

BIG SANDY WATER DISTRICT

Catlettsburg, Kentucky

Audited Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2024

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board Members
Big Sandy Water District
Catlettsburg, Kentucky

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the business-type activities of the Big Sandy Water District as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Big Sandy Water District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the business-type activities of the Big Sandy Water District, as of December 31, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards and issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (Government Auditing Standards). 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 Big Sandy Water 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 opinion.

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 Big Sandy Water 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 opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with 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 GAAS and Government Auditing Standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Big Sandy Water 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 Big Sandy Water 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.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Management has omitted the Management's Discussion and Analysis that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic and historical context. Our opinion on the basic financial statements is not affected by this missing information.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Schedule of Employer's Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability, Schedule of Employer's Contributions – Net Pension Liability, Schedule of Employer's Proportionate Share of Net OPEB Liability and Schedule of Employer's Contributions – Net OPEB Liability be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with GAAS, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Big Sandy Water District's basic financial statements. The schedule of expenditures of federal awards, as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS. In our opinion, the schedule of expenditures of federal awards is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Information

The Comparative Statement of Revenues and Expenses is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and

other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the Comparative Statement of Revenues is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Matters

As discussed in the notes to the financial statements, accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require the Company to record leases in accordance with requirements primarily codified in FASB Accounting Standards Codification section 842 which generally require that all leases are classified as either an operating or financing type lease and that a right of use asset and lease liability is recorded on the balance sheet. Management has not applied this principle of lease classification and, therefore, information about the nature, amount, timing and uncertainty of leases, right-of-use assets and lease liabilities, and cash flows arising from leases may be misstated. The effects of this departure from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America on financial position, results of operations, and cash flows have not been determined.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated April 30, 2025, on our consideration of the Big Sandy Water 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 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 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 Big Sandy Water District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Lane & Company LLC

Mount Sterling, Kentucky

April 30, 2025

This report contains 36 pages.

Big Sandy Water District
Statement of Net Position
Proprietary Fund
December 31, 2024

ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents - unrestricted	\$ 423,746
Cash and cash equivalents - restricted	864,985
Accounts receivable - net of allowance for doubtful accounts	323,038
Inventory	86,908
Prepaid expenses	14,087
Total Current Assets	<u>1,712,764</u>
Noncurrent Assets	
Capital assets:	
Land	99,529
Plant, equipment and lines	25,883,896
Construction in process	368,328
Less accumulated amortization	(4,465)
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(11,776,737)</u>
Total Noncurrent Assets	<u>14,570,551</u>
Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>195,828</u>
Total Assets and Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u><u>\$16,479,143</u></u>
LIABILITIES	
Current Liabilities	
Accrued expenses	\$ 82,518
Accrued taxes	39,355
Accrued interest	58,899
Bonds/notes payable	226,762
Customer deposits payable	<u>72,695</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>480,229</u>
Noncurrent Liabilities	
Bonds/notes payable	4,155,551
Net pension liability	628,602
Net OPEB liability	<u>(18,199)</u>
Total Noncurrent Liabilities	<u>4,765,954</u>
Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>317,406</u>
Total Liabilities and Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u><u>5,563,589</u></u>
NET POSITION	
Net investment in capital assets	10,188,238
Restricted	792,290
Unrestricted	<u>(64,974)</u>
Total Net Position	<u><u>\$10,915,554</u></u>

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

Big Sandy Water District
Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position
Proprietary Fund
For the year ended December 31, 2024

Revenues	
User fees	\$ 2,906,476
Other water revenue	92,590
Other revenue	<u>571</u>
Total Revenues	<u>2,999,637</u>
Expenses	
Wages	505,483
Commissioners expense	1,295
Taxes	37,500
Employee benefits	132,196
Purchased water	1,051,587
Purchased power	112,110
Materials & supplies	108,254
Contractual services	113,513
Transportation expenses	43,118
Equipment expense	13,061
Rental equipment	60
Insurance	36,586
Postage	24,118
Bad debt	34,858
Other expense	20,219
Telephone	8,553
Depreciation	<u>507,472</u>
Total Operating Expenses	<u>2,749,983</u>
Operating Income (Loss)	<u>249,654</u>
Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses)	
Tap fees	59,180
Federal grants	1,343,843
Surcharge income	374,049
Interest expense	(108,441)
Interest income - restricted	4,315
Interest income - unrestricted	<u>2,508</u>
Net Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses)	<u>1,675,454</u>
Change in Net Position	1,925,108
Total Net Position - beginning	<u>8,990,446</u>
Total Net Position - ending	<u><u>\$ 10,915,554</u></u>

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

Big Sandy Water District
Statement of Cash Flows
Proprietary Fund
For the year ended December 31, 2024

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:	
Operating revenues	\$ 2,961,966
Cash paid to employees	(505,483)
Cash paid for general and administrative expenses	<u>(1,822,094)</u>
Net Cash provided / (used) by operating activities	<u>634,389</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:	
Interest earned	6,823
Customer deposits	<u>5,966</u>
Net Cash provided / (used) by investing activities	<u>12,789</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND FINANCING ACTIVITIES:	
Tap fees	59,180
Purchase of capital assets	(1,722,402)
Surcharge income	374,049
Bond/note payments - principal	(267,895)
Bond/note payments - interest	(108,949)
Capital grant	<u>1,343,843</u>
Net cash provided / (used) in capital and financing activities	<u>(322,174)</u>
NET INCREASE / (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	325,004
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>963,727</u>
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - END OF THE YEAR	<u><u>\$ 1,288,731</u></u>
RECONCILIATION OF NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES:	
Change in Net Position	\$ 249,654
Adjustments to Reconcile Change in Net Position to	
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities:	
depreciation	507,472
(increase) / decrease in accounts receivable	(37,671)
(increase) / decrease in prepaid expenses	3,138
increase / (decrease) in pension/OPEB expense due to GASB 68/75	(89,972)
increase / (decrease) in accounts payable	<u>1,768</u>
Net cash provided / (used) by operating activities	<u><u>\$ 634,389</u></u>

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

BIG SANDY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2024

Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The Big Sandy Water District is a water utility which services areas of Boyd, Carter, Johnson and Lawrence Counties. Its sales are primarily to residential customers. The District is a corporate body set forth in Kentucky Revised Statutes (KRS) 74.070 which was created November, 1981. The District is subject to the regulatory District of the Kentucky Public Service Commission pursuant to KRS 278.040.

The accounting policies of the District conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as applicable to governments. The following is a summary of the more significant policies.

The Reporting Entity

The District, for financial purposes, includes all of the funds relevant to the operations of the District. The financial statements presented herein do not include agencies which have been formed under applicable state laws or separate and distinct units of government apart from the Big Sandy Water District.

The financial statements of the District would include those of separately administered organizations that are controlled by or dependent on the District. Control or dependence is determined on the basis of financial interdependency, selection of governing District, designation of management, ability to significantly influence operations, accountability of fiscal matters, scope of public service, and financing relations.

Based on the foregoing criteria there are no other organizations included in these financial statements.

Depreciation Reserve Fund - Monthly transfers are required to be made into this fund until it reaches the fully funded level of \$233,400. Only expenditures for capital improvements or extraordinary expenses are permitted to be paid from this fund. The District had set aside \$183,374 into this fund at December 31, 2024. The required balance at December 31, 2024 is \$108,200.

Bond and Interest Sinking Fund (USDA) - Monthly transfers are required to be made into this account in an amount equal to one-sixth (1/6) of the interest becoming due on the next succeeding interest due date for all outstanding bonds and one-twelfth (1/12) of the principal of all such bonds maturing on the next succeeding due date. The required balance of the fund at December 31, 2024 was \$78,872. The District had set aside \$134,094.

Bond and Interest Sinking Fund (KRWFC) - Monthly transfers are required to be made into this account in an amount equal to one-sixth (1/6) of the interest becoming due on the next succeeding interest due date for all outstanding bonds and one-twelfth (1/12) of the principal of all such bonds maturing on the next succeeding due date. The required balance of the fund at December 31, 2024 was \$187,623. The District had set aside \$219,088.

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to the District is determined by its measurement focus. The transactions of the District are accounted for on a flow of economic resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, all assets and all liabilities associated with the operations are included on the balance sheet. Net assets (i.e., total assets net of total liabilities) are segmented into invested in capital assets, net of related debt, restricted and unrestricted components. When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the District's policy to use restricted resources first, and then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

Enterprise Funds

Enterprise Funds are used to account for operations (a) that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprise where the intent of the governing body is that the costs (expenses, including depreciation) of providing goods or services to the general public on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges or (b) where the governing body has decided that periodic determination of revenues earned, expenses incurred, and/or net income is appropriate for capital maintenance, public policy, management control, accountability, or other purposes.

