

**DUETTE FIRE AND RESCUE DISTRICT
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

**Board of Commissioners
Duette Fire and Rescue District
Manatee County, Florida**

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and the major fund of Duette Fire and Rescue District, Florida (the District), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and the major fund of the District as of September 30, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

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

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

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

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

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

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis, and 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.

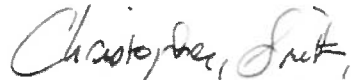
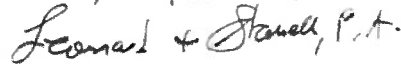
Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information included with the basic financial statements. The other information comprises the schedule of fire assessment rates and the impact fee affidavit as listed in the table of contents, but does not include the basic financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinions on the basic financial statements do not cover the other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the basic financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 18, 2024 on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is 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 District's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

**CHRISTOPHER, SMITH,
LEONARD & STANELL, P.A.**

June 18, 2024
Bradenton, Florida

DUETTE FIRE AND RESCUE DISTRICT
35800 State Road 62, Duette, Florida 34219
941-776-9900

Management's Discussion and Analysis

As management of the Duette Fire and Rescue District (the District), we offer readers of the District's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the District for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023.

Financial Highlights

- The assets of the District exceeded its liabilities at the close of the most recent fiscal year by \$1,114,625 (*net position*).
- The District's total net position decreased by \$100,782.
- As of the close of the current fiscal year, the District's governmental fund (general fund) reported ending fund balances of \$137,229, which is a decrease of \$93,700. Of this total amount, \$129,988 is *available for spending* at the District's discretion (*unassigned fund balance*).
- The District has \$515,000 in debt obligations for the purchase of a fire engine during 2023.

Overview of the Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the Duette Fire and Rescue District's financial statements. The District's financial statements comprise three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the financial statements. This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

Government-wide financial statements. The *government-wide financial statements* are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the District's finances, in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

The *statement of net position* presents information on all of the District's assets, deferred outflows, liabilities and deferred inflows, with the difference between them reported as *net position*. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the District is improving or deteriorating.

The *statement of activities* presents information showing how the District's net position changed during the most recent 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 revenues and earned but unused vacation and sick leave).

Both of the government-wide financial statements distinguish functions of the District that are principally supported by fire assessments (*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 District is engaged in only governmental activities. The government-wide financial statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting.

The government-wide financial statements can be found on pages 9 and 10 of this report.

Fund 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 District, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. The District utilizes a general fund.

Governmental funds. Governmental funds focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. These funds are reported using the modified accrual method of accounting and the current financial resources focus. As a result, long-term assets and liabilities are not included. The District uses a General fund. The General Fund is the general operating fund. All general tax revenues are accounted for in this fund. From this fund all general operating expenditures and personal service expenditures, as well as budgeted capital outlay are paid.

A reconciliation to facilitate the comparison between the governmental fund financial statements and the government-wide financial statements is presented.

The District adopts an annual budget for its general fund. A budgetary comparison statement has been provided to demonstrate compliance with this budget.

The basic governmental fund financial statements can be found on pages 11 to 14 of this report.

Notes to the financial statements. The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the information provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements begin on page 15 of this report.

Government-Wide Financial Analysis

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. In the case of the Duette Fire and Rescue District, assets exceeded liabilities by \$1,114,625 at the close of the most recent fiscal year.

A significant portion of the District's net position, \$977,396, reflects its investment in capital assets (e.g., land, buildings, machinery, and equipment), less any related debt used to acquire those assets that are still outstanding. The District uses these capital assets to provide fire protection and emergency services to citizens within the boundaries of the District; consequently, these assets are *not* available for future spending. The District also had significant assets in cash and cash equivalents at year-end.

The following table presents a condensed statement of net position as of September 30, 2023, with comparable totals as of September 30, 2022.

Net Position

	Governmental Activities	Governmental Activities
	2023	2022
Current and other assets	\$ 193,201	\$ 249,010
Capital assets	1,492,396	984,478
Total assets	1,685,597	1,233,488
Long-term liabilities	515,000	-0-
Other liabilities	55,972	18,081
Total liabilities	570,972	18,081
Net position:		
Net investment in capital assets	977,396	984,478
Restricted	7,241	500
Unrestricted	129,988	230,429
Total net position	\$ 1,114,625	\$ 1,215,407

Unrestricted net position of \$129,988 may be used to meet the District's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors. Restricted net position is \$7,241 and is from impact fees.

The District's net position decreased by \$100,782 during the current fiscal year. Fire protection services were \$380,546. The District also incurred \$69,318 in depreciation expense. Significant revenues included fire assessments of \$301,096 and an insurance reimbursement of \$23,800.

