

TICE FIRE PROTECTION &
RESCUE SERVICE DISTRICT

SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
TOGETHER WITH REPORTS OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
Independent Auditor's Report	1 - 3
Management's Discussion and Analysis	4 - 8
Basic Financial Statements	
Statement of Net Position	9
Statement of Activities	10
Balance Sheet	11
Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet to the Statement of Net Position	12
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance	13
Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenue, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance to the Statement of Activities	14
Notes to Basic Financial Statements	15 - 29
Required Supplementary Information Other Than MD&A	
Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance - General Fund - Budget and Actual	30 - 31
Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance - Impact Fee Fund - Budget and Actual	32
Schedule of District Contributions - Pension Plan	33
Schedule of District Contributions - HIS Plan	33
Schedule of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability - Pension Plan	34
Schedule of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability - HIS Plan	34
Schedule of Changes in Total OPEB Liability and Related Ratios	35
Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Basic Financial Statements Performed In Accordance with <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>	36 - 37
Management Letter	38 - 40
Independent Accountant's Examination Report	41



PHONE: 941.639.6600 | FAX: 941.639.6115
366 E OLYMPIA AVE, PUNTA GORDA, FL 33950
AshleyBrownCPAS.com

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Honorable Board of Commissioners
Tice Fire Protection and Rescue Service District
Fort Myers, Florida

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

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

Basis for 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 Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the District, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

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

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

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

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis, budgetary comparison information, schedules of the District's net proportionate share of net pension liability- pension plan and health insurance subsidy plan, schedules of district contributions- pension plan and health insurance subsidy plan and schedule of changes in the total OPEB liability and related ratios to 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.

Required Supplementary Information, continued

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 June 20, 2024, on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards in consideration the District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Ashley, Brown & Smith, CPAs

Punta Gorda, Florida

June 20, 2024

**MANAGEMENT'S
DISCUSSION & ANALYSIS**

Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District
Management's Discussion & Analysis
September 30, 2023

As management of Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District (the "District"), we offer readers of the District's financial statement this narrative overview and analysis of the District's financial activities for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023. Please note that comparative information is provided for fiscal years 2022-23.

Financial Highlights

- The liabilities and deferred inflows of resources of the District exceeded its assets and deferred outflows of resources at the close of the 2023 fiscal year by \$2,202,071 (net position).
- As of the close of the current fiscal year, the District reported ending fund balance of \$2,302,897, an increase of \$502,780. Ending fund balance in comprised of \$419,764 that is restricted for capital additions and \$1,883,133 is available for spending at the District's discretion.
- The District's long-term debt is comprised of compensated absences of \$511,405, note payable of \$517,530, other post-employment benefits of \$645,720, and net pension liability of \$5,701,372 totaling \$7,376,027.

Government-wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements (statement of net position and statement of activities found on pages 9 and 10) are intended to allow a reader to assess a government's operational accountability. Operational accountability is defined as the extent to which the government has met its operating objectives efficiently and effectively, using all resources available for that purpose, and whether it can continue to meet its objectives for the foreseeable future. Government-wide financial statements concentrate on the District as a whole and do not emphasize fund types.

The Statement of Net Position (page 9) presents information on all of the District's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net position. The District's capital assets (property, plant and equipment) are included in this statement and reported net of their accumulated depreciation.

The Statement of Activities (page 10) presents revenue and expense information showing how the District's net position changed during the fiscal year. Both statements are measured and reported using the economic resource measurement focus (revenue and expense) and the accrual basis of accounting (revenue recognized when earned and expense recognized when a liability is incurred).

Fund Financial Statements

The District accounts for its services in a general governmental fund. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is being used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. Governmental funds are used to account for the sources, uses, and balances of a government's expendable general government financial resources (and the current liabilities). The main focus is on how money flows into and out of the general fund and the balances left at year-end that are available for spending.

**Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District
Management's Discussion & Analysis
September 30, 2023**

Fund Financial Statements, Continued

The District, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. The Fund Financial Statements can be found on pages 11 and 13.

Notes to the Financial Statements

The notes to the financial statements explain in detail some of the data contained in the preceding statements and begin on page 15. These notes are essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

Government-Wide Financial Analysis

The government-wide financial statements were designed so that the user could determine if the District is in a better or worse financial condition from the prior year.

Summary of Net Position
September 30,

	2023	2022
ASSETS		
Current assets	\$ 2,586,668	\$ 2,073,063
Capital assets	1,967,518	1,965,313
Total assets	4,554,186	4,038,376
Deferred outflows of resources	1,294,381	1,256,531
Total assets and deferred outflows of resources	5,848,567	5,294,907
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities	283,771	272,946
Noncurrent liabilities	7,376,027	6,382,189
Total liabilities	7,659,798	6,655,135
Deferred inflows of resources	390,840	593,278
Total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources	8,050,638	7,248,413
NET POSITION		
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	1,449,988	1,482,912
Restricted for capital additions	419,764	346,527
Unrestricted	(4,071,823)	(3,782,945)
Total net position	\$(2,202,071)	\$(1,953,506)

Current assets represent 56.80 percent of total assets. Current assets are comprised of unrestricted cash of \$2,173,070, and other assets of \$413,598. The investment in capital assets is comprised of land, building and improvements, vehicles and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation and the outstanding related debt used to acquire the assets.

**Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District
Management's Discussion & Analysis
September 30, 2023**

Government-Wide Financial Analysis, continued

The following schedule reports the revenues, expenses, and changes in net position for the District for the 2023 and 2022 fiscal years:

Summary of Activities
September 30,

	2023	2022
REVENUES		
General revenues		
Ad valorem taxes	\$ 4,827,545	\$ 4,209,403
Interest income	87,707	6,100
Impact fees	70,983	27,901
Miscellaneous	52,351	16,296
Program revenues		
Charges for services	5,735	4,260
Operating grants	258,723	10,000
Total revenues	5,303,044	4,273,960
 EXPENSES		
Personal services	4,698,423	3,141,746
Operating expenses	585,447	509,295
Depreciation	249,874	378,003
Interest and depreciation	17,865	20,139
Total expenses	5,551,609	4,049,183
 Change in net position	(248,565)	224,777
 Beginning net position, October 1, 2022 and 2021	(1,953,506)	(2,178,283)
 Ending net position, September 30, 2023 and 2022	\$(2,202,071)	\$(1,953,506)

Total revenue increased \$1,029,084 or 24.08 percent in comparison to prior year due to \$618,142 increase in ad valorem property assessments and grant revenue of \$258,723.