Basis of Accounting

The records of the District are maintained and the budgetary process is based on the accrual method of accounting.

Inventory

The cost of inventory is recorded as a disbursement at the time of payment for the purchase. Materials on hand are inventoried at year end and recorded as an asset at that time. They are recorded at lower of cost or market valued on the FIFO method.

Cash

At December 31, 2024, the carrying amount of the District's deposits were \$1,241,624 and the bank balance was \$697,545. 100% of deposits were covered by FDIC, pledged securities or government funds. The District considers all

investments with a maturity of three months or less from date of purchase to be cash equivalents. Certificates of deposit that are redeemable immediately with little or no penalty are considered cash equivalents.

Capital Assets

Capital assets purchased are capitalized at the time of purchase. Such assets are recorded at cost. Donated assets are recorded at fair market value at the date of donation.

Depreciation of property and equipment is computed by the straight-line method based upon the estimated useful lives of the assets as follows:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Life</u>
Lines and tanks	50 years
Hydrants	30 years
Meters	20 years
Equipment	10 years
Vehicles	5 years

The District's capitalization policy is as follows: expenditures costing more than \$5,000 with an estimated useful life greater than one year are capitalized; all others are expensed.

Net Position

Net position represents the difference between assets and liabilities. Net investment in capital assets consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balance of any borrowing used for the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets. Net position is recorded as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use by external restrictions.

Investments

Investments, if any, are carried at cost which is the lower of cost or fair market value.

Accounts Receivable

The receivable reflected in the statements in the amount of \$323,038 is net of allowance for uncollectible in the amount of \$2,823.

Use of Estimates

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

Leases

The entity has obligations as a lessee for office space, computers, and other office equipment with initial noncancelable terms in excess of one year. The entity classified these leases as operating leases. These leases generally contain renewal options for periods ranging from two to five years. Because the entity is not reasonably certain to exercise these renewal options, the optional periods are not included in determining the lease term, and associated payments under these renewal options are excluded from lease payments. The entity's leases do not include termination options for either party to the lease or restrictive financial or other covenants. Payments due under the lease contracts include fixed payments plus, for many of the entity's leases, variable payments.

Note 2 - Notes Payable

The amount shown in the accompanying financial statements as notes payable represents the District's future obligation to make loan payments from future revenues. At December 31, 2024, six separate loans had outstanding balances. Details of each of these issues are summarized as follows:

Note A

Lender – USDA

Original amount of loan - \$1,050,000

Balance of loan - \$896,000

Rate – 2.75%

Principal due January 1

Interest due January 1 and July 1

Prepayment provision – subject to payment prior to its stated maturity without penalty or premium, at any time upon ten (10) days notice.

Maturities			
	Principal	Interest	Total Payment
2025	\$ 19,500	\$ 24,372	\$ 43,872
2026	20,000	23,829	43,829
2027	20,500	23,272	43,772
2028	21,000	22,701	43,701
2029	22,000	22,110	44,110
2030-2034	118,500	101,069	219,569
2035-2039	135,500	83,634	219,134
2040-2044	155,500	63,669	219,169
2045-2049	177,500	40,803	218,303
2050-2054	206,000	14,616	220,616
Total	\$ 896,000	\$ 420,075	\$ 1,316,075

Note B

Lender – USDA

Original amount of loan - \$115,000

Balance of loan - \$101,000

Rate – 3.25%

Principal due – January 1

Interest due January 1 and July 1

Prepayment provision – subject to payment prior to its stated maturity without penalty or premium, at any time upon ten (10) days notice.

Maturities			
	Principal	Interest	Total Payment
2025	\$ 2,000	\$ 3,250	\$ 5,250
2026	2,000	3,185	5,185
2027	2,000	3,120	5,120
2028	2,000	3,055	5,055
2029	2,000	2,990	4,990
2030-2034	12,000	13,845	25,845
2035-2039	14,500	11,692	26,192
2040-2044	17,000	9,133	26,133
2045-2049	21,000	6,061	27,061
2050-2054	26,500	423	26,923
Total	\$ 101,000	\$ 56,754	\$ 157,754

Note C

Lender – USDA

Original amount of loan - \$1,670,000

Balance of loan - \$1,582,000

Rate – 1.50%

The bonds were sold at a premium of \$84,203, which is being amortized over the term of the bond. The unamortized bond premium is recorded as a noncurrent liability. The premium amortization which is a decrease to interest expense was \$5,263. The unamortized bond premium at December 31, 2024 was \$26,313.

Principal due – January 1

Interest due – January 1 and July 1

Maturities			
	Principal	Interest	Total Payment
2025	\$ 24,000	\$ 23,550	\$ 47,550
2026	25,000	23,183	48,183
2027	25,000	22,808	47,808
2028	26,000	22,425	48,425
2029	27,000	22,028	49,028
2030-2034	150,000	103,650	253,650
2035-2039	175,000	91,463	266,463
2040-2044	205,000	77,273	282,273
2045-2049	241,000	60,563	301,563
2050-2054	282,000	40,980	322,980
2055-2059	331,000	18,068	349,068
2060	71,000	533	71,533
Total	\$ 1,582,000	\$ 506,524	\$ 2,088,524

Note D

Lender – USDA

Original amount of loan - \$395,000

Balance of loan - \$372,000

Rate – 1.50%

Principal due January 1

Interest due January and July 1

Prepayment provision - subject to payment prior to its stated maturity without penalty or premium, at any time upon ten (10) days notice.

Maturities			
	Principal	Interest	Total Payment
2025	\$ 6,000	\$ 5,535	\$ 11,535
2026	6,500	5,441	11,941
2027	6,500	5,344	11,844
2028	6,500	5,246	11,746
2029	7,000	2,599	9,599
2030-2034	37,500	24,086	61,586
2035-2039	43,000	21,075	64,075
2040-2044	49,500	17,606	67,106
2045-2049	56,000	13,665	69,665
2050-2054	64,000	9,165	73,165
2055-2059	73,500	4,009	77,509
2060	16,000	120	16,120
Total	\$ 372,000	\$ 113,891	\$ 485,891

Note E

Lender – KRWFC

Original amount of loan - \$910,000

Balance of loan - \$165,000

Rate - 4.300%

Principal & interest due – February 1, 2020

Maturities			
	Principal	Interest	Total Payment
2025	\$ 30,000	\$ 5,025	\$ 35,025
2026	30,000	3,923	33,923
2027	30,000	2,970	32,970
2028	35,000	1,898	36,898
2029	40,000	660	40,660
Total	\$ 165,000	\$ 14,476	\$ 179,476

Note F

Lender – KRWFC

Original amount of loan - \$1,730,000

Balance of loan - \$1,240,000

Rate – 5.20%

Maturities			
	Principal	Interest	Total Payment
2025	\$ 140,000	\$ 41,825	\$ 181,825
2026	145,000	34,415	179,415
2027	155,000	26,615	181,615
2028	95,000	20,115	115,115
2029	95,000	16,600	111,600
2030-2034	445,000	49,182	494,182
2035-2039	150,000	11,209	161,209
2040	15,000	240	15,240
Total	\$ 1,240,000	\$ 200,201	\$ 1,440,201

	Outstanding 1/1/2024	Issued	Retired	Outstanding 12/31/2024	Due Within One Year
Bonds Payable					
USDA 91-16	\$ 915,000	\$ -	\$ 19,000	\$ 896,000	\$ 19,500
USDA 91-18	103,000	-	2,000	101,000	2,000
USDA 91-20	1,605,000	-	23,000	1,582,000	24,000
USDA 91-22	378,000	-	6,000	372,000	6,000
Kentucky Rural Water 2013	190,000	-	25,000	165,000	30,000
Kentucky Rural Water 2020	1,375,000	-	135,000	1,240,000	140,000
Bond Premium	31,575		5,262	26,313	5,262
Notes Payable					
Ford Motor Credit #1	23,826	-	23,826	-	-
Ford Motor Credit #2	8,012	-	8,012	-	-
Joe Holland Chewy	20,795	-	20,795	-	-
Total bonds payable	4,597,575	-	215,262	4,382,313	226,762
Total notes payable	52,633	-	52,633	-	-
Total bonds/notes payable	\$ 4,650,208	\$ -	\$ 267,895	\$ 4,382,313	\$ 226,762

Note 3 - Leave Policies

The District's employees are covered by leave policies as follow:

- sick leave – one day per month to a maximum accumulation of sixty days;
- annual leave:

Years of Employment	Annual Leave in Days
1	5
2	10
3	15
10	20

One week of annual leave may be carried forward to the next year, but must be taken by March 31st of that year. Up on the retirement, termination of or medical retirement of an employee the District shall continue to employ and pay the employee for any accrued earned vacation days. The employee termination date shall be the last day of earned vacation paid.

