Treasurer eligible collateral equal to, or in excess of, an amount to be determined by the State Treasurer. The State Treasurer is required to ensure that the County's funds are entirely collateralized throughout the fiscal year. In the event of failure by a qualified public depository, losses in excess of federal depository insurance and proceeds from the sale of the securities pledged by the defaulting depository are assessed against the other qualified public depositories of the same type as the depository in default. When other qualified public depositories are assessed additional amounts, they are assessed on a pro-rata basis.

Interest Rate Risk:

At September 30, 2023, the County did not hold any investments that were considered to be an interest rate risk.

Credit Risks:

At September 30, 2023, the County did not hold any investments that were considered to be a credit risk.

Custodial Risk:

For an investment, there is a risk that in the event of a failure of the counterparty to a transaction, the government will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateralized securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The County's investments are excluded from the definition of custodial credit risk.

Concentration of Credit Risk:

At September 30, 2023, the County did not hold any investments that were considered to be a concentration of credit risk.

NOTE 3: INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS

During the course of normal operations, numerous transactions occur between funds, such as expenditures or transfers of resources to provide services, service debt, or construct assets. The interfund transactions are eliminated in the government-wide financial statement totals. As of September 30, 2023, the County maintained the following interfund receivables/payables.

Receivable Fund	Payable Fund	Amount
General fund	General Grants fund	$ 3,109,097
General fund	Tourist Development fund	16,927
General fund	Water fund	322
General fund	Golf Course fund	64
General fund	Solid Waste fund	51
General fund	Nonmajor governmental funds	688,622
Tourist Development fund	Nonmajor governmental funds	79,105
Water fund	General fund	3,910
Golf Course fund	Tourist Development fund	9,877
Solid Waste fund	General fund	67,964
Nonmajor governmental funds	General fund	81,921
		$ 4,057,860

All remaining balances resulted from the time lag between the dates that (a) interfund goods and services are provided or reimbursable expenditures occur, (b) transactions are recorded in the accounting system, and (c) payments between funds are made.

Operating transfers between funds were as follows for the year ended September 30, 2023:

Transfers in	Transfers out	Amount
General fund	Nonmajor governmental funds	$ 194,356
General fund	General Grants fund	196,190
Nonmajor governmental funds	General fund	1,640,198
Disaster fund	General fund	2,147,173
Disaster fund	Nonmajor governmental funds	37,139
Tourist Development fund	Nonmajor governmental funds	79,105
Golf Course	Tourist Development fund	788,825
		$ 5,082,986

The transfers above were for budgeted operations.

NOTE 4: CAPITAL ASSETS

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

Governmental activities:	Beginning Balance	Additions	Reductions and Transfers	Ending Balance
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Land	$ 7,249,044	$ -	$ -	$ 7,249,044
Construction in progress	8,435,763	4,171,552	(195,286)	12,412,029
Total capital assets not being depreciated	15,684,807	4,171,552	(195,286)	19,661,073
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Right-of-use asset	180,463	-	-	180,463
Buildings and improvements	18,477,730	52,150	-	18,529,880
Machinery and equipment - BOCC	17,945,649	2,107,640	(560,674)	19,492,615
Machinery and equipment - Sheriff	2,002,063	287,548	(117,301)	2,172,310
Infrastructure	69,653,669	894,909	195,286	70,743,864
Total capital assets being depreciated	108,259,574	3,342,247	(482,689)	111,119,132
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Right-of-use asset	(47,703)	(40,120)	-	(87,823)
Buildings and improvements	(7,927,228)	(291,711)	-	(8,218,939)
Machinery and equipment - BOCC	(12,460,067)	(1,194,674)	507,851	(13,146,890)
Machinery and equipment - Sheriff	(1,488,377)	(215,102)	96,273	(1,607,206)
Infrastructure	(24,130,169)	(2,087,378)	-	(26,217,547)
Total accumulated depreciation	(46,053,544)	(3,828,985)	604,124	(49,278,405)
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	62,206,030	(486,738)	121,435	61,840,727
Total governmental activities, capital assets, net	$ 77,890,837	$ 3,684,814	$ (73,851)	$ 81,501,800

Depreciation expense was charged to governmental activities functions/programs of the primary government as follows:

Governmental activities:	
General government	$ 237,264
Public safety	658,109
Physical environment	501,267
Economic environment	46,573
Transportation	1,986,075
Court related	23,798
Human services	186,835
Culture and recreation	189,064
Total depreciation expense - governmental activities	$ 3,828,985

NOTE 4: CAPITAL ASSETS (CONTINUED)

Business-type activities:	Beginning Balance	Additions	Reductions and Transfers	Ending Balance
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Land	$ 962,125	$ -	$ -	$ 962,125
Construction in progress	418,341	1,200,210	-	1,618,551
Total capital assets not being depreciated	1,380,466	1,200,210	-	2,580,676
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Right-of-use asset	113,668	-	-	113,668
Buildings and utility systems	1,814,600	-	-	1,814,600
Infrastructure	4,255,945	-	-	4,255,945
Machinery and equipment	315,709	349,486	22,951	688,146
Total capital assets being depreciated	6,499,922	349,486	22,951	6,872,359
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Right-of-use asset	(25,924)	(21,601)	-	(47,525)
Buildings and utility systems	(744,570)	(53,657)	-	(798,227)
Infrastructure	(377,732)	(221,656)	-	(599,388)
Machinery and equipment	(58,872)	(57,833)	(22,951)	(139,656)
Total accumulated depreciation	(1,207,098)	(354,747)	(22,951)	(1,584,796)
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	5,292,824	(5,261)	-	5,287,563
Total business-type activities, capital assets, net	$ 6,673,290	$ 1,194,949	$ -	$ 7,868,239

Depreciation expense for the business-type activities for the year ended September 30, 2023 was $354,747.

NOTE 5: LONG-TERM DEBT

Long-term liabilities related to governmental activities as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023:

Governmental Activities:	Beginning Balance	Additions	Reductions	Ending Balance	Due Within One Year
Gas Tax Revenue Bonds Series 2015A Capital Improvement for Infrastructure	$ 9,560,000	$ -	$ (695,000)	$ 8,865,000	$ 720,000
Gas Tax Revenue Bonds Series 2015B Refunding Bonds Series 2006	2,310,000	-	(190,000)	2,120,000	200,000
Gulf County CBA Non-Ad Valorem Revenue Bonds Series 2016	690,000	-	(690,000)	-	-
Gulf County MSTU Limited Ad Valorem Tax Bonds Series 2016	1,825,000	-	(345,000)	1,480,000	355,000
Total bonds payable	14,385,000	-	(1,920,000)	12,465,000	1,275,000
Lease liability	133,375	-	(38,562)	94,813	21,912
Long-term landfill closure and postclosure liability	768,581	21,933	-	790,514	-
Other postemployment benefits	416,279	-	(431)	415,848	-
Net pension liability	16,182,034	2,754,019	-	18,936,053	-
Liability for compensated absences	2,246,586	1,087,599	(1,066,026)	2,268,159	453,632
Total governmental activities long-term liabilities	$ 34,131,855	$ 3,863,551	$ (3,025,019)	$ 34,970,387	$ 1,750,544

NOTE 5: LONG-TERM DEBT (CONTINUED)

Long-term liabilities related to business-type activities as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023:

Business-Type Activities:	Beginning Balance	Additions	Reductions	Ending Balance	Due Within One Year
Capital Improvements Revenue Bonds Series 2020	$ 4,365,000	$ -	$ (170,000)	$ 4,195,000	$ 180,000
Premium on bonds payable	355,566	-	(19,754)	335,812	-
Bonds payable, net of premium	4,720,566	-	(189,754)	4,530,812	180,000
Note payable	-	417,440	-	417,440	-
Capital lease liability	187,775	-	(65,680)	122,095	57,822
Lease liability	89,093	-	(25,344)	63,749	25,060
Net pension liability	608,189	284,086	-	892,275	-
Total business-type activities long-term liabilities	$ 5,605,623	$ 701,526	$ (280,778)	$ 6,026,371	$ 262,882

Capital Improvements Revenue Bonds Series 2020

On November 30, 2020, the County issued $4,500,000 Capital Improvements Revenue Bonds, Series 2020. These bonds are special obligations of the County and secured by a covenant to budget and appropriate Non-Ad Valorem Revenues. The purpose of the Series 2020 bonds is to provide sufficient funds to finance capital improvements associated with the acquisition of a private utility system. The Series 2020 Bonds have interest rates from 2.00% to 5.00%.

	Revenue Bonds Series 2020		
Year ending September 30,	Principal	Interest	Total
2024	$ 180,000	$ 123,150	$ 303,150
2025	185,000	117,675	302,675
2026	190,000	112,050	302,050
2027	195,000	106,275	301,275
2028	200,000	103,350	303,350
Thereafter	3,245,000	720,750	3,965,750
	$ 4,195,000	$ 1,283,250	$ 5,478,250

NOTE 5: LONG-TERM DEBT (CONTINUED)

Gas Tax Revenue and Refunding Bonds Series 2015A and 2015B

On June 30, 2015, the County issued $13,210,000 Gas Tax Revenue Bonds, Series 2015A and $3,175,000 Taxable Gas Tax Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2015B for a total of $16,385,000. These bonds are special obligations of the County and are solely payable from and secured by a prior lien upon and pledge of Constitutional Gas Tax, the County Gas Tax, and the Local Option Gas Tax. The purpose of the Series 2015 bonds is to provide sufficient funds to (i) acquire and construct certain roads within the County, (ii) refund the County's Tax Revenue Refunding Bonds Series 2006, (iii) provide a Reserve Account for the repayment of the bonds and (iv) pay certain costs associated with the issuance of the Series (2015). The Series 2015 Bonds have interest rates from 2% to 5%. Future maturities of bonds payable are as follows:

	Gas Tax Revenue Bonds Capital Improvement for Infrastructure Series 2015A & 2015B		
Year ending September 30,	Principal	Interest	Total
2024	$ 920,000	$ 397,030	$ 1,317,030
2025	955,000	363,280	1,318,280
2026	990,000	332,005	1,322,005
2027	1,020,000	298,878	1,318,878
2028	1,050,000	262,663	1,312,663
Thereafter	6,050,000	735,537	6,785,537
	$ 10,985,000	$ 2,389,393	$ 13,374,393

CBA Non-Ad Valorem Revenue Bonds Series 2016

The County issued two new bonds during the fiscal year 16-17. The County issued $3,440,000 in Limited Ad Valorem Tax Bonds, Series 2016. The bonds a limited obligation of the County, the principal and interest on the bonds are payable from and secured by a pledge of the ad valorem taxing power of the County within its three Cape San Blas Municipal Taxing Units, named Bayside, Gulfside Beachfront and Gulfside Interior. At the time of issuance, the County estimated that, based on the 2016 tax rolls, the initial levy necessary to comply with the requirements of the bonds, will be 1.1052 mills in the Bayside, 1.3139 mills in the Gulf Beachfront, and 1.1549 mills in the Gulfside Interior. The County additionally issued $4,000,000 Non-Ad Valorem Revenue Bonds, Series 2016. The principal and interest payments of these bonds will be paid from the general non-committed and non-restricted revenues of the County. The County has signed a Resolution to appropriate in its annual budget to pay all debt obligations for the bond issuance. Proceeds from the sale of the bonds will be applied for the renourishment and reconstruction of the beach front at Cape San Blas in Gulf County.

NOTE 5: LONG-TERM DEBT (CONTINUED)

Year ending September 30,	MSTU Limited Ad-Valorem Tax Bonds Series 2016 Principal	Interest	Total
2024	$ 355,000	$ 39,075	$ 394,075
2025	365,000	28,275	393,275
2026	375,000	17,175	392,175
2027	385,000	5,775	390,775
	$ 1,480,000	$ 90,300	$ 1,570,300

Department of Environmental Protection Drinking Water Revolving Loan

In February 2022, Gulf County entered into a loan agreement with the State of Florida, Department of Environmental Protection, State Revolving Fund (SRF), for a Principal Forgiveness Loan funded by the Federal Drinking Water Act. This loan in the amount of $932,200 will be used to finance construction of improvements to the Gulf County Water System (GCWS). Approximately 42.2% of the loan proceeds will be forgiven. As of September 30, 2023, the County incurred expenditures of $722,214 of which $417,440 is reported as a loan. Revenues of the GCWS after payment of operation and maintenance expenses will be used for repayment of the debt.

NOTE 6: LEASES

For the year ended September 30, 2023, the financial statements include the adoption of GASB Statement No. 87, *Leases*. The primary objective of this statement is to enhance the relevance and consistency of information about governments' leasing activities. This statement establishes a single model for lease accounting based on the principle that leases are financings of the right to use an underlying asset. Under this statement, a lessee is required to recognize a lease liability and an intangible right-to-use lease asset, and a lessor is required to recognize a lease receivable and a deferred inflow of resources. For additional information, refer to the disclosures below.

NOTE 6: LEASES (CONTINUED)

Operating lease obligations

Right-of-use lease assets

The County, as a lessee, has entered into lease agreements involving equipment leases. The total of the County's lease assets was recorded at a cost of $294,131, less accumulated depreciation of $135,348.

	Governmental Activities	
Asset Class	Lease	Accumulated
Equipment	$ 180,463	$ (87,823)

	Business-Type Activities	
Asset Class	Lease	Accumulated
Equipment	$ 113,668	$ (47,525)

Principal and interest requirements to maturity

	Governmental Activities		
Fiscal Year	Principal	Interest	Total Payments
2024	$ 21,912	$ 1,039	$ 22,951
2025	20,334	799	21,133
2026	16,758	566	17,324
2027	13,407	360	13,767
2028	12,020	201	12,221
Thereafter	10,382	57	10,439
Total	$ 94,813	$ 3,022	$ 97,835

	Business-Type Activities		
Fiscal Year	Principal	Interest	Total Payments
2024	$ 25,060	$ 2,220	$ 27,280
2025	25,187	1,165	26,352
2026	13,502	177	13,679
Total	$ 63,749	$ 3,562	$ 67,311

NOTE 6: LEASES (CONTINUED)

Finance lease obligation – enterprise funds

The County has entered into a lease which is classified as a finance lease for accounting purposes. Finance leases are those which are determined to have passed substantially all the risks and benefit of ownership to the lessee.

Future minimum lease payments under finance leases as of September 30, 2023 are as follows:

	Business-Type Activities		
Fiscal Year	Principal Payments	Interest Payments	Total Payments
2024	$ 57,822	$ 2,603	$ 60,425
2025	59,268	1,163	60,431
2026	5,005	62	5,067
Total	$ 122,095	$ 3,828	$ 125,923

The following schedule shows the leased assets capitalized as of September 30, 2023, by major asset class.

Asset Class	Lease Asset Value	Accumulated Amortization
Equipment	$ 279,344	$ (49,892)

NOTE 7: EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Florida Retirement System

Plan Description – The County contributes to the Florida Retirement System (the "FRS"), a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by the State of Florida, Department of Administration, Division of Retirement. The FRS provides retirement, disability, or death benefits to retirees or their designated beneficiaries along with an annual cost-of-living adjustment. Employees are classified in either the regular service class or the senior management service class.

The Florida Legislature created the Florida Retirement Investment Plan (the "Investment Plan"), a defined contribution plan qualified under Section 401 (a) of the Internal Revenue Code.

The Investment Plan is administered by the Department of Management Services and is an alternative available to members of the Florida Retirement System in lieu of participation in the defined benefit retirement plan (the "Pension Plan"). If the Investment Plan is elected, active membership in the Pension Plan is terminated. Eligible members of the Investment Plan are vested at one year of service and receive a contribution in an investment product with a third-party administrator selected by the State Board of Administration.

Chapter 121, Florida Statutes, establishes the authority for benefit provisions and contribution requirements. Changes to the law can only occur through an act of the Florida Legislature. There are uniform contribution rates as discussed on the following page that cover both the defined benefit and defined contribution plans. Information for the required employer contributions made to the Investment Plan were unavailable from FRS.

Additional Financial and Actuarial Information – Additional audited financial information supporting the Schedules of Employer Allocations and the Schedule of Pension Amounts by Employer is located in the Florida Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) and in the Florida Retirement System Pension Plan, and Other State-Administered Systems ACFR.

See http://www.myfloridacfo.com/Division/AA/Reports/default.htm for an available copy of the Florida ACFR online.

The FRS ACFR and actuarial valuation reports as of July 1, 2023 are available online at http://ww.dms.myflorida.com/workforce_operations/retirement/publications/annual_reports.

Reports may also be obtained by contacting the Division of Retirement at:

Department of Management Services
Division of Retirement
Bureau of Research and Member Communications
P O Box 9000
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-9000
850-907-6500 or toll free at 844-377-1888

NOTE 7: EMPLOYEE BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

Funding Policy – Prior to July 1, 2011, the FRS was employee noncontributory. Beginning July 1, 2011, employees who are not participating in the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) are required to contribute 3% of their salary to the FRS. The County is required to contribute at an actuarially-determined rate.

The FRS relies upon contributions from employees and employers, along with investment income, to meet the funding requirements of an actuarially determined accrued liability. As of July 1, 2023, the date of the latest valuation, the FRS funded ratio was 81.4% on the valuation funding basis and 82.4% on a Market Value of Assets basis.

The County also participates in the Retiree Health Insurance Subsidy (HIS) Program, a cost sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan established under Section 112.363, Florida Statutes. The benefit is a monthly cash payment to assist retirees of state-administered retirement systems in paying their health insurance costs.

In addition to the above benefits, the FRS administers the DROP program. This program allows eligible employees to defer receipt of monthly retirement benefit payments while continuing employment with a Florida Retirement System employer for a period not to exceed 60 months after electing to participate. DROP benefits are held in the FRS Trust Fund and accrue interest.

The HIS Program is funded by required contributions from FRS participating employers as set by the State Legislature. Employer contributions are a percentage of gross compensation for all active FRS employees and are reported by employers with monthly payroll reports and included with the amount submitted for retirement contributions. For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, the contribution rate was 1.66% of payroll pursuant to Section 112.363, Florida Statutes.

The contributions required for the years ended September 30, 2023, 2022, and 2021 were $1,929,450, $1,633,018, and $1,588,078 respectively, which is equal to 100% of the required contribution for each year.

The rates for the 2023 fiscal year was as follows:

	FRS	HIS
Regular Class	11.91%	1.66%
Special Risk Administrative Support	38.65%	1.66%
Special Risk Class	27.83%	1.66%
Senior Management Service Class	31.57%	1.66%
Elected Officials	57.00%	1.66%
DROP	18.60%	1.66%

NOTE 7: EMPLOYEE BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

Net Pension Liability – At September 30, 2023, the County reported for its share of the FRS and HIS plans the amount for the net pension liability as shown below:

	FRS	HIS	Total
June 30, 2023	15,343,201	4,485,127	19,828,328
June 30, 2022	13,872,488	2,917,735	16,790,223

The net pension liability for each plan was determined by the plans' actuary and reported in the plans' valuations dated July 1, 2023 and July 1, 2022 for the net pension liability as of June 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

At September 30, 2023, the County reported for its proportionate share of the employer portion for the FRS and HIS net pension liability the percentages below:

	FRS	HIS
June 30, 2023	0.038505444%	0.028241510%
June 30, 2022	0.037283579%	0.027547637%
Increase (Decrease) in Share for 2023	0.001221865%	0.000693873%

The County's proportionate share of the net pension liability was based on the County's 2023 fiscal year contributions relative to the 2023 fiscal year contributions of all participating members of FRS.

Actuarial Assumptions

The total pension liability for each of the defined benefit plans, measured as of June 30, 2023, was determined by an actuarial valuation dated July 1, 2023, using the individual entry age normal actuarial cost method and the following significant actuarial assumptions:

	FRS	HIS
Inflation	2.40%	2.40%
Salary increases	3.25%	3.25%
Investment rate of return	6.70%	3.65%
Discount rate	6.70%	3.65%

Mortality assumptions for both plans were based on the PUB-2010 with Projection Scale MP-2018.

NOTE 7: EMPLOYEE BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

For both plans, the actuarial assumptions used in the valuation dated July 1, 2023 were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2018.

The following changes in key actuarial assumptions occurred in 2023:

HIS: The discount rate was modified to reflect the change in the value of the municipal bond index between GASB measurement dates.

HIS: Chapter 2023-193, Laws of Florida (Senate Bill 7024), increased the level of monthly benefits from $5 times years of service to $7.50, with an increased minimum of $45 and maximum of $225. This change applies to all years of service for both members currently receiving benefits and members not yet receiving benefits.

The long-term expected investment rate of return was not based on historical returns, but instead was based on a forward-looking capital market economic model. Each asset class assumption is based on a consistent set of underlying assumptions and includes an adjustment for the inflation assumption.

For the FRS Pension Plan, the table below summarizes the target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic and geometric real rates of return for each major asset class.

Asset Class	Target Allocation (1)	Annual Arithmetic Return	Compound Annual (Geometric) Return
Cash	1.0%	2.9%	2.9%
Fixed income	19.8%	4.5%	4.4%
Global equity	54.0%	8.7%	7.1%
Real estate (property)	10.3%	7.6%	6.6%
Private equity	11.1%	11.9%	8.8%
Strategic investments	3.8%	6.3%	6.1%
Total	100.0%		

Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability for the FRS Pension Plan was 6.70%. FRS 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 the HIS Program is essentially funded on a pay-as-you-go basis, a municipal bond rate of 3.65% was used to determine the total pension liability for the program. The Bond Buyer General Obligation Bond 20-Bond Municipal Bond Index was used as the applicable municipal bond index.

NOTE 7: EMPLOYEE BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

Sensitivity Analysis

The tables below represent the sensitivity of the net pension liability to changes in the discount rate for Gulf County. The sensitivity analysis shows the impact to the net pension liability of the participating employers if the discount rate was 1.00% higher or 1.00% lower than the current discounted rate at June 30, 2023.

FRS Net Pension Liability		
1% Decrease 5.7%	Current Discount Rate 6.7%	1% Increase 7.7%
$ 26,209,311	$ 15,343,201	$ 6,252,399

HIS Net Pension Liability		
1% Decrease 2.65%	Current Discount Rate 3.65%	1% Increase 4.65%
$ 5,116,832	$ 4,485,127	$ 3,961,489

Pension Expense and Deferred Outflows (Inflows) of Resources

In accordance with GASB 68, paragraph 71, changes in the net pension liability are recognized as pension expense in the current measurement period with the following exceptions shown below. For each of the following, a portion is recognized in pension expense in the current measurement period, and the balance is amortized as deferred outflows or inflows of resources using rational method over a time period, as defined below:

- Differences between expected and actual experience with regard to economic and demographic factors which are amortized over the average expected remaining service life of all employees that are provided with pensions through the pension plan, both active and inactive.
- Changes of assumptions or other inputs which are amortized over the average expected remaining service life of all employees that are provided with pensions through the pension plan, both active and inactive.
- Differences between expected and actual earnings on pension plan investments are amortized over five years.

