

MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Commissioners
Muhlenberg County Water District
Greenville, Kentucky

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Muhlenberg County Water District (the District) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements, as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of Muhlenberg County Water District as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows thereof for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

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

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Muhlenberg County 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 auditors' 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 and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgement made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

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

- Exercise professional judgement 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 Muhlenberg County 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 Muhlenberg County 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.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and the pension and post-employment benefit schedules as listed in the table of contents be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion

or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated August 22, 2024, on our consideration of Muhlenberg County Water District's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to solely describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Muhlenberg County Water District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

DGA, PSC

DGA, PSC

Certified Public Accountants
Hopkinsville, Kentucky

August 22, 2024

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

The management of Muhlenberg County Water District offers Management's Discussion and Analysis to provide an overview and analysis of the District's financial activities for the year ended December 31, 2023. To fully understand the entire scope of the District's financial activities, this information should be read in conjunction with the financial statements provided in this document.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- The total assets and deferred outflows of resources of the Muhlenberg County Water District exceeded its liabilities and deferred inflows of resources at the close of the 2023 year by \$5.5M (net position). Of this amount, (\$453K) represents the unrestricted net position.
- The District's total net position increased by \$87K. Normal operating and non-operating activities increased the District's net position by \$63K. Capital contributions and grants increased net position by \$25K.
- The District's total long-term debt – bonds, notes payable, net pension and OPEB liability decreased by \$788K from the prior year. In the statement of net position, long-term bonds are presented inclusive of deferred premium costs total \$520K.

OVERVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the District's basic financial statements. The District's basic financial statements are comprised of two components: (1) basic financial statements and (2) notes to basic financial statements. The basic financial statements and notes to these statements reflect the accounts and activities of the District.

Required Financial Statements

The financial statements of the District report information utilizing the full accrual basis of accounting. This method of accounting recognizes revenues when earned instead of when received and recognizes expenses when incurred rather than when paid. The financial statements conform to accounting principles which are generally accepted in the United States of America.

Statement of Net Position

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

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position

While the Statement of Net Position provides information about the nature and amount of resources and obligations at year-end, the Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position presents the results of the District's operations over the course of the operating cycle. This statement can be used to determine whether the District has successfully recovered all of its actual costs including depreciation through user fees and other charges. All changes in net position are reported during the period in which the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the time of the related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will result in cash flows in future fiscal periods, such as delayed collection of operating revenues and delayed payment of current year expenses.

Statement of Cash Flows

The Statement of Cash Flows provides information on the District's cash receipts, cash payments and net changes in cash resulting from operations, investing and financing activities. From the Statement of Cash Flows, the reader can obtain information on the source and use of cash and the change in the cash balance for the operating cycle.

Financial Analysis of the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Over the past year, total assets and deferred outflows of the District decreased by \$256K while total liabilities and deferred inflows decreased by \$343K. For the current period, the operating income of the District totaled (\$100K).

Condensed Statements of Net Position

The Statement of Net Position, shown in tabular format below, represents information on all of the District's assets and deferred outflows and the District's liabilities and deferred inflows with the difference between them reported as net position. The District's total net position increased in the current year by \$87K or 1.62%.

Our analysis that follows focuses on the District's net position (shown in Tables 1-3) and the changes in components of net position (shown in Table 4) during the year.

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

Analysis of Net Position

To better understand the District's actual financial positions and its ability to deliver services in future periods, the reader will need to review the various components of the net position category and obtain an understanding of how each relate specifically to the business activities that we perform. For example, \$5.5M or 102.33% of net position represents investment in plant assets, which is the lifeblood to the provision of water services. Another portion of net position, \$408K or 7.56%, represents funds set aside for payment of debt, refunding of customer deposits and capital purchases.

**TABLE 1
Condensed Statements of Net Position**

	2023	2022	Change in FY 2022 to FY 2023	
			Amount	Percent
ASSETS				
Current and other assets	\$ 2,718,429	\$ 3,181,606	\$ (463,177)	-14.56%
Capital assets, net	6,033,099	5,893,879	139,220	2.36%
Total assets	8,751,528	9,075,485	(323,957)	-3.57%
Deferred outflows of resources	701,163	633,684	67,479	10.65%
LIABILITIES				
Long-term debt	2,207,815	2,996,443	(788,628)	-26.32%
Current and other liabilities	646,770	772,513	(125,743)	-16.28%
Total liabilities	2,854,585	3,768,956	(914,371)	-24.26%
Deferred inflows of resources	1,131,100	560,443	570,657	101.82%
NET POSITION				
Net investment in capital assets	5,513,099	5,120,610	392,489	7.66%
Restricted	407,514	547,516	(140,002)	-25.57%
Unrestricted	(453,607)	(288,356)	(165,251)	57.31%
Total net position	\$ 5,467,006	\$ 5,379,770	\$ 87,236	1.62%

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

**TABLE 2
Net Investment in Capital Assets**

	2023	2022
Net investment in capital assets		
Capital assets, net of depreciation	\$ 6,033,099	\$ 5,893,879
Less revenue bonds payable	(520,000)	(770,000)
Less unamortized bond premium	-	(3,269)
	<u>\$ 5,513,099</u>	<u>\$ 5,120,610</u>
Total	<u>\$ 5,513,099</u>	<u>\$ 5,120,610</u>

**TABLE 3
Restricted Net Position**

	2023	2022
Net position restricted		
Depreciation fund	\$ 359,497	\$ 336,114
Payment and escrow funds	82,099	229,162
Customer deposit cash and equipment upgrades	215,134	231,122
Customer deposits	(212,180)	(208,530)
911 surcharge payable	(24,770)	(22,666)
Accrued interest payable	(12,266)	(17,686)
	<u>\$ 407,514</u>	<u>\$ 547,516</u>
Total	<u>\$ 407,514</u>	<u>\$ 547,516</u>

Customer deposits

Customer deposits for utility services are segregated and invested on a short-term basis. At December 31, 2023, customer deposits of \$212K (including \$2,954 inactive deposits) were deposited in an interest bearing account in Old National Bank for the purpose of refunding customer deposits.

Equipment upgrades

At December 31, 2023, the District had no monies restricted for funding the purchase and repayment of debt related to automated meters that were installed during 2014.

911 surcharge payable

At December 31, 2023, the District had \$24K of monies restricted under a Muhlenberg County Fiscal Court assessment on the District's customers for the Muhlenberg County emergency operations system (911).

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

**TABLE 4
Components of Net Position**

	2023	2022	Change in FY 2022 to FY 2023	
			Amount	Percent
REVENUES				
Metered water sales	\$ 3,972,449	\$ 3,912,895	\$ 59,554	1.52%
Other operating revenues	316,619	187,047	129,572	69.27%
Other water sales	123,311	111,959	11,352	10.14%
Capital grants and contributions	24,700	23,911	789	3.30%
Investment income	8,131	2,604	5,527	212.25%
Total revenues	4,445,210	4,238,416	206,794	4.88%
EXPENSES				
Administrative and general expenses	1,263,893	1,262,583	1,310	0.10%
Source of supply purchases	1,609,029	1,488,669	120,360	8.09%
Depreciation and amortization	510,063	468,538	41,525	8.86%
Transmission and distribution expenses	637,575	539,736	97,839	18.13%
Customer accounts expense	202,765	174,174	28,591	16.42%
Pumping expenses	160,174	137,468	22,706	16.52%
Payroll and other taxes	80,633	72,685	7,948	10.93%
Interest on debt and other	36,100	40,440	(4,340)	-10.73%
Water treatment	20,192	16,211	3,981	24.56%
Bad debts	24,800	36,784	(11,984)	-32.58%
(Gain) loss on equipment disposal	(187,250)	(53,261)	(133,989)	251.57%
Total expenses	4,357,974	4,184,027	173,947	4.16%
Changes in net position	87,236	54,389	32,847	60.39%
Net position, beginning of year	5,379,770	5,325,381	54,389	1.02%
Net position, end of year	\$ 5,467,006	\$ 5,379,770	\$ 87,236	1.62%

Metered water sales increased by \$59K or 1% due to an increase in residential sales.