Note 4 - Risk Management

The District is exposed to various risks of losses related to torts; theft of, damage to and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The District carries commercial insurance coverage for the risks to the extent deemed prudent by District management.

Note 5 - Revenue Bonds

Water and Revenue Bonds constitute special obligations of the District solely secured by a lien on and pledge of the net revenues of the water system. The revenue bonds are collateralized by the revenue of the water system and the various special funds established by the bond ordinances. The ordinances provide that the revenue of the system is to be used first to pay operating and maintenance expenses of the system and second to establish and maintain the revenue bond funds. Any remaining revenues may then be used for any lawful purpose. The ordinances also contain certain provisions, which require the District to maintain pledged revenues. The District must transfer monthly 1/6 of the next succeeding interest payment and 1/12 of the next succeeding principal payment from the operations and maintenance account into the bond and interest sinking account.

Note 6 - Contingencies

The District is subject to possible examinations made by Federal and State authorities who determine compliance with terms, conditions, laws, and regulations governing other grants given to the District in the current and prior years. There were no examinations for the year ended December 31, 2024. Areas of noncompliance, if any, as a result of examinations would be included as a part of the "Findings and Questioned Costs" section of this report.

Note 7 - Investments

The District's investment policy is governed by the Kentucky Statutes. These requirements authorize the District to invest in obligations backed by full faith and credit of the United States and obligations of any corporation of the United States government. The policy requires that amounts on deposit with financial institutions be collateralized at a rate of 100% of amounts in excess of deposit insurance coverage.

Note 8 - Restricted Cash

Restricted cash is composed of the following:

Depreciation reserve fund	\$ 183,374
Debt reserve (USDA)	134,294
Debt reserve Regions (KRWFC)	219,088
Surcharge Account	<u>328,229</u>
	<u>\$ 864,985</u>

Note 9 - Changes in Capital Assets

The following is a summary of changes in capital assets for the year:

	Balance			Balance
	12/31/2023	Additions/ Transfers	Deletions	12/31/2024
Land, non-depreciable	\$ 99,529	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 99,529
Construction in process, non-depreciable	202,508	1,327,441	1,161,622	368,331
Structures & improvements	694,613	-	-	694,613
Pumping equipment	403,289	10,781	-	414,070
Distribution reservoir & standpipe	1,223,302	-	-	1,223,302
Transmission & distribution mains	13,913,880	1,158,825	-	15,072,705
Services	5,125,232	15,035	-	5,140,267
Meters & meter installation	1,633,508	348,938	-	1,982,446
Hydrants	227,402	-	-	227,402
Other plant & misc. equipment	14,583	-	-	14,583
Office furniture & equipment	147,105	1	-	147,106
Transportation equipment	411,077	4,218	-	415,295
Tools, shop & garage	46,121	3,230	-	49,351
Power operated equipment	207,409	-	-	207,409
Communication equipment	12,579	15,552	-	28,131
Miscellaneous equipment	28,816	-	-	28,816
Other tangible plant	213,595	-	-	213,595
Utility plant acquisition adjustment	24,805	-	-	24,805
Total capital assets, gross	24,629,351	2,884,021	1,161,622	26,351,753
Less: accumulated depreciation and amortization	11,273,730	507,472	-	11,781,202
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	\$ 13,355,621			\$ 14,570,551

Note 10 – Defined Benefit Pension Plan

General Information About the Pension Plan

Plan description - Regular, full-time, employees of the Entity are provided with pensions through the County Employees' Retirement System (CERS)—a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority. The assets of CERS are pooled with two other retirement systems Kentucky Public Pensions Entity administers, KERS & SPRS. Although invested each system's assets are used only for the members of that plan. Kentucky Revised Statute (KRS) chapter 61 grants the authority to establish and amend the benefit terms to the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority's Board of Trustees (Board). Kentucky Public Pensions Authority issues a publicly available financial report that can be obtained on their website.

Benefits provided - CERS provides retirement, insurance, disability, and death benefits. Retirement benefits are determined from an average of the five highest years of compensation for those whose participation began before September 01, 2008. For those who began participation on or after September 01, 2008 retirement benefits are determined as an average of the last complete five years. A percentage is then taken from those averages based on the employee's months of service. Employees are eligible for service-related disability benefits with at least 60 months of service. If the member is receiving monthly benefits based on at least four years of service, then a \$5,000 death benefit is payable to the member's designated beneficiary. For those employees whose participation began prior to July 01, 2003, CERS will pay a portion of the monthly premium for single coverage based upon service credit accrued at retirement. For those employees whose participation began on or after July 01, 2003 and before September 01, 2008, employees are required to earn at least 10 years of service credit to be eligible for insurance benefits. Employees whose participation began on or after September 01, 2008 must earn at least 15 years of service credit to be eligible for insurance benefits.

Membership in the CERS Non-hazardous Pension Fund consisted of the following on June 30, 2023:

Membership Status

Inactive plan members currently receiving benefits	70,932
Inactive plan members entitled to but not yet receiving benefits	111,086
Active plan members	<u>78,810</u>
Total plan members	260,828

Prior to July 1, 2009, cost of living adjustments (COLAs) were provided annually equal to the percentage increase in the annual average of the consumer price index (CPI) for all urban consumers for the most recent calendar year, not to exceed 5% in any plan year. After July 1, 2009, the COLAs were limited to 1.50%. No COLA has been granted since July 1, 2011.

Contributions

The Commonwealth is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate for KERS and SPRS pensions. Participating employers are required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate for CERS pensions. Per Kentucky Revised Statute Sections KERS 61.565(3), CERS 78.545(33), and SPRS 16.645(18), normal contribution and past service contribution rates shall be determined by the Board on the basis of the last annual valuation preceding July 1 of a new biennium. The Board may amend contribution rates as of the first day of July of the second year of a biennium, if it is determined on the basis of a subsequent actuarial valuation that amended contribution rates are necessary to satisfy requirements determined in accordance with actuarial bases adopted by the Board. However, formal commitment to provide the contributions by the employer is made through the biennial budget for KERS and SPRS.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, participating employers contributed a percentage of each employee's creditable compensation. The actuarially determined rates set by the Board for the fiscal year is a percentage of each employee's creditable compensation. Administrative costs of KPPA are financed through employer contributions and investment earnings.

TIER 1:

Tier 1 plan members who began participating prior to September 1, 2008, are required to contribute 5% (Non-Hazardous) or 8% (Hazardous) of their annual creditable compensation. These members are classified in the Tier 1 structure of benefits. Interest is paid each June 30 on members' accounts at a rate of 2.5%. If a member terminates employment and applies to take a refund, the member is entitled to a full refund of contributions and interest.

TIER 2:

Tier 2 plan members, who began participating on, or after, September 1, 2008, and before January 1, 2014, are required to contribute 6% (Non-Hazardous) or 9% (Hazardous) of their annual creditable compensation. Further, 1% of these contributions are deposited to an account created for the payment of health insurance benefits under 26 USC Section 401(h) in the Pension Fund (see Kentucky Administrative Regulation (KAR) 105 KAR 1:420 Employer's administrative duties). These members are classified in the Tier 2 structure of benefits. Interest is paid each June 30 on members'

accounts at a rate of 2.5%. If a member terminates employment and applies to take a refund, the member is entitled to a full refund of contributions and interest; however, the 1% contribution to the 401(h) account is non-refundable and is forfeited.

TIER 3:

Tier 3 plan members, who began participating on, or after, January 1, 2014, are required to contribute to the Cash Balance Plan. The Cash Balance Plan is known as a hybrid plan because it has characteristics of both a defined benefit plan and a defined contribution plan. Members in the plan contribute a set percentage of their salary each month to their own account. Members contribute 5% (Non-Hazardous) or 8% (Hazardous) of their annual creditable compensation, and an additional 1% to the health insurance fund (401(h) account), which is not credited to the member's account and is not refundable. The employer contribution rate is set annually by the Board based on an actuarial valuation. The employer contributes a set percentage of the member's salary. Each month, when employer contributions are received, an employer pay credit is deposited to the member's account. A member's account is credited with a 4% (Non-Hazardous) or 7.5% (Hazardous) employer pay credit. The employer pay credit represents a portion of the employer contribution.