The average expected remaining service life of all employees provided with pensions through the pension plans at June 30, 2023 was 5.3 years for FRS and 6.3 for HIS. The components of collective pension expense reported in the pension allocation schedules for the year ended June 30, 2023 are presented for each plan.

NOTE 7: EMPLOYEE BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

Florida Retirement System

The Components of the collective pension expense reported in the pension allocation schedules by the Florida Retirement System for the year ended June 30, 2023 are presented below and are used to calculate Gulf County's share of the pension plan for 2023 which is 0.038505444%.

For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, the County recognized pension expense of $3,126,369 for the FRS plan. In addition, the County reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources relate to pensions from the following sources:

Description	Deferred Outflows of Resources for the FRS Plan	Deferred Inflows of Resources for the FRS Plan
Differences between expected and actual experience	$ 1,440,594	$ -
Change of assumptions	1,000,197	-
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on FRS Plan investments	640,774	-
Changes in proportion and differences between County FRS Plan contributions and proportionate share of contributions	618,273	(743,639)
County FRS Plan contributions subsequent to the measurement date	541,254	-
Total	$ 4,241,092	$ (743,639)

NOTE 7: EMPLOYEE BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

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

Reporting period ending September 30,	FRS Expense
2024	$ 402,892
2025	(159,624)
2026	2,417,537
2027	229,646
2028	65,748
Total	$ 2,956,199

Health Insurance Subsidy

The components of the collective pension expense reported in the pension allocation schedules for the Florida Retirement System's Health Insurance Subsidy for the year ended June 30, 2023 are presented below and are used for to calculate Gulf County's share for 2023 which is 0.028241510%.

For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, the County recognized pension expense of $1,738,684 for the HIS plan. In addition, the County reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred in flows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

Description	Deferred Outflows of Resources for the HIS Plan	Deferred Inflows of Resources for the HIS Plan
Differences between expected and actual experience	$ 65,659	$ (10,527)
Change of assumptions	117,913	(388,651)
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on HIS Plan investments	2,316	-
Changes in proportion and differences between County HIS Plan contributions and proportionate share of contributions	287,558	(66,140)
County HIS Plan contributions subsequent to the measurement date	58,233	-
Total	$ 531,679	$ (465,318)

NOTE 7: EMPLOYEE BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

Other amounts reported by the County as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to the HIS Plan will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Reporting period ending September 30,	HIS Expense
2024	$ 1,420
2025	861
2026	1,433
2027	2,810
2028	1,488
Thereafter	116
Total	$ 8,128

NOTE 8: OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB)

Effective in the 2009-2010 fiscal year, the County implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement 45, *Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions* for retiree health insurance. The requirements of this Statement are being implemented prospectively, with the actuarially accrued liability for benefits of $354,000 at transition, amortized over 15 years. Accordingly, for financial reporting purposes, no liability is reported for the postemployment health care benefits liability at the date of implementation.

Plan Description

The County has established the Retiree's Health Insurance Other Post Employment Benefits Plan, a single employer plan. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 112.0801, Florida Statutes, employees who retire from the County and eligible dependents, may continue to participate in the group insurance plan. Retirees and their eligible dependents shall be offered the same health and hospitalization insurance coverage as is offered to active employees at a premium cost of no more than the premium cost applicable to active employees. The County subsidizes the premium rates paid by the retirees by allowing them to participate in the plan at blended group (implicitly subsidized) premium rates for both active and retired employees. These rates provide an implicit subsidy for retirees because, on an actuarial basis, their current and future claims are expected to result in higher costs to the plan on average than those of active employees. The County currently has approximately 168 total active and retired employees eligible to receive these benefits. No stand-alone report is issued for this plan.

NOTE 8: OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) (CONTINUED)

Eligibility

A participant is eligible to receive benefits from the plan upon retirement under the Florida Retirement System plan provisions. To be eligible for retiree benefits, the participant must be covered under the medical plan as an active participant immediately prior to retirement. Participants not eligible for retirement at the time of their termination are not eligible for immediate or future benefits from the plan.

Funding Policy

Although the contribution requirement is established by Statute, the contribution amount required by plan members and the government are established and may be amended by the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners. Currently, members receiving benefits pay the full costs (total premium) for medical coverage.

The County has not advance-funded or established a funding methodology for the annual Other Postemployment Benefit (OPEB) costs or the net OPEB obligation. Rather, the funding is based on a pay-as-you-go basis. During the fiscal year, the County provided no contributions toward the annual OPEB cost. A Schedule of Employer Contributions can be found in the required supplementary information immediately following the notes.

Actuarial Methods and Assumptions

The actuarial assumptions used represent a reasonable long-term expectation of future OPEB outcomes. As the national economy and County experience change over time, the assumptions will be tested for ongoing reasonableness and, if necessary, updated. Significant methods and assumptions were as follows:

Actuarial Valuation Date	10/1/2022
Measurement Date	9/30/2023
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry age
Discount Rate	4.91%
Projected Cash Flows	Pay as you go
Municipal Bond Rate	20 year high grade index
Bond Rate Basis	AA/Aa or higher
Projected Salary Increases	3%
Healthcare Cost Trend Rate	8.0% initial; 5.0% ultimate

NOTE 8: OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) (CONTINUED)

Changes in Total OPEB Liability and Related Ratios

Below are the details regarding the total OPEB liability for the period from October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023:

Total OPEB Liability at 10/1/2022	$	416,279
Changes for the fiscal year		
Service cost		30,464
Interest		20,880
Demographic gain/loss		83,102
Assumption changes		(91,364)
Benefit payments		(43,513)
Net changes in total OPEB		(431)
Total OPEB liability at 9/30/2023	$	415,848
Covered-employee payroll		6,543,254
Total OPEB liability as a percentage of covered employee payroll		6.36%

Sensitivity of the Total OPEB Liability

The following presents the total OPEB liability, as well as what the total OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower or 1 percentage point higher than the current discount rate.

	OPEB Liability		
	1% decrease 3.91%	Current 4.91%	1% increase 5.91%
Total OPEB liability	$ 447,989	$ 415,848	$ 387,015

Comparison of Net OPEB Liability using alternative healthcare cost trend rates.

	OPEB Liability		
	1% decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% increase
Total OPEB liability	$ 376,615	$ 415,848	$ 462,183

NOTE 8: OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) (CONTINUED)

OPEB Expense and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB

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

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Balance at 10/1/2022	$ 268,511	$ (489,591)
Amortization payments	(48,084)	72,623
Demographic gain/loss	83,102	-
Change of assumptions	-	(91,364)
Balance at 9/30/2023	$ 303,529	$ (508,332)

Amounts recognized in the deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in the OPEB expense as follows:

Year Ended September 30,	Total
2024	$ (180,264)
2025	(155,725)
2026	(131,186)
2027	(106,647)
2028	(82,108)
Total	$ (655,930)

NOTE 9: RISK MANAGEMENT

The County is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to and destruction of assets; errors or omissions; injuries to employees and/or the public; or damage to property of others. The County purchases commercial insurance to cover their risk of losses. The County determined that it was not economically justifiable to carry comprehensive coverage on certain vehicles and equipment after approximately five years of ownership. The County carries liability insurance on the aforementioned vehicles and equipment.

NOTE 9: RISK MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

Insurance against losses are provided for the following types of risk:

- Workers' compensation and employer's liability
- General and automobile liability
- Real and personal property damage
- Public officials' liability
- Accidental death and dismemberment

The County's coverage for workers' compensation is under a retrospectively rated policy. Premiums are accrued based on the ultimate cost to-date of the County's experience for this type of risk.

The Sheriff participates in the Florida Sheriff's Self-Insurance Fund Program, administered by the Florida Sheriff's Association. The program is considered a public entity risk pool which purchases insurance policies on behalf of its members. The pool's members are not obligated for risk associated with such coverage. Coverage under this program includes general liability, public officials' liability, and public employees' blanket bond.

The funding agreements provide that the self-insurance fund will be self-sustaining through member premiums and that the Sheriff's liability fund will reinsure through commercial companies. Aggregate coverage provided by the liability fund is $10,000,000 for professional liability and $10,000,000 for public officials' coverage.

The Gulf County Sheriff determined that it was not economically justifiable to carry comprehensive coverage on all vehicles, but the Gulf County Sheriff carries liability insurance on the aforementioned vehicles. The Gulf County Sheriff currently covers all claim settlements and judgments out of available operating resources.

NOTE 10: AMBULANCE SERVICES

The County has financial responsibility for providing ambulance services throughout the County. Ambulance accounts receivable, and revenues and expenditures are included in the general fund of the accompanying financial statement. Accounts receivable for the ambulance service for the year ended September 30, 2023 was $418,195, net of a $1,812,855 allowance for uncollectible accounts.

NOTE 11: LANDFILL CLOSURE AND POST CLOSURE

State and federal laws and regulations require the County to place a final cover on its landfill sites when it ceases accepting waste and perform certain maintenance and monitoring functions at the site for thirty years after closure. Currently, the County monitors three closed landfills and operates a transfer station at the Five Point Landfill site to meet the solid waste service needs of the County.

Although closure and post closure care costs will be paid only near or after the date that the landfill stops accepting waste, the Board reports a portion of these costs as an operating expense in each period based on landfill capacity used as of each balance sheet date.

NOTE 11: LANDFILL CLOSURE AND POST CLOSURE (CONTINUED)

The $790,514 reported as landfill closure and post closure care liability at September 30, 2023, represents the cumulative amount reported to date based on the use of 100% of the estimated capacity of the landfill cells placed in use. Actual costs may differ due to inflation, changes in technology, or changes in regulations.

The Board is required by state and federal laws to make annual contributions to an escrow account to finance a minimum of all closure costs. At September 30, 2023, the Board held deposits with a fair value of $32,979 for these purposes that are reported as restricted assets on the balance sheet. This amount includes $32,979 that is restricted for closing Five Points Landfill. The Board expects that future inflation costs will be paid from interest earnings on these annual contributions. However, if interest earnings are inadequate or additional post closure care costs are determined to be required, these costs may need to be covered by charges to future landfill users or from future tax revenue.

NOTE 12: LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

The County is defendant in various lawsuits. Although the outcome of these lawsuits is not presently determinable, it is the opinion of the County's legal counsel that the ultimate resolution of these matters will not have a material adverse effect on the financial condition of the County.

NOTE 13: NOTES RECEIVABLE

In May 2011, the County entered into a second mortgage agreement with the Port St. Joe Port Authority whereby the County made a loan in the amount of $199,000 which is secured by real estate. In 2014, the County refinanced the debt advancing another $60,000 plus accrued interest and loan costs to the Authority, securing the debt with a mortgage on real estate. The loan is to be repaid over a ten-year period and has an annual interest rate of 3%.

No payments were made for the first two years. Thereafter, a sum of $10,000 per year was paid on the outstanding balance with the first payment due on August 21, 2017. The note will balloon on July 21, 2024, at which time all accrued interest and remaining balance will be due.

At September 30, 2023, notes receivable consisted of the following:

	Balance, September 30, 2022	Additions	Deductions	Balance, September 30, 2023
Port Authority	$ 259,000	$ -	$ (10,000)	249,000

NOTE 14: GRANTS

The County participates in several state and federal grant programs. These programs are subject to program compliance audits by grantors or their representatives. The audits of these programs for, or including, the year ended September 30, 2023, have not yet been accepted/approved by the grantors. Accordingly, the final determination of the County's compliance with applicable grant requirements will be established at a future date. The amount, if any, of expenditures which may be disallowed by granting agencies cannot be determined, although the County expects such amounts, if any, to be immaterial.

NOTE 15: NET POSITION/FUND BALANCE CLASSIFICATION

Net position represents the difference between total assets and liabilities and are categorized as follows:

Government-wide statement of net position

- Net investment in capital assets: Total capital assets, net of debt issued in the acquisition of these assets and net of depreciation is reported separately in the net position section.
- Restricted for growth related capital expansion: Impact fee and system development charges restricted for growth related capital expansion.
- Restricted for transportation projects: Gas taxes and other revenues restricted for transportation improvements.
- Restricted for tourist development: Tourist development tax proceeds are restricted for tourist related activities.
- Restricted for Conservation: Various impact and other fees restricted to conservation projects and expenses.
- Restricted for Public Safety: Grants and fees restricted for use in various areas of public safety.
- Restricted for Court functions: Balances are restricted for use in the County Court System.
- Restricted for debt service: Balances are restricted in conjunction with the issuance of bonds and have been funded by operating transfers from the appropriate funds. The use of monies in the sinking fund is restricted to the payment of principal and interest on long-term debt.
- Restricted for Public Health: Restricted for use to Hospital and EMS function.
- Unrestricted: Balances are not restricted for specific purposes.

Governmental fund financial statements

Governmental funds report fund balances as either spendable or non-spendable. Spendable fund balances are further classified as restricted, committed, assigned or unassigned depending upon the extent to which there are external or internal constraints on the spending of these fund balances.

NOTE 15: NET POSITION/FUND BALANCE CLASSIFICATION (CONTINUED)

- Nonspendable fund balance: Amounts that are not in spendable form or that are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. Items that are not spendable also include inventories, prepaid amounts and long-term portions of loans and notes receivable, as well as property held for resale.
- Restricted fund balance: Amounts that can be spent only for specific purposes through restrictions placed upon them by external resource providers such as creditors, grantors, or contributors; or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- Committed fund balance: Amounts that can be spent only for specific purposes determined by the County's highest decision-making authority, the Board of County Commissioners. Commitments may be modified or removed only by the Board of County Commissioners through the same formal action that created the original commitment.
- Assigned fund balance: Amounts that are intended to be spent for specific purposes as determined by the Board of County Commissioners, but that are neither restricted nor committed to the specific purpose.
- Unassigned fund balance: Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the County's general fund. Amounts in this classification are spendable but have not been deemed restricted, committed, or assigned. Unassigned fund balance may also include negative balances for any governmental fund whose expenditures have exceeded the amounts restricted, committed, or assigned for those specific purposes.
- When both restricted and unrestricted amounts are available the County spends the restricted amounts first, unless prohibited by law, grant agreements or other contractual arrangement. Further, when committed fund balance is available the County will use it first, followed by assigned fund balance and then unassigned fund balance for purposes in which any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

A detailed schedule of fund balances at September 30, 2023 is as follows:

Nonspendable fund balance:	
General fund	$ 495,175
Tourist development	4,199
Fines and forfeitures	232
Public improvement	1,127,716
Total nonspendable fund balance	1,627,322
Restricted:	
General fund	690,677
Tourist development	10,081,105
Fines and forfeitures	1,243,292
Secondary road and bridge	1,149,325
Mosquito control	131,509
St. Joe fire control	2,129,108
Tupelo fire control	153,112

NOTE 15: NET POSITION/FUND BALANCE CLASSIFICATION (CONTINUED)

Overstreet fire control	67,307
Howard Creek fire control	81,584
EMS grant	42,515
CDBG	57
CDBG Raffield	109,246
Industrial park EDA	221,758
E911 Services	239,441
Hospital	4,135,792
Clerk modernization	461,312
Administrative order 86-12	111,619
Capital projects	19,591
BP restore act	175,103
Public improvement	576,428
MSTU	989,871
Construction acquisition	324
Non-ad valorem operations	4,424
Total restricted fund balance	22,814,500
Committed:	
General fund	442,941
Disaster fund	4,608,202
County development	2,307,669
Park fund	223,264
Capital projects	2,863,443
Total committed fund balance	10,445,519
Assigned:	
General fund	17,130,356
Capital projects fund	2,762,435
Total assigned fund balance	19,892,791
Unassigned:	
General fund	5,736,136
Total fund balance	$ 60,516,268

NOTE 16: INTERLOCAL AGREEMENTS

The Gulf County Sheriff has an interlocal agreement with the City of Wewahitchka, whereby personnel from the Sheriff's office provide law enforcement services to the City of Wewahitchka. As consideration, the Sheriff receives payments of $45,000 annually from the City of Wewahitchka.

The Gulf County Sheriff entered into a service agreement with the City of Port St. Joe Police Department, whereby the Sheriff provides all dispatching services required within the City of Port St. Joe. The City of Port St. Joe pays the Gulf County Sheriff the sum of $80,000 per year, in consideration for these services.

The Sheriff has an interlocal agreement with the Gulf County School Board (the "District"), whereby the Sheriff provides School Resource Officers to the District. As consideration, the Sheriff received payments of $33,600 per month from October 2022 through June 2023 and $37,000 from July 2023 through September 2023. The Sheriff received $413,400 for the year ended September 30, 2023.

The Sheriff has an agreement with Big Bend Community Based Care ("BBCBC"), whereby the Sheriff provides officers to respond to children who are at risk of harming themselves or others. As consideration, the Sheriff received payments of $6,250 per month from BBCBC and $26,770 in July 2023. The Sheriff received a total of $101,770 during the year ended September 30, 2023.

NOTE 17: WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS

In addition to the Gulf County Water System, which was purchased from Lighthouse Utilities in 2020, the County owns the two remaining water systems, Williamsburg/Methodist Hill and Oak Grove. The City of Wewahitchka operates the Williamsburg/Methodist Hill Water System. Although there is not an active inter-local agreement this water system continues to be operated by the City of Wewahitchka under the terms of the 1993 inter-local agreement which terminated in 1994. The City of Port St. Joe operates the Oak Grove Water System. Neither one of these water systems brings any revenue to the County. The only expense to the County for either of these two water systems is depreciation.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN THE COUNTY'S TOTAL
OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS*

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Total OPEB Liability						
Service cost	$ 30,464	$ 43,400	$ 51,813	$ 76,040	$ 54,053	$ 46,688
Interest	20,880	24,760	23,461	15,744	17,522	16,224
Demographic gain/loss	83,102	(22,985)	(490,036)	171,063	17,668	-
Assumption changes	(91,364)	(89,613)	5,836	31,113	528	-
Changed in deferrals	-	-	-	-	175,588	-
Benefit payments	(43,513)	(29,596)	(28,698)	(51,133)	(30,996)	(22,161)
Net change in total OPEB liability	(431)	(74,034)	(437,624)	242,827	234,363	40,751
Total OPEB liability - beginning	416,279	490,313	927,937	685,110	450,747	409,996
Total OPEB liability - ending	$ 415,848	$ 416,279	$ 490,313	$ 927,937	$ 685,110	$ 450,747
Covered employee payroll	$ 6,543,254	$ 7,288,062	$ 6,300,313	$ 7,994,561	$ 7,307,271	$ 6,948,198
Total OPEB liability as a percentage of covered employee payroll	6.36%	5.71%	7.78%	11.61%	9.38%	6.49%

The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of September 30th.

* This is a 10-year schedule; however the information in this schedule is not required to be presented retroactively.
Years will be added to this schedule in future fiscal years until 10 years of information is available.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF NET PENSION LIABILITY
FLORIDA RETIREMENT SYSTEM
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS*

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Gulf County's proportion of the net pension liability	0.038505444%	0.037283579%	0.037484566%	0.041109499%	0.040547385%
Gulf County's proportionate share of the net pension liability	$ 15,343,201	$ 13,872,488	$ 2,831,533	$ 17,817,463	$ 13,963,955
Gulf County's covered-employee payroll	12,010,925	10,290,762	9,894,665	9,662,629	9,320,933
Gulf County's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered-employee payroll	127.74%	134.81%	28.62%	184.40%	149.81%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	82.38%	82.89%	96.40%	90.20%	86.30%

*The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the measurement date, which was June 30th of the current fiscal year.

*GASB Statement No. 68 was implemented in 2016. Until a full 10-year trend is compiled, information for those years for which it is available will be presented.

Covered employee payroll includes defined benefit plan actives, investment plan members, and members in DROP for the measurement period ending June 30, 2023.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF NET PENSION LIABILITY
FLORIDA RETIREMENT SYSTEM
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS*

CONTINUED

	2018	2017	2016	2015
Gulf County's proportion of the net pension liability	0.037990199%	0.037446967%	0.040338331%	0.037324372%
Gulf County's proportionate share of the net pension liability	$ 11,442,845	$ 11,076,562	$ 10,185,460	$ 4,820,943
Gulf County's covered-employee payroll	8,004,393	7,726,462	8,251,636	7,169,067
Gulf County's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered-employee payroll	142.96%	143.36%	123.44%	67.25%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	84.26%	83.89%	84.94%	92.00%

*The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the measurement date, which was June 30th of the current fiscal year.

*GASB Statement No. 68 was implemented in 2016. Until a full 10-year trend is compiled, information for those years for which it is available will be presented.

Covered employee payroll includes defined benefit plan actives, investment plan members, and members in DROP for the measurement period ending June 30, 2023.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS
FLORIDA RETIREMENT SYSTEM
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS*

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Contractually required contribution	$ 1,929,450	$ 1,633,018	$ 1,588,078	$ 1,368,812	$ 1,363,656
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	(1,929,450)	(1,633,018)	(1,588,078)	(1,368,812)	(1,363,656)
Contribution deficiency (excess)	-	-	-	-	-
Gulf County's covered-employee payroll	$ 12,010,925	$ 10,290,762	$ 9,894,665	$ 9,662,629	$ 9,320,933
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	16.06%	15.87%	16.05%	14.17%	14.63%

*The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the measurement date, which was June 30th of the current fiscal year.

*GASB Statement No. 68 was implemented in 2016. Until a full 10-year trend is compiled, information for those years for which it is available will be presented.

Covered employee payroll includes defined benefit plan actives, investment plan members, and members in DROP for the measurement period ending June 30, 2023.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS
FLORIDA RETIREMENT SYSTEM
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS*

CONTINUED

	2018	2017	2016	2015
Contractually required contribution	$ 1,363,656	$ 1,231,413	$ 1,216,635	$ 1,147,124
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	(1,363,656)	(1,231,413)	(1,216,635)	(1,147,124)
Contribution deficiency (excess)	-	-	-	-
Gulf County's covered-employee payroll	$ 8,004,393	$ 7,726,462	$ 8,251,636	$ 7,169,067
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	17.04%	15.94%	14.74%	16.00%

*The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the measurement date, which was June 30th of the current fiscal year.