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

**TABLE 5
Capital Assets**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Capital assets not depreciated		
Land and land rights	<u>\$ 39,752</u>	<u>\$ 41,752</u>
Total nondepreciable historical cost	<u>39,752</u>	<u>41,752</u>
Capital assets depreciated		
Plant and facilities	14,681,322	14,508,456
Buildings	952,607	913,693
Vehicles and equipment	1,426,239	1,226,056
Office furniture and equipment	<u>435,523</u>	<u>391,443</u>
Total depreciable historical cost	<u>17,495,691</u>	<u>17,039,648</u>
Total capital assets	17,535,443	17,081,400
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(11,502,344)</u>	<u>(11,187,521)</u>
Total capital assets, net	<u><u>\$ 6,033,099</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 5,893,879</u></u>

Major capital asset transactions and events during the fiscal year included:

- Purchase of six new vehicles - \$319K
- Tank rehabilitation and pump station upgrades - \$215K
- Technology equipment - \$35K
- Heavy equipment - \$183K

Long-term Debt

As of December 31, 2023, the District had total debt of \$520K before deferred unamortized premium of zero. No new debt was incurred during the year.

**TABLE 6
Long-term debt**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Revenue bonds payable	<u>\$ 520,000</u>	<u>\$ 770,000</u>
Plus unamortized premiums	<u>-</u>	<u>3,270</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ 520,000</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 773,270</u></u>

Additional information on the District's long-term debt is provided in Note 5 of the financial statements.

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL INFORMATION

This financial report is designed to provide the District's customers, investors and other interested parties with an overview of the District's financial operations and financial condition. Should the reader have questions regarding the information included in this report, or wish to request additional financial information, please contact the Muhlenberg County Water District's General Manager at P.O. Box 348, Greenville, Kentucky 42345 or call (270) 338-1300.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
STATEMENTS OF NET POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

	2023	2022
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,276,572	\$ 1,555,255
Accounts receivable and unbilled revenues	624,159	668,314
Other receivables	7,032	670
Allowance for uncollectible accounts	(5,121)	(17,819)
Inventory	138,479	166,799
Prepaid expenses	20,578	11,989
	<u>2,061,699</u>	<u>2,385,208</u>
 Restricted assets		
Cash - depreciation reserve account	178,099	154,716
Cash - bond escrow fund	82,099	229,162
Cash - customers' deposits	215,134	213,294
Cash - government assessment	-	17,828
Investments	181,398	181,398
	<u>656,730</u>	<u>796,398</u>
 Total restricted assets	<u>656,730</u>	<u>796,398</u>
 Capital assets not being depreciated		
Land and land rights	39,752	41,752
Capital assets being depreciated		
Water supply and distribution system	5,993,347	5,852,127
	<u>6,033,099</u>	<u>5,893,879</u>
 Total capital assets	<u>6,033,099</u>	<u>5,893,879</u>
 Total assets	<u>8,751,528</u>	<u>9,075,485</u>
 DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
OPEB related	211,978	271,703
Pension related	489,185	361,981
	<u>701,163</u>	<u>633,684</u>
 Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>701,163</u>	<u>633,684</u>

Continued

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
STATEMENTS OF NET POSITION, continued
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

	2023	2022
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 302,324	\$ 296,297
Total current liabilities	302,324	296,297
Current liabilities payable from restricted assets		
Customers' deposits	212,180	208,530
Interest payable	12,266	17,686
Long-term debt - current portion	120,000	250,000
Total payable from restricted assets	344,446	476,216
Noncurrent liabilities		
Long-term debt (net of unamortized premiums)	400,000	523,270
Net OPEB liability	(39,754)	530,303
Net pension liability	1,847,569	1,942,870
Total noncurrent liabilities	2,207,815	2,996,443
Total liabilities	2,854,585	3,768,956
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
OPEB related	716,972	288,656
Pension related	414,128	271,787
Total deferred inflows of resources	1,131,100	560,443
NET POSITION		
Net investment in capital assets	5,513,099	5,120,610
Restricted	407,514	547,516
Unrestricted	(453,607)	(288,356)
Total net position	\$ 5,467,006	\$ 5,379,770

Continued

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
OPERATING REVENUES		
Water sales	\$4,095,760	\$ 4,024,854
Other revenues	<u>316,619</u>	<u>187,047</u>
Total operating revenues	<u>4,412,379</u>	<u>4,211,901</u>
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Administrative and general expenses	1,254,083	1,262,583
Source of supply purchases	1,609,029	1,488,669
Depreciation	523,143	481,618
Transmission and distribution expenses	637,575	539,736
Customer accounts expense	202,765	174,174
Pumping expenses	160,174	137,468
Payroll and other taxes	80,633	72,685
Water treatment	20,192	16,211
Bad debts	<u>24,800</u>	<u>36,784</u>
Total operating expenses	<u>4,512,394</u>	<u>4,209,928</u>
Operating income	<u>(100,015)</u>	<u>1,973</u>
NONOPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)		
Investment income	8,131	2,604
Gain (loss) on disposal of assets	187,250	53,261
Interest on debt	(26,712)	(37,875)
Debt amortization	3,270	13,080
Other interest expense	<u>(9,388)</u>	<u>(2,565)</u>
Total nonoperating revenue (expense)	<u>162,551</u>	<u>28,505</u>
Income (loss) before grants and capital contributions	62,536	30,478
Grants and capital contributions	<u>24,700</u>	<u>23,911</u>
Change in net position, carried forward	<u>87,236</u>	<u>54,389</u>

Continued

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
 STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION, continued
 FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Change in net position, brought forward	87,236	54,389
Net position, beginning of year	<u>5,379,770</u>	<u>5,325,381</u>
Net position, end of year	<u><u>\$ 5,467,006</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 5,379,770</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

	2023	2022
Cash flows from operating activities		
Receipts from customers and users	\$4,266,454	\$4,170,552
Cash payments to suppliers for goods and services	(2,316,848)	(2,253,380)
Cash payments to employees	(1,634,157)	(1,480,674)
	315,449	436,498
Cash flows from capital and related financing activities		
Contributed capital	24,700	23,911
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment	(793,544)	(238,835)
Proceeds from equipment disposal	318,433	90,340
Principal paid on debt	(250,000)	(240,000)
Interest expense	(41,520)	(45,738)
	(741,931)	(410,322)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Income received on investments	8,131	2,604
Purchase of investment securities	-	(656)
	8,131	1,948
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(418,351)	28,124
Cash, beginning of year	2,170,255	2,142,131
Cash, end of year	1,751,904	2,170,255
Less restricted cash		
Cash - restricted	475,332	615,000
	475,332	615,000
Total restricted cash	475,332	615,000
Cash and cash equivalents per statement of net position	\$1,276,572	\$1,555,255

Continued

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS, continued
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

	2023	2022
Cash flows from operating activities		
Operating income	\$ (100,015)	\$ 1,973
Adjustment to reconcile revenue to net cash provided by operating activities		
Depreciation	523,143	481,618
(Increase) decrease in		
Accounts receivable and unbilled revenues	25,095	(41,351)
Inventory	28,320	(37,796)
Prepaid expenses	(8,589)	6,482
Increase (decrease) in		
Accounts payable	(27,137)	8,395
Customer deposits	3,650	4,910
Accrued liabilities	33,160	19,095
OPEB	(82,016)	33,752
Pension	(80,164)	(40,580)
	\$ 315,449	\$ 436,498
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 315,449	\$ 436,498

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Nature of Business

The Muhlenberg County Water District (the District), was established under the provisions of Chapter 74 of the Kentucky Revised Statutes in July 1962. Actual operations began in December 1967. The Muhlenberg County Judge Executive appoints a three-member commission that oversees the District's water system, which renders services based on user charges.

Reporting Entity

The District is governed by a three-member board (Board). The criteria for determining the District as a component unit of Muhlenberg County, Kentucky, the primary government, is financial accountability. As set forth in Section 2100, Defining the Financial Reporting Entity, of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Codification, a primary government is financially accountable for legally separate organizations if its officials appoint a voting majority of an organization's governing body and it is able to impose its will on that organization. The majority of the Commissioners of the Board are appointed by the Muhlenberg County Judge Executive subject to the approval of the Muhlenberg County Fiscal Court. Muhlenberg County is able to impose its will on the District through the ability to remove appointed members of the Board at will and the ability to modify or approve the budget of the District.

Basis of Presentation and Accounting

The accounting policies of the District conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as applicable to enterprise funds of governmental units. An enterprise fund is a proprietary type fund used to account for operations that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises. The District's intent is that the costs of providing goods or services to customers on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges. Periodic determination of revenues earned, expenses incurred and/or changes in net position is appropriate for capital maintenance, public policy, management control and accountability.

The District follows the accrual basis of accounting. Under this basis of accounting, revenue is recognized when earned and expenses are recorded when incurred. Operating revenues and expenses consist of those revenues and expenses that result from the ongoing principal operations of the District. Operating revenues consist primarily of charges for water consumption. Operating expenses consist of bulk water purchases, administrative expenses and depreciation of capital assets. Nonoperating revenues and expenses consist of those revenues and expenses that are related to financing and investing type activities and result from nonexchange transactions.