Contribution Rates and Amounts for CERS Non-Hazardous

Period	Pension	Insurance	Total	Employer		Employee
				Pension	Insurance	
01/01/2024-06/30/2024	23.34%	0.00%	23.34%	\$ 40,263	\$ 0	\$ 8,625
07/01/2024-12/31/2024	19.71%	0.00%	19.71%	35,241	0	8,940
Totals				\$75,504	\$ 0	\$17,565

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

At December 31, 2024, the Entity reported a liability of \$68,602 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2021, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The Entity's portion of the net pension liability was based on the Entity's proportionate share of retirement contributions for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022. On June 30, 2024 the Entity's proportionate share was 0.010511%.

Since certain expense items are amortized over closed periods each year, the deferred portions of these items must be tracked annually. If the amounts serve to reduce pension expense, they are labeled deferred inflows. If they will increase pension expense, they are labeled deferred outflows. The amortization of these amounts is accomplished on a level dollar basis, with no interest included in the deferred amounts. Experience gains/losses and the impact of changes in actuarial assumptions, if any, are amortized over the average remaining service life of the active and inactive System members at the beginning of the fiscal year. Investment gains and losses are amortized over a fixed five-year period. For the year ended December 31, 2024, the Entity recognized pension expense of \$33,930. On December 31, 2024, the Entity reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual Liability Experience	\$ 30,426	\$ -0-
Changes in assumptions	-0-	28,400
Differences between expected and actual Investment Experience	43,171	83,587
Changes in proportion and differences between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions	29,751	4,264
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	35,241	-0-
Total	\$ 138,589	\$ 116,251

\$35,241 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from the Entity's contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ended December 31, 2024. The remaining amount of \$(12,903) reported as the net effect of deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

<u>Year Ended December 31,</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2025	\$(11,467)
2026	23,108

2027	(15,536)
2028	(9,008)
2029	-0-
Thereafter	<u>-0-</u>
Total	\$ (12,903)

Actuarial methods & assumptions: For financial reporting, the actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2022, was performed by Gabriel Roeder Smith (GRS). The total pension liability, net pension liability, and sensitivity information as of June 30, 2022 were based on an actuarial valuation date of June 30, 2021. The total pension liability was rolled-forward from the valuation date (June 30, 2021) to the plan's fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, using generally accepted actuarial principles.

The actuarial assumptions are:

Inflation	2.30% for all plans
Payroll Growth Rate	2.00% for CERS non-hazardous
Salary Increases	3.30% to 10.30% varies by service for CERS non-hazardous
Investment Rate of Return	6.50% for CERS Non-hazardous

The mortality table used for active members was a Pub-2010 General Mortality table, for the Non-Hazardous System, and the Pub-2010 Public Safety Mortality table for the Hazardous System, projected with the ultimate rates from the MP-2014 mortality improvement scale using a base year of 2010. The mortality table used for healthy retired members was a system-specific mortality table based on mortality experience from 2013-2018, projected with the ultimate rates from MP-2014 mortality improvement scale using a base year of 2019. The mortality table used for the disabled members was PUB-2010 Disabled Mortality table, with a 4-year set-forward for both male and female rates, projected with the ultimate rates from the MP-2014 mortality improvement scale using a base year of 2010.

House Bill 1 passed during the 2019 Special Legislative Session allows certain employers in the KERS Nonhazardous plan to elect to cease participating in the System as of June 30, 2021 under different provisions than were previously established. Senate Bill 249 passed during the 2020 legislative session which delayed the effective date of cessation for these provisions to June 30, 2021. Since each employer's elections are unknown at this time, no adjustment to the Total Pension Liability was made to reflect this legislation.

Senate Bill 249 passed during the 2020 legislative session and changed the funding period for the amortization of the unfunded liability to 30 years as of June 30, 2019. Gains and losses incurring in future years will be amortized over separate 20-year amortization bases. This change does not impact the calculation of the Total Pension Liability and only impacts the calculation of the contribution rates that would be payable starting July 1, 2020. There were no other material plan provision changes.

The following actuarial methods and assumptions were used to determine the actuarially determined contributions effective for fiscal year ending June 30, 2024:

Valuation Date	June 30, 2022
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal
Amortization Method	Level percent of pay
Amortization Period	30-year closed period at June 30, 2019. Gains/losses incurring after 2019 will be amortized over separate closed 20-year amortization bases
Payroll Growth Rate	2.00% for CERS non-hazardous
Asset Valuation Method	20% of the difference between the market value of assets and the expected actuarial value of assets is recognized
Inflation	2.30%
Salary Increase	3.30%-10.30%, Varies by Service for CERS non-hazardous
Investment Return	6.50% for CERS Non-hazardous
Mortality	System-specific mortality table based on mortality experience from 2013-2018, projected with the ultimate rates from MP-2014 mortality improvement scale using a base year of 2019

Phase-in Provision Board certified rate is phased into the actuarially determined rate in accordance with HB 362 enacted in 2018.

The long-term expected rates of return were determined by using a building block method in which best estimated ranges of expected future real rates of return were developed for each asset class. The ranges were combined by weighting the expected future real rate of return by the target asset allocation percentage. The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rate of return for each major asset class are summarized in the tables below. The current long-term inflation assumption is 2.30% per annum for both the non-hazardous and hazardous plan.

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return</u>
Equity	60.00%	
Public Equity	50.00%	4.15%
Private Equity	10.00%	9.10%
Fixed Income	20.00%	
Core Fixed Income	10.00%	2.85%
Specialty Credit	10.00%	3.82%
Cash	0.00%	1.70%
Inflation Protected	20.00%	
Real Estate	7.00%	4.90%
Real Return	13.00%	5.35%
Expected Real Return	100.00%	4.69%
Long Term Inflation Assumption		2.50%
Expected Nominal Return for Portfolio		7.19%

Single Discount Rate

Projected benefit payments are required to be discounted to their actuarial present values using a single discount rate that reflects (1) a long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments (to the extent that the plan's fiduciary net position is projected to be sufficient to pay benefits) and (2) tax-exempt municipal bond rate based on an index of 20-year general obligation bonds with an average AA credit rating as of the measurement date (to the extent that the plan's projected fiduciary net position is not sufficient to pay benefits).

A single discount rate of 6.50% was used to measure the total pension liability for the non-hazardous plan and the hazardous plan for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023. The single discount rate is based on the expected rate of return on pension plan investments for each plan. Based on the stated assumptions and the projection of cash flows as of each fiscal year ending, the non-hazardous and hazardous pension plans' fiduciary net position and future contributions were separately projected and were each sufficient to finance all the future benefit payments of the current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of the projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability for each plan.

The projection of cash flows used to determine the single discount rate for each fund must include an assumption regarding actual employer contributions made each future year. Except where noted below, future contributions are projected assuming that each participating employer in each pension fund contributes the actuarially determined employer contribution each future year calculated in accordance with the current funding policy, as most recently revised by House Bill 8, passed during the 2018 legislative session. The assumed future employer contributions reflect the provisions of House Bill 362 (passed during the 2018 legislative session) which limit the increases to the employer contribution rates to 12% over the prior fiscal year through June 30, 2028. However, contribution rates are not currently projected to increase by more than 12% in any given future year. Therefore, for the purposes of this calculation, the provisions of House Bill 362 do not impact the projected contribution rates.

Methodology for Proportionate Shares

The proportionate share(s) of the Collective Pension Amounts for employers that participate in these cost-sharing multiple employer plans is provided in Appendix A and Appendix B of this report and was determined using the employers' actual contributions for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024. This method is expected to be reflective of the employers' long-term contribution effort as well as be transparent to individual employers and their external auditors.

Non-Employer Contributions

Non-employer contributions will be allocated according to each employer's proportionate share, as described previously. There were no non-employer contributions made during fiscal year ending June 30, 2024 for either the non-hazardous or hazardous plans.

Sensitivity of the employer's proportionate share of the net pension liability to changes in the discount rate - The following presents the net pension liability of the System, calculated using the discount rate of 6.50%, as well as what the System's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1- percentage-point lower (5.50%) or 1-percentage-point higher (7.50%) than the current rate for non-hazardous:

	1% Decrease 5.50%	Current Discount Rate 6.50%	1% Increase 7.50%
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 810,371	\$ 628,602	\$ 477,782

Pension plan fiduciary net position - Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued CERS financial report.