Total expenses increased in comparison to the prior year by \$1,502,426 or 37.10 percent. This is primarily the result of increase in the actuarially calculated pension expense.

**Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District
Management's Discussion & Analysis
September 30, 2023**

Budgetary Highlights

The District adopts an annual budget for the General Fund and the Impact Fee Fund as required by Florida Statute. Budget versus actual comparisons are reported in the required supplementary information other than management discussion and analysis on pages 30-32.

Capital Assets

At the end of 2023, the District's investment in capital assets for its governmental activities was \$1,967,518 (net of accumulated depreciation). This investment in capital assets includes land, buildings, improvements, vehicles and equipment.

	2023	2022
Land	\$ 97,472	\$ 97,472
Buildings and improvements	1,922,771	1,934,765
Equipment and furniture	913,915	1,017,541
Vehicles	2,129,481	2,150,138
Total assets	5,063,639	5,199,916
Less: accumulated depreciation	(3,096,121)	(3,234,603)
Total capital assets, net	\$1,967,518	\$ 1,965,313

The changes are due to the purchase of additional capital assets during the current year. Depreciation expense for the years ended September 30, 2023 and 2022 were \$249,874 and \$378,003, respectively.

Additional information on the District's capital assets can be found in Note 4 on page 20 of this report.

Non-current Liabilities

At the end of fiscal year 2023, the District had total noncurrent liabilities consisting of other post-employment benefits of \$645,720, a note payable with balance of \$517,530, compensated absences of \$511,405, and net pension liability of \$5,701,372. Current and non-current portions were \$237,295 and \$7,138,732, respectively.

More detailed information about the District's noncurrent liabilities can be found in Note 5 on pages 20-22 of this report.

**Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District
Management's Discussion & Analysis
September 30, 2023**

Economic Factors and Next Year's Budget and Rates

The following factors were considered when next year's budget (2023-2024) was prepared:

The District relies on property taxes for the largest portion of its budget. Taxable property value within the District increased by \$26,559,539 or 0.80% in 2023-24 compared to 2022-2023.

The District will collect \$5,151,268 in ad valorem tax revenue, an increase \$46,341 over the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

The District's board of commissioners approved a \$7,200,000 expenditures budget for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, an increase of \$329,986 over the prior year's budget while maintaining the current millage rate of 3.7500 mills.

Contacting the District's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the District's finances for the District's residents and creditors. Questions concerning this report or requests for additional financial information should be directed to:

Ted Ross, Fire Chief
Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District
9351 Workmen Way
Fort Myers, FL 33905
(239)694-2380

BASIC
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District
Statement of Net Position
September 30, 2023

ASSETS

Current assets:

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,173,070
Due from other governments	36,473
Prepaid expenses	372,331
Fire inspection receivable	4,794
Total current assets	2,586,668

Noncurrent assets:

Capital assets:

Land	97,472
Capital assets being depreciated (net of \$3,096,121 accumulated depreciation)	1,870,046
Total noncurrent asset	1,967,518
Total assets	4,554,186

DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES

Deferred outflows of pension resources	1,294,381
Total assets and deferred outflows of resources	5,848,567

LIABILITIES

Current liabilities:

Accounts payable	26,167
Accrued liabilities	257,604
Total current liabilities	283,771

Noncurrent liabilities:

Note payable - due within one year	113,870
Note payable - due in more than one year	403,660
Net pension liability	5,701,372
Other post-employment benefits liability	645,720
Compensated absences - due in more than one year	511,405
Total noncurrent liabilities	7,376,027
Total liabilities	7,659,798

DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES

Deferred inflows of pension resources	390,840
Total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources	8,050,638

NET POSITION

Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	1,449,988
Restricted for:	
Capital additions	419,764
Unrestricted	(4,071,823)
Total net position	\$ (2,202,071)

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

Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District
Statement of Activities
For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023

EXPENSES

Governmental Activities	
Public Safety - Fire Protection	
Personnel services	\$ 4,698,423
Operating expenses	585,447
Depreciation	249,874
Interest and fiscal charges	17,865
Total program expenses	5,551,609

PROGRAM REVENUES

Charges for services	5,735
Operating grants	258,723
Net program expenses	5,287,151

GENERAL REVENUES

Ad valorem taxes	4,827,545
Interest income	87,707
Impact fees	70,983
Proceeds from insurance	41,507
Miscellaneous	10,844
Total general revenues	5,038,586

Change in net position	(248,565)
Net position - beginning, October 1, 2022	(1,953,506)
Net position - ending, September, 30, 2023	\$ (2,202,071)

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

Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District
Balance Sheet
September 30, 2023

	General Fund	Impact Fee Fund (non-major)	Total
ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,068,661	\$ 104,409	\$ 2,173,070
Due from other funds	-	313,236	313,236
Due from other governments	34,354	2,119	36,473
Prepaid expenses	372,331	-	372,331
Fire inspection receivable	4,794	-	4,794
Total assets	\$ 2,480,140	\$ 419,764	\$ 2,899,904
 LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE			
Liabilities			
Accounts payable	\$ 26,167	\$ -	\$ 26,167
Accrued liabilities	257,604	-	257,604
Due to other funds	313,236	-	313,236
Total liabilities	597,007	-	597,007
 Fund Balances			
Restricted for capital asset additions	-	419,764	419,764
Unassigned	1,883,133	-	1,883,133
Total fund balances	1,883,133	419,764	2,302,897
 Total liabilities and fund balances	\$ 2,480,140	\$ 419,764	\$ 2,899,904

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

Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District
Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet To the Statement of Net Position
September 30, 2023

Total fund balance for governmental funds	\$	2,302,897
---	----	-----------

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

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and are therefore not reported on the balance sheet:

Cost of assets	5,063,639	
Accumulated depreciation	<u>(3,096,121)</u>	1,967,518

Deferred outflows and deferred inflows are applied to future periods and are therefore not reported in the governmental funds.