When an expense is incurred for purposes in which both restricted and unrestricted net assets are available, it is the District's policy to first apply restricted resources.

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued

Net Position

Net position represents the difference between assets and deferred outflows of resources and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. Net position is classified in the following categories:

Net Investment in Capital Assets – This amount consists of capital assets net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by outstanding debt that is attributed to the acquisition, construction or improvement of the assets. Deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources that are attributable to the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets or related debt should also be included in this component of net position. If there are significant unspent related debt proceeds at year-end, the portion of the debt attributable to the unspent proceeds is not included in the calculation of the net investment in capital assets. Rather, that portion of the debt is included in the same net position component as the unspent proceeds.

Restricted Net Position – This amount is constricted by creditors, grantors, contributors, laws, or regulations of other governments. Restricted assets will be reduced by liabilities and deferred inflows of resources related to those assets. Generally, a liability relates to restricted assets if the asset results from a resource flow that also results in the recognition of a liability or if the liability will be liquidated with the restricted assets reported.

Unrestricted Net Position – This component of net position consists of the net amount of the assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities and deferred inflows of resources that are not included in the determination of net investment of capital assets or the restricted component of net position.

The District's policy is to first apply restricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted resources are available.

Estimates

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

Cash and Investments

Cash equivalents used for operations are deposited with Old National Bank. Cash equivalents used for debt service are deposited with Regions Bank. District ordinances authorize the District to invest in obligations of the U.S. Government and its instrumentalities, mutual funds, repurchase agreements and demand deposits. All investments must be purchased through brokers/dealers or deposited with local financial institutions.

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued

For the purpose of the statement of cash flows, the District considers cash equivalents to be all cash in banks and certificates of deposit with stated maturities of three months or less or available for withdrawal by management.

Fair Value Measurements

The District categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. The hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the asset and are described as follows:

- Level 1 – Inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets;
- Level 2 – Inputs are significant other observable inputs;
- Level 3 – Inputs are significant unobservable inputs.

Accounts Receivable

Billed receivables are stated at the amount billed to customers. Unbilled receivables are recorded for services provided for which customers have not been billed at December 31, 2023 and 2022. The District grants credit to its customers, all of whom are residents or businesses located in Muhlenberg County, Kentucky. An allowance for uncollectible accounts has been provided based on prior years' loss experiences as a percentage of revenues billed. Based on past experience, management considers the allowance of \$5,121 and \$17,819 at December 31, 2023 and 2022, (respectively) adequate to provide for any losses on collection of the accounts receivable.

Inventory

Operating supplies are stated at the lower of cost, determined by first-in first-out (FIFO) method, or net realizable value.

Restricted Assets

Restricted assets represent resources designated for specific purposes and customer deposits.

Capital Assets

Capital assets are stated at historical cost. Donated assets are recorded at acquisition value at the time received. Expenses for repairs and upgrading which materially add to the value or life of an asset are capitalized. Other maintenance and repair costs are expensed as incurred. Interest costs for utility plant asset construction are capitalized. Interest incurred on debt during a construction project is capitalized as a cost of the construction project.

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued

Depreciation rates based upon estimated useful lives have been applied on the straight-line method. The estimated useful lives are as follows:

Utility system	20 - 65 years
Furniture, machinery and equipment	5 - 10 years
Improvements	5 - 10 years
Vehicles	3 - 5 years

Construction in Progress

Construction in progress includes design and construction costs that accumulate until completion of the respective project, at which time the total cost is transferred to depreciable capital assets.

Long-term Debt

Debt is a liability that arises from a contractual obligation to pay cash (or other assets that may be used in lieu of cash) in one or more payments to settle an amount that is fixed at the date the contractual obligation is established.

Compensated Absences

The District recognizes a liability for unpaid compensated absences arising from unpaid sick time in accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 16. GASB Statement 16 requires employers to accrue a liability for future vacation, sick and other leave benefits that meet the following conditions:

- The employer's obligation relating to employees' rights to receive compensation for future absences is attributable to employees' services already rendered.
- The obligation relates to rights that vest or accumulate.
- Payment of the compensation is probable.
- The amount can be reasonably estimated.

Employees earn vacation leave on their hire date anniversary of each year. Employees hired during the first 6 months of any year will receive 5 days of vacation during the first year of employment and 10 days of vacation during the second year. Persons hired during the last 6 months of any year receive days on a prorated basis during the first year of employment. Vacation days after the second year of employment are earned as 10 days in the third to the fifth year, 15 days in the sixth through tenth year and 20 days after year ten. Vacation leave may not be carried forward from one year to the next. Each year employees receive 12 sick and/or personal days. Sick days may be carried forward into the next year if not used. Payment is made for any unused sick and personal leave upon resignation or retirement. Sick and personal leave benefits are limited to a maximum carryover of 50 days.

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued

Deferred Charges

Costs related to revenue bond issues are capitalized as deferred charges and amortized over the life of the bond issue.

Bond Premiums

Bond premiums on long-term debt are capitalized and amortized to interest expense over the terms of the respective bonds using a method that approximates the effective interest method. Issuance costs are reported as expenses.

Customer Deposits

The District requires all new customers who do not have an existing account to pay a security deposit of \$50. This deposit is held on the account for a year, and then the account is reviewed for good standing. If the customer owns the property and the account is in good standing for a year, the security deposit is refunded with interest determined by the Kentucky Public Service Commission. If the customer is renting the property, when the customer moves out of the property, interest is added at the same rate as determined by the Kentucky Public Service Commission, and the security deposit is then applied to the outstanding balance on the account. If the security deposit is more than the amount owed on the account, the remainder is refunded to the customer.

Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources

In addition to assets, the statement that presents net position reports a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. These items represent a consumption of net position that applies to future periods and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense) until then.

In addition to liabilities, the statement that presents financial position reports a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. These items represent an acquisition of net position that applies to future periods and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time.

The District has the following items that qualify for reporting as deferred inflows or outflows of resources:

- Contributions subsequent to the measurement date for pensions and OPEB are always a deferred outflow of resources; this will be applied to the net pension or OPEB liability in the next fiscal year.
- Differences between expected and actual experience for economic/demographic factors and changes of assumptions in the measurement of the total pension or OPEB liability. This difference will be recognized in pension or OPEB expense over the expected average remaining service life of all employees provided with benefits in the plan and may be reported as a deferred inflow or outflow of resources as appropriate.

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued

- Differences between projected and actual earnings on pension and OPEB plan investments. This difference will be recognized in pension or OPEB expense over the closed five-year period and may be reported as a deferred outflow or inflow of resources as appropriate.
- Changes in proportionate share that will be recognized in the pension or OPEB expense over the average expected remaining service lives of all employees provided with benefits. This may be reported as a deferred outflow or deferred inflow of resources as appropriate.

Pensions and Post-Employment Benefits Other than Pensions (OPEB)

For purposes of measuring the liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, pension expense, OPEB and OPEB expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the County Employees Retirement System (CERS) and additions to/deductions from CERS's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by CERS. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value, except for money market investments and participating interest-earning investment contracts that have a maturity at the time of purchase of one year or less, which are reported at cost.

Net Pension Liability

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows/inflows of resources related to pensions and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Certified Employees Retirement System (CERS) and additions to/deductions from CERS fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by CERS. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. The District's proportionate share of pension amounts were further allocated to each participating employer based on the contributions paid by each employer. Pension investments are reported at fair value. Note 6 provides further detail on the net pension liability.

Net Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Liability

For purposes of measuring the net OPEB liability, deferred outflows/inflows of resources related to OPEB and OPEB expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Certified Employees Retirement System (CERS) and additions to/deductions from CERS fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by CERS. For this purpose, benefit payments are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. The District's proportionate share of OPEB amounts were further allocated to each participating employer based on the contributions paid by each employer. OPEB investments are reported at fair value, except for money market investments and participating interest earning investment contracts that have a maturity at the time of purchase of one year or less, which are reported at cost. Note 7 provides further detail on the net OPEB liability.

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued

Post-Employment Healthcare Benefits

Retired District employees receive some healthcare benefits depending on their length of service. In accordance with Kentucky Revised Statutes, these benefits are provided and advanced-funded on an actuarially determined basis through the CERS plan.

Capital Contributions

Capital contributions represent cash and capital asset additions contributed to the District by property owners, granting agencies or real estate developers desiring services that require capital expenditures or connection to the District's system.