Note 11 - Other Postemployment Benefits Plan (OPEB)

Under the provisions of Kentucky Revised Statute 61.645, the Board of Trustees of Kentucky Public Pensions Authority's administers the Kentucky Employees Retirement System (KERS), County Employees Retirement System (CERS), and State Police Retirement System (SPRS) is a participating employer of the CERS. The plan issues publicly available financial statements which may be downloaded from the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority's website.

Plan Description - The Kentucky Public Pensions Authority (KPPA) Insurance Fund was established to provide hospital and medical insurance for eligible members receiving benefits from KERS, CERS and SPRS. Although the assets of the systems are invested as a whole, each system's assets are used only for the payment of benefits to the members of that plan and the administrative costs incurred by those receiving an insurance benefit.

The CERS Non-hazardous Insurance Fund is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB) plan that covers substantially all regular full-time members employed in positions of each participating county, city and school board, and any additional eligible local agencies electing to participate in the System. The plan provides for health insurance benefits to plan members. OPEB may be extended to beneficiaries of plan members under certain circumstances.

Timing of the Valuation

For the employer's financial reporting purposes, the net OPEB liability and OPEB expense should be measured as of the employer's "measurement date" which may not be earlier than the employer's prior fiscal year-end date. The total OPEB liability, net OPEB liability, and sensitivity information shown in this report are based on an actuarial valuation performed as of June 30, 2023. The total OPEB liability was rolled forward from the valuation date to the measurement date at June 30, 2024, using generally accepted actuarial principles.

The discount rate used to calculate the total OPEB liability increased from 5.93% to 5.99% for the non-hazardous plan and from 5.97% to 6.02% for the hazardous plan (see further discussion on the calculation of the single discount rate later in this section of the report). The assumed increase in future health care costs, or trend assumption, was reviewed during the June 30, 2023 valuation process and was updated to better reflect the plan's anticipated long-term healthcare cost increases. In general, the updated assumption is assuming higher future increases in pre-Medicare healthcare costs.

There were no plan provision changes that would materially impact the total OPEB liability since June 30, 2023. It is our opinion that these procedures are reasonable and appropriate, and comply with applicable requirements under GASB Statement No. 75..

Employer Contributions after the Measurement Date and before the Employer's Fiscal Year End

GASB No. 75 indicates that employer contributions made subsequent to the measurement date of the Net OPEB Liability and prior to the end of the employer's reporting period should be reported by the employer as a deferred outflow of resources. The information contained in this report does not incorporate any contributions made to the plan subsequent to June 30, 2024.

Single Discount Rate

Single discount rates of 5.99% for the CERS non-hazardous insurance plan and 6.02% for the CERS hazardous insurance plan were used to measure the total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2024. The single discount rates are based on the expected rate of return on OPEB plan investments of 6.50% and a municipal bond rate of 3.97%, as reported in Fidelity Index's "20-Year Municipal GO AA Index" as of June 30, 2024. Based on the stated assumptions and the projection of cash flows as of each fiscal year ending, each plan's fiduciary net position and future contributions were projected separately and were sufficient to finance the future benefit payments of the current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on insurance plan investments was applied to all periods of the projected benefit

payments paid from the plan. However, the cost associated with the implicit employer subsidy is not currently being included in the calculation of the plan’s actuarially determined contributions, and it is our understanding that any cost associated with the implicit subsidy will not be paid out of the plan’s trust. Therefore, the municipal bond rate was applied to future expected benefit payments associated with the implicit subsidy.

The projection of cash flows used to determine the single discount rate must include an assumption regarding actual employer contributions made each future year. Future contributions are projected assuming that each participating employer in each insurance plan contributes the actuarially determined employer contribution each future year calculated in accordance with the current funding policy.

Methodology for Proportionate Shares

The proportionate share of the Collective OPEB Amounts for employers that participate in these cost-sharing multiple employer plans is provided in Appendix A and Appendix B of this report. The proportionate share of the Collective OPEB Amounts for employers that participate in the CERS non-hazardous insurance plan was determined using the employers’ actual salary for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024. No employer contributions were required for the non-hazardous insurance plan for the fiscal year but future contributions, if required, will be collected as a percentage of pay.

The proportionate share of the Collective OPEB Amounts for employers that participate in the CERS hazardous insurance plan were determined using the employers’ actual contributions for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

These methods used are expected to be reflective of the employers’ long-term contribution effort as well as be transparent to individual employers and their external auditors.

Non-Employer Contributions

Non-employer contributions will be allocated according to each employer’s proportionate share, as described previously. There were no non-employer contributions during fiscal year ending June 30, 2024 for either the non-hazardous or hazardous plans.

Summary of Population Statistics

The total OPEB liability described in this report is based on the plan membership as of June 30, 2023:

Membership Status

Inactive plan members currently receiving benefits	38,679
Inactive plan members entitled to but not yet receiving benefits	27,097
Active plan members	<u>78,418</u>
Total plan members	144,194

Note, the membership counts for the health insurance plans may be different than the membership counts for the pension plans due to differences in vesting provisions and the coordination of the delivery of health insurance benefits to members that have earned service in more than one system operated by KPPA.

Recognition of Deferred Outflows and Inflows of Resources

According to paragraph 86 of GASB Statement No. 75, differences between expected and actual experience and changes in assumptions are recognized in OPEB expense using a systematic and rational method over a closed period equal to the average of the expected remaining service lives of all employees that are provided with OPEB through the OPEB plan (active employees and inactive members) determined as of the beginning of the measurement period.

At the beginning of the 2024 measurement period, the average of the expected remaining service lives for purposes of recognizing the applicable deferred outflows and inflows of resources established in the 2024 measurement period was the following for each insurance plan.

Development of the Average Expected Remaining Service Life

Total expected remaining service lives of all employees (years):	663,060
Total plan members:	144,194
Average expected remaining service life (years):	4.60

Differences between projected and actual earnings on OPEB plan investments should be recognized in OPEB expense using a systematic and rational method over a closed five-year period. For this purpose, the deferred outflows and inflows of resources are recognized in the OPEB expense as a level dollar amount over the closed period identified above.

Implicit Subsidy

GASB Statements No. 75 and No. 68 are conceptually very similar in terms of the liability which is recognized on the balance sheet, the expense calculation, and the corresponding deferred outflows and inflows of resources. The main differences between the standards are related to the differences between pension and health care benefits. In particular, there is a concept referred to as the “implicit subsidy” that applies to health plans which utilize a blended premium, which

has no counterpart in GASB Statement No. 68. The “implicit” or “hidden” subsidy refers to the difference between the underlying retiree claims costs and the overall health care premiums paid on behalf of retirees. By “overall”, we mean the combined employer and retiree portions of the premiums. GASB defines the employer provided OPEB benefit as the difference between the underlying claims costs (or age-adjusted premiums) and the premium contributions made by retirees. If the overall premiums for retirees were developed solely on the claims experience of the retirees, there would be no implicit subsidy and the employer portion of the overall retiree premiums would coincide with GASB’s definition of the OPEB benefit. However, the fully-insured premiums paid to the Kentucky Employees’ Health Plan are blended rates based on the combined experience of active and retired members. Because the average cost of providing health care benefits to retirees under age 65 is higher than the average cost of providing health care benefits to all participants, there is an implicit employer subsidy for the non-Medicare eligible retirees.

GASB defines the employer provided OPEB benefit as the difference between the underlying claims costs and the premium contributions made by retirees. As a result, the employer’s portion of the blended health care premium is not what GASB considers the employer benefit. In order to account for the employer provided OPEB benefit, as it’s defined by GASB, the explicit premium subsidies need to be adjusted to reflect the implicit subsidy (i.e. the difference between the estimated retiree claims and the overall premiums).

This is important because the retiree health insurance trust is used to pay the employers’ portion of the blended premiums, not the employers’ portion of the underlying retiree claims costs. In order to account for the employer provided OPEB benefit, as it is defined by GASB, the payments made by the retiree health insurance trust need to be adjusted to reflect the implicit subsidy. Similarly, the employer contributions need to be adjusted to reflect the cost of the implicit subsidy. It’s important to keep in mind that the implicit subsidy is an employer contribution. Because the implicit subsidy does not pass through the trust, it is considered a benefit payment that was paid “as it came due”.

For plans that use a blended premium structure, Illustrations B1-1 and B1-2 of Implementation Guide No. 2017-3 describe how a portion of the payments made on behalf of the active employees should be reclassified as benefit payments for retiree healthcare to reflect the retirees’ underlying claims costs. These two illustrations are also consistent with the Basis of Conclusions that are provided in B49, B52, and B64 in Appendix B of GASB 75. Adjusting the explicit health care costs for active employees and retirees by the implicit subsidy estimates provided in this report is equivalent to the reclassification described in the Statement and Implementation Guide.

