### MONTGOMERY COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 4

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY, TEXAS** 

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

**SEPTEMBER 30, 2023** 

Certified Public Accountants

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#### McCALL GIBSON SWEDLUND BARFOOT PLLC

Certified Public Accountants

13100 Wortham Center Drive Suite 235 Houston, Texas 77065-5610 (713) 462-0341 Fax (713) 462-2708 PO Box 29584
Austin, TX 78755-5126
(512) 610-2209
www.mgsbpllc.com
E-Mail: mgsb@mgsbpllc.com

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Commissioners Montgomery County Emergency Services District No. 4 Montgomery County, Texas

#### **Opinions**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of Montgomery County Emergency Services District No. 4 (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 each 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. 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.

Board of Commissioners Montgomery County Emergency Services District No. 4

#### 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 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, 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.

Board of Commissioners Montgomery County Emergency Services District No. 4

#### **Required Supplementary Information**

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis and the Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual – General and Debt Service Funds, the Schedule of Changes in Net Pension Asset and Liability and Related Ratios, and the Schedule of District Contributions be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, 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.

McCall Gibson Swedlund Barfoot PLLC

McColl Gibson Swedland Borfoot PLLC

Certified Public Accountants Houston, Texas

March 13, 2024

Management's discussion and analysis of Montgomery County Emergency Services District No. 4's (the "District") financial performance provides an overview of the District's financial activities for the year ended September 30, 2023. Please read it in conjunction with the District's financial statements.

#### USING THIS ANNUAL REPORT

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements. The basic financial statements include: (1) fund financial statements and government-wide financial statements and (2) notes to the financial statements. The fund financial statements and government-wide financial statements combine both: (1) the Statement of Net Position and Governmental Funds Balance Sheet and (2) the Statement of Activities and Governmental Funds Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances. This report also includes required and other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements.

#### GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The District's annual report includes two financial statements combining the government-wide financial statements and the fund financial statements. The government-wide financial statements provide both long-term and short-term information about the District's overall status. Financial reporting at this level uses a perspective like that found in the private sector with its basis in full accrual accounting and elimination or reclassification of internal activities.

The Statement of Net Position includes all the District's assets, liabilities, and deferred inflows and outflows of resources with the difference 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 as a whole is improving or deteriorating. Evaluation of the overall health of the District would extend to other non-financial factors.

The Statement of Activities reports how the District's net position changed during the current fiscal year. All current year revenues and expenses are included regardless of when cash is received or paid.

#### FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The combined statements also include 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 has three governmental fund types. The General Fund accounts for resources not accounted for in another fund, property tax revenues, sales tax revenues, operating costs and general expenditures. The Debt Service Fund accounts for ad valorem taxes and financial resources restricted, committed or assigned for servicing debt. The Capital Projects Fund accounts for financial resources restricted, committed or assigned for acquisition or construction of facilities and related costs.

#### **FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** (Continued)

Governmental funds are reported in each of the financial statements. The focus in the fund statements provides a distinctive view of the District's governmental funds. These statements report short-term fiscal accountability focusing on the use of spendable resources and balances of spendable resources available at the end of the year. They are useful in evaluating annual financing requirements of the District and the commitment of spendable resources for the near-term.

Since the government-wide focus includes the long-term view, comparisons between these two perspectives may provide insight into the long-term impact of short-term financing decisions. The adjustments columns, the Reconciliation of the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet to the Statement of Net Position and the Reconciliation of the Governmental Funds Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances to the Statement of Activities explain the differences between the two presentations and assist in understanding the differences between these two perspectives.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The accompanying notes to the financial statements provide information essential to a full understanding of the government-wide and fund financial statements.

#### OTHER INFORMATION

In addition to the financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain required supplementary information ("RSI") and other supplementary information. The budgetary comparison schedule is included as RSI for all combined governmental funds. The report also includes the Schedule of Changes in Net Pension Liability (Asset) and Related Ratios and the Schedule of District Contributions.

#### **GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS**

Net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of the District's financial position. In the case of the District, assets and deferred outflows of resources exceeded liabilities and deferred inflows of resources by \$6,044,103 as of September 30, 2023.

A portion of the District's net position reflects its net investment in capital assets (capital assets less any debt used to acquire those assets that are still outstanding). The District uses these assets to provide firefighting services. The following is a comparative analysis of government-wide changes in net position:

#### GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS (Continued)

	Summary of Changes in the Statement of Net Position					
		2023 2022			Change Positive (Negative)	
Current and Other Assets	\$	4,546,203	\$	8,882,297	\$	(4,336,094)
Capital Assets (Net of Accumulated Depreciation)		10,775,893		5,332,194		5,443,699
Total Assets	\$	15,322,096	\$	14,214,491	\$	1,107,605
Deferred Outflows of Resources	\$	432,021	\$	275,224	\$	156,797
Long-Term Liabilities	\$	8,277,636	\$	8,845,951	\$	568,315
Other Liabilities		1,007,579		614,520		(393,059)
Total Liabilities	\$	9,285,215	\$	9,460,471	\$	175,256
Deferred Inflows of Resources	\$	26,046	\$	79,016	\$	52,970
Net Position:						
Net Investment in Capital Assets	\$	2,621,432	\$	1,734,264	\$	887,168
Restricted		480,476		460,163		20,313
Unrestricted		2,942,195		2,728,241		213,954
Total Net Position	\$	6,044,103	\$	4,922,668	\$	1,121,435

The following table provides a summary of the District's operations for the years ended September 30, 2023 and September 30, 2022.

	Summary of Changes in the Statement of Activities					
		2023		2022	Change Positive (Negative)	
Revenues:					·	
Property Taxes	\$	3,114,091	\$	2,580,298	\$	533,793
Sales Tax Revenues		4,407,655		3,792,720		614,935
Other Revenues		796,391		705,302	-	91,089
Total Revenues	\$	8,318,137	\$	7,078,320	\$	1,239,817
Expenses for Services		7,196,702		5,961,535		(1,235,167)
Change in Net Position	\$	1,121,435	\$	1,116,785	\$	4,650
Net Position, Beginning of Year		4,922,668		3,805,883		1,116,785
Net Position, End of Year	\$	6,044,103	\$	4,922,668	\$	1,121,435

#### FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE DISTRICT'S GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

The District's combined fund balances as of September 30, 2023, were \$3,810,680, a decrease of \$4,782,552 from the prior year.

The District's General Fund fund balance increased by \$356,286, primarily due to operating and capital costs exceeding property tax revenues, sales tax revenues and note proceeds.

The District's Debt Service Fund fund balance decreased by \$13,992, primarily due to the structure of the District's outstanding debt.

The District's Capital Projects Fund fund balance decreased by \$5,124,846, primarily due to the capital outlay in excess of revenues.

#### **BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS**

The Board of Commissioners amended the budget during the current fiscal year increasing expected sales tax revenues and miscellaneous revenues, repairs and maintenance and capital outlay, as well as decreasing firefighting personnel and operations expenses. Actual revenues were \$175,434 more than budgeted revenues and actual expenditures were \$551,306 more than budgeted expenditures, which resulted in a negative variance of \$375,872. See budget versus actual comparison for more information.

#### **CAPITAL ASSETS**

Capital assets as of September 30, 2023, total \$ 10,775,893 (net of accumulated depreciation) and include buildings, vehicles, equipment and land. The current year additions included the purchase of 2023 Chevy and 150 kW generator for Station 61. Construction in progress at year-end includes engineering and feasibility costs related to Fire Station No. 61 and construction management for Station No. 63.