The following table presents the change in net position for the years ended September 30, 2023 and 2022.

Changes in Net Position

	Governmental Activities	Governmental Activities
	2023	2022
General revenues:		
Fire assessments	\$ 301,096	\$ 284,829
Impact fees	6,744	500
Other (including capital grants and contributions)	41,242	2,031
Total revenues	349,082	287,360
Expenses:		
Fire protection services	380,546	210,611
Depreciation	69,318	64,072
Total expenses	449,864	274,683
Increase (Decrease) in net position	(100,782)	12,677
Net Position - Beginning	1,215,407	1,202,730
Net Position - End	\$ 1,114,625	\$ 1,215,407

Financial Analysis of the Government's Funds

The District utilizes only a Governmental Fund, which is the General Fund.

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

As of the end of the current fiscal year, the District's general fund reported ending fund balances of \$137,229. Of this total, \$129,988 is *unassigned fund balance*, and is available for spending at the District's discretion. As a measure of the general fund's liquidity, it may be useful to compare *unassigned fund balance* to total general fund expenditures. *General fund balance* represents approximately 14 percent of total general fund expenditures.

The fund balance of the District's general fund decreased by \$93,700 during the current fiscal year. Current year revenues included fire assessments (non-ad valorem taxes) in the amount of \$301,096, impact fees of \$6,744, and other income of \$41,242. Current year expenditures included personal service costs of \$98,122, operating costs of \$256,800, and capital outlay of \$602,860. The District also had \$515,000 of debt proceeds.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights

During the year, the General Fund budget was amended. Original and final budgeted revenues were \$309,000. For the current fiscal year, actual revenues exceeded budgeted revenues by \$20,482. Original budgeted expenditures were \$337,533 and final budgeted expenditures were \$483,100. Actual expenditures were less than the final budget by \$59,918. Budget amendments were approved for repairs and capital items.

The General Fund budget is presented as required supplementary information on page 22.

Capital Assets

The District's investment in capital assets at year-end amounts to \$1,492,396 (net of accumulated depreciation). This investment in capital assets includes land, buildings and improvements, and machinery and equipment. During the current year, the District's investment in capital assets increased by \$507,918. This was comprised of capital asset additions, net of depreciation expense and loss on disposal of assets.

Capital Assets

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Land	\$ 24,718	\$ 24,718
Building and improvements	847,727	862,485
Machinery and equipment	619,951	97,275
Total (net of accumulated depreciation)	<u>\$ 1,492,396</u>	<u>\$ 984,478</u>

The District purchased a new fire engine in 2023. Additional information on the District's capital assets are included in the note B.

Long-Term Liabilities

Long-term liabilities include a note payable in the amount of \$515,000 for a fire engine. Additional information on the District's long-term liabilities are included in Note C.

Economic Factors and Next Year's Budgets

For fiscal year 2024, budgeted revenues are \$370,409. Budgeted expenditures are \$406,910. No other significant changes were made or are expected in fiscal year 2024.

Requests for Information

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Duette Fire and Rescue District's finances for all those with an interest in the District's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to the District at, Duette Fire and Rescue District, 35800 S.R. 62 E., Duette, Florida 34219.

**DUETTE FIRE AND RESCUE DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023**

	Governmental Activities
ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 179,431
Other receivables	6,529
Restricted assets:	
Cash and cash equivalents	7,241
Capital assets:	
Land	24,718
Other capital assets, net of depreciation	1,467,678
Total assets	1,685,597
LIABILITIES	
Accounts payable and other current liabilities	55,972
Noncurrent liabilities:	
Due within one year	41,580
Due in more than one year	473,420
Total liabilities	570,972
NET POSITION	
Net investment in capital assets	977,396
Restricted-Impact fees	7,241
Unrestricted	129,988
Total net position	\$ 1,114,625

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

**DUETTE FIRE AND RESCUE DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023**

	Governmental Activities
Public safety–fire protection	
Personal services	\$ 98,122
Operating expenses	282,424
Depreciation	69,318
Total program expenses	449,864
General revenues:	
Fire assessments	301,096
Impact fees	6,744
Miscellaneous	41,242
Total general revenues	349,082
Decrease in net position	(100,782)
Net position – beginning	1,215,407
Net position – ending	\$ 1,114,625