To summarize, the distributions from the retiree health insurance trust pay the employers’ portion of the blended premiums, not the employers’ portion of the underlying retiree claims costs. This adjustment reflects the underlying cost of the benefits provided to retirees, which is how GASB defines the employer’s OPEB benefit/liability. As a result, the benefit payments and contribution amounts disclosed for GASB Statement No. 74 and 75 purposes need to include an adjustment related to the implicit subsidy. Participating employers should adjust their contributions by the implicit subsidy in order to determine the total employer contribution for GASB Statement No. 75 purposes. This adjustment is needed for contributions made during the measurement period and also for the purpose of the deferred outflow related to contributions made after the measurement date. The appendices in this report provide each employer’s implicit subsidy for the measurement period and each employer’s implicit subsidy for the year ending June 30, 2025.

The Entity’s implicit subsidy for the year ended December 31, 2024 was \$4,933.

Actuarial Methods & Assumptions

For financial reporting, the actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2024, was performed by Gabriel Roeder Smith (GRS). The total pension liability, net pension liability, net OPEB liability and sensitivity information as of June 30, 2024 were based on an actuarial valuation date of June 30, 2022. The total pension liability was rolled-forward from the valuation date (June 30, 2022) to the plan’s fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, using generally accepted actuarial principles.

Long-Term Expected Rate of Return

The long-term expected rate of return was determined by using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rate of returns are developed for each asset class. The ranges are combined by weighting the expected future real rate of return by the target asset allocation percentage. The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rate of return for each major asset class are summarized in the tables below.

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Equity	60.00%	
Public Equity	50.00%	4.15%
Private Equity	10.00%	9.10%
Fixed Income	20.00%	
Core Bonds	10.00%	2.85%
Specialty Credit	10.00%	3.82%
Cash	0.00%	1.70%

Inflation Protected	20.00%	
Real Estate	7.00%	4.90%
Real Return	13.00%	5.35%
Expected Real Return	100.00%	4.69%
Long Term Inflation Assumption		<u>2.50%</u>
Expected Nominal Return for Portfolio		7.19%

Use of Estimates in the Preparation of the Schedules

The actuarially determined contributions effective for fiscal year ending 2024 that are documented in the schedule on the previous page were calculated as of June 30, 2022. Based on the June 30, 2022 actuarial valuation report, the actuarial methods and assumptions used to calculate the required contributions are below:

Determined by the Actuarial Valuation as of:	June 30, 2022
Actuarial Cost Method:	Entry Age Normal
Asset Valuation Method:	20% of the difference between the market value of assets and the expected actuarial value of assets is recognized
Amortization Method:	Level Percent of Pay
Amortization Period:	30-year closed period at June 30, 2019 <i>Gains/losses incurring after 2019 will be amortized over separate closed 20-year amortization bases</i>
Payroll Growth Rate	2.00%
Investment Return:	6.25%
Inflation:	2.30%
Salary Increases:	3.30% to 10.30% for CERS non-hazardous members, varies by service
Mortality:	System-specific mortality table based on mortality experience from 2013- 2018, projected with the ultimate rates from MP-2014 mortality improvement scale using a base year of 2019
Healthcare Trend Rates: Pre-65	Initial trend starting at 6.30% at January 1, 2024 and gradually decreasing to an ultimate trend rate of 4.05% over a period of 14 years. The 2023 premiums were known at the time of the valuation and were incorporated into the liability measurement.
Healthcare Trend Rates: Post-65	Initial trend starting at 6.30% at January 1, 2024 and gradually decreasing to an ultimate trend rate of 4.05% over a period of 13 years. The 2023 premiums were known at the time of the valuation and were incorporated into the liability measurement.

Contributions

The Commonwealth is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate for KERS and SPRS pensions. Participating employers are required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate for CERS pensions. Per Kentucky Revised Statute Sections KERS 61.565(3), CERS 78.545(33), and SPRS 16.645(18), normal contribution and past service contribution rates shall be determined by the Board on the basis of the last annual valuation preceding July 1 of a new biennium. The Board may amend contribution rates as of the first day of July of the second year of a biennium, if it is determined on the basis of a subsequent actuarial valuation that amended contribution rates are necessary to satisfy requirements determined in accordance with actuarial bases adopted by the Board. However, formal commitment to provide the contributions by the employer is made through the biennial budget for KERS and SPRS.

For the fiscal years ended June 30, 2024, participating employers contributed a percentage of each employee's creditable compensation. The actuarially determined rates set by the Board for the fiscal year is a percentage of each employee's creditable compensation. Administrative costs of KPPA are financed through employer contributions and investment earnings.

Contribution Rates and Amounts for CERS Non-Hazardous

Period	Pension	Insurance	Total	Employer		Employee
				Pension	Insurance	
01/01/2024-06/30/2024	23.34%	0.00%	23.34%	\$ 40,263	\$ 0	\$ 8,625
07/01/2024-12/31/2024	19.71%	0.00%	19.71%	35,241	0	8,940
Totals				\$75,504	\$ 0	\$17,565

Contributions including implicit subsidy \$4,950

For additional information regarding contributions, please refer to the Defined Benefit Pension Plan footnote.

TIER 1:

Tier 1 plan members who began participating prior to September 1, 2008, are required to contribute 5% (Non-Hazardous) or 8% (Hazardous) of their annual creditable compensation. These members are classified in the Tier 1 structure of benefits. Interest is paid each June 30 on members' accounts at a rate of 2.5%. If a member terminates employment and applies to take a refund, the member is entitled to a full refund of contributions and interest.

TIER 2:

Tier 2 plan members, who began participating on, or after, September 1, 2008, and before January 1, 2014, are required to contribute 6% (Non-Hazardous) or 9% (Hazardous) of their annual creditable compensation. Further, 1% of these contributions are deposited to an account created for the payment of health insurance benefits under 26 USC Section 401(h) in the Pension Fund (see Kentucky Administrative Regulation (KAR) 105 KAR 1:420 Employer's administrative duties). These members are classified in the Tier 2 structure of benefits. Interest is paid each June 30 on members' accounts at a rate of 2.5%. If a member terminates employment and applies to take a refund, the member is entitled to a full refund of contributions and interest; however, the 1% contribution to the 401(h) account is non-refundable and is forfeited.

TIER 3:

Tier 3 plan members, who began participating on, or after, January 1, 2014, are required to contribute to the Cash Balance Plan. The Cash Balance Plan is known as a hybrid plan because it has characteristics of both a defined benefit plan and a defined contribution plan. Members in the plan contribute a set percentage of their salary each month to their own account. Members contribute 5% (Non-Hazardous) or 8% (Hazardous) of their annual creditable compensation, and an additional 1% to the health insurance fund (401(h) account), which is not credited to the member's account and is not refundable. The employer contribution rate is set annually by the Board based on an actuarial valuation. The employer contributes a set percentage of the member's salary. Each month, when employer contributions are received, an employer pay credit is deposited to the member's account. A member's account is credited with a 4% (Non-Hazardous) or 7.5% (Hazardous) employer pay credit. The employer pay credit represents a portion of the employer contribution.

OPEB Liabilities, Expense, Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources

On December 31, 2024, the Entity reported a liability of \$(13,894) for its proportionate share of the net OPEB liability. The net OPEB liability was measured as of June 30, 2023, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2022, rolled-forward to June 30, 2023 using generally accepted actuarial principles. The Entity's proportion of the net OPEB liability was determined using the Entity's actual contributions for the year ended June 30, 2023. This method is expected to be reflective of the Entity's long-term contribution effort. For the year ended December 31, 2024, the Entity's proportion was 0.0010521% which is equal to its proportion measured as of June 30, 2022.