Capital Assets At Year-End, Net of Accumulated Depreciation

	2023			2022	Change Positive (Negative)	
Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated:		2023		2022		Negative)
		590 022	Ф	590.022	Ф	
Land and Land Improvements	\$	580,033	\$	580,033	\$	
Construction in Progress		6,379,595		788,680		5,590,915
Capital Assets, Net of Accumulated						
Depreciation:						
Buildings and Improvements		1,835,161		1,879,516		(44,355)
Machinery and Equipment		243,611		310,739		(67,128)
Office Equipment		6,175		228		5,947
Vehicles		1,731,318		1,772,998		(41,680)
Total Net Capital Assets	\$	10,775,893	\$	5,332,194	\$	5,443,699

#### LONG-TERM DEBT ACTIVITY

As of September 30, 2023, the District had debt payable of \$8,277,636. The changes in the debt position of the District during the current year ended September 30, 2023, are summarized as follows:

Long-Term Debt Payable, October 1, 2022	\$ 8,845,951
Less: Note Principal Paid	 818,315
Long-Term Debt Payable, September 30, 2023	\$ 8,277,636

#### CONTACTING THE DISTRICT'S MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the District's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional information should be addressed to Montgomery County Emergency Services District No. 4, 9430 State Highway 242 East, Conroe, TX 77385.

# MONTGOMERY COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 4 STATEMENT OF NET POSITION AND GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	General Fund		Ser	Debt Service Fund	
ASSETS					
Cash	\$	3,184,654	\$		
Investments		35			
Receivables:					
Property Taxes		37,552		28,943	
Penalty and Interest on Delinquent Taxes					
Sales Tax Revenues		744,583			
Other		2,910			
Due from Other Funds				721,531	
Land					
Construction in Progress					
Capital Assets (Net of Accumulated Depreciation)					
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	3,969,734	\$	750,474	
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES					
Deferred Pension Plan Charges	\$	- 0 -	\$	- 0 -	
TOTAL ASSETS AND DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	\$	3,969,734	\$	750,474	

Capital Projects Fund		Total Adjustments		Total		Adjustments		tatement of let Position
\$ 521,928	\$	3,706,582 35	\$		\$	3,706,582 35		
		66,495		25,598		66,495 25,598		
		744,583		23,370		744,583		
		2,910				2,910		
		721,531		(721,531)				
				580,033		580,033		
				6,379,595		6,379,595		
				3,816,265		3,816,265		
\$ 521,928	\$	5,242,136	\$	10,079,960	\$	15,322,096		
\$ - 0 -	\$	- 0 -	\$	432,021	\$	432,021		
\$ 521,928	\$	5,242,136	\$	10,511,981	\$	15,754,117		

# MONTGOMERY COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 4 STATEMENT OF NET POSITION AND GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	General Fun		Debt Service Fund	
LIABILITIES	Φ.	244.655	Φ.	
Accounts Payable	\$	244,677	\$	
Accrued Interest Payable  Due to Other Funds		721 521		
		721,531		
Net Pension Liability				
Long-Term Liabilities:				
Notes Payable, Due Within One Year				
Notes Payable, Due After One Year		0.66.000		
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$	966,208	\$	- 0 -
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES Property Taxes Pension Plan Income	\$	37,552	\$	28,943
TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	\$	37,552	\$	28,943
FUND BALANCES				
Restricted for Debt Service	\$		\$	721,531
Restricted for Construction				
Unassigned		2,965,974		
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	\$	2,965,974	\$	721,531
TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS				
OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES	\$	3,969,734	\$	750,474

#### **NET POSITION**

Net Investment in Capital Assets Restricted for Debt Service Unrestricted

TOTAL NET POSITION

(	Capital				St	atement of
Pro	jects Fund	Total	A	djustments	N	et Position
\$	398,753	\$ 643,430	\$	269,998	\$	244,677 269,998
		721,531		(721,531) 492,904		492,904
		 		781,583 7,496,053		781,583 7,496,053
\$	398,753	\$ 1,364,961	\$	8,319,007	\$	9,285,215
\$		\$ 66,495	\$	(66,495) 26,046	\$	26,046
\$	-0-	\$ 66,495	\$	(40,449)	\$	26,046
	123,175	\$ 721,531 123,175 2,965,974	\$	(721,531) (123,175) (2,965,974)	\$	
\$	123,175	\$ 3,810,680	\$	(3,810,680)	\$	- 0 -
\$	521,928	\$ 5,242,136				
			\$	2,621,432 480,476 2,942,195	\$	2,621,432 480,476 2,942,195
			\$	6,044,103	\$	6,044,103

# MONTGOMERY COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 4 RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

Total Fund Balances - Governmental Funds	\$ 3,810,680
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position are different because:	
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as assets in the governmental funds.	10,775,893
Portions of the change in net pension liability that are not immediately recognized as pension expense are recorded as deferred outflows and inflows of resources.	405,975
Deferred inflows of resources related to property tax revenues and penalty and interest receivables on delinquent taxes for the 2022 and prior tax levies became part of recognized revenue in the governmental activities of the District.	92,093
Certain liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported as liabilities in the governmental funds. These liabilities at year end consist of:	
Accrued Interest Payable \$ (269,998)	
Net Pension Liability (492,904)	
Notes Payable, Due Within One Year (781,583)	
Notes Payable, Due After One Year (7,496,053)	 (9,040,538)
Total Net Position - Governmental Activities	\$ 6,044,103



# MONTGOMERY COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 4 STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	General Fund		Debt Service Fund	
REVENUES Property Taxes Sales Tax Revenues Penalty and Interest Grant Revenues Miscellaneous Revenues	\$	2,113,268 4,407,655 23,957 222,160 179,095	\$	998,882
TOTAL REVENUES	\$	6,946,135	\$	998,882
EXPENDITURES/EXPENSES  Service Operations:  District Services - Needham Fire and Rescue Company Accounting and Auditing Appraisal District Fees Commissioner Fees Communications Fees Depreciation Insurance Legal Fees Salaries and Benefits Maintenance and Repairs Montgomery County Hospital District Fees Other Capital Outlay Debt Service: Note Principal	\$	785,591 18,500 22,379 13,365 60,261 134,491 74,662 4,255,313 359,669 18,300 419,292 348,560 76,956	\$	741,359
Note Interest		2,510		271,515
TOTAL EXPENDITURES/EXPENSES EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER	\$	6,589,849	\$	1,012,874
EXPENDITURES/EXPENSES	\$	356,286	\$	(13,992)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES) Note Proceeds	\$	-0-	\$	- 0 -
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES	\$	356,286	\$	(13,992)
CHANGE IN NET POSITION				
FUND BALANCES/NET POSITION - OCTOBER 1, 2022		2,609,688		735,523
FUND BALANCES/NET POSITION - SEPTEMBER 30, 2023	\$	2,965,974	\$	721,531

Pr	Capital ojects Fund		Total	A	Adjustments		tatement of Activities
\$		\$	3,112,150 4,407,655 23,957	\$	1,941 (121)	\$	3,114,091 4,407,655 23,836
	71,300		222,160 250,395		300,000		522,160 250,395
\$	71,300	\$	8,016,317	\$	301,820	\$	8,318,137
\$		\$	785,591	\$		\$	785,591
			18,500				18,500
			22,379 13,365				22,379 13,365
			60,261				60,261
			, -		560,818		560,818
			134,491				134,491
			74,662				74,662
			4,255,313		146,531		4,401,844
			359,669 18,300		89,898		449,567 18,300
	292		419,584				419,584
	5,445,854		5,794,414		(5,794,414)		113,501
			818,315		(818,315)		
			274,025		(36,685)		237,340
\$	5,446,146	\$	13,048,869	\$	(5,852,167)	\$	7,196,702
\$	(5,374,846)	\$	(5,032,552)	\$	6,153,987	\$	1,121,435
\$	250,000	\$	250,000	\$	(250,000)	\$	- 0 -
\$	(5,124,846)	\$	(4,782,552)	\$	4,782,552	\$	
Ψ	(3,124,040)	Ψ	(4,762,332)	Ψ		ψ	
					1,121,435		1,121,435
	5,248,021		8,593,232		(3,670,564)		4,922,668
\$	123,175	\$	3,810,680	\$	2,233,423	\$	6,044,103