*GASB Statement No. 68 was implemented in 2016. Until a full 10-year trend is compiled, information for those years for which it is available will be presented.

Covered employee payroll includes defined benefit plan actives, investment plan members, and members in DROP for the measurement period ending June 30, 2023.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF NET PENSION LIABILITY
HEALTH INSURANCE SUBSIDY PROGRAM
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS*

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Gulf County's proportion of the net pension liability	0.028241510%	0.027547637%	0.026639302%	0.026513028%	0.026167340%
Gulf County's proportionate share of the net pension liability	$ 4,485,127	$ 2,917,735	$ 3,267,711	$ 3,237,198	$ 2,927,863
Gulf County's covered-employee payroll	12,010,925	10,290,762	9,894,665	9,662,629	9,320,933
Gulf County's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered-employee payroll	37.34%	28.35%	33.02%	33.50%	31.41%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	4.12%	4.81%	3.56%	2.04%	2.03%

*The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the measurement date, which was June 30th of the current fiscal year.

*GASB Statement No. 68 was implemented in 2016. Until a full 10-year trend is compiled, information for those years for which it is available will be presented.

Covered employee payroll includes defined benefit plan actives, investment plan members, and members in DROP for the measurement period ending June 30, 2023.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF NET PENSION LIABILITY
HEALTH INSURANCE SUBSIDY PROGRAM
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS*

CONTINUED

	2018	2017	2016	2015
Gulf County's proportion of the net pension liability	0.024391362%	0.037446967%	0.040338331%	0.037324372%
Gulf County's proportionate share of the net pension liability	$ 2,581,609	$ 2,559,554	$ 2,946,630	$ 2,363,737
Gulf County's covered-employee payroll	8,004,393	7,726,462	8,251,636	7,169,067
Gulf County's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered-employee payroll	32.25%	33.13%	35.71%	32.97%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	2.15%	1.64%	0.97%	0.50%

*The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the measurement date, which was June 30th of the current fiscal year.

*GASB Statement No. 68 was implemented in 2016. Until a full 10-year trend is compiled, information for those years for which it is available will be presented.

Covered employee payroll includes defined benefit plan actives, investment plan members, and members in DROP for the measurement period ending June 30, 2023.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS
HEALTH INSURANCE SUBSIDY PROGRAM
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS*

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Contractually required contribution	$ 197,706	$ 169,490	$ 174,139	$ 170,909	$ 169,011
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	(197,706)	(169,490)	(174,139)	(170,909)	(169,011)
Contribution deficiency (excess)	-	-	-	-	-
Gulf County's covered-employee payroll	$ 12,010,925	$ 10,290,762	$ 9,894,665	$ 9,662,629	$ 9,320,933
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	1.65%	1.65%	1.76%	1.77%	1.81%

*The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the measurement date, which was June 30th of the current fiscal year.
*GASB Statement No. 68 was implemented in 2016. Until a full 10-year trend is compiled, information for those years for which it is available will be presented.
Covered employee payroll includes defined benefit plan actives, investment plan members, and members in DROP for the measurement period ending June 30, 2023.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS
HEALTH INSURANCE SUBSIDY PROGRAM
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS*

CONTINUED

	2018	2017	2016	2015
Contractually required contribution	$ 164,426	$ 157,639	$ 159,109	$ 119,837
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	(164,426)	(157,639)	(159,109)	(119,837)
Contribution deficiency (excess)	-	-	-	-
Gulf County's covered-employee payroll	$ 8,004,393	$ 7,726,462	$ 8,251,636	$ 7,169,067
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	2.05%	2.04%	1.93%	1.67%

*The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the measurement date, which was June 30th of the current fiscal year.
*GASB Statement No. 68 was implemented in 2016. Until a full 10-year trend is compiled, information for those years for which it is available will be presented.
Covered employee payroll includes defined benefit plan actives, investment plan members, and members in DROP for the measurement period ending June 30, 2023.

NOTE 1: OPEB INFORMATION

The County did not have plan assets accumulated in a trust. For the measurement date of September 30, 2023, the actuarial valuation used a discount rate of 4.77% as of October 1, 2022, and 4.91% as of September 30, 2023. The discount rate will be updated annually to reflect market conditions as of the measurement date.

NOTE 2: PENSION INFORMATION

The discount rate used to measure the pension liability of the Health Insurance Subsidy Plan at June 30, 2023 increased to 3.65%. The discount rate used to measure the pension liability of the Florida Retirement System Plan at June 30, 2023 increased to 6.70%. The FRS Actuarial Assumption Conference is responsible for setting the assumptions used in the valuations of the defined benefit pension plans pursuant to Section 216.136(10), Florida Statutes. The rate of return assumption used in the June 30, 2023 calculations was determined by the Plan's consulting actuary to be reasonable and appropriate per Actuarial Standard of Practice No. 27 (ASOP 27) for accounting purposes which differs from the rate used for funding purposes which is used to establish the contribution rates of the Pension Plan.

NOTE 3: 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 County follows these procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the financial statements:

- The preparation, adoption, and amendment of the budgets are governed by Florida Statutes. Public hearings are conducted to obtain taxpayer comments.
- Budget excess expenditures over revenues are funded through appropriations from the Board of County Commissioners.
- Formal budgetary integration is employed as a management control device during the year. The legal level of budgetary control is the fund level.
- The budgets for the funds are adopted on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET TO ACTUAL
GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts			Variance with Final Budget - Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final	Actual	
REVENUES				
Taxes	$ 17,376,161	$ 17,376,161	$ 17,000,189	$ (375,972)
Licenses and permits	757,000	757,000	1,016,066	259,066
Intergovernmental	3,382,194	3,539,370	6,290,732	2,751,362
Charges for services	2,531,582	2,556,744	2,149,937	(406,807)
Fines and forfeitures	98,149	90,804	130,360	39,556
Investment earnings	34,606	974,582	973,039	(1,543)
Miscellaneous	-	2,756	115,513	112,757
Total revenues	24,179,692	25,297,417	27,675,836	2,378,419
EXPENDITURES				
Current				
General government	9,439,537	9,773,892	8,728,709	1,045,183
Public safety	10,261,733	10,296,485	9,440,977	855,508
Physical environment	360,410	360,410	199,945	160,465
Economic environment	686,021	1,433,751	1,340,562	93,189
Transportation	1,545,920	1,543,780	1,149,811	393,969
Court related	810,771	742,906	666,812	76,094
Human services	1,037,529	1,037,487	827,392	210,095
Culture and recreation	117,855	117,855	113,027	4,828
Capital outlay	253,752	187,684	352,207	(164,523)
Debt service				
Principal	-	38,561	38,561	-
Interest and other charges	-	1,299	1,299	-
Total expenditures	24,513,528	25,534,110	22,859,302	2,674,808
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	(333,836)	(236,693)	4,816,534	5,053,227
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers in	390,546	390,546	390,546	-
Transfers (out)	(4,126,549)	(5,035,292)	(3,787,371)	1,247,921
Total other financing sources (uses)	(3,736,003)	(4,644,746)	(3,396,825)	1,247,921
Net changes in fund balances	(4,069,839)	(4,881,439)	1,419,709	6,301,148
Fund balances - beginning	23,075,576	23,075,576	23,075,576	-
Fund balances - ending	$ 19,005,737	$ 18,194,137	$ 24,495,285	$ 6,301,148

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET TO ACTUAL
DISASTER FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts			Variance with Final Budget - Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final	Actual	
REVENUES				
Intergovernmental	$ -	$ 7,795,510	$ 7,461,624	$ (333,886)
Investment earnings	-	5,085	5,087	2
Total revenues	-	7,800,595	7,466,711	(333,884)
EXPENDITURES				
General government	-	8,010	7,983	27
Public safety	1,787,540	1,805,535	17,950	1,787,585
Physical environment	-	7,419,450	7,419,441	9
Transportation	-	2,255	2,241	14
Human Services	-	455	448	7
Culture and recreation	-	495	490	5
Total expenditures	1,787,540	9,236,200	7,448,553	1,787,647
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	(1,787,540)	(1,435,605)	18,158	1,453,763
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers in	2,147,173	2,184,341	2,184,312	(29)
Net changes in fund balances	359,633	748,736	2,202,470	1,453,734
Fund balances - beginning	2,405,732	2,405,732	2,405,732	-
Fund balances - ending	$ 2,765,365	$ 3,154,468	$ 4,608,202	$ 1,453,734

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET TO ACTUAL
HURRICANE HOUSING RECOVERY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts			Variance with Final Budget - Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final	Actual	
REVENUES				
Intergovernmental	$ 1,820,000	$ 1,820,000	$ 921,588	$ (898,412)
Investment earnings and other	-	-	83,679	83,679
Total revenues	1,820,000	1,820,000	1,005,267	(814,733)
EXPENDITURES				
Current				
Economic environment	1,820,000	1,820,000	1,005,267	814,733
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	-	-	-	-
Net changes in fund balances	-	-	-	-
Fund balances - beginning	-	-	-	-
Fund balances - ending	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET TO ACTUAL
TOURIST DEVELOPMENT FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts			Variance with Final Budget - Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final	Actual	
REVENUES				
Taxes	$ 2,525,000	$ 2,525,000	$ 4,752,596	$ 2,227,596
Licenses and permits	-	1,200	1,200	-
Charges for services	25,000	25,000	27,795	2,795
Investment earnings and other	2,000	2,000	222,285	220,285
Total revenues	2,552,000	2,553,200	5,003,876	2,450,676
EXPENDITURES				
Current				
Physical environment	847,500	847,555	108,231	739,324
Economic environment	2,810,030	2,810,030	1,306,402	1,503,628
Culture and recreation	423,885	423,885	333,362	90,523
Capital outlay	997,665	1,053,825	113,643	940,182
Total expenditures	5,079,080	5,135,295	1,861,638	3,273,657
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	(2,527,080)	(2,582,095)	3,142,238	5,724,333
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers in	-	79,105	79,105	-
Transfers (Out)	(900,000)	(900,000)	(788,825)	111,175
Total other financing sources (uses)	(900,000)	(820,895)	(709,720)	111,175
Net changes in fund balances	(3,427,080)	(3,402,990)	2,432,518	5,835,508
Fund balances - beginning	7,652,786	7,652,786	7,652,786	-
Fund balances - ending	$ 4,225,706	$ 4,249,796	$ 10,085,304	$ 5,835,508

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET TO ACTUAL
GENERAL GRANTS FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts			Variance with Final Budget - Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final	Actual	
REVENUES				
Intergovernmental	$ 6,296,619	$ 9,423,651	$ 8,667,385	$ (756,266)
Total revenues	6,296,619	9,423,651	8,667,385	(756,266)
EXPENDITURES				
Current				
General government	-	27,250	27,250	-
Public safety	160,316	348,333	344,509	3,824
Physical environment	-	279,182	302,672	(23,490)
Economic environment	-	-	-	-
Transportation	-	2,924,037	2,924,037	-
Court related	-	-	-	-
Culture and recreation	48,052	53,475	49,904	3,571
Capital outlay	5,900,251	5,595,184	4,822,823	772,361
Total expenditures	6,108,619	9,227,461	8,471,195	756,266
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	188,000	196,190	196,190	-
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers (out)	(188,000)	(196,190)	(196,190)	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	(188,000)	(196,190)	(196,190)	-
Net changes in fund balances	-	-	-	-
Fund balances - beginning	-	-	-	-
Fund balances - ending	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET TO ACTUAL
SHIP FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts			Variance with Final Budget - Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final	Actual	
REVENUES				
Intergovernmental	$ 350,000	$ 350,000	$ 174,697	$ (175,303)
Investment earnings	-	-	25,662	25,662
Miscellaneous	-	-	2,650	2,650
Total revenues	350,000	350,000	203,009	(146,991)
EXPENDITURES				
Current				
Economic environment	350,000	350,000	203,009	146,991
Total expenditures	350,000	350,000	203,009	146,991
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	-	-	-	-
Net changes in fund balances	-	-	-	-
Fund balances - beginning	-	-	-	-
Fund balances - ending	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

COMBINING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
NON-MAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

Description of
Nonmajor Governmental Funds

Special Revenue Funds

FINES AND FORFEITURES – To account for fines earmarked for law enforcement and corrections.

SECONDARY ROAD AND BRIDGE – To account for fuel taxes, not obligated for debt repayment, and certain expenditures for road and bridge construction and maintenance.

MOSQUITO CONTROL – To account for the receipt and expenditure of state grant funds used for mosquito control.

FIRE CONTROL DISTRICTS – To account for property taxes levied within the following dependent special districts for fire prevention and control:

- Howard Creek
- St. Joe
- Tupelo
- Overstreet

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES – To account for the receipt and expenditure of grants awarded by the Florida Department of Health. The funds must be used to improve and expand emergency medical services.

121 BEACH RENEWAL – This fund is used to account for the beach renewal activity.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT – To account for community development grant activity.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT RAFFIELD – The Community Development Block Grant program provides resources to aid in affordable housing and create jobs through the expansion and retention of businesses.

INDUSTRIAL PARK EDA – To account for the receipt and expenditure of Economic Development Administration Funds. The funds are to be used to develop working programs that benefit the economy of the County.

COUNTY DEVELOPMENT – To account for funds committed for county development.

WIRELESS 911 – To account for grants awarded from the State of Florida E911 Board for enhancement of the E911 system.

Description of
Nonmajor Governmental Funds

Special Revenue Funds - Continued

E911 – To account for fees levied on each communications service subscriber for funding certain costs of the County associated with the E911 system.

HOSPITAL – To account for the local option discretionary sales tax that funds operations at the local hospital.

PARK FUND – To account for the receipt and expenditure of Park activities.

CLERK MODERNIZATION TRUST – To account for the statutory surcharge on recording documents paid to the Clerk of the Circuit Court for the modernization of the Clerk's official records management system and for funding court-related technology needs of the Clerk.

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 86-12 – To account for additional court costs of traffic infractions used for administering traffic violations.

BP RESTORE ACT – This fund accounts for the BP Restore Act revenue and expenditures.

CONSTRUCTION ACQUISITION – To account for restricted funds designated for construction acquisition.

CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND – This fund accounts for various capital projects being performed by the County.

Debt Service Funds

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT FUND – To account for debt service of the 2015 A & B capital improvement and refunding bonds.

MSTU FUND – To account for debt service of the MSTU beach renourishment bonds.

NON-AD VALOREM OPERATIONS – To account for debt service of the series 2016 gulf non-ad valorem revenue bonds.

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

	Special Revenue Funds				
	Fines and Forfeitures	Secondary Road and Bridge	Mosquito Control	St. Joe Fire Control	Tupelo Fire Control
ASSETS					
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 1,272,335	$ 1,136,037	$ 131,509	$ 2,139,589	$ 154,778
Accounts receivable	1,925	-	-	-	-
Notes receivable	-	-	-	-	-
Prepaid items	232	-	-	-	-
Due from other funds	-	-	-	-	-
Due from other governments	1,831	13,288	-	-	-
Total assets	$ 1,276,323	$ 1,149,325	$ 131,509	$ 2,139,589	$ 154,778
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES					
Liabilities					
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	$ 4,149	$ -	$ -	$ 10,471	$ 1,607
Due to other funds	28,650	-	-	10	59
Due to other governments	-	-	-	-	-
Unearned revenue	-	-	-	-	-
Total liabilities	32,799	-	-	10,481	1,666
Fund balances					
Nonspendable	232	-	-	-	-
Restricted	1,243,292	1,149,325	131,509	2,129,108	153,112
Committed	-	-	-	-	-
Assigned	-	-	-	-	-
Total fund balances	1,243,524	1,149,325	131,509	2,129,108	153,112
Total liabilities and fund balances	$ 1,276,323	$ 1,149,325	$ 131,509	$ 2,139,589	$ 154,778

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

	Special Revenue Funds				
	Overstreet Fire Control	Howard Creek Fire Control	EMS Grant	121 Beach Renewal	CDBG
ASSETS					
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 69,232	$ 81,779	$ -	$ -	$ -
Accounts receivable	-	-	-	-	-
Notes receivable	-	-	-	-	-
Prepaid items	-	-	-	-	-
Due from other funds	-	-	-	-	-
Due from other governments	-	-	60,363	-	476,972
Total assets	$ 69,232	$ 81,779	$ 60,363	$ -	$ 476,972
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES					
Liabilities					
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	$ 1,925	$ 195	$ 5,683	$ -	$ 39,238
Due to other funds	-	-	6,340	-	437,677
Due to other governments	-	-	-	-	-
Unearned revenue	-	-	5,825	-	-
Total liabilities	1,925	195	17,848	-	476,915
Fund balances					
Nonspendable	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted	67,307	81,584	42,515	-	57
Committed	-	-	-	-	-
Assigned	-	-	-	-	-
Total fund balances	67,307	81,584	42,515	-	57
Total liabilities and fund balances	$ 69,232	$ 81,779	$ 60,363	$ -	$ 476,972

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

	Special Revenue Funds				
	CDBG Raffield	Industrial Park EDA	County Development	E911 Wireless	E911 Services
ASSETS					
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 70,172	$ 208,865	$ 2,309,246	$ -	$ 230,493
Accounts receivable	-	-	(1,413)	-	-
Notes receivable	168,074	133,384	-	-	-
Prepaid items	-	-	-	-	-
Due from other funds	-	-	-	-	11,884
Due from other governments	-	-	-	224,811	-
Total assets	$ 238,246	$ 342,249	$ 2,307,833	$ 224,811	$ 242,377
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES					
Liabilities					
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	$ -	$ 491	$ 164	$ 8,925	$ 2,936
Due to other funds	-	-	-	215,886	-
Due to other governments	-	-	-	-	-
Unearned revenue	129,000	120,000	-	-	-
Total liabilities	129,000	120,491	164	224,811	2,936
Fund balances					
Nonspendable	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted	109,246	221,758	-	-	239,441
Committed	-	-	2,307,669	-	-
Assigned	-	-	-	-	-
Total fund balances	109,246	221,758	2,307,669	-	239,441
Total liabilities and fund balances	$ 238,246	$ 342,249	$ 2,307,833	$ 224,811	$ 242,377

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

	Special Revenue Funds				
	Hospital Fund	Park Fund	Clerk Modernization Fund	Administrative Order 86-12	BP Restore Act
ASSETS					
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 3,628,285	$ 236,301	$ 461,784	$ 111,619	$ 169,251
Accounts receivable	-	1,500	-	-	-
Notes receivable	-	-	-	-	-
Prepaid items	-	-	-	-	-
Due from other funds	-	-	-	-	-
Due from other governments	507,507	-	-	-	5,852
Total assets	$ 4,135,792	$ 237,801	$ 461,784	$ 111,619	$ 175,103
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES					
Liabilities					
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	$ -	$ 14,537	$ 472	$ -	$ -
Due to other funds	-	-	-	-	-
Due to other governments	-	-	-	-	-
Unearned revenue	-	-	-	-	-
Total liabilities	-	14,537	472	-	-
Fund balances					
Nonspendable	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted	4,135,792	-	461,312	111,619	175,103
Committed	-	223,264	-	-	-
Assigned	-	-	-	-	-
Total fund balances	4,135,792	223,264	461,312	111,619	175,103
Total liabilities and fund balances	$ 4,135,792	$ 237,801	$ 461,784	$ 111,619	$ 175,103

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

	Capital Project Funds		Debt Service Funds		
	Construction Acquisition	Capital Projects Fund	Public Improvement	MSTU	Non-Ad Valorem Operations
ASSETS					
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 324	$ 5,645,469	$ 314,584	$ 984,454	$ 83,529
Accounts receivable	-	-	-	-	-
Notes receivable	-	-	-	-	-
Prepaid items	-	-	1,127,716	-	-
Due from other funds	-	-	64,620	5,417	-
Due from other governments	-	-	197,224	-	-
Total assets	$ 324	$ 5,645,469	$ 1,704,144	$ 989,871	$ 83,529
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES					
Liabilities					
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Due to other funds	-	-	-	-	79,105
Due to other governments	-	-	-	-	-
Unearned revenue	-	-	-	-	-
Total liabilities	-	-	-	-	79,105
Fund balances					
Nonspendable	-	-	1,127,716	-	-
Restricted	324	19,591	576,428	989,871	4,424
Committed	-	2,863,443	-	-	-
Assigned	-	2,762,435	-	-	-
Total fund balances	324	5,645,469	1,704,144	989,871	4,424
Total liabilities and fund balances	$ 324	$ 5,645,469	$ 1,704,144	$ 989,871	$ 83,529

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

	Total Nonmajor Governmental Funds
ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 19,439,635
Accounts receivable	2,012
Notes receivable	301,458
Prepaid items	1,127,948
Due from other funds	81,921
Due from other governments	1,487,848
Total assets	$ 22,440,822
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	
Liabilities	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	$ 90,793
Due to other funds	767,727
Due to other governments	-
Unearned revenue	254,825
Total liabilities	1,113,345
Fund balances	
Nonspendable	1,127,948
Restricted	12,042,718
Committed	5,394,376
Assigned	2,762,435
Total fund balances	21,327,477
Total liabilities and fund balances	$ 22,440,822

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Special Revenue Funds				
	Fines and Forfeitures	Secondary Road and Bridge	Mosquito Control	St. Joe Fire Control	Tupelo Fire Control
REVENUES					
Taxes	$ -	$ 74,306	$ -	$ 823,705	$ 72,572
Intergovernmental	-	-	38,892	236,550	12,882
Charges for services	68,957	-	-	-	-
Investment earnings	10,882	5,181	2,609	10,368	555
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	48,138	-
Total revenues	79,839	79,487	41,501	1,118,761	86,009
EXPENDITURES					
Current					
General government	-	-	-	-	-
Public safety	34,880	-	-	339,563	60,440
Physical environment	-	-	-	-	-
Economic environment	-	-	-	-	-
Transportation	-	34,506	-	-	-
Court related	3,970	-	-	-	-
Human services	-	-	8,093	-	-
Culture and recreation	-	-	-	-	-
Capital outlay	-	4,359	13,597	309,040	-
Debt service					
Principal	-	-	-	-	-
Interest and other charges	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditures	38,850	38,865	21,690	648,603	60,440
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	40,989	40,622	19,811	470,158	25,569
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)					
Transfers in	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers (out)	-	-	-	(33,484)	(5,119)
Total other financing sources (uses)	-	-	-	(33,484)	(5,119)
Net changes in fund balances	40,989	40,622	19,811	436,674	20,450
Fund balances - beginning	1,202,535	1,108,703	111,698	1,692,434	132,662
Fund balances - ending	$ 1,243,524	$ 1,149,325	$ 131,509	$ 2,129,108	$ 153,112