For the year ended December 31, 2024, the Entity recognized OPEB expense of \$(42,910). On December 31, 2024, the Entity reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	<u>Deferred Outflows of Resources</u>	<u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u>
Differences between expected and actual liability experience	\$ 10,097	\$ 143,192
Effects of changes in assumptions	16,491	12,841
Differences between projected and actual earnings on plan investments	15,998	32,605
Changes in proportion and differences between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions	9,720	12,517
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date + implicit subsidy	<u>4,933</u>	<u>-0-</u>
Total	\$ 138,589	\$ 201,155

\$4,933 reported of deferred outflows of resources resulting from the Entity's contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability in the year ending December 31, 2024. Other amounts reported as the net effect of deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

<u>Year Ended December 31,</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2025	\$ (64,625)
2026	(45,962)
2027	(38,185)
2028	(77)
2029	-0-
Thereafter	<u>-0-</u>
Total	\$ (148,849)

Sensitivity of the Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

The following presents the proportionate share of the net OPEB liability calculated using the single discount rate of 5.70%, as well as what the Entity's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1% lower (4.99%) or 1% higher (6.99%) than the current rate:

	<u>Discount Rate</u>	<u>Proportionate Share of Net OPEB Liability</u>
1% decrease	4.99%	\$ 24,607
Current discount rate	5.99%	\$ (18,199)
1% increase	6.99%	\$ (54,191)

Sensitivity of the Entity's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Healthcare Cost Trend Rate

The following presents the proportionate share of the net OPEB liability calculated using the current healthcare cost trend rates (see details in Actuarial Assumptions above), as well as what the proportionate share of the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using healthcare cost trend rates that were 1% lower or 1% higher than the current rates:

	<u>Proportionate Share of Net OPEB Liability</u>
1% decrease	\$ (43,785)
Current healthcare cost trend rate	\$ (18,199)
1% increase	\$ 11,607

Note 12 – Subsequent Events

The District has evaluated subsequent events through April 30, 2025 which is the date that the financial statements were available to be issued.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Big Sandy Water District
Schedule of Employer's Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability
December 31, 2024

	Measurement Date				
	6/30/2015	6/30/2016	6/30/2017	6/30/2018	6/30/2019
Proportion of the net pension liability (asset)	0.014640%	0.001436%	0.001369%	0.008719%	0.009392%
Proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset)	\$ 629,451	\$ 707,032	\$ 801,493	\$ 531,014	\$ 660,544
Covered employee payroll	\$ 334,849	\$ 342,371	\$ 340,789	\$ 340,879	\$ 354,639
Proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset) as a percentage of its covered employee payroll	187.98%	206.51%	235.19%	155.78%	186.26%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	59.97%	55.50%	53.32%	53.54%	50.45%
	Measurement Date				
	6/30/2020	6/30/2021	6/30/2022	6/30/2023	6/30/2024
Proportion of the net pension liability (asset)	0.011944%	0.010507%	0.009929%	0.009753%	0.010511%
Proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset)	\$ 916,095	\$ 669,904	\$ 717,769	\$ 625,802	\$ 628,602
Covered employee payroll	\$ 293,728	\$ 289,037	\$ 274,551	\$ 283,102	\$ 328,975
Proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset) as a percentage of its covered employee payroll	311.89%	231.77%	261.43%	221.05%	191.08%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	47.81%	57.33%	52.42%	53.54%	61.61%

Big Sandy Water District
Schedule of Employer's Contributions - Net Pension Liability
December 31, 2024

	12/31/2015	12/31/2016	12/31/2017	12/31/2018	12/31/2019
Contractually required contribution	\$ 43,278	\$ 46,709	\$ 36,170	\$ 48,213	\$ 74,061
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	<u>43,278</u>	<u>46,709</u>	<u>36,170</u>	<u>48,213</u>	<u>74,061</u>
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Covered employee payroll	<u>\$ 343,796</u>	<u>\$ 353,920</u>	<u>\$ 255,681</u>	<u>\$ 314,297</u>	<u>\$ 415,546</u>
Contributions as a percentage of covered employee payroll	12.59%	13.20%	14.15%	15.34%	17.82%

	12/31/2020	12/31/2021	12/31/2022	12/31/2023	12/31/2024
Contractually required contribution	\$ 50,778	\$ 56,028	\$ 57,383	\$ 70,376	\$ 94,054
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	<u>50,778</u>	<u>56,028</u>	<u>57,383</u>	<u>70,376</u>	<u>94,054</u>
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Covered employee payroll	<u>\$ 286,831</u>	<u>\$ 290,300</u>	<u>\$ 267,703</u>	<u>\$ 301,154</u>	<u>\$ 351,308</u>
Contributions as a percentage of covered employee payroll	17.70%	19.30%	21.44%	23.37%	26.77%

Big Sandy Water District
Schedule of Employer's Proportionate Share of Net OPEB Liability
December 31, 2024

	Measurement Date				
	6/30/2017	6/30/2018	6/30/2019	6/30/2020	6/30/2021
Proportion of net OPEB liability (asset)	0.0136930%	0.008731%	0.009390%	0.011940%	0.010505%
Proportionate share of net OPEB liability (asset)	\$ 275,276	\$ 155,017	\$ 157,936	\$ 288,135	\$ 201,113
Covered employee payroll	\$ 340,789	\$ 253,775	\$ 354,639	\$ 293,728	\$ 289,037
Proportionate share of net OPEB liability (asset) as a percentage of covered employee payroll	80.78%	61.08%	44.53%	98.10%	69.58%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability	52.39%	57.62%	60.44%	51.67%	62.91%

	Measurement Date		
	6/30/2022	6/30/2023	6/30/2024
Proportion of net OPEB liability (asset)	0.009927%	0.009752%	0.010521%
Proportionate share of net OPEB liability (asset)	\$ 195,911	\$ (13,464)	\$ (18,199)
Covered employee payroll	\$ 274,551	\$ 283,102	\$ 328,975
Proportionate share of net OPEB liability (asset) as a percentage of covered employee payroll	71.36%	-4.76%	-5.53%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability	60.95%	52.42%	104.89%

Big Sandy Water District
Schedule of Employer's Contributions - Net OPEB Liability
December 31, 2024

	12/31/2017	12/31/2018	12/31/2019	12/31/2020	12/31/2021
Statutorily required contribution	\$ 12,579	\$ 15,122	\$ 20,777	\$ 14,397	\$ 13,818
Contributions in relation to the statutorily required contribution	<u>12,579</u>	<u>15,122</u>	<u>20,777</u>	<u>14,397</u>	<u>13,818</u>
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Covered employee payroll	<u>\$ 255,681</u>	<u>\$ 314,297</u>	<u>\$ 415,546</u>	<u>\$ 286,831</u>	<u>\$ 290,300</u>
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	4.92%	4.81%	5.00%	5.02%	4.76%
	12/31/2022	12/31/2023	12/31/2024		
Statutorily required contribution	\$ 10,833	\$ 4,871	\$ -		
Contributions in relation to the statutorily required contribution	<u>10,833</u>	<u>4,871</u>	<u>-</u>		
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>		
Covered employee payroll	<u>\$ 267,703</u>	<u>\$ 301,154</u>	<u>\$ 351,308</u>		
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	4.05%	1.62%	0.00%		

Big Sandy Water District
NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
For the year ended December 31, 2024

County Employee Retirement System – Pension & Insurance Funds

Changes of Benefit Terms

During the **2021** legislative session, Senate Bill 169 passed during the 2021 legislative session and increased the disability benefits for certain qualifying members who become “totally and permanently disabled” in the line of duty or as a result of a duty-related disability. The total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2021 is determined using these updated benefit provisions. There were no other material plan provision changes, and it is our opinion that these procedures are reasonable and appropriate and comply with applicable requirements under GASB Statement No. 75.

During the **2020** legislative session, Senate Bill 249 passed and changed the funding period for the amortization of the unfunded liability to 30 years as of June 30, 2019. Gains and losses incurring in future years will be amortized over separate 20-year amortization bases. This change does not impact the calculation of the Total Pension Liability and only impacts the calculation of the contribution rates that would be payable starting July 1, 2020.

During the **2019** Special Legislative Session, House Bill 1 passed allowing certain employers in the KERS Nonhazardous plan to elect to cease participating in the System as of June 30, 2021 under different provisions than were previously established. Senate Bill 249 passed during the 2020 legislative session which delayed the effective date of cessation for these provisions to June 30, 2021. Since each employer's elections are unknown at this time, no adjustment to the Total Pension Liability was made to reflect this legislation.

During the **2019** legislative session, House Bill 484 was enacted, which updated the benefit provisions for active members who die in the line of duty.

- Pension – Benefits paid to the spouses of deceased members have been increased from 25% of the member's final rate of pay to 75% of the member's average pay. If the member does not have a surviving spouse, benefits paid to surviving dependent children have been increased from 10% of the member's final pay rate to 50% of average pay for one child, 65% of average pay for two children, or 75% of average pay for three children.
- Insurance – The system shall now pay 100% of the insurance premium for spouses and children of all active members who die in the line of duty.