# MONTGOMERY COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 4 RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

Net Change in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds	\$ (4,782,552)
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:	
Governmental funds report tax revenues when collected. However, in the Statement of Activities, revenue is recorded in the accounting period for which the taxes are levied.	1,941
Governmental funds report delinquent tax penalty and interest revenue on property taxes when collected. However, in the Statement of Activities, revenue is recorded when the penalty and interest are assessed.	(121)
Governmental funds do not account for depreciation. However, in the Statement of Net Position, capital assets are depreciated and depreciation expense is recorded in the Statement of Activities.	(560,818)
Governmental funds report capital expenditures as expenditures in the period purchased. However, in the Statement of Net Position, capital assets are increased by new purchases and the Statement of Activities is not affected.	6,004,516
The changes in the net pension liability and asset as well as deferred inflows and outflows of resources are recorded in the government-wide financial statements.	(146,531)
Governmental funds report principal payments on long-term liabilities as expenditures in the year paid. However, in the government-wide financial statements, liabilities are reduced when principal payments are made and the Statement of Activities is not affected.	818,315
Governmental funds report interest payments on long-term liabilities as expenditures in the year paid. However, in the government-wide financial statements, interest is accrued on long-term liabilities through the fiscal year-end.	36,685
Governmental funds report note proceeds as other financing sources. Issued bonds increase long-term liabilities in the Statement of Net Position.	(250,000)
Change in Net Position - Governmental Activities	\$ 1,121,435

#### NOTE 1. CREATION OF DISTRICT

Montgomery County Emergency Services District No. 4 operates under Chapter 775 of the Health and Safety Code. The District was converted from a Rural Fire Prevention District on January 1, 1996. The District provides operating funds for the contracting of fire prevention and rescue services within the boundaries of the District.

#### NOTE 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as promulgated by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board ("GASB").

The District is a political subdivision of the State of Texas governed by an appointed board. GASB has established the criteria for determining whether an entity is a primary government or a component unit of a primary government. The primary criteria are that it has a separately appointed governing body, it is legally separate, and it is fiscally independent of other state and local governments. Under these criteria, the District is considered a primary government and is not a component unit of any other government. Additionally, no other entities meet the criteria for inclusion in the District's financial statement as component units.

#### Financial Statement Presentation

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with GASB Codification of Governmental Accounting and Financial Reporting Standards Part II, Financial Reporting ("GASB Codification").

The GASB Codification sets forth standards for external financial reporting for all state and local government entities, which include a requirement for a Statement of Net Position and a Statement of Activities. It requires the classification of net position into three components: Net Investment in Capital Assets; Restricted; and Unrestricted. These classifications are defined as follows:

- Net Investment in Capital Assets This component of net position consists of capital assets, including restricted capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, mortgages, notes, or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvements of those assets.
- Restricted Net Position This component of net position consists of external constraints placed on the use of assets imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulation of other governments or constraints imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

#### **NOTE 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES** (Continued)

#### Financial Statement Presentation (Continued)

• Unrestricted Net Position – This component of net position consists of assets that do not meet the definition of Restricted or Net Investment in Capital Assets.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, generally it is the District's policy to use restricted resources first.

#### **Government-Wide Financial Statements**

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities display information about the District as a whole. The District's Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities are combined with the governmental fund financial statements. The District is viewed as a special-purpose government and has the option of combining these financial statements.

The Statement of Net Position is reported by adjusting the governmental fund types to report on the full accrual basis, economic resource basis, which recognizes all long-term assets and receivables as well as long-term debt and obligations. Any amounts recorded due to and due from other funds are eliminated in the Statement of Net Position.

The Statement of Activities is reported by adjusting the governmental fund types to report only items related to current year revenues and expenditures. Items such as capital outlay are allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. Internal activities between governmental funds, if any, are eliminated by adjustment to obtain net total revenue and expense in the government-wide Statement of Activities.

#### **Fund Financial Statements**

As discussed above, the District's fund financial statements are combined with the government-wide financial statements. The fund financial statements include a Governmental Funds Balance Sheet and a Governmental Funds Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance.

#### Governmental Funds

The District has three governmental funds and considers each to be major funds.

<u>General Fund</u> - To account for resources not required to be accounted for in another fund, property tax revenues, sales tax revenues, operating costs and general expenditures.

<u>Debt Service Fund</u> - To account for ad valorem taxes and financial resources restricted, committed or assigned for servicing debt.

<u>Capital Projects Fund</u> - To account for financial resources restricted, committed or assigned for acquisition or construction of facilities and related costs.

#### **NOTE 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES** (Continued)

#### **Basis of Accounting**

The District uses the modified accrual basis of accounting for governmental fund types. The modified accrual basis of accounting recognizes revenues when both "measurable and available." Measurable means the amount can be determined. Available means collectable within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay current liabilities. The District considers revenue reported in governmental funds to be available if they are collectable within 60 days after year-end. Also, under the modified accrual basis of accounting, expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on long-term debt, which are recognized as expenditures when payment is due.

Property taxes considered available by the District and included in revenue include taxes collected during the year and taxes collected after year-end, which were considered available to defray the expenditures of the current year. Deferred inflows of resources related to property tax revenues are those taxes which the District does not reasonably expect to be collected soon enough in the subsequent period to finance current expenditures.

Amounts transferred from one fund to another fund are reported as other financing sources or uses. Loans by one fund to another fund and amounts paid by one fund for another fund are reported as interfund receivables and payables in the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet if there is intent to repay the amount and if the debtor fund has the ability to repay the advance on a timely basis. As of September 30, 2023, the General Fund owed the Debt Service Fund \$721,531 for tax collections net of debt payments.

#### Capital Assets

Capital assets are reported in the government-wide Statement of Net Position. All capital assets are valued at historical cost or estimated historical cost if actual historical cost is not available. Donated assets are valued at their fair market value on the date donated. Repairs and maintenance are recorded as expenditures in the governmental fund incurred and as an expense in the government-wide Statement of Activities. Capital asset additions, improvements and preservation costs that extend the life of an asset are capitalized and depreciated over the estimated useful life of the asset after completion.

All assets are capitalized if they have a cost of \$500 or more, or a life expectancy of more than two years. Depreciation is calculated on each class of depreciable property using no salvage value and the straight-line method of depreciation. Estimated useful lives are as follows:

	Years
Buildings and Improvements	20-40
Firefighting Equipment	4-15
Vehicles	5-15

#### **NOTE 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES** (Continued)

#### Budgeting

An annual unappropriated combined budget is adopted for the General Fund and Debt Service Fund by the District's Board of Commissioners. The budget is prepared using the same method of accounting as for financial reporting. The original combined budget for the current year was amended. The Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual – General and Debt Service Funds presents the original and revised budget amounts compared to the actual amounts of revenues and expenditures for the current year.

#### Pensions

The District has 55 employees. Payments are made into the Social Security System for their benefit, into an individual retirement account (see Note 10) and pension plan (see Note 11). The Internal Revenue Service determined that fees of office received by Commissioners are wages subject to federal income tax withholding for payroll purposes only.

#### Measurement Focus

Measurement focus is a term used to describe which transactions are recognized within the various financial statements. In the government-wide Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities, the governmental activities are presented using the economic resources measurement focus. The accounting objectives of this measurement focus are the determination of operating income, changes in net position, financial position, and cash flows. All assets and liabilities associated with the activities are reported. Fund equity is classified as net position.