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Special Revenue Funds				
	Overstreet Fire Control	Howard Creek Fire Control	EMS Grant	121 Beach Renewal	CDBG
REVENUES					
Taxes	$ 32,337	$ 20,270	$ -	$ -	$ -
Intergovernmental	6,142	2,526	395,853	-	359,984
Charges for services	-	-	-	-	-
Investment earnings	277	285	4	4	-
Miscellaneous	-	-	12,787	-	-
Total revenues	38,756	23,081	408,644	4	359,984
EXPENDITURES					
Current					
General government	-	-	-	-	-
Public safety	34,099	8,869	37,826	-	-
Physical environment	-	-	-	-	-
Economic environment	-	-	-	-	-
Transportation	-	-	-	-	750
Court related	-	-	-	-	-
Human services	-	-	-	-	-
Culture and recreation	-	-	-	-	-
Capital outlay	-	-	328,303	-	359,234
Debt service					
Principal	-	-	-	-	-
Interest and other charges	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditures	34,099	8,869	366,129	-	359,984
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	4,657	14,212	42,515	4	-
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)					
Transfers in	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers (out)	(2,559)	(1,493)	-	(38,840)	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	(2,559)	(1,493)	-	(38,840)	-
Net changes in fund balances	2,098	12,719	42,515	(38,836)	-
Fund balances - beginning	65,209	68,865	-	38,836	57
Fund balances - ending	$ 67,307	$ 81,584	$ 42,515	$ -	$ 57

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Special Revenue Funds				
	CDBG Raffield	Industrial Park EDA	County Development	E911 Wireless	E911 Services
REVENUES					
Taxes	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	295,974	157,279
Charges for services	-	-	-	-	-
Investment earnings	-	4,146	58,568	-	6,001
Miscellaneous	10,000	26,443	2,819,537	-	-
Total revenues	10,000	30,589	2,878,105	295,974	163,280
EXPENDITURES					
Current					
General government	-	-	2,124,900	-	-
Public safety	-	-	-	80,088	148,931
Physical environment	-	-	-	-	-
Economic environment	-	-	-	-	-
Transportation	-	-	-	-	-
Court related	-	-	-	-	-
Human services	-	-	-	-	-
Culture and recreation	-	-	-	-	-
Capital outlay	-	-	-	215,886	-
Debt service					
Principal	-	-	-	-	-
Interest and other charges	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditures	-	-	2,124,900	295,974	148,931
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	10,000	30,589	753,205	-	14,349
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)					
Transfers in	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers (out)	-	-	-	-	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	-	-	-	-	-
Net changes in fund balances	10,000	30,589	753,205	-	14,349
Fund balances - beginning	99,246	191,169	1,554,464	-	225,092
Fund balances - ending	$ 109,246	$ 221,758	$ 2,307,669	$ -	$ 239,441

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Special Revenue Funds				
	Hospital Fund	Park Fund	Clerk Modernization Fund	Administrative Order 86-12	BP Restore Act
REVENUES					
Taxes	$ 2,054,452	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	5,852
Charges for services	-	24,126	59,329	-	1,000
Investment earnings	90,149	-	3,899	946	-
Miscellaneous	-	31,743	-	-	-
Total revenues	2,144,601	55,869	63,228	946	6,852
EXPENDITURES					
Current					
General government	-	-	5,244	-	759
Public safety	-	-	-	-	-
Physical environment	-	-	-	-	5,852
Economic environment	-	-	-	-	-
Transportation	-	-	-	-	-
Court related	-	-	23,914	-	-
Human services	1,775,902	-	-	-	-
Culture and recreation	-	132,626	-	-	-
Capital outlay	-	-	-	-	-
Debt service					
Principal	-	-	-	-	-
Interest and other charges	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditures	1,775,902	132,626	29,158	-	6,611
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	368,699	(76,757)	34,070	946	241
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)					
Transfers in	-	182,900	-	-	-
Transfers (out)	(150,000)	-	-	-	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	(150,000)	182,900	-	-	-
Net changes in fund balances	218,699	106,143	34,070	946	241
Fund balances - beginning	3,917,093	117,121	427,242	110,673	174,862
Fund balances - ending	$ 4,135,792	$ 223,264	$ 461,312	$ 111,619	$ 175,103

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Capital Project Funds		Debt Service Funds		
	Construction Acquisition	Capital Projects Fund	Public Improvement	MSTU	Non-Ad Valorem Operations
REVENUES					
Taxes	$ -	$ -	$ 411,918	$ 386,219	$ -
Intergovernmental	-	-	1,092,945	100,364	-
Charges for services	-	-	-	-	-
Investment earnings	271	26,567	51,841	20,182	10,780
Miscellaneous	-	51,600	-	-	-
Total revenues	271	78,167	1,556,704	506,765	10,780
EXPENDITURES					
Current					
General government	-	-	-	-	-
Public safety	-	11,416	-	-	-
Physical environment	-	-	-	-	-
Economic environment	-	-	-	-	-
Transportation	-	15,000	-	-	-
Court related	-	-	-	-	-
Human services	-	-	-	-	-
Culture and recreation	-	2,800	-	-	-
Capital outlay	-	994,706	-	-	-
Debt service					
Principal	-	-	885,000	345,000	690,000
Interest and other charges	-	-	436,256	51,950	9,694
Total expenditures	-	1,023,922	1,321,256	396,950	699,694
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	271	(945,755)	235,448	109,815	(688,914)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)					
Transfers in	-	1,455,625	-	1,673	-
Transfers (out)	-	-	-	-	(79,105)
Total other financing sources (uses)	-	1,455,625	-	1,673	(79,105)
Net changes in fund balances	271	509,870	235,448	111,488	(768,019)
Fund balances - beginning	53	5,135,599	1,468,696	878,383	772,443
Fund balances - ending	$ 324	$ 5,645,469	$ 1,704,144	$ 989,871	$ 4,424

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Total Nonmajor Governmental Funds
REVENUES	
Taxes	$ 3,875,779
Intergovernmental	2,705,243
Charges for services	153,412
Investment earnings	303,515
Miscellaneous	3,000,248
Total revenues	10,038,197
EXPENDITURES	
Current	
General government	2,130,903
Public safety	756,112
Physical environment	5,852
Economic environment	-
Transportation	50,256
Court related	27,884
Human services	1,783,995
Culture and recreation	135,426
Capital outlay	2,225,125
Debt service	
Principal	1,920,000
Interest and other charges	497,900
Total expenditures	9,533,453
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	504,744
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	
Transfers in	1,640,198
Transfers (out)	(310,600)
Total other financing sources (uses)	1,329,598
Net changes in fund balances	1,834,342
Fund balances - beginning	19,493,135
Fund balances - ending	$ 21,327,477

COMPLIANCE SECTION

LANIGAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS
www.lanigancpa.com

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

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners and Constitutional Officers
Gulf 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 (*Government Auditing Standards*), the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Gulf County, Florida as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Gulf County, Florida's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated May 23, 2024.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

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

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

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

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Gulf County, Florida'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*.

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 Gulf County, Florida's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Gulf County, Florida's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Lanigan & Associates, PC

Tallahassee, Florida
May 23, 2024

LANIGAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS
www.lanigancpa.com

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

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners and Constitutional Officers
Gulf County, Florida

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program and State Project

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program and State Project

We have audited Gulf County, Florida's compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the OMB *Compliance Supplement* and *State of Florida's Department of Financial Services State Projects Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of Gulf County, Florida's major federal programs and state projects for the year ended September 30, 2023. Gulf County, Florida's major federal programs and state projects are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

In our opinion, Gulf County, Florida complied, in all material respects, with the 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 (*Government Auditing Standards*); 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, the Uniform Guidance, and Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General, are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of Gulf County, Florida 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 Gulf County, Florida'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 Gulf County, Florida's federal programs and state projects.

Auditor's 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 Gulf County, Florida'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 Gulf County, Florida'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 Gulf County, Florida'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 Gulf County, Florida'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, and Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Gulf County, Florida'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 a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a 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 Auditor's 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 the 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.

Lanigan & Associates, PC

Tallahassee, Florida
May 23, 2024

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

Federal/State Agency Pass-through Entity Federal Program/State Project	Federal Assistance Listing or CFSA No.	Contract Grant No.	Expenditures
FEDERAL AWARDS			
U.S. Department of Commerce			
Economic Adjustment Assistance	11.307	04-79-07474	$ 569,048
Office for Coastal Management	11.473	0318.19.066794	86,472
Total U.S. Department of Commerce			655,520
U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development			
Pass through Florida Department of Economic Opportunity			
Community Development Block Grant	14.228	M0020	272,804
Community Development Block Grant	14.228	M0080	35,015
Community Development Block Grant	14.228	M0152	52,165
Total U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development			359,984
U.S. Department of Treasury			
COVID-19 - Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds	21.027	SLFRP3300	1,338,641
Pass through Florida Department of Environmental Protection			
COVID-19 - Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds	21.027	22FRP88	1,192,302
Total U.S. Department of Treasury			2,530,943
Environmental Protection Agency			
Pass through Florida Department of Environmental Protection			
Capitalization Grants for Drinking Water State Revolving Fund	66.468	DW230220	567,246
Gulf Coast Ecosystems Restoration Council			
Pass through Gulf Consortium			
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Oil Spill Impact Program	87.052	GNSSP20FL0010-01-00/sub#200010062	5,852
U.S. Election Assistance Commission			
Pass through Florida Department of State-Division of Elections			
Help America Vote Act Election Security Grants	90.404	MOA#2022-23.e.es.100.022	30,630
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services			
Pass through Florida Department of Health			
Public Health Crisis Response	93.354	SOW22-341/C095BA	319,307
Public Health Crisis Response	93.354	SOW22-341/C1F61C	25,158
COVID-19 - Activities to Support State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Health Department Response to Public Health or Healthcare Crises	93.391	C1972F/C1EE71	31,250
Pass through Florida Department of Revenue			
Child Support Enforcement	93.563	CST23	1,181
Child Support Enforcement	93.563	COC23	189,992
Child Support Enforcement	93.563	CST23 (INCENTIVE)	158
Total U.S. Department of Health & Human Services			567,046

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

Federal/State Agency Pass-through Entity Federal Program/State Project	Federal Assistance Listing or CFSA No.	Contract Grant No.	Expenditures
U.S. Department of Homeland Security			
Federal Emergency Management Agency			
Pass through Florida Department of Emergency Management			
Disaster Grant - Public Assistance*	97.036	Z0841 (Multiple PW's)	$ 7,461,624
Hazard Mitigation Grant	97.039	H0801 (4399-152-R)	118,044
Hazard Mitigation Grant	97.039	H0825 (4399-160-R)	168,495
Hazard Mitigation Grant	97.039	H0725 (4399-132-R)	750
Emergency Management Performance Grant	97.042	G0392	54,510
Total U.S. Department of Homeland Security			7,803,423
Total Expenditures of Federal Awards			$ 12,520,644

STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Executive Office of the Governor			
Division of Emergency Management			
Emergency Management Programs	31.063	A0258	$ 66,335
Emergency Management Programs	31.063	A0395	25,141
Total Executive Office of the Governor			91,476
Florida Department of Environmental Protection			
Beach Management Funding Assistance Program	37.003	18GU1	1,244
Beach Management Funding Assistance Program	37.003	19GU1	17,062
Beach Management Funding Assistance Program	37.003	21GU1	3,587
Beach Management Funding Assistance Program	37.003	23GU1	42,588
Small County Consolidated Grants	37.012	SC311	93,750
Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program	37.017	A2013	30,455
Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program	37.017	A2037	47,163
Restoration Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill	37.081	DH016	5,001
Resilient Florida Program	37.098	22SRP18	488,953
Resilient Florida Program	37.098	22SRP19	119,120
Total Florida Department of Environmental Protection			848,923
Florida Department of Economic Opportunity			
Regional Community Development and Infrastructure	40.042	D0175	257,348
Florida Housing Finance Corporation			
State Housing Initiatives Partnership Program (SHIP)	40.901	Funding Thru SFY2223	203,009
Hurricane Housing Recovery Program	40.902	SFY1920 HHRP#040-2019	842,073
Hurricane Housing Recovery Program	40.902	SFY2021 HHRP#852-2020	163,193
Total Florida Housing Finance Corporation			1,208,275
Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services			
Mosquito Control	42.003	2019-2020 #026487	21,690
Florida Department of State			
State Aid to Libraries	45.030	23-ST-43	44,387

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

Federal/State Agency Pass-through Entity Federal Program/State Project	Federal Assistance Listing or CFSA No.	Contract Grant No.	Expenditures
Florida Department of Transportation			
Seaport Grant Program	55.005	441496-1-94-01 & 441496-2-94-01	$ 152,440
County Incentive Grant Program	55.008	425654-2-34-01	145,854
Small County Outreach Program	55.009	451303-1-54-01	13,117
Small County Outreach Program	55.009	449888-1-34-01	121,751
Small County Outreach Program	55.009	449304-1-54-01	87,085
Small County Outreach Program	55.009	420097-2-54-01	1,218,402
Small County Road Assistance Program	55.016	451771-1-34-01	97,114
Small County Road Assistance Program	55.016	448618-1-54-01	1,048,093
Small County Road Assistance Program	55.016	442427-1-54-01	260,690
Small County Road Assistance Program	55.016	448620-1-54-01	119,344
Small County Road Assistance Program	55.016	445283-2-54-01	150,268
Local Transportation Projects	55.039	450926-1-94-01	36,394
Total Florida Department of Transportation			3,450,552
Florida Department of Health			
Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Matching Awards	64.003	M232301	17,599
County Grant Awards	64.005	C0023	2,545
Total Florida Department of Health			20,144
Florida Department of Law Enforcement			
Law Enforcement Salary Assistance for Fiscally Constrained Counties	71.067	7G025	141,898
Law Enforcement Salary Assistance for Fiscally Constrained Counties	71.067	5V011	54,292
Total Florida Department of Law Enforcement			196,190
Florida Department of Management Services			
Wireless 911 Emergency Telephone System Rural County Grant Program	72.001	22-04-16	29,748
E911 State Grant Program	72.002	S22-23-01-27	215,886
Prepaid Next Generation 911 (NG911) State Grant Program	72.003	S17-21-02-59	45,717
Prepaid Next Generation 911 (NG911) State Grant Program	72.003	S22-23-01-26	4,623
Total Florida Department of Management Services			295,974
Florida Department of Highway Safety & Motor Vehicles			
Florida Arts License Plates Project	76.041	2022-2023	233
Total Expenditures of State Financial Assistance			$ 6,435,192

Financial Reporting Entity

The Gulf County, Florida (the "County") reporting entity is defined in Note 1 of the County's Basic Financial Statements.

Basis of Presentation

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards and state financial assistance (the "Schedule") includes the federal award and state financial assistance activity of Gulf County, Florida under programs of the federal and state government for the year ended September 30, 2023. 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). Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of Gulf County, Florida, it is not intended to and does not present the balance sheet, changes in fund balances, or cash flows of Gulf County, Florida.

Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Expenditures reported on the Schedule are reported on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in the Uniform Guidance, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement. Negative amounts shown on the Schedule represent adjustments or credits made in the normal course of business to amounts reported as expenditures in prior years.

Disaster Grant - Public Assistance* funds include $42,534 in funds that were incurred in prior years and $741,909 in funds provided by the State of Florida.

Indirect Cost Rate

Gulf County, Florida has not elected to use the 10 percent de minimis indirect cost rate allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

Loans or Loan Guarantees

Loans outstanding at the beginning of the year and loans made during the year are included in the federal expenditures presented in the Schedule. The balance of loans outstanding at September 31, 2023, was $417,440 related to the Capitalization Grants for Drinking Water State Revolving Fund.

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

SECTION I – SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

Financial Statements

Type of auditor's report issued:	Unmodified		
Internal Control over Financial Reporting:			
Material weakness(es) identified?		Yes	X No
Significant deficiency(ies) identified?		Yes	X 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 No
Identification of major federal programs:			

Assistance Listing Number(s)	Name of Federal Program or Cluster
11.307	Economic Development Cluster
21.027	Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs:	$750,000		
Auditee qualified as a low-risk auditee?		X Yes	No

SECTION I – SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS (CONTINUED)

State Projects

Internal Control over Major State Projects:			
Are any material weakness(es) identified?	_____ Yes	X No	
Are any 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 in accordance with Chapter 10.557, Rules of the Auditor General?	_____ Yes	X No	
Identification of major state projects:			

CSFA Numbers	Name of State Project
37.098	Resilient Florida Program
55.009	Small County Outreach Program
55.016	Small County Road Assistance Program

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B projects:	$750,000

SECTION II – SCHEDULE OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS

None noted.

SECTION III – FEDERAL AWARD AND STATE PROJECT FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

None noted.

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS

Note noted.

FEDERAL AWARD PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

Note noted.

STATE PROJECT PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

Note noted.

LANIGAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS
www.lanigancpa.com

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S MANAGEMENT LETTER

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners and Constitutional Officers
Gulf County, Florida

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of the Gulf County**,** Florida (the "County"), as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated May 23, 2024.

Auditor's Responsibility

We conducted our audit 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 *(Government Auditing Standards*); 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.

Other Reporting Requirements

We have issued our Independent Auditor's 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 Auditor's Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program and State Project and Report on Internal Control Over Compliance; Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs; and Independent Accountant's Reports on an examination conducted in accordance with the *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 May 23, 2024, 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 financial audit report. The prior recommendation (2022-01) was not resolved and is repeated again as recommendation 2023-001 on the following page.

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. This information is disclosed in Note 1 of the notes to financial statements.

Financial Condition and Management

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

2023-001 (BOCC): Utilities Billing and Receipts

Criteria:

It is important for an entity to segregate the authorization of transactions, recording of transactions, and custody of the related assets. Independent performance of each of these functions reduces the opportunity for any one person to be in a position both to perpetrate and to conceal errors or irregularities in the normal course of his or her duties.

Condition:

Separation of certain accounting and administrative duties among employees, which is recommended as an effective internal control, was not adequate. We noted that a single individual within the utility department is responsible for customer billing, customer billing adjustments, posting payments to the utility system, and the collection of receipts. This individual has access to all functions within the utility software.

Cause:

Not allocating adequate personnel to the utility accounting function to achieve effective segregation of duties.

Effect:

The failure to maintain separation of these functions subjects the County to the risk that material misstatements due to error or fraud may occur and not be detected by employees in a timely manner during the performance of their assigned tasks.

Recommendation:

Management should further review and revise its internal policies and procedures over the utility billing cash receipt process, to ensure that they are properly designed, and evaluate whether the designed controls are performed as intended. Management should further review the duties and responsibilities required of the Gulf County, Florida utility billing contractor and add or cross train personnel as necessary to achieve appropriate segregation of duties and oversight.

2023-002 (Sheriff): Bank Reconciliations

Criteria:

An effective internal control system requires the preparation of accurate bank reconciliations.

Condition:

The Sheriff's cash balance reported on the bank reconciliation did not reconcile to the general ledger and therefore was ineffective.

Cause:

Inadequate understanding of the bank reconciliation process.

Effect:

Risk of misstatement due to bank reconciliations not being performed correctly.

Recommendation:

The Sheriff's bookkeeper should receive additional training on how to prepare bank reconciliations using the current accounting software. In addition, the monthly bank reconciliations should be reviewed and approved by the Sheriff or someone other than the preparer.

Special District Component Units

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

As required by Section 218.39(3)(c), Florida Statutes, and Section 10.554(1)(i)6, Rules of the Auditor General, the Howard Creek Fire Control District, the Overstreet Fire Control District, the St. Joseph Fire Control District, and the Tupelo Fire Control District and the Highland View Water and Sewer District reported the following:

1) The total number of district employees compensated in the last pay period of the fiscal year.

   There are no employees of the above Dependent Specials Districts; therefore, there is no compensation to report for the last pay period of the fiscal year.

2) The total number of independent contractors compensated in the last month of the fiscal year.

   There were no independent contractors of the above Dependent Specials Districts for the last month of the fiscal year.

3) All compensation paid or accrued to employees.

   Total paid or accrued compensation to employees is $0.00.

4) All compensation paid or accrued to independent contractors.

   Total paid or accrued compensation to independent contractors is $0.00.

5) Each construction project with cost of at least $65,000 approved by the district and scheduled to begin after October 1 of the reporting year and total expenditures of such project.

   There are no construction projects to report in this fiscal year.

6) A budget variance report based on the budget adopted under Section 189.016(4) Florida Statutes, and the amended budget under Section 189.016(6), Florida Statutes.

   A budget variance report is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Regarding Highland View Water & Sewer District, we have the following comments:

1) The Board of County Commissioners voted to dissolve its inactive Highland View Water & Sewer District by Resolutions 2015-49, and 2020-43.

2) The Board of County Commissioners transferred assets and ownership of the Highland View Water & Sewer System to the City of Port St. Joe by Agreement and Deed of Conveyance, as recorded in ORB 461 Page 219 on 06/23/2008.

3) The Highland View Water & Sewer District is not an active Special District under the Official List of Special Districts as managed by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity who filed the Notice of Declaration of Inactive Status (*Exhibit B*) to the appropriate Legislative presiding officers and standing committees who have Special District oversight.

4) Any reference in the Management Letter regarding the Highland View Water & Sewer District is that it is in an inactive state awaiting Legislative action to repeal and dissolve the Special District.