Changes in Assumptions

The following changes were adopted by the Board of Trustees and reflected in the valuation performed as of **June 30, 2021**:

- The rate of inflation, payroll growth rate, and investment return assumptions remain the same as those adopted for the June 30, 2019 valuation.
- The salary increase assumption was increased from a range of 3.30%-11.55% to a range of 3.30% - 10.30%.
- The healthcare trend rates used were updated to the following:
 - Pre-65 – Initial trend starting at 6.25% at January 01, 2021, and gradually decreasing to an ultimate trend rate of 4.05% over a period of 13 years.
 - Post-65 – Initial trend starting at 5.50% at January 01, 2021, and gradually decreasing to an ultimate trend rate of 4.05% over a period of 14 years.
- The mortality tables used were updated to the following:
 - System-specific mortality table based on mortality experience from 2013-2018, projected with the ultimate rates from MP-2014 mortality improvement scale using a base year of 2019.

The following changes were adopted by the Board of Trustees and reflected in the valuation performed as of **June 30, 2020**:

- The rate of inflation, payroll growth rate, investment rate of return, healthcare trend rate assumptions and mortality tables remain the same as those previously adopted.

The following changes were adopted by the Board of Trustees and reflected in the valuation performed as of **June 30, 2019**:

- The rate of inflation, payroll growth rate, salary increases, and investment rate of return assumptions remain the same as those adopted for the June 30, 2017 valuation.
- The salary increase assumption was increased from an average of 3.05% to a range that varies by service of 3.30% - 10.30%.
- The healthcare trend rates used were updated to the following:
 - Pre-65 – Initial trend starting at 7.00% at January 01, 2020, and gradually decreasing to an ultimate trend rate of 4.05% over a period of 12 years.
 - Post-65 – Initial trend starting at 5.00% at January 01, 2020, and gradually decreasing to an ultimate trend rate of 4.05% over a period of 10 years.
- The mortality tables used were updated to the following:
 - Active members – PUB 2010 General Mortality table, projected with the ultimate rates from the MP-2014 mortality improvement scale using a base year of 2010.
 - Healthy retired members – System specific mortality table based on mortality experience from 2013-2018, projected with the ultimate rates from the MP-2014 mortality improvement scale using a base year of 2019.
 - Disabled retire members – PUB 2010 Disabled Mortality table, with a 4-year set-forward for both male and female rates, projected with the ultimate rates from the MP-2014 mortality scale using a base year of 2010.

The following changes were adopted by the Board of Trustees and reflected in the valuation performed as of **June 30, 2017**:

- The assumed investment rate of return was decreased from 7.50% to 6.25%.
- The assumed rate of inflation was reduced from 3.25% to 2.30%.
- The payroll growth rate was reduced from 4.00% to 2.00%.
- The salary increase assumption was reduced from 4.00% average to 3.05% average.

The following changes were adopted by the Board of Trustees and reflected in the valuation performed as of **June 30, 2015**:

- The assumed investment rate of return was decreased from 7.75% to 7.50%.
- The assumed rate of inflation was reduced from 3.50% to 3.25%.
- The assumed rate of wage inflation was reduced from 4.50% to 4.00%.
- The payroll growth assumption was reduced from 4.50% to 4.00%.
- The mortality table used for active members is RP-2000 Combined Mortality Table projected with Scale BB 2013 (multiplied by 50% for males and 30% for females)
- For healthy retired members and beneficiaries, the mortality table used is the RP-2000 Combined Mortality Table projected with Scale BB to 2013 (set-back one year for females). For disabled members, the RP-2000 Combined Disabled Mortality Table projected with Scale BB to 2013 (set-back four years for males) is used for the period after disability retirement. There is some margin in the current mortality tables for possible future improvement in mortality rates and that margin will be reviewed again when the next experience investigation is conducted.
- Assumed rates of retirement, withdrawal, and disability were updated to more accurately reflect experience.
- updated to more accurately reflect experience.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

BIG SANDY WATER DISTRICT
Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards
For the year ended December 31, 2024

<u>Program Title</u>	<u>Federal ALN#</u>	<u>Federal Expenditures</u>
U.S. Department of the Treasury Passed from the Kentucky Office of State Budget Director COVID-19, Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds	21.027	<u>\$ 1,343,843</u>

Notes to Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards

NOTE A – BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards includes the federal award activity of the Big Sandy Water District ("Authority"), under programs of the federal government for the year ended December 31, 2024, in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* ("Uniform Guidance").

NOTE B - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards is a summary of the activity of the Authority's federal award program and does present transactions that would be included in financial statements of the Authority presented on the accrual basis of accounting as contemplated by generally accepted accounting principles. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowed or are limited to reimbursement.

NOTE C – INDIRECT COST RATE

The Authority elected not to use the 10% de minimis cost rate allowed under Uniform Guidance.



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American Institute of CPAs
Kentucky Society of CPAs

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR PROGRAM
AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE**

Board Members
Big Sandy Water District
Catlettsburg, Kentucky

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We have audited Big Sandy Water District's compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of Big Sandy Water District's major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2024. Big Sandy Water District's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

In our opinion, Big Sandy Water District complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2024.

Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

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

We are required to be independent of the Big Sandy Water District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the Big Sandy Water District's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Management's Responsibility for Compliance

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to the Big Sandy Water District's federal programs. Management is responsible for compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of its federal awards applicable to its federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on the Big Sandy Water District's compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion,

forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material, if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about the Big Sandy Water District's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, Government Auditing Standards, and the Uniform Guidance, we:

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the Big Sandy Water District's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- obtain an understanding of Example Entity's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Example Entity's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

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

Report on Internal Control over Compliance

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

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

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

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

Lane & Company LLC

Mount Sterling, Kentucky

April 30, 2025

BIG SANDY WATER DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
December 31, 2024

A. Summary of Auditor's Results

Financial Statements

Type of auditor's report issued:

unmodified

Internal control over financial reporting:

Material weakness(es) identified?

_____ yes ☒ no

Significant deficiency(ies) identified?

_____ yes ☒ no

Noncompliance material to financial statements noted?

_____ yes ☒ no

Federal Awards

Internal control over major programs:

Material weakness(es) identified?

_____ yes ☒ no

Significant deficiency(ies) identified?

_____ yes ☒ no

Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for major programs:

unmodified

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in
accordance with Uniform Guidance, §200.516?

_____ yes ☒ no

Identification of Major Programs

ALN Number(s)

21.027

Name of Federal Program

COVID-19, Coronavirus State
and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

Miscellaneous

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between

Type A and Type B programs:

\$750,000

Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee?

_____ yes ☒ no

B. Financial Statement Findings

PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS

None

CURRENT YEAR FINDINGS

None

C. Federal Award Findings & Questioned Costs

None



Certified Public Accountants

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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*

To the Board Members
Big Sandy Water District
Catlettsburg, Kentucky

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 business-type activities of the Big Sandy Water District, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Big Sandy Water District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated April 30, 2025.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Big Sandy Water 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 Big Sandy Water District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Big Sandy Water 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 a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

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

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

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

Purpose of This Report

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

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.

Lane & Company LLC

Mount Sterling, Kentucky

April 30, 2025

Big Sandy Water District
COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION
For the years ended December 31, 2023 and December 31, 2024

	2023	2024
Revenues		
User fees	\$ 2,585,400	\$ 2,906,476
Other water revenue	486,033	92,590
Other revenue	924	571
Total Revenues	<u>3,072,357</u>	<u>2,999,637</u>
Expenses		
Wages	467,024	505,483
Commissioners expense	375	1,295
Taxes	34,110	37,500
Employee benefits	95,073	132,196
Purchased water	986,196	1,051,587
Purchased power	98,565	112,110
Materials & supplies	49,864	108,254
Contractual services	100,636	113,513
Transportation expenses	42,660	43,118
Equipment expense	18,692	13,061
Rental equipment	1,000	60
Insurance	26,450	36,586
Postage	25,841	24,118
Bad debt	-	34,858
Other expense	13,745	20,219
Telephone	8,109	8,553
Advertising	4,688	-
Depreciation	497,472	507,472
Total Operating Expenses	<u>2,470,500</u>	<u>2,749,983</u>
Operating Income (Loss)	<u>601,857</u>	<u>249,654</u>
Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses)		
Tap fees	51,480	59,180
Federal grants	-	1,343,843
State grants	65,450	-
Surcharge income	-	374,049
Interest expense	(120,130)	(108,441)
Interest income - restricted	-	4,315
Interest income - unrestricted	3,164	2,508
Net Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses)	<u>(36)</u>	<u>1,675,454</u>
Change in Net Position	<u>\$ 601,821</u>	<u>\$ 1,925,108</u>

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