Deferred outflows related to pension - FRS	\$ 1,203,517	
Deferred outflows related to pension - HIS	<u>90,864</u>	1,294,381

Deferred inflows related to pension - FRS	(292,051)	
Deferred inflows related to pension - HIS	<u>(98,789)</u>	(390,840)

Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and are therefore not reported on the balance sheet:

Net pension liability - FRS	(4,754,881)	
Net pension liability - HIS	(946,491)	
Note payable	(517,530)	
Compensated absences	(511,405)	
Net OPEB liability	<u>(645,720)</u>	<u>(7,376,027)</u>

Net Position	\$	<u><u>(2,202,071)</u></u>
--------------	----	---------------------------

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

Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance
For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023

	General Fund	Impact Fee Fund (non-major)	Total
REVENUES			
Taxes	\$ 4,827,545	\$ -	\$ 4,827,545
Impact fees	-	70,983	70,983
Intergovernmental revenues	258,723	-	258,723
Interest income	85,453	2,254	87,707
Insurance Proceeds	41,507	-	41,507
Miscellaneous	16,579	-	16,579
Total revenues	<u>5,229,807</u>	<u>73,237</u>	<u>5,303,044</u>
EXPENDITURES			
Public safety			
Personal services	3,883,183	-	3,883,183
Operating expenditures	585,447	-	585,447
Capital outlay	348,897	-	348,897
Debt Service			
Principal	87,071	-	87,071
Interest	17,865	-	17,865
Total expenditures	<u>4,922,463</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,922,463</u>
Excess of Revenues Over/(Under)			
Expenditures	307,344	73,237	380,581
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES/(USES)			
Proceeds from financing	122,199	-	122,199
Total other financing sources/(uses)	<u>122,199</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>122,199</u>
Net change in fund balance	429,543	73,237	502,780
Fund balance, October 1, 2022	<u>1,453,590</u>	<u>346,527</u>	<u>1,800,117</u>
Fund balance, September 30, 2023	<u>\$ 1,883,133</u>	<u>\$ 419,764</u>	<u>\$ 2,302,897</u>

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

**Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District
Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in
Fund Balance to the Statement of Activities
For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023**

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

Net change in fund balance for governmental funds	\$	502,780
<p>Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. In addition, gains and losses on the disposition of capital assets are recorded on the statement of activities but not in the statement of revenues expenditures and changes in net position.</p>		
Capital outlay expenditure	\$	348,897
Less: depreciation expense		(249,874)
		2,205
<p>The repayment of the principal of long-term debt is an expenditure in the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance, but reduces long-term liabilities in the Statement of Net Position.</p>		
		87,071
<p>The decrease in OPEB expense does not affect the use of financial resources and is not reflected as an increase in expenditures in the governmental funds.</p>		
		181,677
<p>The increase in compensated absences expense does not affect the use of financial resources and is not reflected as an increase in expenditures in the governmental funds.</p>		
		(351,027)
<p>The increase in pension expense does not affect the use of financial resources and is not reflected as an increase in expenditures in the governmental funds.</p>		
		(671,271)
Change in net position	\$	(248,565)

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

Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District
Notes to Financial Statements
September 30, 2023

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:

Defining the Governmental Reporting Entity: The Tice Fire Protection and Rescue Service District (the “District”) is a local governmental unit created by the State of Florida Legislature under Chapter 76-413, Laws of Florida, to provide fire protection and rescue services to a certain prescribed area in Fort Myers, Florida. The District is funded primarily by property taxes and is operated by a five-person Board of Commissioners (the “Commissioners”), who are elected for terms of four years.

The District has adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 34, Basic Financial Statements and Management’s Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments. Statement 34 establishes standards for external financial reporting for all state and local governmental entities. This statement requires the financial statements of the District (the primary government) to include its component units, if any. A component unit is a legally separate organization for which the elected officials of the primary government are financially accountable. Based on the criteria established in GASB 14, there are no component units included in the District’s financial statements.

Fund Accounting: The accounts of the District are organized on the basis of funds, each of which is considered a separate accounting entity. The operations of each fund are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues and expenditures, as appropriate. Government resources are allocated to, and accounted for in individual funds, based upon the purposes for which they are spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled. The following funds are used by the District:

General Fund - The General Fund is the general operating fund of the District. All financial resources which are not specifically restricted or designated as to use are recorded in the General Fund. At present, the District utilizes only one fund.

Impact Fee Fund (non-major) - The special revenue fund is used to account for impact fees that are legally restricted to expenditure for a particular purpose.

Major Funds - The District reports the general fund as a major fund.

Basic Financial Statements: The basic financial statements include a Statement of Net Position, Statement of Activities, Balance Sheet, and a Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance. The Statement of Net Position is presented as assets less liabilities equal net position and shown with two components: amounts invested in capital assets, net of related debt; and unrestricted net position. The Statement of Activities reports functional categories of programs by the District and demonstrates how and to what degree those programs are supported by specific revenue.

Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District
Notes to Financial Statements
September 30, 2023

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, continued:

Measurement Focus: The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Government fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting.

Basis of Accounting: Basis of accounting refers to when revenue and expenditures are recognized in the accounts and reported in the basic financial statements. Basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the measurement focus applied.

The District complies with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). GAAP includes all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements.

Capital Assets: Capital assets include land, buildings and improvements, equipment and furniture and vehicles. Capital assets are reported in the basic financial statements in the statement of net position. The District follows a capitalization policy which calls for capitalization of all fixed assets that have a cost or contributed value of \$1,000 or more and have a useful life in excess of one year. Capital assets are recorded at cost, or estimated historical cost. Contributed capital assets are valued at the estimated fair market value of the asset on the date of donation. Depreciation is calculated using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the related assets. The ranges of the useful lives are as follows:

Assets	Years
Buildings & Improvements	10 - 40
Equipment and Furniture	10
Vehicles	5 - 7

Depreciation on fixed assets acquired through contributions is recorded as an expense and transferred from net position as a reduction of contributed capital. The cost of assets retired or sold, together with the related accumulated depreciation, is removed from the accounts and any gain or loss on disposition is credited or charged to earnings.

Encumbrances: Encumbrance accounting, under which purchase orders, contracts and other commitments for the expenditure of monies are recorded in order to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation, is not employed by the District because it is, at present, not necessary to assure effective budgetary control or to facilitate effective cash planning and control.

Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District
Notes to Financial Statements
September 30, 2023

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, continued:

Budgets and Budgetary Accounting: The following procedures are used by the District in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the basic financial statements:

1. During the summer, the Chief submits to the Board of Commissioners for their consideration a proposed operating budget for the fiscal year commencing on October 1. The operating budget includes proposed expenditures and the means of financing them.
2. Public hearings are conducted to obtain taxpayer comments.
3. Prior to October 1, the budget is adopted through a resolution by the Board of Commissioners.
4. Budget transfers and amendments can be made throughout the year by approval of the Board of Commissioners.
5. Budget amounts, as shown in the Required Supplementary Information are as originally adopted, or as amended by the Board of Commissioners.
6. The budget for the Governmental Fund Type is adopted on a cash basis which is inconsistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.
7. The level of control for appropriations is exercised at the activity level.

Impact Fees: The District receives impact fees in accordance with an interlocal agreement with Lee County, Florida. Impact fees collected by Lee County are remitted on a quarterly basis to the District. The District, with prior Lee County approval, may expend amounts collected on qualifying capital expenditures. Funds received that are not expended within six years must be refunded. Because of the eligibility requirements imposed in the agreement, (1) prior approval before expenditure and (2) refund if not expended, the District records receipts of funds as restricted cash.

Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources: Deferred outflows of resources represent a consumption of net position that applies to a future period and therefore will not be recognized as expended until then. The District presents deferred outflows associated with pensions to be expensed over future periods. Deferred inflows of resources is defined as an acquisition of position by the government that is applicable to a future reporting period. The District presents deferred inflows of resources related to pensions.

Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District
Notes to Financial Statements
September 30, 2023

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, continued:

Fund Balance: The District follows the provisions of Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 54, Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions. Accordingly, in the fund financial statements, governmental funds report fund classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which the District is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in those funds can be spent. Fund balance is reported in five components: nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned and unassigned.

Non-Spendable Fund Balance - Amounts that are (a) not in spendable form or (b) legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. "Not in spendable form" includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash (such as inventories and prepaid amounts) and items not expected to be converted to and items such as long-term amount of loans and notes receivable, as well as property acquired for resale. The corpus (or principal) of a permanent fund is an example of an amount that is legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

Restricted Fund Balance - Amounts that can be spent only for specific purposes stipulated by (a) external resource providers such as creditors (by debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments or (b) imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Unrestricted Fund Balance - The total of the committed fund balance, assigned fund balance, and unassigned balance.

Committed Fund Balance - Amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes determined by a formal action (resolution) of the District's Board of Commissioners, the District's highest level of decision making authority. Commitments may be changed or lifted only by the Board of Commissioners taking the same formal action (resolution) that imposed the constraint originally.

Assigned Fund Balance - Includes spendable fund balance amounts established by the administration of the District that are intended to be used for specific purposes that are neither considered restricted or committed.

Unassigned Fund Balance - Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund. This classification represents fund balance that has not been restricted, committed, or assigned to specific purposes within the general fund. Unassigned fund balance may also include negative balances for the general fund if expenditures exceed amounts restricted, committed, or assigned for those specific purposes.

The District's policy is to apply expenditures against restricted fund balance, committed fund balance, assigned fund balance, and unassigned fund balance in that order under circumstances where a particular expenditure can be made from more than one fund classification.

Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District
Notes to Financial Statements
September 30, 2023

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, continued:

Minimum Fund Balance Policy: Compliance with the provisions of this policy shall be reviewed as a part of the annual budget adoption process and the amounts of the individual funds including any minimum balance shall be determined during this process.

Use of Estimates: The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities as of the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenue and expenditures or expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Note 2. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consists of cash on hand and cash on deposit with financial institutions. At September 30, 2023, the carrying amount of the District's deposits were \$2,173,070, the bank balance was \$2,185,386 and petty cash on hand was \$100. These deposits were entirely covered by Federal Depository Insurance or by collateral pursuant to the Florida Security for Public Deposits Act (Florida Statutes Chapter 280). Florida Statutes authorize investments in certificates of deposit, savings accounts, repurchase agreements, the Local Government Surplus Funds Trust Fund administered by the Florida State Board of Administration, obligations of the U.S. Government and government agencies unconditionally guaranteed by the U.S. Government.

Note 3. Property Taxes:

Property taxes are levied on November 1 of each year, and are due and payable upon receipt of the notice of levy. The Lee County, Florida, Tax Collector's office bills and collects property taxes on behalf of the District. The tax rate levied upon the taxable property in the District for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023 was 3.75 per \$1,000 of assessed taxable property value. Property tax revenue is recognized currently in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied. On April 1 of each year, unpaid taxes become a lien on the property. The past due certificates are sold at public auction prior to June 1, and the proceeds thus collected are remitted to the District.

Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District
Notes to Financial Statements
September 30, 2023

Note 4. Changes in General Fixed Assets:

Capital assets are recorded in the financial statements at historical cost or estimated historical cost if actual historical cost is not available. A summary of changes for the fiscal year is as follows:

	Balance Oct. 1, 2022	Additions	Deletions	Balance Sept. 30, 2023
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Land	\$ 97,472	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 97,472
Total capital assets not being depreciated:	<u>97,472</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>97,472</u>
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Buildings and improvements	1,934,765	51,060	(63,054)	1,922,771
Equipment and furniture	1,017,541	297,837	(401,463)	913,915
Vehicles	2,150,138	-	(20,657)	2,129,481
Total capital assets being depreciated:	<u>5,102,444</u>	<u>348,897</u>	<u>(485,174)</u>	<u>4,966,167</u>
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Buildings and improvements	(816,889)	(47,958)	18,744	(846,103)
Equipment and furniture	(636,689)	(50,966)	342,988	(344,667)
Vehicles	(1,781,025)	(150,950)	26,624	(1,905,351)
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>(3,234,603)</u>	<u>(249,874)</u>	<u>388,356</u>	<u>(3,096,121)</u>
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	<u>1,867,841</u>	<u>99,023</u>	<u>(96,818)</u>	<u>1,870,046</u>
Capital Assets, Net	<u>\$1,965,313</u>	<u>\$ 99,023</u>	<u>\$ (96,818)</u>	<u>\$ 1,967,518</u>

Note 5. Long-Term Debt:

Notes Payable

On December 15, 2017, the District purchased a 2017 E-One HP 78 Ladder on a Typhoon X Chassis for a total cost of \$730,705. The District financed \$380,000 of the purchase price by entering into a leasing agreement with a financial institution carrying a fixed annual interest rate of 3.468%. The note will be repaid in fifteen annual installments of \$32,919 with a final payment due December 2031. The principal balance as of September 30, 2023 is

\$ 250,805

Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District
Notes to Financial Statements
September 30, 2023

Note 5. Long-Term Debt:

On April 1, 2018, the District purchased a E-One Typhoon Pumper for a total cost of \$420,658. The District financed \$250,000 of the purchase price by entering into a leasing agreement with a financial institution carrying a fixed annual interest rate of 4.11%. The note will be repaid in ten annual installments of \$30,986 with a final payment due April 2028. The principal balance as of September 30, 2023 is 137,534

In fiscal year 2021, the District purchased bunker gear for a total cost of \$74,512 by entering into an agreement with a financial institution carrying a fixed annual interest rate of 3.69%. The note will be repaid in five annual installments of \$16,591 with a final payment due September 2025. The principal balance as of September 30, 2023 is 31,432

In fiscal year 2023, the District purchased three Zoll defibrillators for a total cost of \$122,199 by entering into a leasing agreement with a financial institution. The note will be repaid in two annual installments of \$48,880 with a final payment due fiscal year 2025. The principal balance as of September 30, 2023 is 97,759

Total Notes Payable \$ 517,530

The combined annual payments to retire the District's note payable is as follows:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2024	\$ 113,870	\$ 15,505	\$ 129,375
2025	116,320	13,055	129,375
2026	53,392	10,513	63,905
2027	55,419	8,486	63,905
2028	57,523	6,382	63,905
2029-2032	121,006	10,670	131,676
	<u>\$ 517,530</u>	<u>\$ 64,611</u>	<u>\$ 582,141</u>

The following is a summary of changes in the District's long-term debt for the year ended September 30, 2023:

	<u>Balance</u>			<u>Balance</u>	<u>Due within</u>
	<u>Oct 1, 2022</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Reductions</u>	<u>Sept 30, 2023</u>	<u>one year</u>
Net pension liability -					
Pension Plan	\$4,283,975	\$1,429,690	\$ (958,784)	\$ 4,754,881	\$ -
HIS Plan	628,038	385,374	(66,921)	946,491	-
Note payable	482,401	122,199	(87,070)	517,530	113,870
Compensated absences	160,378	627,204	(276,177)	511,405	123,425
Post employment benefits	827,397	29,361	(211,038)	645,720	-
Total	<u>\$6,382,189</u>	<u>\$2,593,828</u>	<u>\$(1,599,990)</u>	<u>\$ 7,376,027</u>	<u>\$ 237,295</u>

Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District
Notes to Financial Statements
September 30, 2023

Note 5. Long-Term Debt:

Compensated Absences: The District's employees accumulate sick and vacation leave based on years of continuous service. Upon separation from the District, employees are entitled to all accumulated vacation leave. After 25 years of continuous service, one third of accumulated sick leave is paid to employees upon separation. As of September 30, 2023, the District recorded a liability for accrued vacation of \$142,345 and accrued sick time of \$369,060, totaling \$511,405.

Note 6. Deficit Unrestricted Net Position

The District reported a deficit net position in its unrestricted classification on the Statement of Net Position. The deficit is attributed to the implementation of GASB No. 68 which substantially increased the net pension liability.

Note 7. State of Florida Retirement Plans

Defined Benefit Plans

The District participates in two defined benefit pension plans that are administered by the State of Florida, Department of Management Services, Division of Retirement. The plans provide retirement, disability or death benefits to retirees or their designated beneficiaries. Chapter 121, Florida Statutes, establishes the authority for benefit provisions. Changes to the law can only occur through an act of the Florida Legislature. The State of Florida issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for the plans. That report is available from the Florida Department of Management Services' website (www.dms.myflorida.com).

The Florida Retirement System (FRS) Pension Plan is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan with a Deferred Retirement Option Program ("DROP") available for eligible employees. The FRS was established with joint and survivor payment options. FRS membership is compulsory for employees filling regularly established positions in a state agency, county agency, state university, state college, or district school board, unless restricted from FRS membership under Sections 121.053 or 121.122, Florida Statutes, or allowed to participate in a defined contribution plan in lieu of FRS membership. Participation by cities, municipalities, special districts, charter schools and metropolitan planning organizations is optional.

The Retiree Health Insurance Subsidy (HIS) Program is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan established and administered in accordance with Section 112.363, Florida Statutes. The benefit is a monthly payment to assist retirees of the state-administered retirement systems in paying their health insurance costs. To be eligible to receive a HIS benefit, a retiree under a state-administered retirement system must provide proof of eligible health insurance coverage, which can include Medicare.

Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District
Notes to Financial Statements
September 30, 2023

Note 7. State of Florida Retirement Plans, continued:

Benefits Provided

Benefits under the FRS Pension Plan are computed on the basis of age and/or years of service, average final compensation, and service credit. Credit for each year of service is expressed as a percentage of the average final compensation. For members initially enrolled before July 1, 2011, the average final compensation is the average of the five highest fiscal years' earnings; for members initially enrolled on or after July 1, 2011, the average final compensation is the average of the eight highest fiscal years' earnings. The total percentage value of the benefit received is determined by calculating the total value of all service, which is based on the retirement plan and/or class to which the member belonged when the service credit was earned.

Eligible retirees and beneficiaries receive a monthly HIS payment equal to the number of years of service credited at retirement multiplied by \$5. The minimum payment is \$45 and the maximum payment is \$225 per month, pursuant to Section 112.363, Florida Statutes.

Contributions

The contribution requirements of plan members and the employer are established and may be amended by the Florida Legislature. Employees are required to contribute 3.00% of their salary to the FRS Pension Plan. The employer's contribution rates as of September 30, 2023, were as follows:

	FRS	HIS
Regular class	13.57%	2.00%
Special risk class	32.67%	2.00%
Senior management service class	34.52%	2.00%
Elected officials	58.68%	2.00%
DROP from FRS	21.13%	2.00%

The District's contributions for the year ended September 30, 2023, were \$613,216 to the FRS Pension Plan and \$42,090 to this HIS Program.