Additional Matters

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

Purpose of this Letter

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

Lanigan & Associates, PC

Tallahassee, Florida
May 23, 2024

EXHIBIT A

ST. JOSEPH FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT
BUDGET TO ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts			Variance with Final Budget - Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final	Actual	
REVENUES				
Taxes	$ 856,505	$ 856,505	$ 823,705	$ (32,800)
Intergovernmental	-	-	236,550	236,550
Investment earnings	-	-	10,368	10,368
Miscellaneous	-	30,000	48,138	18,138
Total revenues	856,505	886,505	1,118,761	232,256
EXPENDITURES				
Current				
Public safety	375,554	434,429	339,563	94,866
Capital outlay	1,110,585	1,081,710	309,040	772,670
Total expenditures	1,486,139	1,516,139	648,603	867,536
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	(629,634)	(629,634)	470,158	1,099,792
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers (out)	(44,121)	(44,121)	(33,484)	10,637
Net changes in fund balances	(673,755)	(673,755)	436,674	1,110,429
Fund balances - beginning	1,692,434	1,692,434	1,692,434	-
Fund balances - ending	$ 1,018,679	$ 1,018,679	$ 2,129,108	$ 1,110,429

EXHIBIT A

TUPELO FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT
BUDGET TO ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts			Variance with Final Budget - Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final	Actual	
REVENUES				
Taxes	$ 74,136	$ 74,136	$ 72,572	$ (1,564)
Intergovernmental	-	-	12,882	12,882
Investment earnings	-	-	555	555
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-
Total revenues	74,136	74,136	86,009	11,873
EXPENDITURES				
Current				
Public safety	58,680	70,315	60,440	9,875
Capital outlay	76,367	64,732	-	64,732
Total expenditures	135,047	135,047	60,440	74,607
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	(60,911)	(60,911)	25,569	86,480
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers (out)	(6,745)	(6,745)	(5,119)	1,626
Net changes in fund balances	(67,656)	(67,656)	20,450	88,106
Fund balances - beginning	132,662	132,662	132,662	-
Fund balances - ending	$ 65,006	$ 65,006	$ 153,112	$ 88,106

EXHIBIT A

OVERSTREET FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT
BUDGET TO ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts			Variance with Final Budget - Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final	Actual	
REVENUES				
Taxes	$ 33,381	$ 33,381	$ 32,337	$ (1,044)
Intergovernmental	-	-	6,142	6,142
Investment earnings	-	-	277	277
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-
Total revenues	33,381	33,381	38,756	5,375
EXPENDITURES				
Current				
Public safety	24,625	38,365	34,099	4,266
Capital outlay	38,430	24,690	-	24,690
Total expenditures	63,055	63,055	34,099	28,956
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	(29,674)	(29,674)	4,657	34,331
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers (out)	(3,372)	(3,372)	(2,559)	813
Net changes in fund balances	(33,046)	(33,046)	2,098	35,144
Fund balances - beginning	65,209	65,209	65,209	-
Fund balances - ending	$ 32,163	$ 32,163	$ 67,307	$ 35,144

EXHIBIT A

HOWARD CREEK FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT
BUDGET TO ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts			Variance with Final Budget - Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final	Actual	
REVENUES				
Taxes	$ 20,884	$ 20,884	$ 20,270	$ (614)
Intergovernmental	-	-	2,526	2,526
Investment earnings	-	-	285	285
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-
Total revenues	20,884	20,884	23,081	2,197
EXPENDITURES				
Current				
Public safety	22,270	22,770	8,869	13,901
Capital outlay	36,223	35,723	-	35,723
Total expenditures	58,493	58,493	8,869	49,624
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	(37,609)	(37,609)	14,212	51,821
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers (out)	(1,967)	(1,967)	(1,493)	474
Net changes in fund balances	(39,576)	(39,576)	12,719	52,295
Fund balances - beginning	68,865	68,865	68,865	-
Fund balances - ending	$ 29,289	$ 29,289	$ 81,584	$ 52,295

Ron DeSantis
GOVERNOR

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT of ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

Dane Eagle
SECRETARY

May 21, 2021

The Honorable Chris Sprowls, Speaker
Florida House of Representatives
420 The Capitol
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300

The Honorable Wilton Simpson, President
Florida Senate
409 The Capitol
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

The Honorable Jennifer Bradley, Chair
Senate Committee on Community Affairs
315 Knott Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

The Honorable Ralph E. Massullo, MD, Chair
House State Affairs Committee
209 House Office Building
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300

The Honorable Jackie Toledo, Chair
House Local Administration and Veterans Affairs Subcommittee
209 House Office Building
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300

Re: Notice of Declaration of Inactive Status

Dear Speaker Sprowls, President Simpson, and Committee Chairs:

The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) administers Chapter 189, Florida Statutes (the Uniform Special District Accountability Act), which charges DEO's Special District Accountability Program with duties related to special districts. Among these duties is to follow the procedures of section 189.062, Florida Statutes, to declare inactive any special district when it meets at least one of six criteria. Upon declaring a special district inactive that was created by a special act of the Legislature, DEO must provide a notice of declaration of inactive status referencing each known special act to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President of the Senate, and the standing committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives charged with special district oversight as determined by the presiding officers of each respective chamber and the Legislative Auditing Committee.

An equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and service are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. All voice telephone numbers on this document may be reached by persons using TTY/TTD equipment via the Florida Relay Service at 711.

Please be advised that DEO has declared the following three special districts inactive:

Calhoun County Transportation Authority (Calhoun County)
- **Known Special Act:** Chapter 76-341, Laws of Florida.
- **Inactive Criteria:** Registered agent letter dated February 17, 2021, notifying DEO that the special district has taken no action for more than two years and has not had a governing body for more than two years (section 189.062(1)(a)1.-2., Florida Statutes).
- **Date Declared Inactive:** April 15, 2021.

Dead Lakes Water Management District (Calhoun and Gulf County)
- **Known Special Act:** Chapter 57-1115, Laws of Florida.
- **Inactive Criteria:** Resolution of the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners dated October 27, 2020, resolving that the special district has had no governing body members and has taken no action for many years (section 189.062(1)(a)1.-2., Florida Statutes); Letter from Calhoun County dated February 17, 2021, notifying DEO that the County is in agreement with Gulf County regarding the need to declare the special district inactive.
- **Date Declared Inactive:** April 22, 2021.

Highland View Water and Sewer District (Gulf County)
- **Known Special Acts:** Chapters 61-2212 and 85-417, Laws of Florida.
- **Inactive Criteria:** Resolution of the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners dated October 27, 2020, resolving that the special district has had no governing body members and has taken no action for many years (section 189.062(1)(a)1.-2., Florida Statutes).
- **Date Declared Inactive:** April 22, 2021.

Section 189.062(3)(a), Florida Statutes, provides that a notice of declaration of inactive status is sufficient notice as required by section 10, Article III of the State Constitution to authorize the Legislature to repeal any special laws so reported and that each special act creating or amending the charter of a special district declared inactive may be repealed by general law.

If you have any questions, please have your office contact Ms. Valerie Wright, Assistant General Counsel, at 850-245-7150.

Sincerely,

James D. Stansbury, Chief
Bureau of Community Planning and Growth

JDS/jg

cc: Carla Hand, Registered Agent for the Calhoun County Transportation Authority
Donald Butler, Registered Agent for the Dead Lakes Water Management District and the Highland View Water and Sewer District, c/o Kari Summers, Deputy Administrator, Gulf County

LANIGAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS
www.lanigancpa.com

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 218.415, FLORIDA STATUTES

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners and Constitutional Officers
Gulf County, Florida

Report on Compliance

We have examined Gulf County, Florida's, (the "County") compliance with Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, during the year ended September 30, 2023, as required by Section 10.556(10)(a), Rules of the Auditor General. Management is responsible for the County's compliance with the specified requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the County's compliance with the specified requirements based on our examination.

Scope

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the County complied, in all material respects, with the specified requirements referenced above. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether the County complied with the specified requirements. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgment, including an assessment of the risks of material non-compliance, 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 and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with relevant ethical requirements related to the review engagement. Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the County's compliance with specified requirements.

Opinion

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

Lanigan & Associates, PC

Tallahassee, Florida
May 23, 2024

LANIGAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS
www.lanigancpa.com

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH SECTIONS 365.172(10) AND 365.173(2)(d), FLORIDA STATUES

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners and Constitutional Officers
Gulf County, Florida

Report on Compliance

We have examined Gulf County, Florida's, (the "County") compliance with Section 365.172(10) Florida Statutes, *Authorized Expenditures of E911 Fee*, and Section 365.173(2)(d) Florida Statutes, *Distribution and Use of (E911) Funds*, as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, as required by Section 10.556(10)(b), Rules of the Auditor General. Management is responsible for the County's compliance with the specified requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the County's compliance with the specified requirements based on our examination.

Scope

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the County complied, in all material respects, with the specified requirements referenced above. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether the County complied with the specified requirements. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgment, including an assessment of the risks of material non-compliance, 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 and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with relevant ethical requirements related to the engagement. Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the County's compliance with specified requirements.

Opinion

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

Lanigan & Associates, PC

Tallahassee, Florida
May 23, 2024

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE
Michael L. Hammond • County Administrator

1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd. • Room 302 • Port St. Joe, Florida • 32456
850.229.6106 • Fax: 850.564.7503 • mhammond@gulfcounty-fl.gov
DATE & TIME OF MEETINGS: Fourth Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m., E.T.

June 3, 2024

John Keillor, CPA
Lanigan & Associates, P.C.
2630 Centennial Place, Suite 1
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

RE: Gulf County Annual Audit Review and Recommendation

Mr. Keillor,

Please accept this letter in direct and formal response to your audit review and comment sheet regarding the 2023-001: Utilities Billing and Receipts for Gulf County's Water Department and its administrative oversight and daily management of its billing and collections.

Gulf County has received, reviewed the comments and recommendations provided to Gulf County Water Department for its customer billing, customer billing adjustments, posting payments to the utility system and administrative collection for all receipts. Please be advised Gulf County has taken the following actions and further procedures to address these recommendations:

- Gulf County effective July 1, 2023, has employed and designated multiple county staff members independent of one another to segregate and divide the exclusive duties of the itemized accounting, billing and collection responsibilities performed by the Gulf County Water Department.

- Further, Gulf County has commenced a thorough review of its internal policies and procedures over the water department utility billing and cash receipt process to enhance and strengthen its current procedures.

- Gulf County has commenced with the cross training of personnel to ensure proper segregation of duties and oversight of independent duties performed by various Gulf County personnel.

In completing these actions and review of the current procedures, Gulf County will continue to seek to remove any risk or material misstatements due to error or fraud not detected by employees assigned with independent duties and cross training of personnel with the Gulf County Water Department.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael L. Hammond
Gulf County Administrator

DAVID C. RICH District 1 | JACK HUSBAND District 2 | PATRICK FARRELL District 3 | SANDY QUINN District 4 | PHIL MCCROAN District 5

Gulf County Sheriff's Office
Sheriff Mike Harrison
418 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd. • Port Saint Joe, Florida 32456 • www.gulfsheriff.com
850-227-1115 • 850-639-5717 • Fax 850-227-2097

May 23, 2024

Good morning,

In response to Recommendations given in reference to Bank Reconciliations in the Financial Management portion of the Independent Auditor's Management Letter; we provide the following Corrective Action Plan:

The Gulf County Sheriff's Office bookkeeper has received additional training on how to prepare bank reconciliations using the current software (QuickBooks). In addition, along with the monthly bank reconciliation, the monthly Balance Sheet will be provided and reviewed by the Sheriff to ensure reconciliation.

Sincerely,

Scott Lamberson

Scott Lamberson
Finance Director

Gulf County Sheriff's Office
418 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd.
Port Saint Joe, FL 32456
850-227-1115 main office
850-227-2737 direct line

Gulf County, Florida
Clerk of the Circuit Court

❖

Special Purpose
Financial Statements

September 30, 2023

Gulf County, Florida
Clerk of the Circuit Court

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

September 30, 2023

C O N T E N T S

Financial Section Page No.

Independent Auditor's Report....1

Basic Financial Statements:
- Balance Sheet – Governmental Funds....4
- Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances – Governmental Funds....5
- Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget to Actual – General Fund....6
- Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget to Actual – State Court Operations Fund....7
- Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget to Actual – Modernization Trust Fund....8
- Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget to Actual – Administrative Order 86-12 Fund....9
- Statement of Fiduciary Net Position – Custodial Funds....10
- Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position – Custodial Funds....11
- Notes to Financial Statements....12

Supplementary Information

Combining Statement of Fiduciary Net Position – Custodial Funds....19
Combining Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position – Custodial Funds....21

Internal Control and Compliance Section

Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*....23

Independent Auditor's Management Letter....25

Independent Accountant's Report on Compliance with Local Government Investment Policies, Article V Requirements, and Depository Requirements of Sections 218.415, 28.35, 28.36, and 61.181, Florida Statutes....27

LANIGAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
BUSINESS ADVISORS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Honorable Rebecca L. Norris
Gulf County, Florida Clerk of the Circuit Court
Gulf County, Florida

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of each major fund and the remaining aggregate fund information of the Gulf County, Florida Clerk of the Circuit Court (the "Clerk"), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements, as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the each major fund and the remaining aggregate fund information of the Clerk as of September 30, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position thereof, and the respective budgetary comparison for each major fund 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 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 Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Clerk 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 opinion.

Emphasis of a 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 the aggregate remaining fund information, only for that portion of the major funds, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Gulf County, Florida that is attributable to the Clerk. They do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of Gulf County, Florida as of September 30, 2023, and 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 these matters.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Clerk's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and GAS 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 GAS, 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 Clerk'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 Clerk'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.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Clerk's basic financial statements. The combining fiduciary statements, as listed in the table of contents, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the 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 the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS. In our opinion, the supplementary 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 May 3, 2024, on our consideration of the Clerk's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, rules, 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 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 Clerk's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Lanigan & Associates, PC

Tallahassee, Florida
May 3, 2024

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
BALANCE SHEET
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Major Funds				
	General Fund	State Court Operations Fund	Modernization Trust Fund	Administrative Order 86-12 Fund	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS					
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 873,998	$ 100,582	$ 461,784	$ 111,619	$ 1,547,983
Accounts receivable	194	50	-	-	244
Prepaid Items	11,099	-	-	-	11,099
Due from other governments	28,307	24,247	-	-	52,554
Due from other funds	148,274	1,580	-	-	149,854
Total assets	$ 1,061,872	$ 126,459	$ 461,784	$ 111,619	$ 1,761,734
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE					
Liabilities:					
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	$ 27,583	$ 8,884	$ 472	$ -	$ 36,939
Due to other governments	-	117,575	-	-	117,575
Due to other funds	909,899	-	-	-	909,899
Total liabilities	937,482	126,459	472	-	1,064,413
Fund balance:					
Restricted	-	-	461,312	111,619	572,931
Unassigned	124,390	-	-	-	124,390
Total fund balance	124,390	-	461,312	111,619	697,321
Total liabilities and fund balance	$ 1,061,872	$ 126,459	$ 461,784	$ 111,619	$ 1,761,734

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Major Funds				
	General Fund	State Court Operations Fund	Modernization Trust Fund	Administrative Order 86-12 Fund	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES					
Charges for services	$ 153,646	$ 171,874	$ 59,329	$ -	$ 384,849
Intergovernmental revenue	124,390	364,267	-	-	488,657
Fines and forfeitures	-	84,804	-	-	84,804
Interest and other income	10,080	4,259	3,899	946	19,184
Total revenues	288,116	625,204	63,228	946	977,494
EXPENDITURES					
General government					
Personnel Services	694,782	-	-	-	694,782
Operating expenditures	209,983	-	5,244	-	215,227
Capital Outlay	28,633	-	-	-	28,633
Court related					
Personnel services	-	508,251	-	-	508,251
Operating expenditures	-	44,333	23,914	-	68,247
Total expenditures	933,398	552,584	29,158	-	1,515,140
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	(645,282)	72,620	34,070	946	(537,646)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)					
Transfers from BOCC - Appropriated	718,850	-	-	-	718,850
Transfers from BOCC - Interest	960,721	-	-	-	960,721
Transfers to BOCC	(909,899)	-	-	-	(909,899)
Remittance to State of Florida	-	(72,620)	-	-	(72,620)
Total other financing sources (uses)	769,672	(72,620)	-	-	697,052
Net changes in fund balances	124,390	-	34,070	946	159,406
Fund balances - beginning	-	-	427,242	110,673	537,915
Fund balances - ending	$ 124,390	$ -	$ 461,312	$ 111,619	$ 697,321

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET TO ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Original	Final	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
REVENUES				
Charges for services	$ 163,537	$ 153,568	$ 153,646	$ 78
Intergovernmental revenue	65,000	124,390	124,390	-
Interest and other income	589	10,158	10,080	(78)
Total revenues	229,126	288,116	288,116	-
EXPENDITURES				
General government				
Personnel services	739,931	694,782	694,782	-
Operating expenditures	168,431	206,502	209,983	(3,481)
Capital outlay	72,526	32,114	28,633	3,481
Total expenditures	980,888	933,398	933,398	-
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	(751,762)	(645,282)	(645,282)	-
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers from BOCC - Appropriated	718,850	718,850	718,850	-
Transfers from BOCC - Interest	32,912	960,721	960,721	-
Transfers to BOCC	-	(909,899)	(909,899)	-
Total other financing sources	751,762	769,672	769,672	-
Net changes in fund balances	-	124,390	124,390	-
Fund balances - beginning	-	-	-	-
Fund balances - ending	$ -	$ 124,390	$ 124,390	$ -

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET TO ACTUAL - STATE COURT OPERATIONS FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Original	Final	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
REVENUES				
Charges for services	$ 173,715	$ 171,874	$ 171,874	$ -
Intergovernmental revenue	353,141	364,267	364,267	-
Fines and forfeitures	92,149	84,804	84,804	-
Interest and other income	1,105	4,259	4,259	-
Total revenues	620,110	625,204	625,204	-
EXPENDITURES				
Court related				
Personnel services	580,969	508,251	508,251	-
Operating expenditures	39,141	44,333	44,333	-
Total expenditures	620,110	552,584	552,584	-
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	-	72,620	72,620	-
OTHER FINANCING (USES)				
Remittance to State of Florida	-	(72,620)	(72,620)	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	-	(72,620)	(72,620)	-
Net changes in fund balances	-	-	-	-
Fund balances - beginning	-	-	-	-
Fund balances - ending	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET TO ACTUAL - MODERNIZATION TRUST FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Original	Final	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
REVENUES				
Charges for services	$ 72,838	$ 59,329	$ 59,329	$ -
Interest and other income	300	3,899	3,899	-
Total revenues	73,138	63,228	63,228	-
EXPENDITURES				
General government				
Operating expenditures	5,000	5,244	5,244	-
Capital outlay	149,357	149,113	-	149,113
Court related				
Operating expenditures	20,000	23,914	23,914	-
Capital outlay	129,395	125,481	-	125,481
Total expenditures	303,752	303,752	29,158	274,594
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	(230,614)	(240,524)	34,070	274,594
Net changes in fund balances	(230,614)	(240,524)	34,070	274,594
Fund balances - beginning	427,242	427,242	427,242	-
Fund balances - ending	$ 196,628	$ 186,718	$ 461,312	$ 274,594

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET TO ACTUAL - ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 86-12 FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Original	Final	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
REVENUES				
Interest and other income	$ -	$ -	$ 946	$ 946
EXPENDITURES				
General government				
Capital outlay	-	-	-	-
Court related				
Operating expenditures	-	-	-	-
Total expenditures	-	-	-	-
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	-	-	946	946
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES				
Transfers from BOCC	-	-	-	-
Transfers to BOCC	-	-	-	-
Total other financing sources	-	-	-	-
Net changes in fund balances	-	-	946	946
Fund balances - beginning	110,673	110,673	110,673	-
Fund balances - ending	$ 110,673	$ 110,673	$ 111,619	$ 946

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
CUSTODIAL FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	$	693,811
Accounts receivable		1,440
Due from other funds		2,398
Total assets		697,649
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable		1,179
Due to other funds		23,866
Due to other governments		203,919
Due to BOCC		20,594
Total liabilities		249,558
NET POSITION		
Restricted	$	448,091

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
CUSTODIAL FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

ADDITIONS		
Deposits/escrow/surplus	$	299,548
Service charges/general government		5,077,312
Court related		1,383,253
Total additions		6,760,113
DEDUCTIONS		
Deposits/escrow/surplus		261,393
Service charges/general government		5,078,966
Court related		1,296,410
Total deductions		6,636,769
Net change in fiduciary net position		123,344
Net position - beginning		324,747
Net position - ending	$	448,091

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

NOTE 1: *Summary of Significant Accounting Policies*

The accounting policies of the Gulf County, Florida Clerk of the Circuit Court (the "Clerk") conform with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), as applicable to governments. The following is a summary of significant accounting principles and policies used in the preparation of these special purpose financial statements.

Reporting Entity

Gulf County, Florida (the "County") is a political subdivision of the State of Florida. It is governed by an elected Board of County Commissioners (the "Board"). The Clerk is an elected official of the County pursuant to the Constitution of the State of Florida, Article VIII, Section 1(d).

The Clerk is a part of the primary government of the County. The Clerk is responsible for the administration and operation of the Clerk's office, and the Clerk's financial statements do not include the financial statements of the Board or the other Constitutional Officers of the County.

The Clerk funds non-court operations as a Budget Officer and a Fee Officer pursuant to Florida Statutes, Chapters 28, 129, and 218, respectively. As a Budget Officer, the operations of the Clerk are funded by the County general fund. The receipts from the County general fund are recorded as other financing sources on the Clerk's general fund financial statements. Any excess of revenues and other financing sources received over expenditures of the general fund are remitted to the County general fund at year-end. The court-related operations of the Clerk are funded from fees and charges authorized under Chapter 2013-44, Laws of Florida and are reported in the court fund. Such provisions may be amended at any time by further action from the Florida Legislature. At year-end, any excess of revenues over court-related expenditures of the court fund are remitted to the State of Florida pursuant to Florida Statute 28.37.

Basis of Presentation

The Clerk's financial statements are special purpose financial statements that have been prepared solely for the purpose of complying with the Rules of the Auditor General of the State of Florida (the "Rules"). These special purpose financial statements are the fund financial statements required by generally accepted accounting principles. However, these fund financial statements do not constitute a complete presentation because, in conformity with the Rules, the Clerk of Courts has not presented the government-wide financial statements, reconciliations to the government-wide financial statements, or management's discussion and analysis. Also, certain notes to the financial statements may supplement rather than duplicate the notes included in the County's county-wide financial statements.

Basis of Presentation (Continued)

The financial transactions of the Clerk are recorded in individual funds. Each fund is accounted for by providing a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund balance, revenues, and expenditures.

These funds are segregated for the purpose of carrying on specific activities or attaining certain objectives in accordance with special regulations, restrictions, or limitations.

The Clerk reports the following major governmental funds:

Governmental Fund Types

- General Fund – The general fund is the general operating fund of the Clerk. It is used to account for all financial resources, except for those required to be accounted for in other funds.

- State Court Operations Fund – Used to account for state court operations.

- Modernization Trust Fund – The modernization trust fund, a special revenue fund is used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are legally restricted to expenditures for specific purposes.