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

DUETTE FIRE AND RESCUE DISTRICT
BALANCE SHEET
GOVERNMENTAL FUND
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	GENERAL FUND
<u>ASSETS</u>	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 179,431
Other receivables	6,529
Restricted Assets:	
Cash and cash equivalents	7,241
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 193,201
<u>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</u>	
LIABILITIES	
Accounts payable	\$ 55,972
Total liabilities	55,972
FUND BALANCES	
Spendable:	
Restricted	7,241
Unassigned	129,988
Total fund balances	137,229
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	\$ 193,201

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

**DUETTE FIRE AND RESCUE DISTRICT
RECONCILIATION OF THE BALANCE SHEET
OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUND
TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023**

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

Fund Balance–Total Governmental Funds	\$ 137,229
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources, and therefore, are not reported in the general fund.	1,492,396
Long–term liabilities, including notes payable are not due and payable in the current period, and therefore are not reported in the general fund.	<u>(515,000)</u>
NET POSITION OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES	<u><u>\$ 1,114,625</u></u>

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

**DUETTE FIRE AND RESCUE DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023**

	GENERAL FUND
REVENUES	
Fire assessments	\$ 301,096
Impact fees	6,744
Miscellaneous	41,242
Total revenues	349,082
EXPENDITURES	
Current:	
Personal services	98,122
Operating expenditures	256,800
Capital outlay	602,860
Total expenditures	957,782
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures Before Other Financing Sources	(608,700)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	
Proceeds from debt	515,000
Total other financing sources	515,000
Net Change in Fund Balance	(93,700)
FUND BALANCES - Beginning	230,929
FUND BALANCES - Ending	\$ 137,229

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

**DUETTE FIRE AND RESCUE DISTRICT
RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES,
EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUND
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 changes in fund balances – total governmental funds	\$ (608,700)
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which capital asset additions exceed depreciation expense and loss on disposal in the current period.	507,918
Debt proceeds from the issuance of new debt are recorded in the general fund as an other financing source. However, the transaction has no effect on net position.	<u>(515,000)</u>
CHANGE IN NET POSITION OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES	<u><u>\$ (100,782)</u></u>

Depreciation expense	\$ (69,318)
Loss on disposal of assets	(18,000)
Capital additions shown as expenditures in the general fund	<u>595,236</u>
	<u><u>\$ 507,918</u></u>

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

**DUETTE FIRE AND RESCUE DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies followed by the Duette Fire and Rescue District, Manatee County, Florida:

- (a) Reporting Entity – Duette Fire and Rescue District (the District) is a public municipal corporation in the State of Florida created by House Bill 1375 of the Legislature of the State of Florida on June 23, 2006. The District began operations effective October 1, 2008. The District is an independent special district. No component units exist.

Revenue is provided by special assessments against taxable real estate lying within the territorial bounds of the District as defined by the State of Florida. Disbursements are made for maintenance and upkeep of the fire station, purchase of firefighting and rescue equipment, payment of wages, employee benefits, and administrative expenses.

The State of Florida passed legislation, which took effect June 1985, and provides for the District to collect impact fees to defray the cost of improvements required to provide fire and emergency service to the new users of the District. Any impact fees collected are to be used exclusively for the acquisition, purchase or construction of new facilities and equipment required to provide these services to the new users in the District.

- (b) Basis of Presentation – The District’s financial statements include Government-wide (which reports the District as a whole) and Fund financial statements (which report only on the General Fund). The Financial Statements present only governmental activities, as the District conducts no business type activities. The District does not have fiduciary funds.

Basis of Accounting: Financial Statements – Government Wide Statements– The Government-Wide Financial Statements (Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities) are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. For the most part, interfund activity has been removed from these statements. The District’s net position is reported in three parts (as applicable): net investment in capital assets, restricted net position, and unrestricted net position. The statement of activities reports direct expenses of the program offset by program revenues. Program revenues include capital and operating grants, contributions, and charges for services, as applicable. Taxes (fire assessments) and other items properly not included in program revenues are reported as general revenues.

Financial Statements – Fund Financial Statements – The District’s accounts are organized on the basis of funds, which are a self-balancing set of accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, reserves, fund equity, revenues and expenditures. The District utilizes governmental funds, which follow the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recorded when they become measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period.

**DUETTE FIRE AND RESCUE DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – CONTINUED

Financial Statements – Fund Financial Statements – Continued

The District considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures are generally recorded when a fund liability is incurred. The District reports the following governmental fund, considered to be a major fund:

Governmental Funds

General Fund – The General Fund is the general operating fund of the District. All general tax revenues are accounted for in this fund. From the fund are paid the personal service and operating costs, as well as budgeted capital expenditures.