Governmental fund types are accounted for on a spending or financial flow measurement focus. Accordingly, only current assets and current liabilities are included on the Balance Sheet, and the reported fund balances provide an indication of available spendable or appropriable resources. Operating statements of governmental fund types report increases and decreases in available spendable resources. Fund balances in governmental funds are classified using the following hierarchy:

*Nonspendable*: amounts that cannot be spent either because they are in nonspendable form or because they are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

*Restricted*: amounts that can be spent only for specific purposes because of constitutional provisions, or enabling legislation, or because of constraints that are imposed externally.

Committed: amounts that can be spent only for purposes determined by a formal action of the Board of Commissioners. The Board is the highest level of decision-making authority for the District. This action must be made no later than the end of the fiscal year. Commitments may be established, modified, or rescinded only through ordinances or resolutions approved by the Board. The District does not have any committed fund balances.

#### **NOTE 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES** (Continued)

#### Measurement Focus (Continued)

Assigned: amounts that do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed, but that are intended to be used for specific purposes. The District has not adopted a formal policy regarding the assignment of fund balances and does not have any assigned fund balances.

*Unassigned*: all other spendable amounts in the General Fund.

When expenditures are incurred for which restricted, committed, assigned or unassigned fund balances are available, the District considers amounts to have been spent first out of restricted funds, then committed funds, then assigned funds, and finally unassigned funds.

#### **Accounting Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount 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 expenditures during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### NOTE 3. TAX LEVY

During the year ended September 30, 2023, the District levied an ad valorem maintenance tax rate of \$ 0.0643 per \$100 of assessed valuation for the 2022 tax year. This resulted in a tax levy of \$ 2,119,974 on the adjusted taxable valuation of \$ 3,294,492,710 for the 2022 tax year.

During the year ended September 30, 2023, the District levied an ad valorem debt service tax rate of \$ 0.0303 per \$100 of assessed valuation for the 2021 tax year. This resulted in a tax levy of \$ 998,992 on the adjusted taxable valuation of \$ 3,294,492,710 for the 2022 tax year.

All property values and exempt status, if any, are determined by the appraisal district. Assessed values are determined as of January 1 of each year, at which time a tax lien attaches to the related property. Taxes are levied around October/November, are due upon receipt and are delinquent the following February 1. Penalty and interest attach thereafter.

#### NOTE 4. DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

#### **Deposits**

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of a depository financial institution, a government will not be able to recover deposits or will not be able to recover collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The District's deposit policy for custodial credit risk requires compliance with the provisions of Texas statutes.

#### **NOTE 4. DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS** (Continued)

<u>Deposits</u> (Continued)

Texas statutes require that any cash balance in any fund shall, to the extent not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or its successor, be continuously secured by a valid pledge to the District of securities eligible under the laws of Texas to secure the funds of the District, having an aggregate market value, including accrued interest, at all times equal to the uninsured cash balance in the fund to which such securities are pledged. At fiscal year end, the carrying amount of the District's deposits was \$ 3,706,582 and the bank balance was \$3,730,134. Of the bank balance, \$500,000 was covered by federal depository insurance and the balance was covered by a pledge of securities held in safekeeping by a third-party institution in the District's name.

The carrying values of the deposits are included in the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet and the Statement of Net Position at September 30, 2023, as listed below:

	Cash
GENERAL FUND	\$ 3,184,654
CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	 521,928
TOTAL DEPOSITS	\$ 3,706,582

#### <u>Investments</u>

Under Texas law, the District is required to invest its funds under written investment policies that primarily emphasize safety of principal and liquidity and that address investment diversification, yield, maturity, and the quality and capability of investment management, and all District funds must be invested in accordance with the following investment objectives: understanding the suitability of the investment to the District's financial requirements, first; preservation and safety of principal, second; liquidity, third; marketability of the investments if the need arises to liquidate the investment before maturity, fourth; diversification of the investment portfolio, fifth; and yield, sixth. The District's investments must be made "with judgment and care, under prevailing circumstances, that a person of prudence, discretion, and intelligence would exercise in the management of the person's own affairs, not for speculation, but for investment, considering the probable safety of capital and the probable income to be derived." No person may invest District funds without express written authority from the Board of Commissioners.

Texas statutes include specifications for and limitations applicable to the District and its authority to purchase investments as defined in the Public Funds Investment Act. The District has adopted a written investment policy to establish the guidelines by which it may invest. This policy is reviewed annually. The District's investment policy may be more restrictive than the Public Funds Investment Act.

#### **NOTE 4. DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS** (Continued)

Investments (Continued)

The District invests in TexPool, an external investment pool that is not SEC-registered. The State Comptroller of Public Accounts of the State of Texas has oversight of the pool. Federated Hermes, Inc. manages the daily operations of the pool under a contract with the Comptroller. TexPool measures its portfolio assets at amortized cost. There are no limitations or restrictions on withdrawals from TexPool.

As of September 30, 2023, the District had the following investment and maturity:

			Mat	urities
			in Y	<i>Y</i> ears
			Matu	rity of
Fund and			Less	Than
Investment Type	Fair	Value	1 7	Year
GENERAL FUND				
TexPool	\$	35	\$	35

Credit risk is the risk that the issuer or other counterparty to an investment will not fulfill its obligations. At September 30, 2023, the District's investment in TexPool was rated AAAm by Standard and Poor's.

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. The District considers the investment in TexPool to have a maturity of less than one year due to the fact the share position can usually be redeemed each day at the discretion of the District, unless there has been a significant change in value.

#### Restrictions

All cash and investments of the Debt Service Fund are restricted for the payment of debt service and the cost of assessing and collecting taxes.

#### NOTE 5. CAPITAL ASSETS

	October 1, 2022	Increases	Decreases	September 30, 2023
Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated Land and Land Improvements Construction in Progress	\$ 580,033 788,680	\$ 6,004,517	\$ 413,602	\$ 580,033 6,379,595
Total Capital Assets Not Being	700,000	0,004,317	413,002	
Depreciated	\$ 1,368,713	\$ 6,004,517	\$ 413,602	\$ 6,959,628
Capital Assets Subject to Depreciation				
Buildings and Improvements	\$ 2,931,494	\$ 54,125	\$	\$ 2,985,619
Machinery and Equipment	833,747			833,747
Office Equipment	48,995	7,000		55,995
Vehicles	3,890,640	352,477		4,243,117
<b>Total Capital Assets Subject to</b>				
Depreciation	\$ 7,704,876	\$ 413,602	\$ -0-	\$ 8,118,478
Less Accumulated Depreciation				
Buildings and Improvements	\$ 1,051,978	\$ 98,480	\$	\$ 1,150,458
Machinery and Equipment	523,008	67,128		590,136
Office Equipment	48,767	1,053		49,820
Vehicles	2,117,642	394,157		2,511,799
<b>Total Accumulated Depreciation</b>	\$ 3,741,395	\$ 560,818	\$ -0-	\$ 4,302,213
Total Depreciable Capital Assets, Net				
of Accumulated Depreciation	\$ 3,963,481	\$ (147,216)	\$ -0-	\$ 3,816,265
Total Capital Assets, Net of				
Accumulated Depreciation	\$ 5,332,194	\$ 5,857,301	\$ 413,602	\$ 10,775,893

#### NOTE 6. CONTRACT FOR FIRE PROTECTION AND RESCUE SERVICES

The District executed a contract, effective October 1, 2016 for personnel for the provision of emergency services, within areas specified by the District with Needham Fire Rescue Department (the "Department"). This contract was amended September 12, 2017 and September 11, 2019. The term of the contract is for two years effective October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2022 and is renewable for successive one-year periods by action of the District and Department. Under the terms of the contract, the Department agrees to provide personnel for providing firefighting protection and suppression; fire prevention education; identification and control of hazardous materials; and emergency medical first responder service. The District provides and maintains suitable firefighting and related apparatus; vehicles; equipment and supplies for the Departments performance of these services. The District agreed to provide periodic payments to the Department. Payments are determined during the annual budget meetings. For the year ended September 30, 2023, the District paid the Department \$ 785,591 for operations and maintenance.

