Black Mountain Utility District Baxter, Kentucky

Independent Auditors' Report And Financial Statements For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Black Mountain Utility District Table of Contents

	<u>Page</u>
Independent Auditors' Report	1-2
Basic Financial Statements:	
Statements of Net Position	3-4
Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position	5
Statements of Cash Flows	6-7
Notes to Financial Statements	8-13
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	14-15
Schedule of Findings and Responses	16



Independent Auditors' Report

To the Commissioners
Black Mountain Utility District
Baxter, Kentucky

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Black Mountain Utility District, which comprise the statement of net position as of December 31, 2022, and the related statements of revenues, expenses, and changes in net position and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Black Mountain Utility District's basic financial statements.

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

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America 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 Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of Black Mountain Utility District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and 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 Black Mountain Utility District's ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain 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 judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

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

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

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

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated November 19, 2024 on our consideration of Black Mountain Utility District's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Black Mountain Utility District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Abner + Cax, PLLC

Abner & Cox, PLLC London, Kentucky

November 19, 2024

Black Mountain Utility District Statement of Net Position December 31, 2022

Assets

Current Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 99,210
Receivable, less allowance for doubtful	
accounts of \$14,065	140,930
Unbilled accounts receivable	96,109
Other current assets	5,760
Total Current Assets	342,009
Noncurrent Assets	
Restricted Assets	
Customer deposits	55,242
Total Restricted Assets	55,242
Capital Assets	
Land and improvements	44,112
Buildings and improvements	254,288
Source of supply and pumping	1,460,855
Water treatment equipment	141,978
Transmission and distribution plant	18,598,070
Vehicles and other equipment	597,489
Sewer lines	130,311
Less: accumulated depreciation	(8,744,519)
Net Capital Assets	12,482,584
Total Noncurrent Assets	12,537,826
Total Assets	<u>\$ 12,879,835</u>

Black Mountain Utility District Statement of Net Position (Continued) December 31, 2022

Liabilities

Current Liabilities Current portion of long-term debt Note payable - line of credit Accounts payable Accrued salaries and taxes payable Customer deposits	\$	88,650 85,000 291,842 6,285 134,780
Other current liabilities Total Current Liabilities		40,307 646,864
Noncurrent Assets Long-term debt, less current portion included in current liabilities Total Noncurrent Liabilities		917,550 917,550
Total Liabilities	·	1,564,414_
Net Position		
Net investment in capital assets Restricted Unrestricted Total Net Position	***************************************	1,391,384 55,242 (131,205) 1,315,421

Black Mountain Utility District Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Operating Revenues	
Water sales	\$ 1,624,094
Other revenues	245,145_
Total Operating Revenues	1,869,239_
Operating Expenses	
Salaries and wages	333,070
Employee benefits	103,584
Purchased water	844,958
Utilities	146,185
Materials and supplies	225,689
Contracted services	15,350
Vehicle and equipment expenses	84,961
Insurance	38,933
Office expenses	41,803
Depreciation	502,137
Other operating expenses	65,677
Total Operating Expenses	2,402,347
Operating Income (Loss)	(533,108)
Non-operating Revenues (Expenses)	
Interest income	119
Grant income	50,000
Interest expense	(47,594)
Total Non-operating Revenues (Expenses)	2,525
Total Non-operating Neverties (Expenses)	
Change in Net Position	(530,583)
Net Position, Beginning of Year	11,846,004_
Net Position, End of Year	\$ 11,315,421

Black Mountain Utility District Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Cash Flows From Operating Activities Receipts from customers Payments to employees Payments to suppliers	\$ 1,914,245 (435,253) (1,417,707)
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	61,285
Cash Flows From Capital and Related Financing Activities Purchases of property, plant and equipment Grant income Principal payments on debt Interest payments on debt	(10,956) 50,000 (102,702) (47,594)
Net Cash Used by Capital and Related Financing Activities	(111,252)
Cash Flows From Investing Activities Interest income	119
Net Cash Provided by Investing Activities	119
Net Decrease in Cash and Cash Equivalents	(49,848)
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Year	204,300
Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Year	\$ 154,452
Reconciliation of cash per Statement of Net Position to cash per Statement of Cash Flows: Cash and cash equivalents Customer deposits	\$ 99,210 55,242
Cash and cash equivalents per Statement of Cash Flows	\$ 154,452