- (c) Estimates – The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.
- (d) Budgets and Budgetary Accounting – The District prepares an annual operating budget for the fiscal year commencing October 1. Prior to September 1 of each year, the Secretary/Treasurer of the District's Board of Commissioners prepares a proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year. The budget is based on an analysis of prior year actual revenues and expenditures along with anticipated spending and revenue sources. Once the proposed budget is compiled, it is brought before the Board of Commissioners for approval.

Expenditures should not exceed total appropriations. Appropriations lapse at the end of the year.

- (e) Property Taxes – Property taxes become due and payable on November 1 of each year. The county tax collector remits the District's portion as such revenues are received. The District collects nearly all of its tax revenues during the period November 1 through April 1, at which time the taxes become delinquent. The maximum rates of tax are set by the Legislature of the State of Florida. Actual assessment amounts are based on the square footage of a structure and type of occupancy and is determined by the Board of Commissioners of the District.

The key dates in the property tax cycle are as follows:

Assessment roll validated	July 1
Beginning of fiscal year for which taxes have been levied	October 1
Tax bills rendered and due	November 1
Property taxes payable:	
Maximum discount	November 30
Delinquent	April 1

**DUETTE FIRE AND RESCUE DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - CONTINUED

(e) Property Taxes - Continued

Tax certificates sold	May 31
Fiscal year begins	October 1
Fiscal year ends	September 30

Property taxes are recognized as revenue in the fiscal year for which the taxes have been levied to the extent they result in current receivables. Under the system outlined above, no material amount of taxes is receivable after the end of the fiscal year.

(f) Net Position - Net position is reported in three parts as applicable: net investment in capital assets, restricted and unrestricted. When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available, restricted resources are used first, and then unrestricted resources, as they are needed.

(g) Fund Balance - Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 54 established fund balance classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which a government is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources reported in governmental funds. Fund balance classifications, under GASB 54, are Nonspendable and Spendable. Spendable is then further classified as Restricted, Committed, Assigned, and Unassigned. These classifications reflect not only the nature of funds, but also provide clarity to the level of restriction placed upon fund balance. Fund balance can have different levels of restraint, such as external versus internal compliance requirements. Unassigned fund balance is a residual classification within the General Fund. The General Fund should be the only fund that reports a positive unassigned balance.

In accordance with GASB Statement 54, the District classified governmental fund balance as follows:

Nonspendable - includes fund balance amounts that cannot be spent either because it is not in spendable form or because of legal or contractual requirements.

Spendable Fund Balance:

- **Restricted** - includes amounts that can be spent only for specific purposes because of State or Federal laws or enabling legislation, or which are externally restricted by providers, such as creditors or grantors.
- **Committed** - includes amounts that can be spent only for specific purposes that are determined by a formal action of the Board of Commissioners through a resolution or the budget process.
- **Assigned** - includes amounts designated for a specific purpose by the Board of Commissioners through a resolution or the budget process, which are neither restricted or committed.

**DUETTE FIRE AND RESCUE DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – CONTINUED

(g) Fund Balance – Continued

- Unassigned – includes residual positive fund balance within the General Fund which has not been classified within the other above mentioned categories. Unassigned fund balance may also include negative balances for any governmental fund if expenditures exceed amounts restricted, committed, or assigned for those specific purposes.

The District uses restricted amounts first when both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available, unless there are legal documents/contracts that prohibit doing this, such as in grant agreements requiring dollar for dollar spending. Additionally, the District would first use committed, then assigned, and lastly unassigned amounts of unrestricted fund balance when expenditures are made. The District does not have a formal minimum fund balance policy.

	<u>General Fund</u>
<u>Spendable:</u>	
Restricted	\$ 7,241
Unassigned	<u>129,988</u>
Total Fund Balances	<u>\$ 137,229</u>

(h) Cash and Investments – Florida Statute 218.415 authorizes the District to invest in the following:

- (a) Local Government Surplus Funds Trust Fund or an intergovernmental investment pool authorized through the Florida Interlocal Cooperation Act.
- (b) Securities and Exchange Commission registered money market funds with the highest credit quality rating from a nationally recognized rating company.
- (c) Interest bearing time deposits or savings accounts in state-certified Qualified Public Depositories as defined in Section 280.02 Florida Statutes.
- (d) Direct obligations of the U.S. Treasury.

The District maintains one cash account. The account is unrestricted and available for use as determined by the annual budget. The account consists of a demand deposit account.

The District bank account is with a banking institution that posts collateral as required by state statutes (Qualified Public Depositories). As a result, all amounts which exceed FDIC insured limits are collateralized pursuant to Chapter 280 of the Florida Statutes. At September 30, 2023, the carrying amount of the District's deposits were \$186,672 and the bank balance was \$188,457.