### NOTE 7. AGREEMENT WITH TEXAS INTRASTATE FIRE MUTUAL AID SYSTEM

On May 28, 2020, the District was awarded a vehicle grant from the Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System ("TIFMAS") through the Texas A&M Forest Service ("TFS"). The grant will pay 100% of the cost of a Type 3 Apparatus, including an installed radio package and loose equipment complement. The TFS will order and pay the selected vendors for the completed truck on the District's behalf. The District entered into an agreement with TFS related to this apparatus. The District will insure, house, maintain, operate and repair to ensure a high state of readiness of this TIFMAS apparatus at all times. The District will staff the apparatus with trained and qualified personnel when dispatched to any regional or statewide assignments and will provide for personnel rotation or replacement when the TIFMAS apparatus is needed on assignments of extended duration. While not on assignment outside the District, the apparatus will be available for use within the District for certain incidents and activities. If the District does not fulfill its obligations under this agreement. TFS has the right to reclaim the apparatus and transfer title to another department of its choosing. The District had ownership of the truck as of February 25, 2022.

#### NOTE 8. 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 carries commercial insurance for its fidelity bonds and participates in the Volunteer Firefighter & EMS Insurance Services (VFIS) to provide property, portable equipment, general liability, management liabilities, errors and omissions, public employee dishonesty, automobile, and workers compensation coverage. The District, along with other participating entities, contributes annual amounts determined by VFIS's management. As claims arise they are submitted and paid by VFIS. There have been no significant reductions in coverage from the prior year and settlements have not exceeded coverage in the past three years.

#### NOTE 9. NOTES PAYABLE

On May 14, 2013, the District entered into a \$670,000 promissory note with Government Capital Corporation to finance the acquisition of a new fire truck. This note is secured by sales and use tax funds. Annual installments of \$79,468.53 are due each May 1, beginning May 1, 2014, and ending May 1, 2023. The interest rate is 3.261%. This note was paid in full during the current fiscal year.

On July 11, 2014, the District entered into a \$975,000 promissory note with Government Capital Corporation to finance the acquisition of a new fire truck. This note is secured by sales and use tax funds. Annual installments of \$116,733.93 are due each July 1, beginning July 1, 2015, and ending July 1, 2024. The interest rate is 3.439%.

#### **NOTE 9. NOTES PAYABLE** (Continued)

On July 11, 2014, the District entered into a \$900,000 promissory note with Government Capital Corporation to finance the construction of a fire station. This note is secured by ad valorem tax funds. Annual installments of \$84,384.25 are due each July 1, beginning July 1, 2015, and ending July 1, 2028. The interest rate is 3.873%.

On December 29, 2015, the District entered into a \$650,000 promissory note with Government Capital Corporation to finance the construction of a fire station. This note is secured by ad valorem tax funds. Annual installments of \$58,029.23 are due each January 1, beginning January 1, 2017, and ending July 1, 2031. The interest rate is 3.894%.

On September 5, 2018, the District entered into a \$880,000 promissory note with Government Capital Corporation to finance the purchase of two Ferrara Pumper trucks. This note is secured by ad valorem tax funds. Payments of \$50,000 and \$75,000 are due March 1, 2019 and March 1, 2020, respectively. Beginning March 1, 2021 and ending March 1, 2028, annual installments of \$120,707.62 are due each March 1. The interest rate is 4.14%.

On March 27, 2019, the District entered into a \$700,000 promissory note with Government Capital Corporation to finance the purchase of various fire-fighting equipment. This note is secured by ad valorem tax funds. Beginning March 27, 2020 and ending March 27, 2026, annual installments of \$114,310.31 are due each March 27. The interest rate is 3.46%.

On October 25, 2019, the District entered into a \$560,000 promissory note with Government Capital Corporation to finance the purchase of a 2019 Pierce-Custom Saber FR Pumper truck. This note is secured with ad valorem tax funds. Beginning October 25, 2020 and ending October 25, 2029, annual installments of \$66,219.90 are due each October 25. The interest rate is 3.17%.

On February 5, 2020, the District entered into a \$466,270 promissory note with Government Capital Corporation to finance the purchase of a 2019 Pierce-Stock Fire truck. This note is secured with ad valorem tax funds. Beginning February 5, 2021 and ending February 5, 2030, annual installments of \$55,136.37 are due each February 5. The interest rate is 3.17%.

On May 28, 2021, the District entered into a \$6,000,000 promissory note with Government Capital Corporation to finance the construction of a fire station. This note is secured with ad valorem tax funds. Beginning May 28, 2022 and ending May 28, 2041, annual installments of \$397,352.04 are due each May 28. The interest rate is 2.84%.

On November 7, 2022, the District entered into a \$250,000 loan agreement with Truist Bank to fund the purchase of a fire truck for future fire protection. Annual installments of \$41,499 are due every November 7, beginning November 7, 2023, and ending November 7, 2029. The interest rate is 3.90%.

#### **NOTE 9. NOTES PAYABLE** (Continued)

The following is a summary of transactions regarding notes payable for the year ended September 30, 2023:

	October 1, 2022		Additions Retirement			etirements	September 30, 2023		
Notes Payable		\$ 8,845,951		\$ 250,000		\$ 818,315		8,277,636	
			Amou	ant Due With	in One	Year	\$	781,583	
			Amou	ınt Due After	One Y	ear		7,496,053	
			Notes	Payable			\$	8,277,636	

As of September 30, 2023, the debt service requirements on the notes payable were as follows:

Fiscal Year	 Principal	 Interest		Total
2024	\$ 781,583	\$ 256,252	\$	1,037,835
2025	707,928	229,712		937,640
2026	731,940	205,699		937,639
2027	642,475	180,852		823,327
2028	644,526	159,101		803,627
2029-2033	1,917,748	552,196		2,469,944
2034-2038	1,680,790	305,970		1,986,760
2039-2041	 1,170,646	 64,635		1,235,281
	\$ 8,277,636	\$ 1,954,417	\$	10,232,053

The assets acquired with these notes, are operated and maintained by the Department, and insured by the District.

#### NOTE 10. DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLANS

The District offers its employees two deferred compensation plans, a Section 457 plan and a Section 401(a) plan, both created in accordance with the Internal Revenue Service Codes, Section 457 and Section 414(d), respectively. The plans permit employees to defer a portion of their salary until future years. The deferred compensation is not available to employees until retirement, termination, death, or unforeseeable emergencies. Federal law requires all assets and income of both plans to be held in trust, custodial accounts, or annuity contracts for the exclusive benefit of the participants and their beneficiaries. The District's deferred compensation plans are administered by a private corporation under contract with the District.

#### NOTE 11. PENSION PLAN

#### Plan Description

The District provides retirement, disability, and death benefits for all of its full-time employees through a non-traditional defined benefit pension plan in the statewide Texas County and District Retirement System ("TCDRS"). The Board of Trustees of TCDRS is responsible for the administration of the statewide agent multiple-employer public employee retirement system. The system serves over 850 participating counties and districts throughout Texas. TCDRS in the aggregate issues a comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR) on a calendar year basis. The CAFR is available upon written request from the TCDRS Board of Trustees at P.O. Box 2034, Austin, Texas or www.tcdrs.org.