Black Mountain Utility District Statement of Cash Flows (Continued) For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Reconciliation of Operating Income (Loss) to Net Cash	
Provided by Operating Activities:	
Operating income (loss)	\$ (533,108)
Adjustments to reconcile operating income (loss) to net	
cash provided by operating activities	
Depreciation	502,137
(Increase) Decrease in operating assets	
Accounts receivable	8,588
Other current assets	(5,760)
Increase (Decrease) in operating liabilities	
Accounts payable	48,344
Accrued salaries and taxes payable	1,401
Customer deposits	36,917
Other current liabilities	2,766
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	\$ 61,285

Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Reporting Entity

Black Mountain Utility District, of Harlan County, Kentucky ("District") was created in 1983 under Chapter 74 of the Kentucky Revised Statutes. The District is governed by a five person board of Commissioners which is appointed by the Harlan County Fiscal Court. The District is regulated by the Kentucky Public Service Commission.

The District is a rural water utility system whose purpose is to establish, develop and operate a water supply and distribution system, including limited sewer services, for its members and customers in Harlan County, Kentucky. The District's primary source of revenue is from water sales to its customers, including public bodies and local businesses in its service area.

Basis of Accounting, Financial Presentation and Measurement Focus

The basic financial statements of the District have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP") as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board ("GASB") is the standard-setting body for governmental accounting and financial reporting. The GASB periodically updates its codification of the existing Governmental Accounting and Financial Reporting Standards which, along with subsequent GASB pronouncements (Statements and Interpretations), constitutes GAAP for governmental units.

The District applies all relevant Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) pronouncements and Accounting Principles Board (APB) opinions issued on or before November 30, 1989, unless those pronouncements conflict or contradict GASB pronouncements, in which case, GASB prevails. In addition, the District applies all applicable FASB Statements and Interpretations issued after November 30, 1989, except those that conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements.

The Statement of Net Position and Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position display information about the District as a whole. These statements include all funds of the District.

The financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows.

Operating income reported by the District includes revenues and expenses related to the continuing operation of water service for its customers. Principal operating revenues are charges to customers for services. Principal operating expenses are the costs of providing the services and include administrative expenses and depreciation of capital assets. Other revenues and expenses are classified as non-operating in the financial statements.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The District considers demand deposits and certificates of deposit with maturities of less than three months to be cash equivalents.

Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Accounts Receivable

Receivables include amounts due from customers for water and sewer services. These receivables are due at the time the services are billed and are considered past due on the sixteenth day of the following month. Accounts receivable are presented net of uncollectible accounts. The allowance amount is estimated using a percentage of accounts past due more than 30 days. At December 31, 2022, the allowance for doubtful accounts was \$14,065.

Unbilled Accounts Receivable

Estimated unbilled revenues from water sales are recognized at the end of each fiscal year on a pro rata basis. The estimated amount is based on billing during the month following the close of the fiscal year.

Prepaid Expenses

Prepaid expenses include payments to vendors that benefit future reporting periods and are reported on the consumption basis.

Capital Assets

The District's property, plant and equipment with useful lives of more than one year are stated at historical cost. The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the asset value or materially extend useful lives are not capitalized. Capital assets are depreciated using the straight-line method. When assets are disposed, the cost and applicable accumulated depreciation are removed from the respective accounts, and the resulting gain or loss is recorded in operations.

Estimated useful lives for depreciable assets are as follows:

Asset Classification	Range of Lives
Structures and improvements Transmission distribution mains Plant equipment Meters and services Other equipment and vehicles	10-40 years 25-50 years 10-25 years 25 years 5-10 years
	2 .2) 44.0

<u>Customer Deposits</u>

The District collects and holds in escrow a \$75 deposit from customers to ensure collection of its water charges. Interest at an annual rate of 1.25% is paid on these deposits.