Budgets

The District adopted a fixed budget for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022. Flexible budgets prepared for several levels of possible activity are better for proprietary fund planning, control and evaluation purposes than fixed budgets. For this reason, actual comparison of the fixed operating budget adopted by the District and the actual operating revenues and expenses are not shown in these financial statements.

The District is required to follow budgetary guidelines established by the Public Service Commission and the Department of Rural Development. Those guidelines require:

- The District to submit a proposed budget for the fiscal year commencing the following January 1. The operating budget includes proposed expenditures and the means of financing them for the upcoming year.
- The District is required to submit a budget to the Department of Rural Development for each fiscal year as stipulated in the bond agreement.

For the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, the District has complied with budgetary guidelines.

Income Taxes

The District is exempt from federal and state income tax under Section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code as the District is an adjunct of the government of Muhlenberg County, Kentucky.

Reclassifications

Certain 2022 balances have been reclassified to conform to the 2023 presentation.

Subsequent Events

Subsequent events have been evaluated through August 22, 2024, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 2 – CASH AND INVESTMENTS

Deposits

Old National Bank

At December 31, 2023, the carrying amount of the District's deposits held by Old National Bank were \$1,863,606, and the bank balances were \$1,896,892. Of the bank balances, \$250,000 was covered by federal depository insurance, with \$1,646,892 covered by collateral held by the pledging financial institution's agent or trust department in the District's name.

Regions Bank

At December 31, 2023, the carrying amount of the District's deposits held by Regions Bank in the Regions Trust Cash Sweep RTCS III account totaled \$69,695 and the bank balances were \$69,695. Of the bank balances, \$69,695 was covered by federal depository insurance.

The District's cash and investments (unrestricted and restricted) at year-end are presented below.

	2023	2022
Cash equivalents	\$ 1,276,572	\$ 1,555,255
Restricted assets		
Cash equivalents	475,332	615,000
Investments	181,398	181,398

Custodial Credit Risk

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the District's deposits may not be returned to it. The District does not have a formal deposit policy for custodial credit risk. However, the District is required by state statute for bank deposits to be collateralized.

2023

The District's deposits were fully collateralized for all months of the year ending December 31, 2023.

2022

The District's deposits were fully collateralized for all months of the year ending December 31, 2022.

Interest Rate Risk

The District does not have a formal investment policy that limits investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates.

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 2 – CASH AND INVESTMENTS, continued

Credit Risk

Under Kentucky Revised Statutes Section 66.480, the District is authorized to invest in obligations of the United States and its agencies and instrumentalities, obligations and contracts for future delivery or purchase of obligations backed by the full faith and credit of the United States or of its agencies, obligations of any corporation of the United States government, certificates of deposit, commercial paper rated in one of the three highest categories by nationally recognized rating agencies and securities in mutual funds.

Concentration of Credit Risk

Financial instruments that potentially subject the District to concentration of credit risk consist principally of cash deposits. Accounts at each institution are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) up to \$250,000. The District does not place any limit on the amount that may be invested with one issuer. At December 31, 2023 and 2022, the District had 100% of its investments in fully collateralized certificates of deposit.

Fair Value Measurement

	Fair Value Measurements Using		
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
2023			
Certificates of deposit	\$ 181,398	\$ -	\$ -
Total investments	\$ 181,398	\$ -	\$ -
2022			
Certificates of deposit	\$ 181,398	\$ -	\$ -
Total investments	\$ 181,398	\$ -	\$ -

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 3 – CAPITAL ASSET AND DEPRECIATION PROCEDURES

A summary of changes in major classifications of the District capital assets in service as of December 31, 2023 follows:

	Balance December 31, 2022	Additions	Deductions	Balance December 31, 2023
Capital assets not depreciated				
Land and land rights	\$ 39,752	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 39,752
Construction in progress	2,000	-	(2,000)	-
Total capital assets not depreciated	<u>41,752</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,000)</u>	<u>39,752</u>
Capital assets depreciated				
Plant and facilities	14,508,456	172,866	-	14,681,322
Buildings	913,693	44,164	(5,250)	952,607
Vehicles and equipment	1,226,056	504,757	(304,574)	1,426,239
Office furniture and equipment	391,443	73,758	(29,678)	435,523
Total capital assets depreciated	17,039,648	795,545	(339,502)	17,495,691
Less: Accumulated depreciation	<u>(11,187,521)</u>	<u>(523,143)</u>	<u>208,320</u>	<u>(11,502,344)</u>
Total capital assets depreciated, net	<u>5,852,127</u>	<u>272,402</u>	<u>(131,182)</u>	<u>5,993,347</u>
Total capital assets	<u>\$ 5,893,879</u>	<u>\$ 272,402</u>	<u>\$ (133,182)</u>	<u>\$ 6,033,099</u>

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 3 – CAPITAL ASSET AND DEPRECIATION PROCEDURES, continued

A summary of changes in major classifications of the District capital assets in service as of December 31, 2022 follows:

	Balance December 31, 2021	Additions	Deductions	Balance December 31, 2022
Capital assets not depreciated				
Land and land rights	\$ 39,752	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 39,752
Construction in progress	-	2,000	-	2,000
Total capital assets not depreciated	<u>39,752</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>41,752</u>
Capital assets depreciated				
Plant and facilities	14,508,456	-	-	14,508,456
Buildings	913,693	-	-	913,693
Vehicles and equipment	1,169,642	133,825	(77,411)	1,226,056
Office furniture and equipment	288,433	103,010	-	391,443
Total capital assets depreciated	16,880,224	236,835	(77,411)	17,039,648
Less: Accumulated depreciation	<u>(10,746,235)</u>	<u>(481,618)</u>	<u>40,332</u>	<u>(11,187,521)</u>
Total capital assets depreciated, net	<u>6,133,989</u>	<u>(244,783)</u>	<u>(37,079)</u>	<u>5,852,127</u>
Total capital assets	<u>\$ 6,173,741</u>	<u>\$ (242,783)</u>	<u>\$ (37,079)</u>	<u>\$ 5,893,879</u>

Construction in progress amounted to \$0 and \$2,000 at December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively. The December 31 balances are represented by the following:

	2023	2022
Lake Malone tank rehab project	\$ -	\$ 2,000
	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 2,000</u>

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 4 – ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

The December 31 balances are represented by the following:

	2023	2022
Customer accounts receivable	\$ 335,650	\$ 330,312
Unbilled revenues	288,509	338,002
	\$ 624,159	\$ 668,314

NOTE 5 – LONG-TERM DEBT

A summary of changes in long-term debt for the year ended December 31, 2023 is listed as follows:

	Balance December 31, 2022	Additions	Debt Payments and Refunds	Balance December 31, 2023	Amounts Due Within One Year
Revenue bonds	\$ 770,000	\$ -	\$ 250,000	\$ 520,000	\$ 120,000
Premium (discount)	3,269	-	3,269	-	-
Net OPEB liability	530,303	26,361	596,417	(39,754)	-
Net pension liability	1,942,870	114,072	209,373	1,847,569	-
Total long-term liabilities	\$ 3,246,442	\$ 140,433	\$ 1,059,059	\$ 2,327,815	\$ 120,000

A summary of changes in long-term debt for the year ended December 31, 2022 is listed as follows:

	Balance December 31, 2021	Additions	Debt Payments and Refunds	Balance December 31, 2022	Amounts Due Within One Year
Revenue bonds	\$ 1,010,000	\$ -	\$ 240,000	\$ 770,000	\$ 250,000
Premium (discount)	16,349	-	13,080	3,269	3,269
Net OPEB liability	528,503	55,921	54,120	530,303	-
Net pension liability	1,760,482	260,535	78,147	1,942,870	-
Total long-term liabilities	\$ 3,315,334	\$ 316,456	\$ 385,347	\$ 3,246,442	\$ 253,269

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 5 – LONG-TERM DEBT, continued

Series 2007-D

A bond resolution dated July 1, 2007 authorized issuance of \$1,895,000 of refunding revenue bonds maturing in annual installments through 2027. Interest is paid semiannually on January 1 and July 1 from 4.175% to 4.55% per annum and principal is payable annually on July 1.

Series 2013-C

A bond resolution dated March 27, 2013 authorized issuance of \$1,150,000 of refunding revenue bonds maturing in annual installments through 2023. Interest is paid semiannually on January 1 and July 1 from 2.30% to 4.80% per annum and principal is payable annually on January 1.