- Administrative Order 86-12 Fund – This special revenue fund is used to account for additional court costs of traffic infractions to be used for administering traffic violations.

Fiduciary Fund Type

- Custodial Funds – The custodial funds are used to account for assets held by the Clerk as an agent for individuals, private organizations, other governments, and/or other funds.

Measurement Focus/Basis of Accounting

All governmental funds are accounted for on a current financial resources measurement focus. 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. Revenues are recognized when they become measurable and available as net current assets. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectable within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period.

Measurement Focus/Basis of Accounting (Continued)

For this purpose, the government considered revenues to be available if they are collected within 31 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 long-term debt are recognized when due.

The custodial funds are accounted for using an economic resource measurement focus and accrual basis of accounting requiring a resource flow statement. Liabilities are recognized when an event occurs that compels the Clerk to disburse fiduciary resources, which is when a demand for resources has been made or when no further action, approval, or condition is required to be taken or not by the beneficiary to release the assets.

Budget and Budgetary Accounting

Expenditures, other than those for certain agency funds, are controlled by appropriations in accordance with the budget requirements set forth in Florida Statutes. Budgets are adopted for governmental and special revenue funds. Budgetary control is exercised at the fund level. Budgetary changes within the fund are made at the discretion of the Clerk. Appropriations lapse at the end of the fiscal year to the extent they have not been expended. The budgeted revenues and expenditures in the accompanying budgetary comparison statement reflect all approved amendments.

Florida Statutes Chapter 218.35 governs the preparation, adoption, and administration of the Clerk's annual budget. The Clerk establishes an annual budget for the office which clearly reflects the revenues available to the office and the functions for which the money is to be expended.

The Clerk prepares the budget in three parts:

1. The budget relating to the requirements of the Clerk as the Ex Officio Clerk to the Board, County Auditor, County Recorder, and Custodian or Treasurer of all County funds and other county related duties, and for chapter 29 obligations;
2. The budget relating to the Florida court system, which is filed with the Clerk of Courts Operations Corporation (CCOC) by June 1 preceding the fiscal year of the budget, in the format required by the CCOC. Section 28.36, Florida Statutes, defines the maximum annual budget permitted; and
3. The budget for all other operations of the Clerk.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Clerk considers all highly liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

Capital Assets

Capital assets purchased in the governmental fund type are recorded as expenditures (capital outlay) at the time of purchase. Assets acquired by the Clerk are reported as capital assets in the statement of net assets as part of the basic financial statement for Gulf County. The Clerk maintains custodial responsibility for the capital assets used by their office.

Liability for Compensated Absences

Permanent full-time employees of the Clerk accrue sick leave based upon pay periods worked and earned vacation time related to length of employment with the Clerk's office. The vacation and sick time must be taken during the year earned and no payment for vacation or sick leave is made at termination.

Related Organizations – Common Expenses

Certain expenditures, which are common to the Board and all Constitutional Officers, are reported as expenses of the Board and, therefore, are not budgeted by or allocated to the Clerk. These expenses relating to the Clerk's courthouse facilities are:

- Occupancy costs
- Janitorial services
- Utilities (except telephone)
- Property insurance

Fund Balance Reporting

The Clerk has implemented the provisions of Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) issued Statement No. 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions* (GASB 54), as required. The purpose of GASB 54 is to improve the consistency and usefulness of fund balance information to the financial statement user. The statement establishes fund balance classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which the organization is bound to honor constraints on the specific purpose for which amounts in the funds can be spent. Fund balance is reported in five components – nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned:

- Non-Spendable: This component of fund balance consists of amounts that cannot be spent because: (a) they are not expected to be converted to cash, or (b) they are legally or contractually required to remain intact. Examples of this classification are prepaid items, inventories, and principal (corpus) of an endowment fund. The Clerk does not have any non-spendable funds.
- Restricted: This component of fund balances consists of amounts that are constrained either: (a) externally by third parties (creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments), or (b) by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- Committed: This component of fund balance consists of amounts that can only be used for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action (e.g., policy, ordinance, or resolution) of the Clerk's governing authority.

- Assigned: This component of fund balance consists of amounts that are constrained by a less-than formal action of the Clerk's governing authority, or by an individual or body to whom the governing authority has delegated this responsibility. The Clerk has not delegated the responsibility to assign fund balances to any individual or body.
- Unassigned: This classification is used for: (a) negative unrestricted fund balances in any governmental fund, or (b) fund balances within the general fund that are not restricted, committed, or assigned.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the Clerk's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources (committed, assigned, and unassigned) as they are needed. When unrestricted resources (committed, assigned, and unassigned) are available for use, it is the Clerk's policy to use committed resources first, then assigned, and then unassigned as needed.

Distribution of Excess Revenues

Florida Statues require that the Clerk distribute any excess of revenues over expenditures within the general fund to the board within 31 days following the end of the fiscal year. Accordingly, the amount of excess revenues distributed to the Board at the end of the year is presented in the accompanying special-purpose financial statements as "other financing uses."

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported and disclosed in the accompanying financial statements and notes. Actual results could differ from estimates.

Subsequent Events

The Clerk of the Court evaluated subsequent events through May 3, 2024, the date which the financial statements were available to be issued. The Clerk of the Court did not have any subsequent events requiring disclosure or recording in these financial statements.

Adoption of New Accounting Standard

Effective October 1, 2022, the County adopted GASB Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Agreements*. GASB Statement No. 96 enhances the relevance and consistency of information of the government's subscription IT activities. It establishes requirements for subscription-based information technology agreement accounting based on the principle that the agreements are financing of the right-to-use an underlying asset. A government entity is required to recognize a liability and an intangible right-to-use asset. For the year ended September 30, 2023, the County did not have any information technology agreements that qualified for recognition under this standard.

NOTE 2: *Interfund Transactions*

During the course of normal operations, numerous transactions occur between funds, such as expenditures or transfers of resources to provide services, service debt, or construct assets. The inter-fund transactions are not eliminated, and no interest is charged on such advances.

Inter-fund receivable and payable balances at September 30, 2023, were as follows:

	Interfund Receivable	Interfund Payable
General Fund		
Board of County Commissioners	$ 148,274	$ 909,899
State Court Operations Fund		
Board of County Commissioners	1,580	-
Total	$ 149,854	$ 909,899

Operating transfers between funds during the year were as follows:

	Transfers In	Transfers Out
General Fund		
Board of County Commissioners	$ 1,679,571	$ 909,899

NOTE 3: *Retirement*

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.

NOTE 3: *Retirement (Continued)*

For financial reporting purposes, the Clerk is deemed to be part of the primary government of the County. A liability related to the Clerk'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.

NOTE 4: *Changes in Long-Term Obligations*

Under the GASB 34 reporting model, long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and accordingly are not reported as fund liabilities. All long-term liabilities for the Clerk are reported in the government-wide Statement of Net Position. The compensated absences of the Clerk are accounted for in the Statement of Net Position as follows:

	Balance September 30, 2022	Additions	Reductions	Balance September 30, 2023
Compensated absences	$ 39,837	$ 43,719	$ (50,127)	$ 33,429

NOTE 5: *Risk Management*

The Clerk is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors or omissions; injuries to employees and the public; or damage to property of others. The Clerk participates in the risk management program through the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners, which uses commercial insurance to cover certain risks from loss.

The Board obtained commercial insurance against losses for the following types of risk:

- Real and personal property damage
- Public employee's bond
- Workers' compensation
- General and automobile liability

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
COMBINING STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
CUSTODIAL FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Clerk Fee/Tax Deed Holdings Account	Tax Deed Account	Jury and Witness Account	Alimony and Support Account
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 193,988	$ 115,933	$ 5,777	$ 3,486
Accounts receivable	1,440	-	-	-
Due from other funds	-	-	1,768	-
Total assets	195,428	115,933	7,545	3,486
LIABILITIES				
Accounts payable	-	590	369	-
Due to other funds	-	-	56	119
Due to other governments	186,335	-	-	-
Due to BOCC	4,072	-	-	167
Total liabilities	190,407	590	425	286
NET POSITION				
Restricted	$ 5,021	$ 115,343	$ 7,120	$ 3,200

See accompanying notes to financial statements

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
COMBINING STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
CUSTODIAL FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Clerk's Bond Fund	Registry of the Court	Clerk's Trust Account	Total Custodial Funds
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 63,175	$ 128,726	$ 182,726	$ 693,811
Accounts receivable	-	-	-	1,440
Due from other funds	-	-	630	2,398
Total assets	63,175	128,726	183,356	697,649
LIABILITIES				
Accounts payable	-	-	220	1,179
Due to other funds	-	-	23,691	23,866
Due to other governments	-	-	17,584	203,919
Due to BOCC	-	-	16,355	20,594
Total liabilities	-	-	57,850	249,558
NET POSITION				
Restricted	$ 63,175	$ 128,726	$ 125,506	$ 448,091

See accompanying notes to financial statements

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
COMBINING STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
CUSTODIAL FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Clerk Fee/Tax Deed Holdings Account	Tax Deed Account	Jury and Witness Account	Alimony and Support Account
ADDITIONS				
Deposits/escrow/surplus	$ -	$ 299,548	$ -	$ -
Service charges/general government	5,077,312	-	-	-
Court related	-	-	14,353	127,889
Total additions	5,077,312	299,548	14,353	127,889
DEDUCTIONS				
Deposits/escrow/surplus	-	261,393	-	-
Service charges/general government	5,078,966	-	-	-
Court related	-	-	11,234	127,889
Total deductions	5,078,966	261,393	11,234	127,889
Net change in fiduciary net position	(1,654)	38,155	3,119	-
Net position - beginning	6,675	77,188	4,001	3,200
Net position - ending	$ 5,021	$ 115,343	$ 7,120	$ 3,200

See accompanying notes to financial statements

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
COMBINING STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
CUSTODIAL FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Clerk's Bond Fund	Registry of the Court	Clerk's Trust Account	Total Custodial Funds
ADDITIONS				
Deposits/escrow/surplus	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 299,548
Service charges/general government	-	-	-	5,077,312
Court related	62,315	269,144	909,552	1,383,253
Total additions	62,315	269,144	909,552	6,760,113
DEDUCTIONS				
Deposits/escrow/surplus	-	-	-	261,393
Service charges/general government	-	-	-	5,078,966
Court related	69,765	199,920	887,602	1,296,410
Total deductions	69,765	199,920	887,602	6,636,769
Net change in fiduciary net position	(7,450)	69,224	21,950	123,344
Net position - beginning	70,625	59,502	103,556	324,747
Net position - ending	$ 63,175	$ 128,726	$ 125,506	$ 448,091

See accompanying notes to financial statements

INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE SECTION

LANIGAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
BUSINESS ADVISORS

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

The Honorable Rebecca L. Norris
Gulf County, Florida Clerk of the Circuit Court
Gulf County, Florida

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of each major fund and remaining aggregate fund information of Gulf County, Florida Clerk of the Circuit Court (the "Clerk") as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Clerk's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated May 3, 2024.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

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

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

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Clerk's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the of 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 organization'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 organization's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Lanigan & Associates, PC

Tallahassee, Florida
May 3, 2024

LANIGAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
BUSINESS ADVISORS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S MANAGEMENT LETTER

The Honorable Rebecca L. Norris
Gulf County, Florida Clerk of the Circuit Court
Gulf County, Florida

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of Gulf County, Florida Clerk of the Circuit Court (the "Clerk") as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and have issued our report dated May 3, 2024.

Auditor's Responsibility

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

Other Reporting Requirements

We have issued our Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of the Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*; and Independent Account's Reports 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 and schedule, which are dated May 3, 2024, 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 recommendations made 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. This information is disclosed in Note 1 of the notes to financial statements.

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 Board of County Commissioners, and applicable management, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Lanigan & Associates, PC

Tallahassee, Florida
May 3, 2024

LANIGAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
BUSINESS ADVISORS

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT INVESTMENT POLICIES, ARTICLE V REQUIREMENTS, AND DEPOSITORY REQUIREMENTS OF SECTIONS 218.415, 28.35, 28.36, AND 61.181, FLORIDA STATUTES

The Honorable Rebecca L. Norris
Gulf County, Florida Clerk of the Circuit Court
Gulf County, Florida

Report on Compliance

We have examined the Gulf County, Florida Clerk of the Circuit Court's (the "Clerk") compliance with the local government investment policy requirements of Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, Article V requirements of Sections 28.35 and 28.36, Florida Statutes, and depository requirements for alimony transactions, support, maintenance and support payments of Section 61.181, Florida Statutes, for the year ended September 30, 2023. Management is responsible for the Clerk's compliance with those requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Clerk's compliance based on our examination.

Scope

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Clerk complied, in all material respects, with the specified requirements referenced above. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether the Clerk complied with the specified requirements. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgment, including an assessment of the risks of material noncompliance, 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 and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to the engagement. Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the Clerk's compliance with specified requirements.

Opinion

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

Lanigan & Associates, PC

Tallahassee, Florida
May 3, 2024

Gulf County, Florida
Property Appraiser

❖

Special Purpose
Financial Statements

September 30, 2023

Gulf County, Florida
Property Appraiser

Financial Statements

September 30, 2023

C O N T E N T S

Financial Section Page No.

Independent Auditor's Report....1

Basic Financial Statements:
Balance Sheet – General Fund....4
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in
Fund Balance – Budget to Actual – General Fund....5
Notes to Financial Statements....6

Internal Control and Compliance Section

Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting
and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements
Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*....12

Independent Auditor's Management Letter....14

Independent Accountant's Report on Compliance with
Florida Statute Section 218.415 – Investment of Public Funds....16

LANIGAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
BUSINESS ADVISORS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Honorable Mitch Burke
Gulf County, Florida Property Appraiser
Gulf County, Florida

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the general fund of the Gulf County, Florida Property Appraiser (the "Property Appraiser"), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the general fund of the Property Appraiser 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 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 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 Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Property Appraiser 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 opinion.

Emphasis of a 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 Gulf County, Florida that is attributable to the Property Appraiser. They do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of Gulf County, Florida as of September 30, 2023, and 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 these matters.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Property Appraiser's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and GAS 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 GAS, 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 Property Appraiser'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 Property Appraiser's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated May 3, 2024, on our consideration of the Property Appraiser's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, rules, 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 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 Property Appraiser's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Lanigan & Associates, PC

Tallahassee, Florida
May 3, 2024

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA PROPERTY APPRAISER
BALANCE SHEET
GENERAL FUND
AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	$	16,345
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE		
Liabilities:		
Due to BOCC		16,345
Fund balance		-
Total liabilities and fund balance	$	16,345

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA PROPERTY APPRAISER
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
BUDGET TO ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts			Variance with Final Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final	Actual	
EXPENDITURES				
General government				
Personnel services	$ 608,081	$ 645,056	$ 640,660	$ 4,396
Operating expenditures	183,327	183,327	138,581	44,746
Capital outlay	-	-	36,027	(36,027)
Total expenditures	791,408	828,383	815,268	13,115
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	(791,408)	(828,383)	(815,268)	13,115
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers in	791,408	828,383	831,613	3,230
Transfers out	-	-	(16,345)	(16,345)
Total other financing sources (uses)	791,408	828,383	815,268	(13,115)
Net changes in fund balances	-	-	-	-
Fund balance - beginning	-	-	-	-
Fund balance - ending	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

NOTE 1: *Summary of Significant Accounting Policies*

The accounting policies of the Gulf County, Florida Property Appraiser (the "Property Appraiser") conform with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), as applicable to governments. The following is a summary of significant accounting principles and policies used in the preparation of these special purpose financial statements.

Reporting Entity

Gulf County, Florida (the "County") is a political subdivision of the state of Florida. It is governed by an elected Board of County Commissioners (the "Board") and an appointed County Administrator, as provided by Section 125.73 of the Florida Statutes. The County Administrator is responsible for the administration of all departments of which the Board has the authority to control pursuant to the general laws of Florida.

The Property Appraiser is an elected official of Gulf County, Florida pursuant to the Constitution of the State of Florida, Article VIII, Section 1(d). The Property Appraiser is part of the primary government of Gulf County, Florida. Although the Board and the Florida Department of Revenue approve the Property Appraiser's total operating budget, the Property Appraiser is responsible for the administration and the operation of the Property Appraiser's office. There are no separate legal entities (component units) for which the Property Appraiser is considered to be financially accountable.

The operations of the Property Appraiser are funded by the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners. The receipts from the Board are recorded as other financing sources on the Property Appraiser's financial statements and as other financing uses on the Board's financial statements. Any excess of revenues and other financial sources received over expenditures are remitted to the Board at year end.

Fund Accounting

Accounts are organized on the basis of fund types, each of which is considered to be 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 as appropriate. Government resources are allocated to and accounted for in individual funds based on the purpose for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled. The Property Appraiser utilizes the following fund types:

Governmental Fund Types

- General Fund – The general fund is the general operating fund of the Property Appraiser. It is used to account for all financial resources, except for those required to be accounted for in other funds.

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

Basis of Accounting

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements and relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the measurement focus applied.

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared using the modified accrual basis of accounting for governmental funds and agency funds. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when they become both measurable and available to finance expenditures of the current period. Expenditures are recorded when the liability is incurred, if measurable, except for principal and interest on long-term obligations which is recorded when due.

The Property Appraiser considers receivable collected within 60 days after year end to be available and susceptible to accrual as revenues of the current year. Charges for services and interest earned are susceptible to accrual.

Measurement Focus

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to the fixed assets and long-term liabilities associated with a fund are determined by its measurement focus. All governmental funds are accounted for on a spending or "financial flow" measurement focus. This means that generally, only current assets and current liabilities are included in the balance sheet. Governmental fund operating statements present increases (revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (expenditures and other financing uses) in net current assets. Accordingly, they present a summary of sources and uses of "available spendable resources" during a period.

Budget and Budgetary Accounting

Florida Statutes, Chapter 195.087 governs the preparation, adoption and administration of the annual budget of the Property Appraiser. The budget and subsequent budget amendments of the Property Appraiser are submitted to the Florida Department of Revenue (FDOR) for approval. A copy of the budget is also provided to the Board.

Line-item expenditures in excess of budget are authorized to the extent that total expenditures do not exceed the total budgeted expenditures. Budget transfers between appropriation categories (personal services, operating expenditures, capital outlay, and debt service) must be approved by FDOR. Transfers between expenditure items within the same appropriation category do not need approval by FDOR. The budget is prepared on the modified accrual basis of accounting. General fund appropriations lapse at the end of the fiscal year to the extent they have not been expended.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Property Appraiser considers all highly liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

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

Capital Assets

Capital assets purchased in the governmental fund type are recorded as expenditures (capital outlay) at the time of purchase. Assets acquired by the Property Appraiser are reported as capital assets in the statement of net assets as part of the basic financial statement for Gulf County. The Property Appraiser maintains custodial responsibility for the capital assets used by their office.

Liability for Compensated Absences

Permanent full-time employees of the Property Appraiser accrue sick leave based upon pay periods worked and earned vacation time related to length of employment with the Property Appraiser's office. The vacation and sick time must be taken during the year earned and no payment for vacation or sick leave is made at termination.

Related Organizations – Common Expenses

Certain expenditures, which are common to the Board and all Constitutional Officers, are reported as expenses of the Board and, therefore, are not budgeted by or allocated to the Property Appraiser. These expenses relating to the Property Appraiser's courthouse facilities are:

- Occupancy costs
- Janitorial services
- Utilities (except telephone)
- Property insurance

Distribution of Excess Revenues

Florida Statues require that the Property Appraiser distribute any excess of revenues over expenditures within the general fund to the board within 31 days following the end of the fiscal year. Accordingly, the amount of excess revenues distributed to the Board at the end of the year is presented in the accompanying special-purpose financial statements as "other financing uses."

Fund Balance

Fund balance for governmental funds reports 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 Property Appraiser is a county constitutional officer, and therefore, 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.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the Property Appraiser's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources (committed, assigned, and unassigned) as they are needed. When unrestricted resources (committed, assigned, and unassigned) are available for use, it is the Property Appraiser's policy to use committed resources first, then assigned, and then unassigned, as needed.

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

Subsequent Events

The Property Appraiser evaluated subsequent events through May 3, 2024, the date which the financial statements were available to be issued. The Property Appraiser did not have any subsequent events requiring disclosure or recording in these financial statements.

Adoption of New Accounting Standard

Effective October 1, 2022, the Property Appraiser adopted GASB Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Agreements*. GASB Statement No. 96 enhances the relevance and consistency of information of the government's subscription IT activities. It establishes requirements for subscription-based information technology agreement accounting based on the principle that the agreements are financing of the right-to-use an underlying asset. A government entity is required to recognize a liability and an intangible right-to-use asset. For the year ended September 30, 2023, the Property Appraiser did not have any information technology agreements that qualified for recognition under this standard.

NOTE 2: *Cash and Investments*

All Property Appraiser depositories are banks designated by the State Treasurer as qualified public depositories. Chapter 280, Florida Statutes "Florida Security for Public Deposits Act" provides procedures for public depositories to insure monies in banks and savings, and that loans are collateralized with the Treasurer as an agent for the public entities. All Property Appraiser cash consists of checking accounts and interest-bearing time deposits in a local bank.

NOTE 3: *Interfund Transactions*

During the course of normal operations, numerous transactions occur between funds, such as expenditures or transfers of resources to provide services, service debt, or construct assets. The inter-fund transactions are not eliminated, and no interest is charged on such advances.

Inter-fund receivable and payable balances at September 30, 2023, were as follows:

	Interfund Receivable	Interfund Payable
General Fund		
Board of County Commissioners	$ -	$ 16,345

Operating transfers between funds during the year were as follows:

	Transfers in	Transfers Out
General Fund		
Board of County Commissioners	$ 831,613	$ 16,345

NOTE 4: *Retirement*

The Property Appraiser participates in the Florida Retirement System (FRS), a multiple-employer, cost sharing defined public employee retirement system which covers all the Property Appraiser'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 Property Appraiser is deemed to be part of the primary government of the County. A liability related to the Property Appraiser'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.

NOTE 5: *Risk Management*

The Property Appraiser is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors or omissions; injuries to employees and the public; or damage to property of others. The Property Appraiser participates in the risk management program through the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners, which uses commercial insurance to cover certain risks from loss.