Net Position

The District has adopted accounting guidance, GASB Statement No. 63, *Financial Reporting of Deferred Outflows of Resources, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net* Position. Net position is comprised of the various net earnings from operating income, non-operating revenues and expenses, and capital contributions. Net position is classified in the following three components:

Note 1 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Net Position (Continued)

Net investment in capital assets – This component of net position consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, mortgages, notes or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets.

Restricted – This component of net position consists of restricted assets less liabilities and deferred inflows of resources related to those assets. Restricted assets are those with limits on their use that are externally imposed constraints imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments or constraints imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

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

Use of Estimates

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

Note 2 - Restricted Assets

Under the terms of all loan resolutions, the District is required to maintain certain accounts and funds for the benefit and protection of the creditors. In addition, the District is also required to collect reasonable and sufficient rates and charges for services rendered, prohibited from selling, leasing or mortgaging any part of the system without prior approval, required to maintain the operating system in good condition, and required to carry adequate insurance on all properties to protect against loss or damage.

The resolutions require the District to establish a depreciation fund or reserve to be used to finance the cost of unusual repairs, renewals and replacements not included in the annual budget and to pay for future system extensions. The balance of these accounts at December 31, 2022 was \$0. Restricted assets at December 31, 2022 also included customer deposits of \$55,242.

Note 3 - Kentucky Revised Statute

In accordance with Kentucky Revised Statute (KRS) 91A.060, the deposits are to be insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation or collateralized to the extent uninsured by any obligations permitted by KRS 41.240(4). According to KRS 41.240(4), financial institutions shall either pledge or provide as collateral securities or other obligations having an aggregate current face value or current quoted market value at least equal to the deposits. According to KRS 66.480, the District is allowed to invest in obligations of the U.S. Treasury and U.S. agencies, repurchase agreements, obligations of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and its agencies, interest bearing deposits of insured savings and loans, or interest bearing deposits of insured national or state banks. For additional cash descriptive information, see Note 1.

Note 4 - Custodial Credit Risk - Deposits

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 deposit policy for custodial credit risk. As of December 31, 2022, the District's total deposits at banks of \$217,722 were fully covered by FDIC insurance.

Note 5 – Capital Assets

The following is a summary of capital asset transactions for the year ended December 31, 2022:

	Balance			Balance
	Dec. 31, 2021	Additions	<u>Dispositions</u>	Dec. 31, 2022
Land and improvements	\$ 44,112	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 44,112
Building and improvements	254,288	-		254,288
Source of supply and pumping	1,460,855	-	-	1,460,855
Water treatment equipment	141,978	-		141,978
Transmission and distribution plant	18,598,070	-	-	18,598,070
Vehicles and other equipment	586,533	10,956	-	597,489
Sewer lines	130,311			130,311
Totals at historical cost	21,216,147	10,956		21,227,103
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Building and improvements	130,275	7,065	-	137,340
Source of supply and pumping	793,820	65,451	-	859,271
Water treatment equipment	126,828	5,444	-	132,272
Transmission and distribution plant	6,589,103	378,875	-	6,967,978
Vehicles and other equipment	510,981	39,475	-	550,456
Sewer lines	91,375	5,827		97,202
Total accumulated depreciation	8,242,382	502,137		8,744,519
Capital assets - net	\$ 12,973,765	\$ (491,181)	\$	\$ 12,482,584

Depreciation expense for the year ended December 31, 2022 was \$502,137.

Note 6 - Line of Credit

The District has a line of credit with a local bank for \$107,624 maturing December 1, 2023, with interest payable monthly at 2.40% per annum. The line of credit is secured by a certificate of deposit. The outstanding balance at December 31, 2022 is \$85,000.

