

## MANAGEMENT LETTER

To the Chairman and Members of the Board of Commissioners  
St. Lucie County Fire District  
Fort Pierce, Florida

**Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the financial statements of the St. Lucie County Fire District, Florida, as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2021, and have issued our report thereon dated June 10, 2022.

**Auditor's Responsibility**

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

**Other Reporting Requirements**

We have issued our Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of the Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and Independent Auditor's Report on an examination conducted in accordance with *AICPA Professional Standards*, AT-C Section 315, regarding compliance requirements in accordance with Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General and as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles. Disclosures in those reports and schedule, which are dated June 10, 2022, 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. Prior year findings and recommendations were implemented as noted.

**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. Refer to Note A in the notes to the financial statements.

## **Financial Condition Section**

Section 10.554(1)(i)5.a., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we report the results of our determination as to whether or not St. Lucie County Fire District has met one or more of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes, and identification of the specific conditions met. In connection with our audit, we determined that the St. Lucie County Fire District did not meet any of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes. Pursuant to Sections 10.554(1)(i)5.c. and 10.556(8), Rules of the Auditor General, we applied financial condition assessment procedures. It is management's responsibility to monitor the St. Lucie County Fire District's financial condition, and our financial condition assessment was based in part on representations made by management and the review of financial information provided by same.

## **Specific Information**

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

- a. The total number of district employees compensated in the last pay period of the District's fiscal year as 469.
- b. The total number of independent contractors to whom nonemployee compensation was paid in the last month of the district's fiscal year as 1.
- c. All compensation earned by or awarded to employees, whether paid or accrued, regardless of contingency as \$1,536,540.
- d. All compensation earned by or awarded to nonemployee independent contractors, whether paid or accrued, regardless of contingency as \$13,154.
- e. The District does not have any construction projects with a total cost of at least \$65,000 that are scheduled to begin on or after October 1 of the fiscal year being reported.
- f. The District did not amend its final adopted budget under Section 189.016(6), Florida Statutes.

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

- a. The mileage rate or rates imposed by the District as 3%.
- b. The total amount of ad valorem taxes collected by or on behalf of the District as \$68,733,484.
- c. The total amount of outstanding bonds issued by the district as \$5,517,408.

**Other Matters**

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

2021-1 Accounts Receivable

During our audit we noted that the current billing system does not allow for a proper aging of accounts receivable balances. An accurate aging is critical financial information to allow for a review of accounts and improve collection efforts as well as determine an estimate of allowance for doubtful accounts.

*Management Response*

The District acknowledges the need to produce accurate reports for the aging of accounts receivable. The District has been working with the software company support staff to generate a suitable report for the accounts receivable balances.

**Annual Financial Report**

Section 10.554(1)(i)5.b., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we report the results of our determination as to whether the annual financial report for the St. Lucie County Fire District for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2021, filed with the Florida Department of Financial Services pursuant to Section 218.32(1)(a), Florida Statutes, is in agreement with the annual financial audit report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2021. In connection with our audit, we determined that these two reports were in agreement.

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

*DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes*

DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes, P.A.  
Fort Pierce, Florida  
June 10, 2022