The Board obtained commercial insurance against losses for the following types of risk:

- Real and personal property damage
- Public employee's bond
- Workers' compensation
- General and automobile liability

INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE SECTION

LANIGAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
BUSINESS ADVISORS

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

The Honorable Mitch Burke
Gulf County, Florida Property Appraiser
Gulf 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 Gulf County, Florida Property Appraiser (the "Property Appraiser") as of September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Property Appraiser's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated May 3, 2024.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Property Appraiser'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 financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Property Appraiser's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Property Appraiser's internal control.

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

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

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Property Appraiser's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the of 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 organization'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 organization's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Lanigan & Associates, PC

Tallahassee, Florida
May 3, 2024

LANIGAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
BUSINESS ADVISORS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S MANAGEMENT LETTER

The Honorable Mitch Burke
Gulf County, Florida Property Appraiser
Gulf County, Florida

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of Gulf County, Florida, Property Appraiser as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and have issued our report dated May 3, 2024.

Auditor's Responsibility

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

Other Reporting Requirements

We have issued our Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of the Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*; and Independent Accountant's Reports 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 May 3, 2024, 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 recommendations made 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. This information is disclosed in Note 1 of the notes to financial statements.

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

Lanigan & Associates, PC

Tallahassee, Florida
May 3, 2024

LANIGAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
BUSINESS ADVISORS

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH FLORIDA STATUTE SECTION 218.415 – INVESTMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS

To the Honorable Mitch Burke
Gulf County, Florida Property Appraiser
Gulf County, Florida

Report on Compliance

We have examined the Gulf County, Florida Property Appraiser (the "Property Appraiser") compliance with Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, regarding the investment of public funds during the year ended September 30, 2023. Management is responsible for the Property Appraiser's compliance with those requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Property Appraiser's compliance based on our examination.

Scope

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Property Appraiser complied, in all material respects, with the specified requirements referenced above. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether the Property Appraiser complied with the specified requirements. The nature, timing and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgement, including an assessment of the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion. We are required to be independent and to meet our ethical responsibilities in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to the engagement. Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the Property Appraiser's compliance with specified requirements.

Opinion

In our opinion, the Property Appraiser complied, in all material respects, with Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, regarding the investment of public funds during the year ended September 30, 2023.

Lanigan & Associates, PC

Tallahassee, Florida
May 3, 2024

Gulf County, Florida
Sheriff

❖

Special Purpose
Financial Statements

September 30, 2023

Gulf County, Florida
Sheriff

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

September 30, 2023

C O N T E N T S

Financial Section Page No.

Independent Auditor's Report....1

Basic Financial Statements:
- Balance Sheet – General Fund....4
- Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget to Actual - General Fund....5
- Statement of Fiduciary Net Position – Custodial Funds....6
- Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position – Custodial Funds....7

Notes to Financial Statements....8

Internal Control and Compliance Section

Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*....15

Independent Auditor's Management Letter....17

Independent Accountant's Report on Compliance with Florida Statute Section 218.415 – Investment of Public Funds....19

Management's Response to Management Letter Recommendation.... 20

LANIGAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
BUSINESS ADVISORS
www.lanigancpa.com

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Honorable Mike Harrison
Gulf County, Florida Sheriff
Gulf County, Florida

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the general fund and the remaining aggregate fund information of the Gulf County, Florida Sheriff (the "Sheriff"), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the general fund and the remaining aggregate fund information of the Sheriff 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 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 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 Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Sheriff 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 opinion.

Emphasis of a 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 the aggregate remaining fund information, only for that portion of the major funds, and the aggregate remaining fund information, of Gulf County, Florida that is attributable to the Sheriff. They do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of Gulf County, Florida as of September 30, 2023, and 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 these matters.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Sheriff's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and GAS 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 GAS, 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 Sheriff'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 Sheriff's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated May 6, 2024, on our consideration of the Sheriff'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 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 Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Lanigan & Associates, PC

Tallahassee, Florida
May 6, 2024

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA SHERIFF
BALANCE SHEET
GENERAL FUND
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

ASSETS		
Cash	$	314,529
Accounts receivable		7,680
Due from BOCC		136,401
Total assets	$	458,610
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE		
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	$	379,851
Due to BOCC		78,759
Total liabilities		458,610
Fund balance		-
Total liabilities and fund balance	$	458,610

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA SHERIFF
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET TO ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Original	Final	Actual	Variance with Final budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
REVENUES				
Charges for services	$ 570,021	$ 649,861	$ 644,860	$ (5,001)
Miscellaneous	-	22,003	22,003	-
Total revenues	570,021	671,864	666,863	(5,001)
EXPENDITURES				
Public safety				
Personnel services	3,391,059	3,417,829	3,417,829	-
Operating expenditures	612,439	639,822	639,822	-
Capital outlay	239,857	287,547	287,547	-
Total expenditures	4,243,355	4,345,198	4,345,198	-
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	(3,673,334)	(3,673,334)	(3,678,335)	(5,001)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers in	3,673,334	3,673,334	3,673,334	-
Transfer out	-	-	(77,460)	(77,460)
Total other financing sources (uses)	3,673,334	3,673,334	3,595,874	(77,460)
Net changes in fund balances	-	-	(82,461)	(82,461)
Fund balances - beginning	-	-	82,461	82,461
Fund balances - ending	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA SHERIFF
STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
CUSTODIAL FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Depository
ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 31,574
LIABILITIES	
Due to individuals and others	31,574
NET POSITION	$ -

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

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

ADDITIONS	$	77,601
DEDUCTIONS		78,307
Net (decrease) in fiduciary net position		(706)
Net position - beginning		706
Net position - ending	$	-

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

NOTE 1: *Summary of Significant Accounting Policies*

The accounting policies of the Gulf County, Florida Sheriff (the "Sheriff") conform with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), as applicable to governments. The following is a summary of significant accounting principles and policies used in the preparation of these special purpose financial statements.

Reporting Entity

Gulf County, Florida (the "County") is a political subdivision of the state of Florida. It is governed by an elected Board of County Commissioners and an appointed County Administrator, as provided by Section 125.73 of the Florida Statutes. The County Administrator is responsible for the administration of all departments of which the Board has the authority to control pursuant to the general laws of Florida.

The Sheriff is an elected official of Gulf County, Florida pursuant to the Constitution of the State of Florida, Article VIII, Section 1(d). The Sheriff is part of the primary government of Gulf County, Florida. Although the Board of County Commissioners approves the Sheriff's total operating budget, the Sheriff is responsible for the administration and the operation of the Sheriff's office. There are no separate legal entities (component units) for which the Sheriff is considered to be financially accountable.

The operations of the Sheriff are funded by the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners. The receipts from the Board are recorded as other financing sources on the Sheriff's financial statements and as other financing uses on the Board's financial statements. Any excess of revenues and other financial sources received over expenditures are remitted to the Board at year end.

Fund Accounting

Accounts are organized on the basis of fund types, each of which is considered to be 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 as appropriate. Government resources are allocated to and accounted for in individual funds based on the purpose for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled.

The Sheriff reports the following major governmental funds:

Governmental Fund Type

- General Fund – The general fund is the general operating fund of the Sheriff. It is used to account for all financial resources, except for those required to be accounted for in other funds.

Fiduciary Fund Type

- Custodial Fund – The custodial funds are used to account for assets held by the Sheriff as an agent for individuals, private organizations, other governments, and/or other funds.

Basis of Accounting

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements and relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the measurement focus applied.

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared using the modified accrual basis of accounting for governmental funds and agency funds. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when they become both measurable and available to finance expenditures of the current period. Expenditures are recorded when the liability is incurred, if measurable, except for principal and interest on long-term obligations which is recorded when due.

The Sheriff considers receivable collected within 60 days after year end to be available and susceptible to accrual as revenues of the current year. Charges for services and interest earned are susceptible to accrual.

Measurement Focus

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to the fixed assets and long-term liabilities associated with a fund are determined by its measurement focus. All governmental funds are accounted for on a spending or "financial flow" measurement focus. This means that generally, only current assets and current liabilities are included in the balance sheet. Governmental fund operating statements present increases (revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (expenditures and other financing uses) in net current assets. Accordingly, they present a summary of sources and uses of "available spendable resources" during a period.

Budget and Budgetary Accounting

General governmental revenues and expenditures accounted for in budgetary funds are controlled by a formal integrated budgetary accounting system in accordance with Florida Statutes. An annual budget is adopted for the general fund.

The Sheriff's annual budget is monitored at varying levels of classification detail. However, for purposes of budgetary control, expenditures cannot legally exceed the total annual budget appropriations at the individual fund level. All appropriations lapse at year-end.

Budget to actual comparisons are provided in the financial statements for the general fund. All budget amounts presented in the accompanying financial statements have been adjusted for legally authorized amendments of the annual budget for the year. Budgets are prepared on the modified accrual basis of accounting.

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

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Sheriff considers all highly liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

Capital Assets

Capital assets purchased in the governmental fund type are recorded as expenditures (capital outlay) at the time of purchase. Assets acquired by the Sheriff are reported as capital assets in the statement of net assets as part of the basic financial statement for Gulf County. The Sheriff maintains custodial responsibility for the capital assets used by their office.

Liability for Compensated Absences

The Sheriff accrues a liability for employees' rights to receive compensation for future absences when certain conditions are met. The Sheriff does not, nor is legally required to, accumulate expendable available resources to liquidate this obligation. Accordingly, the liability for the compensated absences is not reported in the governmental fund. However, the current and long-term portion of the liability for compensated absences is reported at the county wide financial statement level.

Related Organizations – Common Expenses

Certain expenditures, which are common to the Board and all Constitutional Officers, are reported as expenses of the Board and, therefore, are not budgeted by or allocated to the Sheriff. These expenses relating to the Sheriff's courthouse facilities are:

- Occupancy costs
- Janitorial services
- Utilities (except telephone)
- Property insurance

Distribution of Excess Revenues

Florida Statues require that the Sheriff distribute any excess of revenues over expenditures within the general fund to the board within 31 days following the end of the fiscal year. Accordingly, the amount of excess revenues distributed to the Board at the end of the year is presented in the accompanying special-purpose financial statements as "other financing uses."

Subsequent Events

The Sheriff evaluated subsequent events through May 6, 2024, the date which the financial statements were available to be issued. The Sheriff did not have any subsequent events requiring disclosure or recording in these financial statements.

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

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 Sheriff is a county constitutional officer, and therefore, 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.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the Sheriff's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources (committed, assigned, and unassigned) as they are needed. When unrestricted resources (committed, assigned, and unassigned) are available for use, it is the Sheriff's policy to use committed resources first, then assigned, and then unassigned, as needed.

Adoption of New Accounting Standard

Effective October 1, 2022, the Sheriff adopted GASB Statement No. 96, Subscription-Based Information Technology Agreements. GASB Statement No. 96 enhances the relevance and consistency of information of the government's subscription IT activities. It establishes requirements for subscription-based information technology agreement accounting based on the principle that the agreements are financing of the right-to-use an underlying asset. A government entity is required to recognize a liability and an intangible right-to-use asset. For the year ended September 30, 2023, the Sheriff did not have any information technology agreements that qualified for recognition under this standard.

NOTE 2: *Interfund Transactions*

During the course of normal operations, numerous transactions occur between funds, such as expenditures or transfers of resources to provide services, service debt, or construct assets. The inter-fund transactions are not eliminated, and no interest is charged on such advances.

Inter-fund receivable and payable balances at September 30, 2023, were as follows:

	Interfund Receivable	Interfund Payable
General Fund		
Board of County Commissioners	$ 136,401	$ -

Operating transfers between funds during the year were as follows:

	Transfers In	Transfers Out
General Fund		
Board of County Commissioners	$ 3,673,334	$ 77,460

NOTE 3: *Retirement*

The entity participates in the Florida Retirement System (FRS), a multiple-employer, cost sharing defined public employee retirement system which covers all of the Sheriff'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 Sheriff is deemed to be part of the primary government of the County. A liability related to the Sheriff'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.

NOTE 4: *Changes in Long-Term Obligations*

Under the GASB 34 reporting model, long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and accordingly are not reported as fund liabilities. All long-term liabilities for the Sheriff are reported in the government-wide Statement of Net Position. The compensated absences of the Sheriff are accounted for in the Statement of Net Position as follows:

	Balance October 01, 2022	Additions	Reductions	Balance September 30, 2023
Compensated absences	$ 372,467	$ 387,005	$ (371,848)	$ 387,624

NOTE 5: *Risk Management*

The Sheriff participates in the Florida Sheriff Self-Insurance Fund, which is considered a public entity risk pool which purchases insurance policies on behalf of its members. The pool's members are not obligated for risk associated with such coverage. Coverage under these programs include; general liability, public employees blanket bond, automobiles, and money and securities coverage.

The Sheriff provides workers' compensation coverage under a retrospectively rated commercial insurance policy through the Board. Premiums are accrued based on the ultimate cost to date of the Sheriff's experience for this type of risk.

The Sheriff has determined that it was not economically justifiable to carry comprehensive coverage on all vehicles. The Sheriff evaluates vehicles by age and condition to determine if comprehensive coverage is feasible, otherwise the Sheriff carries liability insurance on the aforementioned vehicles.

In addition, the Sheriff participates in the Florida Self-Insurance Fund for risks related to professional liability and public officials' coverage. The funding agreement provides that the liability fund will be self-sustaining through member premiums and that it will be reinsured through commercial companies. Aggregate coverage provided by the liability fund is $10,000,000 for professional liability and $10,000,000 for public officials' coverage.

NOTE 6: *Interlocal Agreements*

The Gulf County Sheriff has an interlocal agreement with the City of Wewahitchka, whereby personnel from the Sheriff's office provide law enforcement services to the City of Wewahitchka. As consideration therefore, the Sheriff receives payments of $45,000 annually from the City.

The Gulf County Sheriff entered into a service agreement with the City of Port St. Joe Police Department, whereby the Sheriff provides all dispatching services required within the City of Port St. Joe. The City of Port St. Joe pays the Gulf County Sheriff the sum of $80,000 per year in consideration for these services.

The Sheriff has an interlocal agreement with the Gulf County School Board (the "District"), whereby the Sheriff provides School Resource Officers to the District. As consideration, the Sheriff received payments of $33,600 per month from October 2022 through June 2023 and $37,000 from July 2023 through September 2023. The Sheriff received $413,400 for the year ended September 30, 2023.

The Sheriff has an agreement with Big Bend Community Based Care (the "BBCBC"), whereby the Sheriff provides officers to respond to children who are at risk of harming themselves or others. As consideration, the Sheriff received payments of $6,250 per month from BBCBC and $26,770 in July 2023. The Sheriff received $101,770 during the year ended September 30, 2023.

NOTE 7: *Post Employment Benefits Other Than Pensions*

In accordance with Florida Statutes Section 112.0801, the Sheriff participates with Gulf County in offering retiring employees the opportunity to continue participating in the group insurance plan. Retirees who do not choose to continue participation lose eligibility to participate in the future.

Retirees and their eligible dependents shall be offered the same health and hospitalization insurance coverage as is offered to active employees at a premium cost of no more than the premium cost applicable to active employees. The County subsidizes the premium rates paid by the retirees by allowing them to participate in the plan at blended group (implicitly subsidized) premium rates for both active and retired employees. These rates provide an implicit subsidy for retirees because, on an actuarial basis, their current and future claims are expected to result in higher costs to the plan on average than those of active employees. No stand alone report is issued for this plan.

The details of the plan, methodology, and costs are more fully described in the Gulf County Notes to the Financial Statements.

NOTE 8: *Commitments and Contingencies*

Litigation – From time to time, the Sheriff is involved as a defendant or plaintiff in certain litigation and claims arising from the ordinary course of operations. It is reasonably possible that the liability for known and unknown claims existing at the balance sheet date may be material. However, the responsibility for such claims is with the County's Risk Management Program. Accordingly, no contingent liabilities have been accrued in the accompanying financial statements.

Grants – The Sheriff is the recipient of grants that are subject to special compliance requirements and audits by the grantor agencies that may result in disallowed expense amount. These amounts constitute a contingent liability of the Sheriff. The Sheriff does not believe any contingent liabilities, if any exist, to be material to the financial statements.

INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE SECTION

LANIGAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
BUSINESS ADVISORS

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

The Honorable Mike Harrison
Gulf County, Florida Sheriff
Gulf County, Florida

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the general fund and remaining aggregate fund information of Gulf County, Florida Sheriff (the "Sheriff") as of September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Sheriff's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated May 6, 2024.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

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

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

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Sheriff's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the 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 organization'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 organization's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Lanigan & Associates, PC

Tallahassee, Florida
May 6, 2024

LANIGAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
BUSINESS ADVISORS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S MANAGEMENT LETTER

The Honorable Mike Harrison
Gulf County, Florida Sheriff
Gulf County, Florida

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of the Gulf County, Florida Sheriff as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and have issued our report dated May 6, 2024.

Auditor's Responsibility

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

Other Reporting Requirements

We have issued our Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of the Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*; and Independent Account's Reports 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 May 6, 2024, 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 recommendations made 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. This information is disclosed in Note 1 of the notes to financial statements.

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 have the following recommendation:

Bank Reconciliations

Criteria: An effective internal control system requires the preparation of accurate bank reconciliations.

Condition: The Sheriff's cash balance reported on the bank reconciliation did not reconcile to the general ledger and therefore was ineffective.

Cause: Inadequate understanding of the bank reconciliation process.

Effect: Risk of misstatement due to bank reconciliations not being performed correctly.

Recommendations: The Sheriff's bookkeeper should receive additional training on how to prepare bank reconciliations using the current accounting software. In addition, the monthly bank reconciliations should be reviewed and approved by the Sheriff or someone other than the preparer.

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 Board of County Commissioners, and applicable management, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Lanigan & Associates, PC

Tallahassee, Florida
May 6, 2024

LANIGAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
BUSINESS ADVISORS

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH FLORIDA STATUTE SECTION 218.415 – INVESTMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS

The Honorable Mike Harrison
Gulf County, Florida Sheriff
Gulf County, Florida

Report on Compliance

We have examined the Gulf County, Florida Sheriff's (the "Sheriff") compliance with Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, regarding the investment of public funds during the year ended September 30, 2023. Management is responsible for the Sheriff's compliance with those requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Sheriff's compliance based on our examination.

Scope

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Sheriff complied, in all material respects, with the specified requirements referenced above. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether the Sheriff complied with the specified requirements. The nature, timing and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgement, including an assessment of the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion. We are required to be independent and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to the engagement. Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the Sheriff's compliance with specified requirements.

Opinion

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

Lanigan & Associates, PC

Tallahassee, Florida
May 6, 2024

Gulf County Sheriff's Office
Sheriff Mike Harrison
418 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd. • Port Saint Joe, Florida 32456 • www.gulfsheriff.com
850-227-1115 • 850-639-5717 • Fax 850-227-2097

May 23, 2024

Good morning,

In response to Recommendations given in reference to Bank Reconciliations in the Financial Management portion of the Independent Auditor's Management Letter; we provide the following Corrective Action Plan:

> The Gulf County Sheriff's Office bookkeeper has received additional training on how to prepare bank reconciliations using the current software (QuickBooks). In addition, along with the monthly bank reconciliation, the monthly Balance Sheet will be provided and reviewed by the Sheriff to ensure reconciliation.

Sincerely,

Scott Lamberson

Scott Lamberson
Finance Director

Gulf County Sheriff's Office
418 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd.
Port Saint Joe, FL 32456
850-227-1115 main office
850-227-2737 direct line

Gulf County, Florida
Supervisor of Elections
❖
Special Purpose
Financial Statements

September 30, 2023

Gulf County, Florida
Supervisor of Elections

Financial Statements

September 30, 2023

C O N T E N T S

Financial Section Page No.

Independent Auditor's Report....1

Basic Financial Statements:
Balance Sheet – General Fund....4
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in
Fund Balances – Budget to Actual – General Fund....5
Notes to Financial Statements....6

Internal Control and Compliance Section

Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting
and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements
Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*....12

Independent Auditor's Management Letter....14

Independent Accountant's Report on Compliance with
Florida Statute Section 218.415 – Investment of Public Funds....16

LANIGAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
BUSINESS ADVISORS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Honorable John M. Hanlon
Gulf County, Florida Supervisor of Elections
Gulf County, Florida

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the general fund of the Gulf County, Florida Supervisor of Elections (the "Supervisor of Elections"), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the general fund of the Supervisor of Elections 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 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 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 Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Supervisor of Elections 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 opinion.

Emphasis of a 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 Gulf County, Florida that is attributable to the Supervisor of Elections. They do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of Gulf County, Florida as of September 30, 2023, and 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 these matters.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

The Supervisor of Elections' 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 Supervisor of Elections's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and GAS 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 GAS, 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 Supervisor of Elections' 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 Supervisor of Elections' ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated May 3, 2024, on our consideration of the Supervisor of Elections' 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 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 Supervisor of Elections's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Lanigan & Associates, PC

Tallahassee, Florida
May 3, 2024

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

ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	$	85,541
Prepaid items		9,420
Total assets	$	94,961
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE		
Liabilities		
Accounts payable	$	13,563
Due to BOCC		81,398
Total liabilities		94,961
Fund balance:		
Assigned		9,420
Unassigned		(9,420)
Total fund balance		-
Total liabilities and fund balance	$	94,961

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET TO ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Original	Final	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
REVENUES				
Grant revenue	$ -	$ -	$ 30,630	$ 30,630
Other income	-	-	229	229
Total revenues	-	-	30,859	30,859
EXPENDITURES				
General government				
Personnel services	344,311	364,311	364,311	-
Operating expenditures	162,039	162,039	109,623	52,416
Total expenditures	506,350	526,350	473,934	52,416
Excess (deficiency) of revenues (under) expenditures	(506,350)	(526,350)	(443,075)	83,275
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES				
Transfers in	506,350	526,350	524,473	(1,877)
Transfers out	-	-	(81,398)	(81,398)
Total other financing sources (uses)	506,350	526,350	443,075	(83,275)
Net changes in fund balances	-	-	-	-
Fund balance - beginning	-	-	-	-
Fund balance - ending	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

NOTE 1: *Summary of Significant Accounting Policies*

The accounting policies of the Gulf County, Florida Supervisor of Elections (the "Supervisor of Elections") conform with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), as applicable to governments. The following is a summary of significant accounting principles and policies used in the preparation of these special purpose financial statements.

Reporting Entity

Gulf County, Florida (the "County") is a political subdivision of the state of Florida. It is governed by an elected Board of County Commissioners and an appointed County Administrator, as provided by Section 125.73 of the Florida Statutes. The County Administrator is responsible for the administration of all departments of which the Board has the authority to control pursuant to the general laws of Florida.