Revenue Bond debt service requirements to maturity, including \$60K of interest, are as follows:

Year Ending December 31	Principal	Interest	Total
2024	\$ 120,000	\$ 23,660	\$ 143,660
2025	125,000	18,200	143,200
2026	135,000	12,512	147,512
2027	140,000	6,370	146,370
Total	<u>\$ 520,000</u>	<u>\$ 60,742</u>	<u>\$ 580,742</u>

Bond covenants for the District require the maintenance of a Bond Sinking Fund. Monthly deposits are to be made to this fund for payment of interest and principal of outstanding bonds, a sum equal to one-sixth (1/6) of the next succeeding six-month interest payment to come due on the bonds, plus a sum equal to one-twelfth (1/12) of the principal of any bonds maturing on the next succeeding principal payment date. The District was in compliance with this requirement at December 31, 2023 and 2022.

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 6 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN

General information about the County Employees Retirement System Non-Hazardous (CERS)

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

Plan description – CERS is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan that covers substantially all regular full-time embers 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 retirement, disability, and death benefits to plan members. Retirement benefits may be extended to beneficiaries of plan members under certain circumstances. Cost-of-living (COLA) adjustments are provided at the discretion of state legislature.

Benefits provided – CERS provides retirement, health insurance, death and disability benefits to Plan employees and beneficiaries. Employees are vested in the plan after five years' service.

For retirement purposes, employees are grouped into three tiers, based on hire date:

Tier 1	Participation date Unreduced retirement Reduced retirement Required contributions	Before September 1, 2008 27 years' service or 65 years old At least 5 years' service and 55 years old At least 25 years' service and any age 5.00%
Tier 2	Participation date Unreduced retirement Reduced retirement Required contributions	September 1, 2008 – December 31, 2013 At least 5 years' service and 65 years old Or age 57+ and sum of service years plus age equal 87 At least 10 years' service and 60 years old 5.00% + 1.00% for insurance
Tier 3	Participation date Unreduced retirement Reduced retirement Required contributions	After December 31, 2013 At least 5 years' service and 65 years old Or age 57+ and sum of service years plus age equal 87 Not available 5.00% + 1.00% for insurance

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 6 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN, continued

Cost of living adjustments are provided at the discretion of the General Assembly. Retirement is based on a factor of the number of years' service and hire date multiplied by the average of the highest five years' earnings. Reduced benefits are based on factors of both of these components. Participating employees become eligible to receive the health insurance benefit after at least 180 months of service. Death benefits are provided for both death after retirement and death prior to retirement. Death benefits after retirement are \$5,000 in lump sum. Five years' service is required for death benefits prior to retirement and the employee must have suffered a duty-related death. The decedent's beneficiary will receive the higher of the normal death benefit and \$10,000 plus 25% of the decedent's monthly final rate of pay and any dependent child will receive 10% of the decedent's monthly final rate of pay up to 40% for all dependent children. Five years' service is required for nonservice-related disability benefits.

Contributions – Per Kentucky Revised Statute 61.565, normal contribution and past service contribution rates shall be determined by the Board of Trustees of the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority on the basis of an annual valuation last preceding the 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. For the year, ended December 31, 2023, plan members were required to contribute 5% of their annual creditable compensation. Plan members hired subsequent to September 1, 2008 were required to contribute 6% of their annual creditable compensation. The District is required to contribute at an actuarial determined rate.

Contribution Rates and Amounts for CERS Non-Hazardous

Period	Pension	Insurance	Total	Employer	
				Pension	Insurance
01/01/2023 - 06/30/2023	23.40%	3.39%	26.79%	\$ 100,956	\$ 14,626
07/01/2023 - 12/31/2023	23.34%	0.00%	23.34%	108,994	-
				<u>\$ 209,950</u>	<u>\$ 14,626</u>

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

At December 31, 2023 and 2022, the District reported a liability of \$1,847,569 and \$1,942,870 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2023 and 2022, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The District's portion of the net pension liability was based on the District's proportionate share of retirement contributions for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023 and 2022. At December 31, 2023 and 2022, the District's proportion was 0.0287940% and 0.0268760%, respectively.

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 6 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN, continued

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 measurement periods ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, the District recognized pension expense of \$130,631 and \$144,351, respectively, related to CERS.

At December 31, 2023 and 2022, the District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	2023		2022	
	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 95,645	\$ 5,020	\$ 264,366	\$ 214,558
Change of assumptions	-	169,331	-	-
Net differences between projected and actual earnings on investments	199,590	224,792	2,077	17,302
Changes in proportion and difference between District contributions and proportionate share of contributions	84,956	14,985	1,753	39,927
District contributions subsequent to the measurement date	108,994	-	93,785	-
Total	<u>\$ 489,185</u>	<u>\$ 414,128</u>	<u>\$ 361,981</u>	<u>\$ 271,787</u>

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 6 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN, continued

The amounts of \$108,994 and \$93,785 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from District contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022. Other amounts reported as deferred inflows and outflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Years Ending December 31	
2024	\$ (27,096)
2025	(30,200)
2026	41,245
2027	(17,886)
2028	-
Total	<u>\$ (33,937)</u>

Actuarial assumptions – The actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2023, was performed by Gabriel Roeder Smith (GRS). The total pension liability, net pension liability and sensitivity information in the June 30, 2023 actuarial valuation was based on an actuarial valuation date of June 30, 2022. The total pension liability was rolled-forward from the valuation date to the plan's fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, using generally accepted actuarial principles.

The CERS Board of Trustees adopted new actuarial assumptions on May 9, 2023 and include a change in the investment return assumption from 6.25% to 6.50%. The KRS Board of Trustees adopted new actuarial assumptions on June 5, 2023. These assumptions are documented in the report titled “2022 Actuarial Experience Study for the Period Ending June 30, 2022.” The Total Pension Liability as of June 30, 2023, is determined using these updated assumptions.

House Bill 506 passed during the 2023 legislative session and reinstated the Partial Lump Sum Option form of payment for members who retire on and after January 1, 2024, with the lump-sum options expanded to include 48 or 60 times the member’s monthly retirement allowance. Since this optional form of payment results in a reduced, actuarial equivalent, monthly retirement allowance for members who elect a partial lump-sum option, this provision does not have a fiscal impact to the total pension liability.

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 6 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN, continued

House Bill 506 also adjusted the minimum required separation period before a retiree may become reemployed and continue to receive their retirement allowance to one month under all circumstances. This is a minimal change for members in the hazardous plans, as the minimum separation period was already one month for members who became reemployed on a full-time basis in a hazardous position. The requirement was previously three months only for members who became reemployed on a part-time basis or in any nonhazardous position. GRS believes this provision of House Bill 506 will have an insignificant impact on the retirement pattern of hazardous members and therefore have reflected no fiscal impact to the total pension liability of the hazardous plan. Similarly, this is a relatively small change for future retirees in the nonhazardous plans.

But as the minimum separation period was previously three months in almost every circumstance, GRS assumed that there would be a one percent (1%) increase in the rate of retirement for each of the first two years a nonhazardous member becomes retirement eligible under the age of 65 in order to reflect a shift in the retirement pattern. The total pension liability as of June 30, 2023, for the nonhazardous plans is determined using these updated benefits provisions.

Based on the June 30, 2023 actuarial valuation report, the actuarial methods and assumptions used to calculate the required contributions are below.

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 6 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN, continued

Determined by the Actuarial Valuation as of:	June 30, 2021
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%, 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
Phase-in provision:	Board certified rate is phased into the actuarially determined rate in accordance with HB 362 enacted in 2018.

Long-term expected rate of return – The long-term expected return on plan assets was determined by using a building-block method in which best-estimated ranges of expected future real 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.

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 6 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN, continued

The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetical real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following tables. The current long-term inflation assumption is 2.50% per annum for both the nonhazardous and hazardous plan.

Measurement Period <u>2023</u> <u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long-term Expected Real Rate of Return</u>
Equity		
Public Equity	50.00%	5.90%
Private Equity	10.00%	11.73%
Fixed Income		
Core Bonds	10.00%	2.45%
Specialty Credit/ High Yield	10.00%	3.65%
Cash	0.00%	1.39%
Inflation Protected		
Real Estate	7.00%	4.99%
Real Return	<u>13.00%</u>	<u>5.15%</u>
Expected Real Return	100.00%	5.75%
Long Term Inflation Assumption		<u>2.50%</u>
Expected Nominal Return for Portfolio		8.25%
Measurement Period <u>2022</u> <u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long-term Expected Real Rate of Return</u>
Equity		
Public Equity	50.00%	4.45%
Private Equity	10.00%	10.15%
Fixed Income		
Core Bonds	10.00%	0.28%
Specialty Credit/ High Yield	10.00%	2.28%
Cash	0.00%	-0.91%
Inflation Protected		
Real Estate	7.00%	3.67%
Real Return	<u>13.00%</u>	<u>4.07%</u>
Expected Real Return	100.00%	4.28%
Long Term Inflation Assumption		<u>2.30%</u>
Expected Nominal Return for Portfolio		6.58%

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 6 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN, continued

Discount rate – The single discount rate used to measure the total pension liability for the fiscal plan year ending June 30, 2023 was 6.50% for nonhazardous and hazardous employees. The projection of cash flows used to determine the single discount rate for each plan 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 plan 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 2021 legislative session. The assumed future employee 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. The discount rate determination does not use a municipal bond rate.