Pension Liabilities and Pension Expense

In its financial statements for the year ended September 30, 2023, the District reported a liability for its proportionate share of the net pension liability of the FRS Pension Plan and its proportionate share of the net pension liability of the HIS Program. The net pension liabilities were measured as of June 30, 2023. The District's proportions of the net pension liabilities were based on its share of contributions to the pension plans relative to the contributions of all participating entities, actuarially determined.

	FRS	HIS
Net pension liability	\$ 4,754,881	\$ 946,491
Proportion at:		
Current measurement date	0.011933%	0.005960%
Prior measurement date	0.011514%	0.005930%
Pension (benefit) expense	\$ 229,791	\$ 319,280

Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District
Notes to Financial Statements
September 30, 2023

Note 7. State of Florida Retirement Plans, continued:

At September 30, 2023, the District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	FRS		HIS	
	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 446,442	\$ -	\$ 13,856	\$ (2,222)
Change of assumptions	309,963	-	24,883	(82,017)
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	198,577	-	489	-
Changes in proportion and differences between District contributions and proportionate share of contributions	100,093	(292,051)	41,019	(14,550)
District contributions subsequent to the measurement date	148,442	-	10,617	-
	<u>\$ 1,203,517</u>	<u>\$ (292,051)</u>	<u>\$ 90,864</u>	<u>\$ (98,789)</u>

Deferred outflows of resources related to employer contributions paid subsequent to the measurement date, and prior to the employer's fiscal year-end will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the reporting period ending September 30, 2024. Other pension-related amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Fiscal year ending September 30:	FRS	HIS
2024	48,080	1,348
2025	(128,392)	1,522
2026	736,469	(1,819)
2027	78,884	(11,634)
2028	27,983	(7,481)
Thereafter	-	(478)
	<u>\$ 763,024</u>	<u>\$ (18,542)</u>

Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District
Notes to Financial Statements
September 30, 2023

Note 7. State of Florida Retirement Plans, continued:

Actuarial Assumptions

The total pension liability for each of the defined benefit plans was measured as of June 30, 2023. The total pension liability for the FRS Pension Plan was determined by an actuarial valuation dated July 1, 2023. The individual entry age normal actuarial cost method was used for each plan, along with the following significant actuarial assumptions:

	FRS	HIS
Inflation	2.40%	2.40%
Salary increases	3.25%	3.25%
Investment rate of return	6.70%	N/A
Discount rate	6.70%	3.65%

Mortality assumptions for both plans were based on the PUB-2010 with Projection Scale MP-2018.

For both plans, the actuarial assumptions were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2018.

The long-term expected investment rate of return was not based on historical returns, but instead was based on a forward-looking capital market economic model. Each asset class assumption is based on a consistent set of underlying assumptions, and includes an adjustment for the inflation assumption. For the FRS Pension Plan, the table below summarizes the consulting actuary's assumptions based on the long-term target asset allocation.

Asset Class	Target Allocation (1)	Annual Arithmetic Return	Compound Annual (Geometric) Return	Standard Deviation
Cash	1.0%	2.9%	2.9%	1.1%
Fixed income	19.8%	4.5%	4.4%	3.4%
Global equity	54.0%	8.7%	7.1%	18.1%
Real estate (property)	10.3%	7.6%	6.6%	14.8%
Private equity	11.1%	11.9%	8.8%	26.3%
Strategic investments	3.8%	6.3%	6.1%	7.7%
Total	100.0%			

Assumed Inflation - Mean		2.4%	1.4%
--------------------------	--	------	------

Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability for the FRS Pension Plan was 6.70%. FRS's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current active and inactive employees. Therefore, the discount rate for calculating the total pension liability is equal to the long-term expected rate of return.

Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District
Notes to Financial Statements
September 30, 2023

Note 7. State of Florida Retirement Plans, continued:

Discount Rate, Continued

Because the HIS Program is essentially funded on a pay-as-you-go basis, a municipal bond rate of 3.65% was used to determine the total pension liability for the program. The Bond Buyer General Obligation Bond 20-Bond Municipal Bond Index was used as the applicable municipal bond index.

Sensitivity Analysis

The following table demonstrates the sensitivity of the net pension liability to changes in the discount rate. The sensitivity analysis shows the impact to the employer's proportionate share of the net pension liability if the discount rate was 1.00% higher or 1.00% lower than the current discount rate.

	FRS		
	Current		
	1% Decrease (5.70%)	Discount Rate (6.70%)	1% Increase (7.70%)
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 8,223,240	\$ 4,754,881	\$ 1,854,920

	HIS		
	Current		
	1% Decrease (2.65%)	Discount Rate (3.65%)	1% Increase (4.65%)
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 1,079,799	\$ 946,491	\$ 835,988

Pension Plans' Fiduciary Net Position

Detailed information about the pension plans' fiduciary net position is available in the state's separately issued financial reports.

Defined Contribution Plan

Pursuant to Chapter 121, Florida Statutes, the Florida Legislature created the Florida Retirement Investment Plan ("FRS Investment Plan"), a defined contribution pension plan qualified under Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code. The FRS Investment Plan is an alternative available to members of the Florida Retirement System in lieu of the defined benefit plan. There is a uniform contribution rate covering both the defined benefit and defined contribution plans, depending on membership class. FRS Investment Plan contributions for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023 totaled \$5,138.

Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District
Notes to Financial Statements
September 30, 2023

Note 8. Other Post Employment Benefits:

Plan Description

The District's Retiree Health Care Plan (Plan) is a single-employer defined benefit post-employment health care plan that covers eligible retired employees of the District. The Plan, which is administered by the District, allows employees who retire and meet retirement eligibility requirements under the Florida Retirement System to continue medical insurance coverage as a participant in the District's plan. For purposes of applying Paragraph 4 under Statement No. 75, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions, the Plan does not meet the requirements for an OPEB plan administered through a trust.

Employees Covered by Benefit Terms

At September 30, 2021, the following employees were covered by the benefit terms:

Inactive plan members or beneficiaries currently receiving benefits	4
Inactive plan members entitled to but not yet receiving benefits	-
Active plan members	25
	29

Benefits Provided

The benefits provided are the same as those provided for active employees. Spouses and dependents of eligible retirees are also eligible for medical coverage. All employees of the District are eligible to receive postemployment health care benefits. All retiree and dependent coverage is at the expense of the retiree.

Total OPEB Liability

The measurement date is September 30, 2022.

The measurement period for the OPEB expense was October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022.