The plan provisions are adopted by the governing body of the District, within the options available in the Texas state statutes governing the TCDRS (TCDRS Act). Members can retire at ages 60 and above with 8 or more years of service, with 20 years of service, regardless of age, or when the sum of their age and years of service equals 75 or more. Members are vested after 8 years of service but must leave their accumulated contributions in the plan to receive any employer-financed benefit. Members who withdraw their personal contributions in a lump sum are not entitled to any amounts contributed by the District.

Benefit amounts are determined by the sum of the employee's deposits to the plan, with interest, and employer-financed monetary credits. The level of these monetary credits is adopted by the District within the actuarial constraints imposed by the TCDRS Act so that the resulting benefits can be expected to be adequately financed by the employer's commitment to contribute. At retirement, death, or disability, the benefit is calculated by converting the sum of the employee's accumulated deposits and the employer-financed monetary credits to a monthly annuity using annuity purchase rates prescribed by the TCDRS Act.

At December 31, 2022, the following employees were covered by the benefit terms:

Inactive employees or beneficiaries currently receiving benefits	2
Inactive employees entitled but not yet receiving benefits	26
Active employees	47

#### **Contributions**

The plan is funded by monthly contributions from both employee members and the employer based on the covered payroll of employee members. Under the TCDRS Act, the contribution rate of the employer is actuarially determined annually. The employer contributed using the actuarially determined rate of 8.36% for 2023 and 7.41% for 2022. The deposit rate payable by the employee members for calendar years 2022 was 5.00% and 2023 is 6.00% as adopted by the governing body of the District. The employee deposit rate and the employer contribution rate may be changed by the governing body of the District within the options available in the TCDRS Act.

#### **NOTE 11. PENSION PLAN** (Continued)

For the District's accounting year ended September 30, 2023, the annual pension cost for the TCDRS plan for its employees was \$255,486; the actual contributions were \$255,486. The employees contributed \$181,263 to the plan for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2023.

#### **Actuarial Assumptions**

The total pension liability in the December 31, 2022, actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumption:

Actuarial valuation date	12/31/22
Actuarial cost method	Entry Age
Amortization method	Level percentage of payroll, closed
Amortization period	17.2
Asset Valuation Method:	
Subdivision Accumulation Fund	5-year smoothed market
Employees Saving Fund	Fund value
Actuarial Assumptions:	
Investment return <sup>1</sup>	7.5%
Projected salary increases <sup>1</sup>	4.7%
Inflation	2.50%
Cost-of-living adjustments	0.0%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Includes inflation at the stated rate

The demographic assumptions were developed from an actuarial experience investigation of TCDRS over the years 2017-2020. They were recommended by Milliman and adopted by the TCDRS Board of Trustees in December of 2021. All economic assumptions were recommended by Milliman and adopted by the TCDRS Board of Trustees in March of 2021. These assumptions, except where required to be different by GASB 68, are used to determine the total pension liability as of December 31, 2021. The assumptions are reviewed annually for continued compliance with the relevant actuarial standards of practice.

Mortality rates were based on the following:

Depositing members – 135% of Pub-2010 General Employees Amount-Weighted Mortality Table for males and 120% Pub-2010 General Employees Amount-Weighted Mortality Table for females, both projected with 100% of the MP-2021 Ultimate scale after 2010.

Service retirees, beneficiaries and non-depositing members – 135% of Pub-2010 General Retirees Amount-Weighted Mortality Table for males and 120% Pub-2010 General Retirees Amount-Weighted Mortality Table for females, both projected with 100% of the MP-2021 Ultimate scale after 2010.

#### **NOTE 11. PENSION PLAN** (Continued)

Disabled retirees – 160% of Pub-2010 General Disabled Retirees Amount-Weighted Mortality Table for males and 125% Pub-2010 General Disabled Retirees Amount-Weighted Mortality Table for females, both projected with 100% of the MP-2021 Ultimate scale after 2010.

#### Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.6%. The discount rate did not change from the previous year.

In order to determine the discount rate to be used, the actuary used an alternative method to determine the sufficiency of the fiduciary net position in all future years. This alternative method reflects the funding requirements under the funding policy and the legal requirements under the TCDRS Act:

- 1) TCDRS has a funding policy where the Unfunded Actuarial Liability (UAAL) shall be amortized as a level percent of pay over 20-year closed layered periods.
- 2) Under the TCDRS Act, the District is legally required to make the contributions specified in the funding policy.
- 3) The District's assets are projected to exceed its accrued liabilities in 20 years or less. When this point is reached, the District is still required to contribute at least the normal cost.
- 4) Any increased cost due to the adoption of a cost-of-living adjustment is required to be funded over a period of 15 years, if applicable.

Based on the above, the projected fiduciary net position is determined to be sufficient compared to projected benefit payments. Based on the expected level of cash flows and investment returns to the system, the fiduciary net position as a percentage of total pension liability is projected to increase from its current level in future years.

Since the projected fiduciary net position is projected to be sufficient to pay projected benefit payments in all future years, the discount rate for purposes of calculation the total pension liability and net position liability is equal to the long-term assumed rate of return on investments. This long-term assumed rate of return should be net of investment expenses, but gross of administrative expenses. Therefore, the actuary has used a discount rate of 7.60%. This reflects the long-term assumed rate of return on assets for funding purposes of 7.50%, net of all expenses, increased by 0.10% to be gross of administrative expenses.

#### **NOTE 11. PENSION PLAN** (Continued)

#### **Long-Term Expected Rate of Return**

The long-term expected rate of return on TCDRS assets is determined by adding expected inflation to expected long-term real returns and reflecting expected volatility and correlation. The capital market assumptions and information shown below are provided by TCDRS' investment consultant, Cliffwater LLC. The numbers shown are based on January 2023 information for a 10-year time horizon.

Note that the valuation assumption for long-term expected return is re-assessed in detail at a minimum of every four years and is set based on a long-term time horizon. The TCDRS Board of Trustees adopted the current assumption at their March 2021 meeting. The assumption for the long-term expected return is reviewed annually for continued completion with the relevant actuarial standards of practice. Milliman relies on the expertise of Cliffwater in this assessment.

		Geometric Real Rate of Return
Asset Class	Target Allocation	(Expected minus Inflation)
US Equities	11.50 %	4.95 %
Private Equity	25.00	7.95
Global Equities	2.50	4.95
International Equities-Developed Markets	5.00	4.95
International Equities-Emerging Markets	6.00	4.95
Investment-Grade Bonds	3.00	2.40
Strategic Credit	9.00	3.39
Direct Lending	16.00	6.95
Distressed Debt	4.00	7.60
REIT Equities	2.00	4.15
Master Limited Partnerships (MLPs)	2.00	5.30
Private Real Estate Partnerships	6.00	5.70
Hedge Funds	6.00	2.90
Cash Equivalents	2.00	0.20
	100.00 %	

#### **NOTE 11. PENSION PLAN** (Continued)

#### Changes in Net Pension Liability/(Asset)

Changes in Net Pension Liability/(Asset) for the measurement year ended December 31, 2022 are as follows:

<u> </u>	Increase (Decrease)						
	Total Pension Liability		Pl	an Fiduciary	N	et Pension	
			N	let Position	Lial	oility/(Asset)	
Balances of December 31, 2021		(a)		(b)		(a)-(b)	
		1,270,457	\$	1,133,851	\$	136,606	
Changes for the year:							
Service Costs		205,588				205,588	
Interest on total pension liability		111,920				111,920	
Effect of plan changes		204,812				204,812	
Effect of Econimic/Demographic							
gains or losses		101,192				101,192	
Effect of assumption changes or inputs							
Refund of contributions							
Benefit payments		(6,942)		(6,942)			
Administrative Expense				(817)		817	
Member contributions				129,126		(129, 126)	
Net investment income				(92,856)		92,856	
Employer contributions				187,249		(187,249)	
Other				44,512		(44,512)	
Balances of December 31, 2022	\$	1,887,027	\$	1,394,123	\$	492,904	

Sensitivity Analysis - The following presents the net pension liability/(asset) of the District, calculated using the discount rate of 7.60%, as well as what the District net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower (6.60%) or 1 percentage point higher (8.60%) than the current rate.