The District does not have a formal investment policy that limits investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates. However, at September 30, 2023 the District only had a demand deposit account.

**DUETTE FIRE AND RESCUE DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - CONTINUED

- (i) Compensated Absences - The District does not have a policy for compensated absences. As a result, no liability has been established.
- (j) Capital Assets - Capital assets, which include property, plant and equipment, are reported in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the District as assets with an initial, individual cost of more than \$500 and an estimated useful life of longer than one year. Capital assets are recorded at historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair market value at the date of donation. The costs of normal repair and maintenance that do not add to the value of the asset or extend the useful life of the asset are expensed as incurred. The District does not have infrastructure assets.

Property, plant and equipment of the District are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the following estimated useful lives:

<u>Asset</u>	<u>Years</u>
Building	20 - 39
Fire engines	10
Vehicles	5
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	3 - 7

- (k) Long-Term Obligations - In the government-wide financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities. In the fund financial statements, no long-term obligations are reported as they are not due to be paid from current financial resources.
- (l) Implementation of New Accounting Standard - Effective October 1, 2022, the District adopted new accounting guidance by implementing the provisions of Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements* (GASB No. 96), which requires recognition of certain subscription-based information technology arrangements as assets and liabilities in the Statement of Net Position. Upon implementation, management determined that there were no material agreements that would require recognition under GASB No. 96.

**DUETTE FIRE AND RESCUE DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

NOTE B – CAPITAL ASSETS

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

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Increases</u>	<u>Decreases</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
Governmental Activities:				
Capital assets, not being depreciated:				
Land	\$ 24,718	\$ -0-	\$ -0-	\$ 24,718
Total capital assets, not being depreciated	<u>24,718</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>24,718</u>
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Buildings and improvements	1,219,464	16,913	-0-	1,236,377
Machinery and equipment	411,143	578,323	(178,665)	810,801
Total capital assets being depreciated	<u>1,630,607</u>	<u>595,236</u>	<u>(178,665)</u>	<u>2,047,178</u>
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Buildings and improvements	(356,979)	(31,671)	-0-	(388,650)
Machinery and equipment	(313,868)	(37,647)	160,665	(190,850)
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>(670,847)</u>	<u>(69,318)</u>	<u>160,665</u>	<u>(579,500)</u>
Total capital assets, being depreciated, net	<u>959,760</u>	<u>525,918</u>	<u>(18,000)</u>	<u>1,467,678</u>
Governmental activities capital assets, net	<u>\$ 984,478</u>	<u>\$ 525,918</u>	<u>\$ (18,000)</u>	<u>\$ 1,492,396</u>

NOTE C – LONG-TERM DEBT

During 2023, the District entered into a direct borrowing financing arrangement for the purchase of a new fire engine. The note is payable in annual installments of \$65,630 beginning in January of 2024, with interest at 4.67%. The note matures on January 12, 2033 and is collateralized by a fire engine.

	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2024	\$ 41,580	\$ 24,051	\$ 65,631
2025	43,522	22,109	65,631
2026	45,554	20,076	65,630
2027	47,681	17,949	65,630
2028	49,908	15,722	65,630
2029 - 2033	<u>286,755</u>	<u>41,395</u>	<u>328,150</u>
	<u>\$ 515,000</u>	<u>\$ 141,302</u>	<u>\$ 656,302</u>

Upon the occurrence of any Event of Default, Bank's sole rights and remedies shall be limited to: (i) demanding and suing for compensatory damages, which District agrees to pay and which are agreed to the sum of: (a) Prepayment price applicable to the immediately preceding rental payment due date, as forth in the related equipment schedule, plus (b) any rental payments accrued and unpaid as of the date of default; plus (c) any actual and reasonable costs and expenses incurred in the pursuit of any rights and remedies permitted in the contract, including court costs, attorney's fees, and repossession and collection costs, except to the extent prohibited by the constitution and laws of the State of Florida; plus (d) interest on any amount at the default rate; (ii) to require that District voluntarily return the fire engine to a location specified by the Bank, at District's sole cost, risk and expense and in condition that is

**DUETTE FIRE AND RESCUE DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

NOTE C - LONG-TERM DEBT - CONTINUED

required; and (iii) exercising any legal right, privilege or remedy, which may be available to it, including, without limitation, proceeding by appropriate court action to seek a mandamus or require specific performance/enforcement of any provision of this agreement, including, without limitation, District's covenant to return possession and title of the fire engine.