The Supervisor of Elections is an elected official of Gulf County, Florida pursuant to the Constitution of the State of Florida, Article VIII, Section 1(d). The Supervisor of Elections is part of the primary government of Gulf County, Florida. Although the Board of County Commissioners approve the Supervisor of Elections' total operating budget, the Supervisor of Elections is responsible for the administration and the operation of the Supervisor of Elections' office. There are no separate legal entities (component units) for which the Supervisor of Elections is considered to be financially accountable.

The operations of the Supervisor of Elections are funded by the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners. The receipts from the Board are recorded as other financing sources on the Supervisor of Elections' financial statements and as other financing uses on the Board's financial statements. Any excess of revenues and other financial sources received over expenditures are remitted to the Board at year end.

Fund Accounting

Accounts are organized on the basis of fund types, each of which is considered to be 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 as appropriate. Government resources are allocated to and accounted for in individual funds based on the purpose for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled. The Supervisor of Elections utilizes the following fund types:

Governmental Fund Types

- General Fund – The general fund is the general operating fund of the Supervisor of Elections. It is used to account for all financial resources, except for those required to be accounted for in other funds.

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

Basis of Accounting

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements and relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the measurement focus applied.

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared using the modified accrual basis of accounting for governmental funds and agency funds. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when they become both measurable and available to finance expenditures of the current period. Expenditures are recorded when the liability is incurred, if measurable, except for principal and interest on long-term obligations which is recorded when due.

The Supervisor of Elections considers receivable collected within 60 days after year end to be available and susceptible to accrual as revenues of the current year. Charges for services and interest earned are susceptible to accrual.

Measurement Focus

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to the fixed assets and long-term liabilities associated with a fund are determined by its measurement focus. All governmental funds are accounted for on a spending or "financial flow" measurement focus. This means that generally, only current assets and current liabilities are included in the balance sheet. Governmental fund operating statements present increases (revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (expenditures and other financing uses) in net current assets. Accordingly, they present a summary of sources and uses of "available spendable resources" during a period.

Budget and Budgetary Accounting

General governmental revenues and expenditures accounted for in budgetary funds are controlled by a formal integrated budgetary accounting system in accordance with Florida Statutes. An annual budget is adopted for the general fund.

The Supervisor of Elections' annual budget is monitored at varying levels of classification detail. However, for purposes of budgetary control, expenditures cannot legally exceed the total annual budget appropriations at the individual fund level. All appropriations lapse at year-end.

Budget to actual comparisons are provided in the financial statements for the general fund. All budget amounts presented in the accompanying financial statements have been adjusted for legally authorized amendments of the annual budget for the year. Budgets are prepared on the modified accrual basis of accounting.

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

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Supervisor of Elections considers all highly liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

Capital Assets

Capital assets purchased in the governmental fund type are recorded as expenditures (capital outlay) at the time of purchase. Assets acquired by the Supervisor of Elections are reported as capital assets in the statement of net assets as part of the basic financial statement for Gulf County. The Supervisor of Elections maintains custodial responsibility for the capital assets used by their office.

Related Organizations – Common Expenses

Certain expenditures, which are common to the Board and all Constitutional Officers, are reported as expenses of the Board and, therefore, are not budgeted by or allocated to the Supervisor of Elections. These expenses relating to the Supervisor of Elections' courthouse facilities are:

- Occupancy costs
- Janitorial services
- Utilities (except telephone)
- Property insurance

Distribution of Excess Revenues

Florida Statues require that the Supervisor of Elections distribute any excess of revenues over expenditures within the general fund to the board within 31 days following the end of the fiscal year. Accordingly, the amount of excess revenues distributed to the Board at the end of the year is presented in the accompanying special-purpose financial statements as "other financing uses."

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 Supervisor of Elections is a county constitutional officer, and therefore, 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.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the Supervisor of Elections' policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources (committed, assigned, and unassigned) as they are needed. When unrestricted resources (committed, assigned, and unassigned) are available for use, it is the Supervisor of Elections' policy to use committed resources first, then assigned, and then unassigned, as needed.

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

Subsequent Events

The Supervisor of Elections evaluated subsequent events through May 3, 2024, the date which the financial statements were available to be issued. The Supervisor of Elections did not have any subsequent events requiring disclosure or recording in these financial statements.

Adoption of New Accounting Standard

Effective October 1, 2022, the Supervisor of Elections adopted GASB Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Agreements*. GASB Statement No. 96 enhances the relevance and consistency of information of the government's subscription IT activities. It establishes requirements for subscription-based information technology agreement accounting based on the principle that the agreements are financing of the right-to-use an underlying asset. A government entity is required to recognize a liability and an intangible right-to-use asset. For the year ended September 30, 2023, the Supervisor of Elections did not have any information technology agreements that qualified for recognition under this standard.

NOTE 2: *Cash and Investments*

All Supervisor of Elections depositories are banks designated by the State Treasurer as qualified public depositories. Chapter 280, Florida Statutes "Florida Security for Public Deposits Act" provides procedures for public depositories to insure monies in banks and savings and loans are collateralized with the Treasurer as an agent for the public entities. All Supervisor of Elections cash consists of checking accounts and interest-bearing time deposits in a local bank.

NOTE 3: *Interfund Transactions*

During the course of normal operations, numerous transactions occur between funds, such as expenditures or transfers of resources to provide services, service debt, or construct assets. The inter-fund transactions are not eliminated, and no interest is charged on such advances.

Inter-fund receivable and payable balances at September 30, 2023, were as follows:

	Interfund Receivable	Interfund Payable
General Fund		
Board of County Commissioners	$ -	$ 81,398

Operating transfers between funds during the year were as follows:

	Transfers In	Transfers Out
General Fund		
Board of County Commissioners	$ 524,473	$ 81,398

NOTE 4: *Retirement*

The Supervisor of Elections participates in the Florida Retirement System (FRS), a multiple-employer, cost sharing defined public employee retirement system which covers all of the Supervisor of Elections' 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 Supervisor of Elections is deemed to be part of the primary government of the County. A liability related to the Supervisor of Elections' 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.

NOTE 5: *Risk Management*

The Supervisor of Elections is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to and destruction of assets; errors or omissions; injuries to employees and the public; or damage to property of others. The Supervisor of Elections participates in the risk management program through the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners, which uses commercial insurance to cover certain risks from loss.

The Board obtained commercial insurance against losses for the following types of risk:

- Real and personal property damage
- Public employee's bond
- Workers' compensation
- General and automobile liability

INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE SECTION

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

The Honorable John M. Hanlon
Gulf County, Florida Supervisor of Elections
Gulf County, Florida

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the general fund of the Gulf County, Florida Supervisor of Elections (the "Supervisor of Elections") as of September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Supervisor of Elections' basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated May 3, 2024.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

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

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

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Supervisor of Elections' financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the of 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 organization'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 organization's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Lanigan & Associates, PC

Tallahassee, Florida
May 3, 2024

LANIGAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
BUSINESS ADVISORS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S MANAGEMENT LETTER

The Honorable John M. Hanlon
Gulf County, Florida Supervisor of Elections
Gulf County, Florida

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of Gulf County, Florida Supervisor of Elections as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and have issued our report dated May 3, 2024.

Auditor's Responsibility

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

Other Reporting Requirements

We have issued our Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of the Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards; and Independent Accountant's Reports 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 May 3, 2024 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 recommendations made 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. This information is disclosed in Note 1 of the notes to financial statements.

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

Lanigan & Associates, PC

Tallahassee, Florida
May 3, 2024

LANIGAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
BUSINESS ADVISORS

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH FLORIDA STATUTE SECTION 218.415 – INVESTMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS

The Honorable John M. Hanlon
Gulf County, Florida Supervisor of Elections
Gulf County, Florida

Report on Compliance

We have examined the Gulf County, Florida Supervisor of Elections (the "Supervisor of Elections") compliance with Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, regarding the investment of public funds during the year ended September 30, 2023. Management is responsible for the Supervisor of Elections' compliance with those requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Supervisor of Elections' compliance based on our examination.

Scope

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Supervisor of Elections complied, in all material respects, with the specified requirements referenced above. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether the Supervisor of Elections complied with the specified requirements. The nature, timing and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgement, including an assessment of the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion. We are required to be independent and meet our ethical responsibilities in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to the engagement. Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the Supervisor of Elections' compliance with specified requirements.

Opinion

In our opinion, the Supervisor of Elections complied, in all material respects, with Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, regarding the investment of public funds during the year ended September 30, 2023.

Lanigan & Associates, PC

Tallahassee, Florida
May 3, 2024

Gulf County, Florida
Tax Collector
❖
Special Purpose
Financial Statements

September 30, 2023

Gulf County, Florida
Tax Collector

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

September 30, 2023

C O N T E N T S

Financial Section Page No.

Independent Auditor's Report....1

Basic Financial Statements:
- Balance Sheet – General Fund....4
- Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget to Actual - General Fund....5
- Statement of Fiduciary Net Position – Custodial Funds....6
- Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position – Custodial Funds....7
- Notes to Financial Statements....8

Supplementary Information

Combining Schedule of Fiduciary Net Position – Custodial Funds....14
Combining Schedule of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position – Custodial Funds....15

Internal Control and Compliance Section

Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*....16

Independent Auditor's Management Letter....18

Independent Accountant's Report on Compliance with Florida Statute Section 218.415 – Investment of Public Funds....20

LANIGAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
BUSINESS ADVISORS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Honorable Shirley J. Jenkins
Gulf County, Florida Tax Collector
Gulf County, Florida

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the general fund and the remaining aggregate fund information of the Gulf County, Florida Tax Collector (the "Tax Collector"), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the general fund and the remaining aggregate fund information of the Tax Collector 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 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 audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Tax Collector 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 opinion.

Emphasis of a 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 the aggregate remaining fund information, only for that portion of the major funds, and the aggregate remaining fund information, of Gulf County, Florida that is attributable to the Tax Collector. They do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of Gulf County, Florida as of September 30, 2023, and 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 these matters.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Tax Collector's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Tax Collector'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 Tax Collector'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.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Tax Collector's basic financial statements. The combining schedule of fiduciary net position – custodial funds and the combining schedule of changes in fiduciary net position – custodial funds are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The supplementary information mentioned above is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the supplementary 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 May 6, 2024, on our consideration of the Tax Collector'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 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 Tax Collector's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Lanigan & Associates, PC

Tallahassee, Florida
May 6, 2024

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA TAX COLLECTOR
BALANCE SHEET
GENERAL FUND
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	General Fund
ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	$ -
Due from TDC	21,931
Total assets	$ 21,931
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE	
Liabilities:	
Accounts payable	$ 21,931
Fund balance	-
Total liabilities and fund balance	$ 21,931

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA TAX COLLECTOR
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET TO ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts			Variance with Final Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final	Actual	
REVENUES				
Tourist Development collections	$ 75,000	$ 146,672	$ 146,672	$ -
Total revenues	75,000	146,672	146,672	-
EXPENDITURES				
General government				
Personal services	603,015	604,170	604,170	-
Operating expenditures	115,240	186,912	186,912	-
Total expenditures	718,255	791,082	791,082	-
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	(643,255)	(644,410)	(644,410)	-
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES				
Transfers from BOCC	643,255	644,410	644,410	-
Total other financing sources	643,255	644,410	644,410	-
Net changes in fund balance	-	-	-	-
Fund balance - beginning	-	-	-	-
Fund balance - ending	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA TAX COLLECTOR
STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
CUSTODIAL FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	$	477,675
LIABILITIES		
Due to individuals		29,882
Due to BOCC		1,094
Due to other governments		446,699
Total liabilities		477,675
NET POSITION	$	-

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA TAX COLLECTOR
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
CUSTODIAL FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

ADDITIONS		
Taxes	$	38,670,229
Permits, fees, and special assessments		3,219,489
Total additions		41,889,718
DEDUCTIONS		
Payments to other governments		22,925,963
Payments to BOCC		17,552,411
Payments to individuals		1,411,316
Payments to constitutional officers		28
Total deductions		41,889,718
Net change in fiduciary net position		-
Net position - beginning		-
Net position - ending	$	-

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

NOTE 1: *Summary of Significant Accounting Policies*

The accounting policies of the Gulf County, Florida Tax Collector (the "Tax Collector") conform with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), as applicable to governments. The following is a summary of significant accounting principles and policies used in the preparation of these special purpose financial statements.

Reporting Entity

Gulf County, Florida (the "County") is a political subdivision of the state of Florida. It is governed by an elected Board of County Commissioners and an appointed County Administrator, as provided by Section 125.73 of the Florida Statutes. The County Administrator is responsible for the administration of all departments of which the Board has the authority to control pursuant to the general laws of Florida.

The Tax Collector is an elected official of Gulf County, Florida pursuant to the Constitution of the State of Florida, Article VIII, Section 1(d). The Tax Collector is part of the primary government of Gulf County, Florida. Although the Board of County Commissioners approve the Tax Collector's total operating budget, the Tax Collector is responsible for the administration and the operation of the Tax Collector's office. There are no separate legal entities (component units) for which the Tax Collector is considered to be financially accountable.

The operations of the Tax Collector are funded by the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners. The receipts from the Board are recorded as other financing sources on the Tax Collector' financial statements and as other financing uses on the Board's financial statements. Any excess of revenues and other financial sources received over expenditures are remitted to the Board at year end.

Fund Accounting

Accounts are organized on the basis of fund types, each of which is considered to be 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 as appropriate. Government resources are allocated to and accounted for in individual funds based on the purpose for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled.

The Tax Collector reports the following fund types:

Governmental Fund Types

- General Fund – The general fund is the general operating fund of the Tax Collector. It is used to account for all financial resources, except for those required to be accounted for in other funds.

Fiduciary Fund Type

- Custodial Funds – The custodial funds are used to account for assets held by the Tax Collector as an agent for individuals, private organizations, other governments and/or other funds.

Basis of Accounting

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements and relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the measurement focus applied.

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared using the modified accrual basis of accounting for governmental funds and agency funds. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when they become both measurable and available to finance expenditures of the current period. Expenditures are recorded when the liability is incurred, if measurable, except for principal and interest on long-term obligations which is recorded when due.

The Tax Collector considers receivable collected within 60 days after year end to be available and susceptible to accrual as revenues of the current year. Charges for services and interest earned are susceptible to accrual.

Measurement Focus

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to the fixed assets and long-term liabilities associated with a fund are determined by its measurement focus. All governmental funds are accounted for on a spending or "financial flow" measurement focus. This means that generally, only current assets and current liabilities are included in the balance sheet. Governmental fund operating statements present increases (revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (expenditures and other financing uses) in net current assets. Accordingly, they present a summary of sources and uses of "available spendable resources" during a period.

Budget and Budgetary Accounting

General governmental revenues and expenditures accounted for in budgetary funds are controlled by a formal integrated budgetary accounting system in accordance with Florida Statutes. An annual budget is adopted for the general fund.

The Tax Collector's annual budget is monitored at varying levels of classification detail. However, for purposes of budgetary control, expenditures cannot legally exceed the total annual budget appropriations at the individual fund level. All appropriations lapse at year-end.

Budget to actual comparisons are provided in the financial statements for the general fund. All budget amounts presented in the accompanying financial statements have been adjusted for legally authorized amendments of the annual budget for the year. Budgets are prepared on the modified accrual basis of accounting.

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

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Tax Collector considers all highly liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

Capital Assets

Capital assets purchased in the governmental fund type are recorded as expenditures (capital outlay) at the time of purchase. Assets acquired by the Tax Collector are reported as capital assets in the statement of net assets as part of the basic financial statement for Gulf County. The Tax Collector maintains custodial responsibility for the capital assets used by her office.

Liability for Compensated Absences

The Tax Collector accrues a liability for employees' rights to receive compensation for future absences when certain conditions are met. The Tax Collector does not, nor is legally required to, accumulate expendable available resources to liquidate this obligation. Accordingly, the liability for the compensated absences is not reported in the governmental fund. However, the current and long-term portion of the liability for compensated absences is reported at the county wide financial statement level.

Related Organizations – Common Expenses

Certain expenditures, which are common to the Board and all Constitutional Officers, are reported as expenses of the Board and, therefore, are not budgeted by or allocated to the Tax Collector. These expenses relating to the Tax Collector's courthouse facilities are:

- Occupancy costs
- Janitorial services
- Utilities (except telephone)
- Property insurance

Distribution of Excess Revenues

Florida Statues require that the Tax Collector distribute any excess of revenues over expenditures within the general fund to the board within 31 days following the end of the fiscal year. Accordingly, the amount of excess revenues distributed to the Board at the end of the year is presented in the accompanying special-purpose financial statements as "other financing uses."

Subsequent Events

The Tax Collector evaluated subsequent events through May 6, 2024, the date which the financial statements were available to be issued. The Tax Collector did not have any subsequent events requiring disclosure or recording in these financial statements.

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

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 Tax Collector is a county constitutional officer, and therefore, 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.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the Tax Collector's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources (committed, assigned, and unassigned) as they are needed. When unrestricted resources (committed, assigned, and unassigned) are available for use, it is the Tax Collector's policy to use committed resources first, then assigned, and then unassigned, as needed.

Adoption of New Accounting Standard

Effective October 1, 2022, the Tax Collector adopted GASB Statement No. 96, Subscription-Based Information Technology Agreements. GASB Statement No. 96 enhances the relevance and consistency of information of the government's subscription IT activities. It establishes requirements for subscription-based information technology agreement accounting based on the principle that the agreements are financing of the right-to-use an underlying asset. A government entity is required to recognize a liability and an intangible right-to-use asset. For the year ended September 30, 2023, the Tax Collector did not have any information technology agreements that qualified for recognition under this standard.

NOTE 2: *Interfund Transactions*

During the course of normal operations, numerous transactions occur between funds, such as expenditures or transfers of resources to provide services, service debt, or construct assets. The inter-fund transactions are not eliminated, and no interest is charged on such advances.

Operating transfers between funds during the year were as follows:

	Transfers in	Transfers Out
General Fund		
Board of County Commissioners	$ 644,410	$ -

NOTE 3: *Retirement*

The entity participates in the Florida Retirement System (FRS), a multiple-employer, cost sharing defined public employee retirement system which covers all of the Tax Collector'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 Tax Collector is deemed to be part of the primary government of the County. A liability related to the Tax Collector'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.

NOTE 4: *Changes in Long-Term Obligations*

Under the GASB 34 reporting model, long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and accordingly are not reported as fund liabilities. All long-term liabilities for the Tax Collector are reported in the government-wide Statement of Net Position. The compensated absences of the Tax Collector are accounted for in the Statement of Net Position as follows:

	Balance October 01, 2022	Additions*	Reductions	Balance September 30, 2023
Compensated absences	$ 52,832	$ (31,705)	$ -	$ 21,127

**The change in the compensated absences liability is presented as a net change.*

NOTE 5: *Risk Management*

The Tax Collector is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to and destruction of assets; errors or omissions; injuries to employees and the public; or damage to property of others. The Tax Collector participates in the risk management program through the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners, which uses commercial insurance to cover certain risks from loss.

The Board obtained commercial insurance against losses for the following types of risk:

- Real and personal property damage
- Public employee's bond
- Workers' compensation
- General and automobile liability

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA TAX COLLECTOR
COMBINING SCHEDULE OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
CUSTODIAL FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Tax Fund	Tag Fund	Total Custodial Funds
ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 460,267	$ 17,408	$ 477,675
LIABILITIES			
Due to individuals	29,882	-	29,882
Due to BOCC	1,094	-	1,094
Due to other governments	429,291	17,408	446,699
Total liabilities	460,267	17,408	477,675
NET POSITION	$ -	$ -	$ -

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA TAX COLLECTOR
COMBINING SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
CUSTODIAL FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Tax Fund	Tag Fund	Total Custodial Funds
ADDITIONS			
Taxes	$ 38,670,229	$ -	$ 38,670,229
Permits, fees, and special assessments	-	3,219,489	3,219,489
Total additions	38,670,229	3,219,489	41,889,718
DEDUCTIONS			
Payments to other governments	20,077,699	2,848,264	22,925,963
Payments to BOCC	17,194,951	357,460	17,552,411
Payments to individuals	1,397,579	13,737	1,411,316
Payments to constitutional officers	-	28	28
Total deductions	38,670,229	3,219,489	41,889,718
Net change in fiduciary net position	-	-	-
Net position - beginning	-	-	-
Net position - ending	$ -	$ -	$ -

INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE SECTION

LANIGAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
BUSINESS ADVISORS

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

The Honorable Shirley J. Jenkins
Gulf County, Florida Tax Collector
Gulf 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 remaining aggregate fund information of Gulf County, Florida Tax Collector (the "Tax Collector") as of September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Tax Collector's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated May 6, 2024.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Tax Collector'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 financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Tax Collector's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Tax Collector's internal control.

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

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

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Tax Collector's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the 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 organization'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 organization's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Lanigan & Associates, PC

Tallahassee, Florida
May 6, 2024

LANIGAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
BUSINESS ADVISORS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S MANAGEMENT LETTER

The Honorable Shirley J. Jenkins
Gulf County, Florida Tax Collector
Gulf County, Florida

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of Gulf County, Florida Tax Collector as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and have issued our report dated May 6, 2024.

Auditor's Responsibility

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

Other Reporting Requirements

We have issued our Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of the Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*; and Independent Accountant's Reports 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 May 6, 2024, 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 recommendations made 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. This information is disclosed in Note 1 of the notes to financial statements.

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

Lanigan & Associates, PC

Tallahassee, Florida
May 6, 2024

LANIGAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
BUSINESS ADVISORS

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH FLORIDA STATUTE SECTION 218.415 – INVESTMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS

The Honorable Shirley J. Jenkins
Gulf County, Florida Tax Collector
Gulf County, Florida

Report on Compliance

We have examined the Gulf County, Florida Tax Collector (the "Tax Collector") compliance with Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, regarding the investment of public funds during the year ended September 30, 2023. Management is responsible for the Tax Collector's compliance with those requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Tax Collector's compliance based on our examination.

Scope

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Tax Collector complied, in all material respects, with the specified requirements referenced above. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether the Tax Collector complied with the specified requirements. The nature, timing and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgement, including an assessment of the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion. We are required to be independent and to meet our ethical responsibilities in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to the engagement. Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the Tax Collector's compliance with specified requirements.

Opinion

In our opinion, the Tax Collector complied, in all material respects, with Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, regarding the investment of public funds during the year ended September 30, 2023.

Lanigan & Associates, PC

Tallahassee, Florida
May 6, 2024