Sensitivity of the District's proportionate share of net pension liability to changes in the discount rate – The following table presents the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability, calculated using the discount rates selected by the pension system, as well as what the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower or 1-percentage-point higher than the current rate.

2023	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
CERS	5.50%	6.50%	7.50%
District's proportionate share of net pension liability	\$ 2,332,668	\$ 1,847,569	\$ 1,444,434
2022	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
CERS	5.25%	6.25%	7.25%
District's proportionate share of net pension liability	\$ 2,428,346	\$ 1,942,870	\$ 1,541,340

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

Payable to the pension plan – At December 31, 2023 and 2022, the District had paid its contractually required employee and employer contributions primarily for the month ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, within prescribed time limits.

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 7 – OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB)

General Information about the County Employees Retirement System Non-Hazardous OPEB Plan

Under the provisions of Kentucky Revised Statute 61.645, the Board of Trustees of Kentucky Public Pensions Authority administers the Kentucky Employees Retirement System (KERS), Muhlenberg County Water District 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 and CERS. 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.

Benefits provided – The CERS Non-hazardous Insurance Fund is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit Other Post-Employment 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.

Implicit subsidy – KPPA pays fully insured premiums for the Kentucky Health Plan. The premiums are blended rates based on the combined experience of active and retired members. Because the average cost of providing healthcare benefits to retirees under age 65 is higher than the average cost of providing healthcare benefits to active employees, there is an implicit employer subsidy for the non-Medicare eligible retirees. GASB 75 requires that the liability associated with this implicit subsidy be included in the calculation of the total OPEB liability.

Contributions – Participating employers are required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate for CERS pensions. Per Kentucky Revised Statute, 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.

Contribution Rates and Amounts for CERS Non-Hazardous

Period	Pension	Insurance	Total	Employer	
				Pension	Insurance
01/01/2023 - 06/30/2023	23.40%	3.39%	26.79%	\$100,956	\$ 14,626
07/01/2023 - 12/31/2023	23.34%	0.00%	23.34%	108,994	-
				<u>\$209,950</u>	<u>\$ 14,626</u>

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 7 – OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB), continued

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

At December 31, 2023 and 2022, the District reported a liability of \$(39,754) and \$530,303 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. The total OPEB liability was rolled forward from the valuation date to the plan's fiscal year end, June 30, 2023, using generally accepted actuarial principles. The District's proportion of the net OPEB liability was based on the District's share of contributions to the OPEB plan relative to the contributions of all participating employers. At December 31, 2023 and 2022, the District's proportion for the non-hazardous system was 0.028793% and 0.026871%, respectively.

For the measurement periods ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, the District recognized OPEB expense of \$(73,430) and \$62,936, respectively. At December 31, 2023 and 2022, the District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	<u>2023</u>		<u>2022</u>	
	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 27,714	\$ 564,461	\$ 98,748	\$ 77,224
Changes of assumptions	78,232	54,520	83,871	69,109
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on OPEB plan investments	74,397	83,623	53,379	121,611
Changes in proportion and differences between District contributions and proportionate share of contributions	31,635	14,368	2,998	20,712
District contributions subsequent to the measurement date, including implicit subsidy	-	-	32,707	-
Total	<u><u>\$ 211,978</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 716,972</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 271,703</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 288,656</u></u>

The amounts of \$0 and \$32,707 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from District contributions subsequent to the measurement date and June 30, 2023 implicit subsidy will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability in the years ending December 31, 2023 and 2022.

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 7 – OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB), continued

Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

Years Ending December 31	
2024	\$ (125,631)
2025	(158,304)
2026	(118,970)
2027	(102,089)
2028	-
Total	<u>\$ (504,994)</u>

Actuarial assumptions – The total OPEB liability, net OPEB liability and sensitivity information in the June 30, 2023 actuarial valuation was based on an actuarial valuation date of June 30, 2022. The total OPEB liability was rolled-forward from the valuation date to the plan's fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, using generally accepted actuarial principles. The CERS Board of Trustees adopted new actuarial assumptions on May 9, 2023. The KRS Board of Trustees adopted new actuarial assumptions on June 5, 2023. These assumptions are documented in the report titled “2022 Actuarial Experiences Study for the Period Ending June 30, 2022”. Additionally, the single discount rates used to calculate the total OPEB liability within each plan changed since the prior year. Additional information regarding the single discount rates is provided below. The Total OPEB Liability as of June 30, 2023, is determined using these updated assumptions.

House Bill 506 passed during the 2023 legislative session reinstated the Partial Lump Sum Option form of payment for members who retire on and after January 1, 2024 and adjusted the minimum required separation period before a retiree may become reemployed and continue to receive their retirement allowance to one month for all circumstances.

This is a minimal change for members in the hazardous plans, as the minimum separation period was already one month for members who became reemployed on a full-time basis in a hazardous position. The requirement was previously three months only for members who became reemployed on a part-time basis in any nonhazardous position. GRS believes this provision of House Bill 506 will have an insignificant impact on the retirement pattern of hazardous members and therefore have reflected no fiscal impact to the total OPEB liability of the hazardous plan.

Similarly, this is a relatively small change for future retirees in the nonhazardous plan. But as the minimum separation period was previously three months in almost every circumstance, GRS assumed that there would be a one percent (1%) increase in the rate of retirement for each of the first two years a nonhazardous member becomes retirement eligible under the age of 65, in order to reflect a shift in the retirement pattern. The total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2023, for the nonhazardous plan is determined using these updated benefit provisions.

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 7 – OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB), continued

Actuarial assumptions – The total OPEB liability actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial methods and assumptions:

Determined by the Valuation Date	June 30, 2021
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry age normal
Amortization Method	Level percentage of pay
Asset Valuation Method	20% of the difference between the market value of assets and the expected actuarial value of assets is recognized
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%
Investment return	6.25%
Inflation	2.30%
Salary Increase	3.30% to 10.30%, varies by service
Mortality	System-specific mortality table based on mortality experience from 2013-2018, projected with ultimate rates from MP-2014 mortality improvement scale using a base year of 2019
Healthcare Cost Trend Rates (Pre-65)	Initial trend starting at 6.30% at January 1, 2023 and gradually decreasing to an ultimate trend rate of 4.05% over a period of 13 years. The 2022 premiums were known at the time of valuation and were incorporated into the liability measurement.
Healthcare Cost Trend Rates (Post-65)	Initial trend starting at 6.30% at January 1, 2023 and gradually decreasing to an ultimate trend rate of 4.05% over a period of 13 years. The 2022 premiums were known at the time of the valuation and were incorporated into the liability measurement.

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 7 – OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB), continued

The actuarial assumption used in the June 30, 2023 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study by Gabriel Roeder Smith (GRS) for a five year period ending June 30, 2022.

Long-term expected rate of return – The long-term (10-year) expected rates of return were determined by using a building block method in which best estimated ranges of expected future real rates of returns 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 is summarized in the following table. The current long- term inflation assumption is 2.50% per annum for both the nonhazardous and hazardous plan.

Measurement Period 2023 <u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long-term Expected Real Rate</u>
Equity		
Public Equity	50.00%	5.90%
Private Equity	10.00%	11.73%
Fixed Income		
Core fixed income	10.00%	2.45%
Specialty Credit	10.00%	3.65%
Cash	0.00%	1.39%
Inflation Protected		
Real Estate	7.00%	4.99%
Real Return	<u>13.00%</u>	<u>5.15%</u>
Expected Real Return	100.00%	5.75%
Long Term Inflation Assumption		<u>2.50%</u>
Expected Nominal Return for Portfolio		8.25%

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 7 – OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB), continued

Measurement Period 2022	Target	Long-term
<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Allocation</u>	<u>Expected Real Rate</u>
Equity		
Public Equity	50.00%	4.45%
Private Equity	10.00%	10.15%
Fixed Income		
Core fixed income	10.00%	0.28%
Specialty Credit	10.00%	2.28%
Cash	0.00%	-0.91%
Inflation Protected		
Real Estate	7.00%	3.67%
Real Return	<u>10.00%</u>	<u>4.07%</u>
Expected Real Return	100.00%	4.28%
Long Term Inflation Assumption		<u>2.30%</u>
Expected Nominal Return for Portfolio		6.58%

Discount rate – Single discount rates used to measure the total OPEB liability for the years ended December 30, 2023 and 2022 were 5.93% and 5.70% for CERS Non-hazardous plans. 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 3.86%, as reported in Fidelity Index’s “20-Year Municipal GO AA Index” as of June 30, 2023. 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 was not included in the calculation of the plan’s actuarially determined contributions, and 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 for each plan 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 plan 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 2021 legislative session. The assumed future employee 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.