	1%		Current		1%
	Decrease		iscount Rate		Increase
	6.60%		7.60%	8.60%	
Total Pension Liability	\$ 2,266,604	\$	1,887,027	\$	1,584,953
Fiduciary Net Position	 1,394,123		1,394,123		1,394,123
Net Pension Liability/(asset)	\$ 872,481	\$	492,904	\$	190,830

#### **NOTE 11. PENSION PLAN** (Continued)

As of September 30, 2023, the deferred inflows and outflows of resources are as follows:

	 red Outflows Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources		
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 109,327	\$	24,674	
Changes of assumptions	43,835		1,372	
Net differences between projected and actual earnings	72,426			
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	 206,433			
Total	\$ 432,021	\$	26,046	

The \$206,433 reported as deferred outflows of resources are plan contributions paid subsequent to the measurement date and prior to the District's year-end and will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2023. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year ended Dec	eember 31	•
2023	\$ 3	30,598
2024	3	35,173
2025	3	36,328
2026	$\epsilon$	51,153
2027		6,903
Thereafter	2	29,387

#### NOTE 13. SALES AND USE TAX

In accordance with Chapter 775 of the Health and Safety Code, the District is authorized to adopt and impose a sales and use tax if authorized by a majority of the qualified voters of the District. The election to adopt a sales and use tax is governed by the provision of Subchapter E, Chapter 323 of the Tax Code.

On May 9, 2009, the voters of the District approved the establishment and adoption of a sales and use tax up to a maximum of one percent. On October 1, 2009, the Board set a local sales and use tax of one percent on all applicable sales and uses within the boundaries of the District, except in those areas that already have a two percent tax. During the current year, the District recorded \$ 4,407,655 in sales tax receipts, of which \$ 744,583 was due from the State Comptroller at September 30, 2023.

#### NOTE 14. GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE

The District participates in a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined-benefit group-term life insurance plan operated by the Texas County & District Retirement System (TCDRS). This plan is referred to as the Group Term Life Fund (GTLF). This optional plan provides group term life insurance coverage to current eligible employees and, if elected by employers, to retired employees.

The GTLF is a separate trust administered by the TCDRS board of trustees. TCDRS issues a publicly available comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR) that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for the GTLF. This report is available at <a href="https://www.tcdrs.org">www.tcdrs.org</a>. TCDRS' CAFR may also be obtained by writing to the Texas County & District Retirement System; P.O. Box 2034, Austin, TX 78768-2034, or by calling 800~823-7782.

Funding Policy: Each participating employer contributes to the GTLF at a contractually required rate. An annual actuarial valuation is performed and the contractual rate is determined using the unit credit method for providing one-year term life insurance. The District's contribution to the GTLF for the years ending September 30, 2023, 2022, and 2021 were \$3,643, \$3,569 and \$2,997, respectively, which equaled the contractually required contribution.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 4
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
<b>SEPTEMBER 30, 2023</b>

#### MONTGOMERY COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 4

## SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL – GENERAL AND DEBT SERVICE FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Original Budget		Final Amended Budget		Actual		Variance Positive (Negative)	
REVENUES								
Property Taxes	\$	3,153,886	\$	3,153,886	\$	3,112,150	\$	(41,736)
Sales Tax Revenues		3,800,000		4,220,473		4,407,655		187,182
TIFMAS Reimbursements				222,160		222,160		
Miscellaneous Revenues		17,701		173,064		203,052		29,988
TOTAL REVENUES	\$	6,971,587	\$	7,769,583	\$	7,945,017	\$	175,434
EXPENDITURES								
Service Operations:								
Firefighting Personnel and Operations	\$	4,773,140	\$	4,699,393	\$	5,040,904	\$	(341,511)
Accounting and Auditing		20,500		19,000		18,500		500
Appraisal District Fees		20,500		20,500		22,379		(1,879)
Commissioner Fees		13,000		13,000		13,365		(365)
Communications Fees		59,000		59,000		60,261		(1,261)
Insurance		131,600		134,600		134,491		109
Legal Fees		50,000		50,000		74,662		(24,662)
Maintenance and Repairs		289,000		337,700		359,669		(21,969)
M. C. Hospital District Fees		18,300		18,300		18,300		
Other		429,200		455,100		419,292		35,808
Capital Outlay		75,000		152,477		348,560		(196,083)
Debt Service:								
Principal		818,318		818,318		818,315		3
Interest		274,029		274,029		274,025		4
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$	6,971,587	\$	7,051,417	\$	7,602,723	\$	(551,306)
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	\$	-0-	\$	718,166	\$	342,294	\$	(375,872)
FUND BALANCE -				•				
OCTOBER 1, 2022		3,345,211		3,345,211		3,345,211		
FUND BALANCE -								
<b>SEPTEMBER 30, 2023</b>	\$	3,345,211	\$	4,063,377	\$	3,687,505	\$	(375,872)

### MONTGOMERY COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 4 SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN NET PENSION LIABILITY (ASSET) AND RELATED RATIOS SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Year Ended December 31,							
		2022		2021		2020		2019
Total Pension Liability (Asset)								
Service Cost	\$	205,588	\$	165,161	\$	153,620	\$	154,573
Interest on total pension liability		111,920		77,103		58,803		45,101
Effect of plan changes Effect of assumption changes or inputs		204,812		158,441 7,440		68,029		
Effect of assumption changes of inputs  Effect of economic/demographic				7,440		08,029		
(gains) or losses		101,192		22,363		7,775		(23,339)
Benefit Payments/Refund of Contributions		(6,942)		(18,462)		(4,241)		(8,114)
Other	_		_		_	1		
Net change in total pension liability	\$	616,570	\$	412,046	\$	283,987	\$	168,221
Total pension liability, beginning		1,270,457		858,411	_	574,424		406,203
Total pension liability, ending (a)	\$	1,887,027	\$	1,270,457	\$	858,411	\$	574,424
Fiduciary Net Position								
Employer contributions	\$	187,249	\$	100,762	\$	91,805	\$	79,767
Member contributions		129,126		81,732		78,877		69,582
Investment income net of								
investment expenses		(92,856)		189,351		56,991		56,672
Benefit payments/refunds of contributions		(6,942)		(18,462)		(4,241)		(8,114)
Administrative Expense		(817)		(613)		(568)		(417)
Other		44,512		4,861		4,980		4,912
Net change in fiduciary net position	\$	260,272	\$	357,631	\$	227,844	\$	202,402
Fiduciary net position, beginning		1,133,851	_	776,220	_	548,376		345,974
Fiduciary net position, ending (b)	\$	1,394,123	\$	1,133,851	\$	776,220	\$	548,376
Net pension liability/(asset), ending = (a) - (b)	\$	492,904	\$	136,606	\$	82,191	\$	26,048
Fiduciary net position as a percentage								
of total pension liability		73.88%		89.25%		90.43%		95.47%
Pensionable covered payroll	\$	2,582,515	\$	2,043,291	\$	1,971,926	\$	1,739,543
Net pension liability as a percentage of								
covered payroll		19.09%		6.69%		4.17%		1.50%