Long-term liability activity was as follows:

	<u>Beginning</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Reductions</u>	<u>Ending</u>	<u>Due Within One Year</u>
Governmental Activities					
Note Payable-Fire Engine	\$ -0-	\$ 515,000	\$ -0-	\$ 515,000	\$ 41,580
Long-Term Liabilities	<u>\$ -0-</u>	<u>\$ 515,000</u>	<u>\$ -0-</u>	<u>\$ 515,000</u>	<u>\$ 41,580</u>

NOTE D - RISK MANAGEMENT

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; and natural disasters. The District has obtained commercial insurance from independent third parties to mitigate the costs of these risks; coverage may not extend to all situations. There has been no significant reduction in coverage from the prior year. Settled claims from these risks have not exceeded commercial insurance coverage over the past three years.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**DUETTE FIRE AND RESCUE DISTRICT
GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES—
BUDGET TO ACTUAL
NON-GAAP BUDGET BASIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023**

	ORIGINAL BUDGET	FINAL BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE WITH FINAL BUDGET FAVORABLE (UNFAVORABLE)
REVENUES				
Fire protection services –				
Fire assessments	\$ 309,000	\$ 309,000	\$ 301,096	\$ (7,904)
Impact fees	–	–	6,744	6,744
Miscellaneous income	–	–	21,642	21,642
Total revenues	309,000	309,000	329,482	20,482
EXPENDITURES				
Personal services	92,125	97,125	98,122	(997)
Operating expenditures	239,408	312,975	256,800	56,175
Capital outlay	6,000	73,000	68,260	4,740
Total expenditures	337,533	483,100	423,182	59,918
Net change in fund balance	(28,533)	(174,100)	(93,700)	80,400
Fund Balance, Beginning	230,929	230,929	230,929	–
Fund Balance, Ending	\$ 202,396	\$ 56,829	\$ 137,229	\$ 80,400

Note 1 – Budgetary Basis

The General Fund budget is prepared on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles.

Note 2 – Reconciliation of differences between Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis and GAAP (Modified Accrual) Basis

The District did not budget for debt proceeds and the purchase of a fire engine, or donated capital assets.

	Actual On GAAP Basis	To Budgetary Basis	Actual On Budget Basis
Miscellaneous income	\$ 41,242	\$ (19,600)	\$ 21,642
Total revenues	\$ 349,082	\$ (19,600)	\$ 329,482
Capital outlay	\$ 602,860	\$ (534,600)	\$ 68,260
Total expenditures	\$ 957,782	\$ (534,600)	\$ 423,182
Other financing sources (uses)			
Proceeds from debt	\$ 515,000	\$ (515,000)	\$ –
Net Change in Fund Balance	\$ (93,700)	\$ –	\$ (93,700)

OTHER INFORMATION

**DUETTE FIRE AND RESCUE DISTRICT
OTHER INFORMATION
SCHEDULE OF FIRE ASSESSMENT RATES**

The Board of Fire Commissioners of the Duette Fire and Rescue District approved the fire assessments (non-ad valorem) within the Duette Fire and Rescue District for the 2022-2023 tax year as follows:

Category	Assessment Rate
<u>Residential:</u>	
<u>Vacant Lot</u> - 0000, 0001, 0002, 0003, 0004, 0005, 0008, 0010, 0040, 0041, 0050, 0055, 0725, 0900, 0901, 0910, 0940, 0941, 0101, 0130, 0131 & 0133	
Up to 5 acres	\$13.00
Over 5 acres	\$3.40 per acre with a cap of \$650.00 per parcel
<u>Single Family Residential/Condominia</u> - 0100, 0101, 0105, 0108, 0131, 0164, 0210, 0400, 0408, 0409, 0410, 0464 & 0500	
Up to 1000 square feet	\$98.00
Over 1000 square feet	\$98.00 plus \$0.066 for every square foot over 1000 square feet
Residences located on parcels larger than 5 acres will be assessed for the residence which includes the first 5 acres. The additional acreage shall be assessed at the vacant acreage rate, up to the maximum for vacant parcels.	
<u>Multi-Family Residential</u> - 0110, 0300, 0301, 0510, 0600, 0700, 0710, 0800, 0801, 0803, 0805 & 0864	
Per Unit up to 1000 square feet	\$98.00
Over 1000 square feet	\$98.00 plus \$0.066 for every square foot over 1000 square feet
<u>Mobile Homes/Lots</u> - 0201, 0202, 0203, 0264, 0411, 0412, 0413, 0501, 0502 & 0503	
Per Unit	\$98.00
<u>Mobile Homes Parks</u> - 2802	\$98.00
<u>Travel Trailer Parks/RV</u> -0720, 2803, 2805, 3600 & 5001	
Per Space	\$98.00
Out buildings are not assessed	
<u>Commercial/Industrial:</u>	
<u>Vacant Common Area</u> - 1033, 1040, 1041	\$5.00
<u>Vacant Platted Lot</u> - 1000, 1001, 1004, 4000 & 7000 (assessed as platted Lot or un-subdivided acreage as applicable)	