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 7 – OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB), continued

Implicit subsidy - The fully-insured premiums KPPA pays for the KERS, CERS, and SPRS Health Insurance Plans are blended rates based on the combined experience of active and retired members. Since 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 active employees, there is an implicit employer subsidy for non-Medicare eligible retirees. Participating employers should adjust their contributions by the implicit subsidy in order to determine the total employer contribution for GASB 75 purposes. This adjustment is needed for contributions made during the measurement period and for the purpose of deferred outflows related to contributions made after measurement date.

Sensitivity of the Districts' proportionate share of the net OPEB liability to changes in the discount rate – The following presents the District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability, as well as what the District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower or 1-percentage-point higher than the current rate:

	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
<u>2023</u>	4.93%	5.93%	6.93%
District's proportionate share of net OPEB liability	\$ 74,602	\$ (39,754)	\$ (135,513)
<u>2022</u>	4.70%	5.70%	6.70%
District's proportionate share of net OPEB liability	\$ 708,930	\$ 530,303	\$ 382,637

Sensitivity of the District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability to changes in the healthcare cost trend rates – The following presents the District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability, as well as what the District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using healthcare cost trend rates that are 1-percentage-point lower or 1-percentage-point higher than the current healthcare cost trend rates.

	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Healthcare Cost Trend Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
<u>2023</u>			
District's proportionate share of net OPEB liability	\$ (127,417)	\$ (39,754)	\$ 67,933
<u>2022</u>			
District's proportionate share of net OPEB liability	\$ 394,268	\$ 530,303	\$ 693,655

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 7 – OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB), continued

Pension plan fiduciary net position – Detailed information about the OPEB plan’s fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued Kentucky Public Pension Authority Comprehensive Annual Financial Report on the KPPA website at www.kyret.ky.gov.

Payable to the OPEB Plan – At December 31, 2023 and 2022, the District had paid its contractually required employee and employer contributions primarily for the month ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, within prescribed time limits.

NOTE 8 – RISK MANAGEMENT

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The District carries commercial insurance for these types of risk of loss, including workers’ compensation. Settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded commercial insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

NOTE 9 - COMMITMENTS

Purchase Contracts

Central City Municipal Water and Sewer

On June 20, 2011, the District entered into an agreement with the City of Central City, Kentucky to purchase treated water from the City's water treatment plant. The contract became effective April 1, 2012 for a period of 50 years and states that the initial rate will be \$2.63 per 1,000 gallons of water purchased. The District purchased \$1,592,792 and \$1,488,669 from Central City during the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

Todd County Water District

On May 1, 2006, the District entered into a long-term contract with Todd County Water District for the purchase of treated water. The contract for water is for a period of 25 years and calls for water sales not to exceed 800,000 gallons per month at a rate of \$4.85 per 1,000 gallons. Water rate increases imposed by Todd County Water District will be passed onto the District as they occur. The District purchased \$17,214 and \$4,665 from Todd County Water District during the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

Wholesale Contract

The District sells water on a wholesale basis to the City of Drakesboro, Kentucky. The original October 1967 contract was amended in May 1997 to extend water sales to October 2047. The District has the authority by the Public Service Commission of Kentucky to periodically adjust the rates charged to the City of Drakesboro. Total sales to the City of Drakesboro during the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022 were \$109,599 and \$79,362, respectively.

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 10 - PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION REGULATIONS

The District is required to file with the Public Service Commission (PSC) a report of its gross earnings or receipts derived from intra-state business for the preceding calendar year. The District has satisfied this requirement. The District has also filed the 2023 annual PSC Report as required. Further, the PSC requires that all customer deposit refunds be paid with interest. This District has fulfilled this requirement.

NOTE 11 – RECENT ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

Implemented

In May 2020, the GASB issued Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements*. This Statement provides guidance on the accounting and financial reporting for subscription-based information technology arrangements (SBITAs) for government end users (governments). The requirements of this Statement are effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2022. Adoption of this statement did not have a significant impact on the District's financial position or results of operations.

In June 2022, the GASB issued statement No. 100, *Accounting Changes and Error Corrections*. This statement improves the accounting and financial reporting requirements for accounting changes and error corrections to enhance the relevance and comparability of financial information. The requirements of this Statement are effective for fiscal years after June 15, 2023. Adoption of this statement did not have a significant impact on the District's financial position or results of operations.

Recent Pronouncements

In June 2022, the GASB issued Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences*. The objective of this Statement is to better meet the information needs of financial statement users by updating the recognition and measurement guidance of compensated absences. This Statement requires that liabilities for compensated absences be recognized for leave that has not been used and leave that has been used but not yet paid in cash or settled through noncash means. The requirements of this Statement are effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2023. Management has not yet considered the impacts of this statement.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF NET PENSION LIABILITY
COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

<u>As of December 31</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
District's portion of net pension liability	0.0287940%	0.0268760%	0.0276121%	0.028089%	0.0274548%	0.027424%	0.027477%	0.025642%	0.030526%	0.031616%
District's proportionate share of net pension liability	\$ 1,847,569	\$ 1,942,870	\$ 1,760,482	\$ 2,154,403	\$ 1,937,463	\$ 1,670,266	\$ 1,608,313	\$ 1,262,538	\$ 1,312,459	\$ 1,025,728
State's proportionate share of net pension liability associated with the Utility	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	<u>\$ 1,847,569</u>	<u>\$ 1,942,870</u>	<u>\$ 1,760,482</u>	<u>\$ 2,154,403</u>	<u>\$ 1,937,463</u>	<u>\$ 1,670,266</u>	<u>\$ 1,608,313</u>	<u>\$ 1,262,538</u>	<u>\$ 1,312,459</u>	<u>\$ 1,025,728</u>
District's covered-employee payroll	\$ 898,418	\$ 774,822	\$ 701,692	\$ 731,070	\$ 718,749	\$ 677,129	\$ 668,998	\$ 633,013	\$ 631,069	\$672,959
District's proportionate share of net pension liability as a percentage of its covered-employee payroll	205.65%	250.75%	250.89%	294.69%	269.56%	246.67%	240.41%	199.45%	207.97%	152.42%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of total pension liability	57.48%	52.42%	57.33%	47.81%	50.45%	53.54%	53.32%	55.50%	59.97%	66.80%

Note: Information prior to 2014 was unavailable. Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

Amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the District's measurement date which is six months prior to the year end.

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS
COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

<u>For the year ended December 31</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Contractually required contribution	\$ 209,950	\$ 178,989	\$ 142,329	\$ 141,097	\$ 128,107	\$ 104,143	\$ 95,858	\$ 83,853	\$ 79,731	\$ 100,144
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	<u>209,950</u>	<u>178,989</u>	<u>142,329</u>	<u>141,097</u>	<u>128,107</u>	<u>104,143</u>	<u>95,858</u>	<u>83,853</u>	<u>79,731</u>	<u>100,144</u>
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
District's covered employee payroll	\$ 898,418	\$ 774,822	\$ 701,692	\$ 731,070	\$ 718,749	\$ 677,129	\$ 678,780	\$ 633,013	\$ 631,069	\$ 672,959
Contributions as a percentage of covered employee payroll										
January to June rates	23.40%	22.78%	18.28%	19.30%	16.22%	14.48%	13.95%	12.42%	12.75%	13.74%
July to December rates	23.34%	23.40%	21.17%	19.30%	19.30%	16.22%	14.48%	13.95%	12.42%	12.75%

Note: Information prior to 2014 was unavailable. Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years.

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION – PENSION PLAN
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND DECEMBER 31, 2022**

Changes in benefit terms

The following changes were made by the Kentucky Legislature and reflected in the valuation performed as of June 30 listed below:

2023: No changes in benefit terms.
2022: No changes in benefit terms.
2021: No changes in benefit terms.
2020: No changes in benefit terms.
2019: No changes in benefit terms.
2018: No changes in benefit terms.
2017: No changes in benefit terms.
2016: No changes in benefit terms.
2015: No changes in benefit terms.