	2018		2017		2016
\$	123,079 27,312 53,196	\$	134,608 17,702	\$	81,800 3,248
	33,170		(2,740)		
	(6,925) (8,954)		(13,790) (2,405) 1		70 1
\$	187,708	\$	133,376	\$	85,119
_	218,495		85,119		-0-
\$	406,203	\$	218,495	\$	85,119
\$	57,767 68,829	\$	63,569 72,288	\$	36,702 41,336
	(2,934) (8,954) (278)		13,710 (2,405) (153)		1 102
\$	3,528	\$	1,787 148,796	\$	1,182 79,220
Ф	117,958 228,016	Ф	79,220	Ф	-0-
\$	345,974	\$	228,016	\$	79,220
\$	60,229	\$	(9,521)	\$	5,899
	85.17%		104.36%		93.07%
\$	1,720,723	\$	1,807,220	\$	1,033,398
	3.50%		-0.53%		0.57%

#### MONTGOMERY COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 4 SCHEDULE OF DISTRICT CONTRIBUTIONS SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

Fiscal Year	A	ctuarially		Actual	Coı	ntribution	Pensionable	Actual Contribution
Ending	De	etermined	E	Employer	De	eficiency	Covered	as a Percentage of
September 30	Cor	ntribution <sup>(1)</sup>	Cor	ntribution <sup>(1)</sup>	(]	Excess)	Payroll	Covered Payroll
2023	\$	255,486	\$	255,486	\$	- 0 -	\$ 3,021,050	8.5%
2022	\$	187,249	\$	187,249	\$	- 0 -	\$ 2,582,515	7.3%
2021	\$	96,648	\$	100,762	\$	(4,114)	\$ 2,043,291	4.9%
2020	\$	91,695	\$	91,805	\$	(110)	\$ 1,971,926	4.7%
2019	\$	79,671	\$	79,767	\$	(96)	\$ 1,739,543	4.6%
2018	\$	56,096	\$	57,767	\$	(1,671)	\$ 1,720,723	3.4%
2017	\$	63,569	\$	63,569	\$	- 0 -	\$ 1,807,200	3.5%
2016	\$	36,686	\$	36,702	\$	(16)	\$ 1,033,398	3.6%

<sup>2016 \$ 36,686 \$ 36,702 \$ (16) \$ 1,033,398 3.6%

(1)</sup> TCDRS calculates actuarially determined contributions on a calendar year basis. GASB Statement

#### MONTGOMERY COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 4 SCHEDULE OF DISTRICT CONTRIBUTIONS SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

#### NOTES TO SCHEDULE

All actuarial methods and assumptions used for this analysis were the same as those used in the December 31, funding valuation. Following are the key methods and assumptions used to determine contribution rates:

Valuation Timing Actuarially determined contribution rates are calculated each

December 31, two years prior to the end of the fiscal year in which

the contributions are reported.

Actuarial Cost Method Entry Age

Amortization Method Level percentage of payroll, closed

Remaining Amortization Period 17.2 years (based on contribution rate calculated in 12/31/2022

valuation)

Asset Valuation Method 5-year smoothed market

Inflation 2.50%

Salary Increases Varies by age and service. 4.7% average over career including

inflation

Investment Rate of Return 7.50%, net of administrative and investment expenses, including

inflation

Retirement Age Members who are eligible for service retirement are assumed to

commence receiving benefit payments based on age. The average

age at service retirement for recent retirees is 61.

Mortality 135% of the Pub-2010 General Retirees Table for males and 120%

of the Pub-2010 General Retirees Table for females, both projected

with 100% of the MP-2021 Ultimate scale after 2010.

Changes in Assumptions and Methods

Reflected in the Schedule of Employer

Contributions\*

2015: New inflation, mortality and other assumptions were reflected.

2017: New mortality assumptions were reflected.

2019: New inflation, mortality and other assumptions were reflected.

2022: New investment return and inflation assumptions were

reflected.

Changes in Plan Provisions Reflected in the Schedule of Employer Contributions\*

2015: No changes in plan provisions were reflected in the Schedule. 2016: No changes in plan provisions were reflected in the Schedule.

2017: New Annuity Purchase Rates were reflected for benefits

earned after 2017.

2018: No changes in plan provisions were reflected in the Schedule.

2019: Employer contributions reflect that the current service matching rate was increased to 200% for future benefits.

2020: No changes in plan provisions were reflected in the Schedule.

2021: No changes in plan provisions were reflected in the Schedule. 2022: Employer contributions reflect that the member contribution

rate was increased to 5%.

<sup>\*</sup> Only changes that affect the benefit amount and that are effective 2015 and later are shown in the Notes to Schedule.



# MONTGOMERY COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 4 OTHER SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

### MONTGOMERY COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 4 TAXES LEVIED AND RECEIVABLE FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Maintena	nce Taxes	Debt Service Taxes		
TAXES RECEIVABLE - OCTOBER 1, 2022 Adjustments to Beginning Balance	\$ 33,232 (2,386)	\$ 30,846	\$ 31,322 (2,489)	\$ 28,833	
Original 2022 Tax Levy Adjustment to 2022 Tax Levy	\$ 2,036,710 83,264	2,119,974	\$ 959,756 <u>39,236</u>	998,992	
TOTAL TO BE ACCOUNTED FOR		\$ 2,150,820		\$ 1,027,825	
TAX COLLECTIONS: Prior Years Current Year	\$ 10,216 2,103,052	2,113,268	\$ 7,864 991,018	998,882	
TAXES RECEIVABLE - SEPTEMBER 30, 2023		\$ 37,552		\$ 28,943	
TAXES RECEIVABLE BY YEAR:					
2022		\$ 16,922		\$ 7,974	
2021		6,139		3,892	
2020		4,678		2,590	
2019		2,726		1,765	
2018		2,296		1,286	
2017		1,877		963	
2016		1,399		865	
2015		505		541	
2014		532		646	
2013 and prior		478		8,421	
TOTAL		\$ 37,552		\$ 28,943	

### MONTGOMERY COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 4 TAXES LEVIED AND RECEIVABLE FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	 2022		2021		2020		2019
TOTAL PROPERTY VALUATIONS	\$ 3,294,492,710	<u>\$ 2,</u>	579,613,627	<u>\$ 2,</u>	290,030,125	\$ 2,	079,263,125
TAX RATES PER \$100 VALUATION: Operating Debt Service	\$ 0.0643 0.0303	\$	0.0612 0.0388	\$	0.0587 0.0325	\$	0.0570 0.0369
TOTAL TAX RATES PER \$100 VALUATION	\$ 0.0946	\$	0.1000	\$	0.0912	\$	0.0939
ADJUSTED TAX LEVY*	\$ 3,118,966	\$	2,581,350	\$	2,089,409	\$	1,953,332
PERCENTAGE OF TAXES COLLECTED TO TAXES LEVIED	 99.20 %		99.61 %		99.65 %		<u>99.77</u> %

<sup>\*</sup> Based upon the adjusted tax levy at the time of the audit for the fiscal year in which the tax was levied.

### MONTGOMERY COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 4 BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

District Mailing Address - Montgomery County Emergency Services District No. 4

9430 State Highway 242 East

Conroe, TX 77385

District Telephone Number - (936) 321-0999

Commissioners	Term of Office Appointed Expires	Fees of Office for the year ended September 30, 2023		Reiml f yea	xpense bursements for the ar ended ber 30, 2023	Title
Brian Arceneaux	01/01/22 12/31/23	\$	2,984	\$	-0-	President
Gary Landrum	01/01/23 12/31/24	\$	2,163	\$	-0-	Vice President
Raymond Veit	01/01/23 12/31/24	\$	2,984	\$	-0-	Treasurer
Mark Abbey	01/01/23 12/31/24	\$	2,021	\$	-0-	Secretary
Karen Keels	01/01/22 12/31/23	\$	2,613	\$	-0-	Assistant Treasurer/ Secretary

A Commissioner is entitled to receive compensation in the same manner and amount as are provided by Section 49.060 of the Texas Water Code, currently \$7,200 per fiscal year. The above fees of office and expense reimbursements are the amounts paid to a Commissioner during the District's current fiscal year.