**DUETTE FIRE AND RESCUE DISTRICT
OTHER INFORMATION
SCHEDULE OF FIRE ASSESSMENT RATES**

Category	Assessment Rate
<u>Golf Courses & Driving Ranges</u> - 3800	
<u>Golf Course Support Facilities</u> - 3810	
Up to 5 acres	\$13.00
Over 5 acres	\$3.40 per acre with a cap of \$650.00 per parcel

Commercial/Industrial structures - The base assessment for all commercial and industrial buildings and structures shall be \$163.00 for the first 1000 square feet on a parcel. The schedule for area above 1000 square feet are as follows below:

Note: A parcel utilized for multiple hazard classifications may vary the assessment in accordance with actual categories.

Category	Use Codes	Assessment for each square foot over 1000 square feet
<u>Mercantile</u>	0710, 0725, 0730, 1100, 1101, 1102, 1103, 1104, 1105, 1110, 1114, 1200, 1201, 1202, 1203, 1204, 1205, 1230, 1233, 1240, 1264, 1300, 1400, 1500, 1600, 1604 & 2900	\$0.10
<u>Business</u>	1700, 1704, 1710, 1800, 1900, 1904, 1910, 2200, 2300, 2500, 2600, 2750, 3000, 3901, 3902, 3903, 3910, 9000, 9002	\$0.10
<u>Assembly</u>	2100, 3100, 3200, 3300, 3400, 3410, 3500, 3510, 3600, 3700, 3901, 3902, 3903, 7600, 7601, 7602, 7700 & 7900	\$0.10
<u>Factory/Industrial</u>	4000, 4001, 4100, 4104, 4400, 4500, 4600, 4700 & 9100	\$0.10
<u>Storage</u>	2000, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2010, 2700, 2710, 2720, 2730, 2740, 2750, 2800, 4801, 4803, 4804, 4805 & 4900	\$0.10
<u>Hazardous</u>	4200, 4300, 4800, 4810 & 9200	\$0.10
<u>Institutional</u>	7000, 7200, 7210, 7300, 7400, 7500, 7800	\$0.10
<u>Solar Energy Production Fields</u>	5040 & 9901	\$100 per acre
<u>Acreage/Agricultural</u>	Per acre with a total not to exceed \$650.00 on any one parcel.	
<u>Un-subdivided acreage/Improved</u>	5000, 5010, 5100, 5020, 5030, 5350, 5101, 5200, 5201, 5220, 5300, 5301, 5350, 5351, 5375, 5376, 5400, 5401, 5500, 5501, 5600, 5601, 5700, 5701, 5800, 5801, 5900, 5901, 6000, 6001, 6100, 6101, 6200, 6201, 6300, 6301, 6400, 6401, 6500, 6501, 6600, 6601, 6606, 6610, 6700, 6701, 6800, 6801, 6900, 6091, 9200, 9600, 9700, 9900, 9901, 9902, 9908	\$3.40

**DUETTE FIRE AND RESCUE DISTRICT
OTHER INFORMATION
SCHEDULE OF FIRE ASSESSMENT RATES**

Category	Assessment Rate
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The following parcels are hereby exempted from the non-ad valorem fire assessment:

Fire assessment:

0009, 0033, 1009, 1033, 2100, 2200, 2500, 2580, 2832, 7100, 7101, 8081, 8082, 8083, 8084, 8085, 8086, 8087, 8088, 8089, 8100, 8200, 8300, 8400, 8500, 8600, 8700, 8800, 8900, 9300, 9400, 9401, 9500, 9800, 9909	\$0.00
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Properties given total exemptions to ad valorem taxes by Manatee County Property Appraiser's Office shall also be given a total exemption from non-ad valorem assessments by Duette Fire and Rescue District.

Total Personal Exemptions:

Hema/Para/Quadriplegic - 2100

Total/Permanent Disabled Veteran - 2200

Surviving Spouse of a Total/Permanent Disabled Veteran - 2205

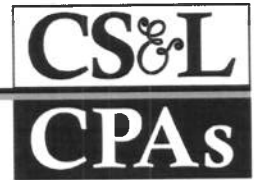
Veteran Killed in the Line of Duty - 2250

Total/Permanently Disabled First Responder - 2260

Confined to a wheelchair - 2500

Totally Blind - 2580	\$0.00
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OTHER REPORTS



**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**

**Board of Commissioners
Duette Fire and Rescue District
Manatee 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 governmental activities and the major fund of Duette Fire and Rescue District, Florida, (District) as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated June 18, 2024.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. *A material weakness* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the District'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.