Changes in assumptions

The following changes were made by the Kentucky Legislature and reflected in the valuation performed as of June 30 listed below:

2023: The CERS board of Trustees adopted new actuarial assumptions on May 9, 2023 and include a change in the investment return assumption from 6.25% to 6.50%. The KRS Board of Trustees adopted new actuarial assumptions on June 5, 2023. These assumptions are documented in the report titled “2022 Actuarial Experience Study for the Period Ending June 30, 2022”. The Total Pension Liability as of June 30, 2023, is determined using these updated assumptions.

2022: No changes.

2021: During the 2021 legislative session, Senate Bill 169 was enacted which increased disability benefits for certain qualifying members who became “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.

2020: During the legislative session, Senate Bill 249 was enacted which 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 Total Pension Liability and only impacts the calculation of the contribution rates that would be payable starting July 1, 2020. Additionally, House Bill 271 was enacted with removed provisions that reduce the monthly payment to a surviving spouse of a member whose death was due to a duty-related injury upon remarriage of the spouse. It also increased benefits for a very small number of beneficiaries. This did not have a material (or measurable) impact on the liability of the plans and therefore, no adjustment was made to the Total Pension Liability to reflect this legislation.

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION – PENSION PLAN
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND December 31, 2022**

Changes of Assumptions (continued)

2019: There have been no changes in plan provisions since June 30, 2018. However, the Board of Trustees has adopted new actuarial assumptions since June 30, 2018. These assumptions are documented in the report titled "Kentucky Retirement Systems 2018 Actuarial Experience Study for the Period Ending June 30, 2018". The Total Pension liability as of June 30, 2019 is determined using these updated assumptions.

2018: During the 2018 legislative session, House Bill 185 was enacted, which updated the benefit provisions for active members who die in the line of duty. 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. The Total Pension Liability as of June 30, 2018 is determined using these updated benefit provisions.

2017: There was no legislation enacted during the 2017 legislative session that had a material change in benefit provisions for CERS. However, subsequent to the actual valuation date (June 30, 2016), but prior to the measurement date (June 30, 2017), the KRS Board of Trustees adopted updated actuarial assumptions which will be used in performing the actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2017. Specifically, the Total Pension Liability as of June 30, 2017 is determined using a 2.30% price inflation assumption for the non-hazardous system and the assumed rate of return is 6.25% for the non-hazardous system.

2016: There was no legislation enacted during the 2017 legislative session that had a material change in benefit provisions for CERS. However, subsequent to the actual valuation date (June 30, 2016), but prior to the measurement date (June 30, 2017), the KRS Board of Trustees adopted updated actuarial assumptions which will be used in performing the actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2017. Specifically, the Total Pension Liability as of June 30, 2017 is determined using a 2.30% price inflation assumption for the non-hazardous system and the assumed rate of return is 6.25% for the non-hazardous system.

2015: No changes in assumptions.

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF NET OPEB LIABILITY
COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

<u>As of December 31</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
District's proportion of the OPEB liability (asset)	0.028793%	0.026871%	0.027606%	0.028081%	0.027541%	0.027424%	0.027477%	0.027477%
District's proportionate share of net OPEB liability (asset)	<u>\$ (39,754)</u>	<u>\$ 530,303</u>	<u>\$ 528,503</u>	<u>\$ 678,071</u>	<u>\$ 463,227</u>	<u>\$ 486,908</u>	<u>\$ 552,382</u>	<u>\$ 433,272</u>
District's covered - employee payroll	\$ 898,418	\$ 774,822	\$ 701,692	\$ 731,070	\$ 718,749	\$ 677,129	\$ 673,780	\$ 633,013
District's proportionate share of the OPEB liability (asset) as a percentage of its covered-employee payroll	-4.42%	68.44%	75.32%	92.75%	64.45%	71.91%	81.98%	68.45%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of total OPEB liability	104.23%	60.95%	62.91%	51.67%	60.44%	57.62%	52.39%	55.24%

Note: Information prior to 2016 was unavailable. Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

Amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the District's measurement date which is six months prior to year end.

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER OPEB CONTRIBUTIONS
COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

<u>For the year ended December 31</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Contractually required OPEB contribution	\$ 14,626	\$ 29,184	\$ 37,166	\$ 34,799	\$ 35,935	\$ 33,787	\$ 31,763	\$ 29,651
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	<u>14,626</u>	<u>29,184</u>	<u>37,166</u>	<u>34,799</u>	<u>35,935</u>	<u>33,787</u>	<u>31,763</u>	<u>29,651</u>
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
District's covered-employee payroll	\$ 898,418	\$ 774,822	\$ 701,692	\$ 731,070	\$ 718,749	\$ 677,129	\$ 673,780	\$ 633,013
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll								
January to June rates	3.39%	4.17%	5.30%	4.76%	5.26%	4.70%	4.73%	4.64%
July to December rates	-	3.39%	5.78%	4.76%	4.76%	5.26%	4.70%	4.73%

Note: Information prior to 2016 was unavailable. Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years.
Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION – OPEB
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND DECEMBER 31, 2022**

The following changes were made by the Kentucky Legislature and reflected in the valuation performed as of June 30 listed below:

Changes of Benefit Terms

2023: No changes of benefit terms

2022: No changes of benefit terms

2021: No changes of benefit terms

2020: No changes of benefit terms

2019: No changes of benefit terms.

2018: No changes of benefit terms (other than the blended discount rate used to calculate the total OPEB liability).

Changes in assumptions

2023: The CERS Board of Trustees adopted new actuarial assumptions on May 9, 2023. The KRS Board of Trustees adopted new actuarial assumptions on June 5, 2023. These assumptions are documented in the report titled “2022 Actuarial Experiences Study for the Period Ending June 30, 2022”. Additionally, the single discount rates used to calculate the total OPEB liability within each plan changed since the prior year. The Total OPEB Liability as of June 30, 2023, is determined using these updated assumptions.

2022: The initial healthcare trend rate for pre-65 was changed from 6.30% to 6.20%. The initial healthcare trend rate for post-65 was changed from 6.30% to 9.00%.

2021: The single discount rates used to calculate the total OPEB liability within the plan changed since the prior year. Additional information regarding the single discount rates is provided in Note 9 of the financial statements. During the 2021 legislative session, Senate Bill 169 was enacted which increased 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.

2020: During the 2020 legislative session, Senate Bill 249 was enacted which 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 Total Pension Liability and only impacts the calculation of the contribution rates that would be payable starting July 1, 2020.

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION – OPEB
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND DECEMBER 31, 2022**

Changes of Assumptions (continued)

2019: There have been no changes in plan provisions since June 30, 2018. However, the Board of Trustees has adopted new actuarial assumptions since June 30, 2018. These assumptions are documented in the report titled "Kentucky Retirement Systems 2018 Actuarial Experience Study for the Period Ending June 30, 2018". The Total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2019 is determined using these updated assumptions.

2018: During the 2018 legislative session, House Bill 185 was enacted, which updated the benefit provisions for active members who die in the line of duty. 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. The total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2018 is determined using the updated benefit provisions.

INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' 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**

Commissioners
Muhlenberg County Water District
Greenville, 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 Muhlenberg County Water District as of and for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Muhlenberg County Water District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated August 22, 2024.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Muhlenberg County 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 opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Muhlenberg County Water District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Muhlenberg County 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 and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. 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 may exist that have not been identified. We did identify a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs that we consider to be a significant deficiency (2023-001).

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Muhlenberg County Water District's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statement amounts. 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*.

Muhlenberg County Water District's Response to Finding

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the Muhlenberg County Water District's response to the finding identified in our audit is described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses. Muhlenberg County Water District's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

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 District'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 District's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

DGA, PSC

DGA, PSC

Certified Public Accountants
Hopkinsville, Kentucky

August 22, 2024

**MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023**

2023-001 Segregation of Duties

Condition

There is a lack of appropriate segregation of duties aligned with key control objectives.

Criteria

An effective internal control environment requires that different aspects of control processes be distributed amount various employees to mitigate risks.

Effect

Although no specific issues were identified, inadequate segregation of duties can increase the risk that assets may not be adequately safeguarded and errors or irregularities could go undetected.

Cause

The limited number of accounting personnel makes it challenging to fully segregate the key accounting functions. The District faces a cost-benefit constraint that prevents hiring additional staff to achieve proper segregation.

Recommendation

While the small size of accounting staff may always limit full segregation of duties, the District should continuously evaluate and adjust job responsibilities to strengthen accounting controls wherever possible.

Response

The District agrees with the recommendation and will regularly assess job responsibilities to enhance accounting controls as opportunities arise.