Note 7 - Long-Term Debt

The following is a summary of long-term debt transactions for the year ended December 31, 2022:

	Balance Dec. 31, 2021	Additions	Payments	Balance <u>Dec. 31, 2022</u>	Due Within One Year
Loan payable to Kentucky Infrastructure Authority, principal and interest, at the rate of 3%, payable on a semi-annual basis, with final payment due June 1, 2026	\$ 69,867	\$ -	\$ 14,727	\$ 55,140	\$ 15,172
Loan payable to Kentucky Infrastructure Authority, principal and interest, at the rate of 1%, payable on a semi-annual basis, with final payment due June 1, 2031	114,842	-	11,583	103,259	11,178
Various loans payable to United States Department of Agriculture, payable annually in varying principal amounts, with final payments due January 1, 2026 to January 1, 2038; interest payable on a semi-annual basis at the rate of 4.5% to 5%	908,001 \$ 1,092,710	- \$ -	60,200 \$ 86,510	847,801 \$ 1,006,200	62,300 \$ 88,650

The aggregate annual repayments on long-term debt are summarized as follows:

Year Ending December 31	<u>Principal</u>		<u>Interest</u>		<u>Total</u>
2023	\$	88,650	\$	44,502	\$ 133,152
2024		93,421		37,750	131,171
2025		96,606		34,063	130,669
2026		92,051		30,236	122,287
2027		70,633		26,689	97,322
2028-2032		379,167		88,715	467,882
2033-2037		162,200		20,530	182,730
2038-2041		23,472		<u></u>	23,472
	\$	1,006,200	\$	282,485	\$ 1,288,685

Note 8 - Risk Management

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to limited torts; theft of, damage to and destruction of assets; errors and omissions and natural disasters for which the District carries commercial insurance. There have been no significant reductions in coverage for the year and settlements have not exceeded coverage in the past three years.

Note 9 - Subsequent Events

Date of Management Evaluation

Management of the District has evaluated subsequent events through November 19, 2024, the date on which the financial statements were available to be issued.



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

To the Commissioners
Black Mountain Utility District
Baxter, Kentucky

We have audited, 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, the financial statements of the business-type activities of Black Mountain Utility District as of and for the year ended December 31, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Black Mountain Utility District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated November 19, 2024.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Black Mountain Utility District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the 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 Black Mountain Utility District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph 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. However, as described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. We consider the deficiency described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses to be a material weakness (See item 2022-1).

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Black Mountain Utility District's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of 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 an instance of noncompliance or other matters that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses as item 2022-2.

Black Mountain Utility District's Response to Findings

Black Mountain Utility District's response to the findings identified in our audit is described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses. Black Mountain Utility 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 it.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part on an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Abner 4 Cax, PLLC
Abner & Cox, PLLC

Abner & Cox, PLLC London, Kentucky

November 19, 2024

Black Mountain Utility District Schedule of Findings and Responses December 31, 2022

Findings – Financial Statements

2022-1

Criteria:

As discussed in *Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government* published by the General Accounting Office of the United States, internal control is an integral component of an organization's management that provides reasonable assurance that an objective of reliable financial reporting is being achieved. Organizations should implement procedures to ensure this objective is achieved.

Condition

During the audit procedures performed, instances of this objective not being completely achieved were noted.

Cause:

The size of the District's office staff does not allow proper segregation of duties with regard to bank reconciliations, cash collections, billings, postings to the accounts receivable ledger, and expenditures for goods or services.

Effect:

This condition creates a weakness in internal controls which could result in unauthorized transactions being processed.

Views of responsible officials and planned corrective actions:

The District feels that it would not be cost beneficial to hire the personnel required to complete these tasks.

2022-2

Criteria:

The bonding agreements entered into with Rural Development for construction of water lines state that the District is to maintain a certain percentage of the operating income in a depreciation account for its upkeep and replacement. The District should implement procedures to ensure this objective is achieved.

Condition:

During the audit procedures performed, it was noted that the District is not maintaining the depreciation reserve funds as required by the bonding contracts.

Cause

The lack of funds available to the District prevents the ability for reservation in a depreciation account.

Effect:

This condition causes the District to be in violation of its bonding agreements and could result in the bonds being called prematurely.

Views of responsible officials and planned corrective actions:

The District currently does not have funds available to maintain an adequate depreciation reserve account. The District will consider requesting a rate increase which will help fund the depreciation reserve account.