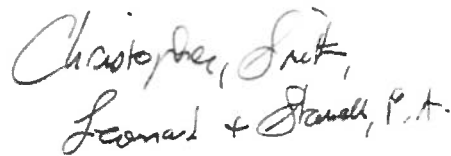
Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not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

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Duette Fire and Rescue District'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 entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Handwritten signature of Christopher Smith in cursive script.

CHRISTOPHER, SMITH,
LEONARD & STANELL, P.A.

June 18, 2024
Bradenton, Florida



MANAGEMENT LETTER

**Board of Commissioners
Duette Fire and Rescue District
Manatee County, Florida**

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of Duette Fire and Rescue District, (the District) as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated June 18, 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 Auditor General.

Other Reporting Requirements

We have issued our Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of the Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, and Independent Accountant's Report on 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 June 18, 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. The District has corrected findings 2022-01 and 2022-02 from the proceeding financial audit report.

Official Title and Legal Authority

Section 10.554(1)(i)4, Rules of the Auditor General, requires 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 A.

Financial Condition and Management

Section 10.554(1)(i)5.a. and 10.566(7), Rules of the Auditor General, require us to apply appropriate procedures and communicate the results of our determination as to whether or not Duette Fire and Rescue 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 Duette Fire and Rescue District was not in a state of financial emergency as it did not meet any of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes.

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

Section 10.554(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.

Specific Information for an Independent Special District

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

- a. The total number of District employees compensated in the last pay period of the District's fiscal year was 2.
- b. The total number of independent contractors to whom non-employee compensation was paid in the last month of the District's fiscal year was 23.
- c. All compensation earned by or awarded to employees, whether paid or accrued, regardless of contingency was \$48,000.
- d. All compensation earned by or awarded to non-employee independent contractors, whether paid or accrued, regardless of contingency was \$51,500.
- e. Each construction project with a total cost of at least \$65,000 approved by the District that is scheduled to begin on or after October 1 of the fiscal year being reported, together with the total expenditures for such project was \$0, as there were none.
- f. A budget variance based on the budget adopted under Section 189.016(4), Florida Statutes, before the beginning of the fiscal year being reported if the District amends a final adopted budget under Section 189.016(6), Florida Statutes. The budget variance schedule is presented on page 22.

Specific Information for an Independent Special District that Imposes Non-Ad Valorem Special Assessments

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

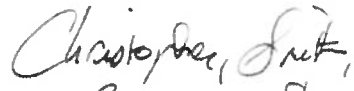
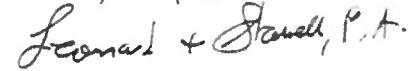
- a. The rate or rates of non-ad valorem special assessments imposed by the District are presented on pages 23-25.
- b. The total amount of special assessments collected by or on behalf of the District was \$301,096.
- c. There were no bonds issued by the District, as such the outstanding amount is \$0, and there are no terms.

Additional Matters

Section 10.544(1)(i)3., Rules of the Auditor General, requires us to communicate noncompliance with provisions of contracts or grant agreements, or abuse, that have occurred, or are likely to have occurred, that have an effect on the financial statements that is less than material but which warrants the attention of those charged with governance. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such findings.

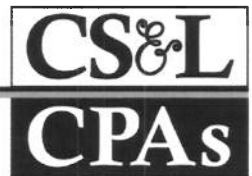
Purpose of this Letter

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

**CHRISTOPHER, SMITH,
LEONARD & STANELL, P.A.**

June 18, 2024
Bradenton, Florida



INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT
ON COMPLIANCE

**Board of Commissioners
Duette Fire and Rescue District
Manatee County, Florida**

We have examined the Duette Fire and Rescue District's compliance with Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, regarding the investment of public funds during the year ended September 30, 2023. Management of the District is responsible for the District's compliance with the specified requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the District's compliance with the specified requirements based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the District complied, in all material respects, with the specified requirements referenced above. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether the District complied with the specified requirements. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our 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 examination engagement.

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

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

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the District and the Auditor General, State of Florida, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

**CHRISTOPHER, SMITH,
LEONARD & STANELL, P.A.**

June 18, 2024
Bradenton, Florida

IMPACT FEE AFFIDAVIT