The reporting period is October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023.

The District's Total OPEB Liability was measured as of September 30, 2022.

Actuarial Assumptions:

The Total OPEB Liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of September 30, 2021, updated to September 30, 2022, using the following actuarial assumptions:

Inflation	2.50%
Salary Increases	2.50%
Discount Rate	4.77%
Initial Trend Rate	7.50%
Ultimate Trend Rate	4.00%
Years to Ultimate	53

For all lives, mortality rates were PubG-2010 Mortality Tables projected to the valuation date using Projection Scale MP-2019.

Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District
Notes to Financial Statements
September 30, 2023

Note 8. Other Post Employment Benefits, continued:

Discount Rate

Given the District's decision not to fund the program, all future payments were discounted using a high-quality municipal bond rate of 4.77%. The high-quality municipal bond rate was based on the measurement date of the S&P Municipal Bond 20 Year high Grade Rate Index as published by S&P Dow Jones Indices. The S&P Municipal 20 Year High Grade Rate Index consists of bonds in the S&P Municipal Bond Index with a maturity of 20 years. Eligible bonds must be rated at least AA by Standard & Poor's Corp and Poor's Rating Services, As2 by Moody's or AA by Fitch. If there are multiple ratings, the lowest rating is used.

OPEB Expense

For the year ended September 30, 2023, the District will recognize OPEB Expense/(Revenue) of \$(141,728).

Changes in Total OPEB Liability

Reporting Period Ending September 30, 2022	\$ 827,397
Changes for the year:	
Service Cost	9,468
Interest	19,893
Changes of Assumptions	(174,339)
Benefit Payments	(36,699)
Net Changes	(181,677)
Reporting Period Ending September 30, 2023	\$ 645,720

Changes of assumptions reflect a change in the discount rate from 2.43% for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022 to 4.77% for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2023.

Sensitivity of the Total OPEB Liability to changes in the Discount Rate:

The following presents the Total OPEB Liability of the District, as well as what the District's Total OPEB Liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage-point lower or one percentage-point higher than the current discount rate:

	1% Decrease 3.77%	Current Discount Rate 4.77%	1% Increase 5.77%
Total OPEB Liability	\$ 712,593	\$ 645,720	\$ 587,993

Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District
Notes to Financial Statements
September 30, 2023

Note 8. Other Post Employment Benefits, continued:

Sensitivity of the Total OPEB Liability to changes in the Healthcare Cost Trend Rates

The following presents the Total OPEB Liability of the District, as well as what the District's Total OPEB Liability would be if it were calculated using healthcare cost trend rates that are one percentage-point lower or one percentage-point higher than the current healthcare cost trend rates:

	1% Decrease	Healthcare Cost Trend Rate	1% Increase
	3.00% - 6.25%	4.00% - 7.25%	5.00% - 8.25%
Total OPEB Liability	\$ 586,323	\$ 645,720	\$ 713,899

**REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY
INFORMATION**

Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance
Budget and Actual - General Fund - Non-GAAP
Year Ended September 30, 2023

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance from Final Budget Positive (Negative)
Revenues:				
Ad valorem taxes	\$ 4,849,681	\$ 4,849,681	\$ 4,827,545	\$ (22,136)
Firefighter sup. compensation	3,500	3,500	3,930	430
Interest income	5,000	5,000	85,453	80,453
Donations	500	500	470	(30)
Sale of fixed assets	2,500	2,500	-	(2,500)
Inspection fees	2,500	2,500	3,725	1,225
Grant revenue	-	235,526	258,723	23,197
Proceeds from insurance	-	41,507	41,507	-
Proceeds from issuance of debt	-	-	122,199	122,199
Miscellaneous revenue	-	-	1,933	1,933
Other gov't revenue	6,300	6,300	6,521	221
Subtotal - revenues	4,869,981	5,147,014	5,352,006	204,992
Cash brought forward	1,683,000	1,683,000	-	(1,683,000)
Total revenues	6,552,981	6,830,014	5,352,006	(1,478,008)

Expenditures:

Public safety

Personal services

Salaries	2,030,000	2,167,033	2,173,795	(6,762)
Salaries supp. compensation	3,500	3,500	3,360	140
Unscheduled overtime	50,000	50,000	-	50,000
Longevity & incentive	308,000	308,000	315,008	(7,008)
FICA	181,000	181,000	183,054	(2,054)
Retirement	630,000	630,000	665,247	(35,247)
Life & health insurance	470,000	470,000	488,579	(18,579)
Life insurance paid	8,000	8,000	6,305	1,695
Worker comp. insurance	45,000	45,000	47,835	(2,835)
Payroll expense	2,500	2,500	-	2,500
Total personal services	3,728,000	3,865,033	3,883,183	(18,150)

Operating expenses

Legal fees	20,000	20,000	23,151	(3,151)
Medical services	1,000	1,000	520	480
Accounting & audit	70,000	70,000	67,330	2,670
Commissioner honorarium	15,000	15,000	13,250	1,750
Property appraiser	32,000	32,000	29,992	2,008
Travel & training	15,000	15,000	9,435	5,565

Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance
Budget and Actual - General Fund - Non-GAAP
Year Ended September 30, 2023

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance from Final Budget Positive (Negative)
Operating expenses				
Telephone service	15,000	15,000	14,784	216
Postage	1,000	1,000	747	253
Electricity	19,000	19,000	18,367	633
Water	5,600	5,600	4,020	1,580
Garbage	6,000	6,000	4,970	1,030
Cable	3,000	3,000	2,960	40
Property, equipment, & vehicle coverages	55,000	55,000	37,708	17,292
Radio maintenance	20,000	20,000	16,994	3,006
Building maintenance	20,500	20,500	14,388	6,112
Equipment maintenance	65,000	65,000	58,865	6,135
Office supply	7,000	7,000	3,968	3,032
Fuel & oil	40,000	40,000	35,449	4,551
Uniforms	12,000	12,000	12,030	(30)
Station supply	5,500	5,500	4,981	519
Medical supply	15,000	15,000	10,408	4,592
Misc. Supply	5,000	5,000	1,400	3,600
Training & books	15,000	15,000	9,904	5,096
Public education	6,700	6,700	3,193	3,507
Honor guard	6,000	6,000	1,788	4,212
Vehicle fund	150,000	150,000	105,905	44,095
Building fund	75,000	115,000	87,037	27,963
Equipment	150,000	250,000	338,235	(88,235)
Small tools	2,000	2,000	1,238	762
Equipment <\$1,000	5,000	5,000	1,327	3,673
Total operating expenses	857,300	997,300	934,344	62,956
Debt service	81,000	81,000	104,936	(23,936)
Reserves	1,886,681	1,886,681	-	1,886,681
Total expenditures	6,552,981	6,830,014	4,922,463	1,907,551
Excess of Revenues Over/(Under)				
Expenditures	\$ -	\$ -	429,543	\$ 429,543
GAAP Reconciliation				
Less operating expenses			348,897	
Capital outlay			(348,897)	
Net change in fund balance			429,543	
Fund balance - October 1, 2022			1,453,590	
Fund balance - September 30, 2023			\$ 1,883,133	

Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance
Budget and Actual - Impact Fee Fund
Year Ended September 30, 2023

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance from Final Budget Positive (Negative)
Revenues:				
Impact Fees	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 70,983	\$ 55,983
Interest	-	-	2,254	2,254
Subtotal - revenue	<u>15,000</u>	<u>15,000</u>	<u>73,237</u>	<u>58,237</u>
Cash brought forward	<u>25,000</u>	<u>25,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(25,000)</u>
Total revenues	<u>40,000</u>	<u>40,000</u>	<u>73,237</u>	<u>33,237</u>
Expenditures:				
Public safety				
Capital outlay	25,000	25,000	-	25,000
Reserve	<u>15,000</u>	<u>15,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,000</u>
Total expenditures	<u>40,000</u>	<u>40,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>40,000</u>
Excess of expenditures over revenues	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>73,237</u>	<u>\$ 73,237</u>
Fund balance, October 1, 2022			<u>346,527</u>	
Fund balance, September 30, 2023			<u>\$ 419,764</u>	

**Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District
Schedule of District Contributions
For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2023
Last Ten Fiscal Years**

Florida Retirement System (FRS)

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Contractually required contribution	\$ 613,216	\$ 498,542	\$ 459,935	\$ 435,533	\$ 410,772	\$ 395,949	\$ 361,933	\$ 362,548	\$ 337,711	\$ 319,111
Contributions in relation to contractually require contribution	(613,216)	(498,542)	(459,935)	(435,533)	(410,772)	(395,949)	(361,933)	(362,548)	(337,711)	(319,111)
Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
District's covered-employee payroll	\$ 2,410,248	\$ 2,133,397	\$ 2,036,482	\$ 1,896,415	\$ 1,825,012	\$ 1,847,836	\$ 1,753,933	\$ 1,747,378	\$ 1,832,671	\$ 1,883,710
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	25.44%	23.37%	22.58%	22.97%	22.51%	21.43%	20.64%	20.75%	18.43%	16.94%

Health Insurance Subsidy Program (HIS)

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Contractually required contribution	\$ 42,090	\$ 36,100	\$ 33,806	\$ 31,480	\$ 31,118	\$ 30,674	\$ 29,115	\$ 29,006	\$ 24,777	\$ 23,105
Contributions in relation to contractually require contribution	(42,090)	(36,100)	(33,806)	(31,480)	(31,118)	(30,674)	(29,115)	(29,006)	(24,777)	(23,105)
Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
District's covered-employee payroll	\$ 2,426,816	\$ 2,174,670	\$ 2,036,482	\$ 1,896,415	\$ 1,874,607	\$ 1,847,836	\$ 1,753,933	\$ 1,747,378	\$ 1,835,333	\$ 1,833,710
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	1.73%	1.66%	1.66%	1.66%	1.66%	1.66%	1.66%	1.66%	1.35%	1.26%

Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District
Schedule of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023
For the Last Ten Fiscal Years Ended June 30

Florida Retirement System (FRS)

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
District's proportion of the net pension liability	0.011933%	0.011514%	0.012226%	0.013045%	0.013407%	0.013786%	0.013474%	0.014088%	0.013279%	0.014274%
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 4,754,881	\$ 4,283,975	\$ 923,528	\$ 5,653,751	\$ 4,617,270	\$ 4,152,327	\$ 3,985,652	\$ 3,557,325	\$ 1,715,139	\$ 870,900
District's covered-employee payroll	\$ 2,361,115	\$ 2,160,921	\$ 2,110,982	\$ 1,867,607	\$ 1,885,115	\$ 1,860,478	\$ 1,717,846	\$ 1,738,676	\$ 1,841,757	\$ 1,897,766
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered employee payroll	201.38%	198.25%	43.75%	302.73%	244.93%	223.19%	232.01%	204.60%	93.13%	45.89%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	82.38%	82.89%	96.40%	78.85%	82.61%	84.26%	83.89%	84.88%	92.00%	96.09%

Health Insurance Subsidy Program (HIS)

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
District's proportion of the net pension liability	0.005960%	0.005930%	0.005899%	0.005381%	0.005637%	0.005696%	0.005389%	0.005584%	0.005969%	0.006323%
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 946,491	\$ 628,038	\$ 723,577	\$ 657,018	\$ 630,681	\$ 602,896	\$ 576,261	\$ 650,676	\$ 608,727	\$ 591,246
District's covered-employee payroll	\$ 2,361,115	\$ 2,160,921	\$ 2,110,982	\$ 1,867,607	\$ 1,885,115	\$ 1,860,478	\$ 1,717,846	\$ 1,738,676	\$ 1,845,276	\$ 1,897,766
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered employee payroll	40.09%	29.06%	34.28%	35.18%	33.46%	32.41%	33.55%	37.42%	32.99%	31.15%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	4.12%	4.81%	3.56%	3.00%	2.63%	2.15%	1.64%	0.97%	0.50%	0.99%

Tice Fire Protection & Rescue Service District
Schedule of Changes in Total OPEB Liability and Related Ratios

For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30,

Total OPEB Liability Change						
Reporting Period Ending	9/30/2023	9/30/2022	9/30/2021	9/30/2020	9/30/2019	9/30/2018
Measurement Date	9/30/2022	9/30/2021	9/30/2020	9/30/2019	9/30/2018	9/30/2017
Total OPEB Liability						
Service cost	\$ 9,468	\$ 13,541	\$ 9,586	\$ 10,272	\$ 11,280	\$ 12,499
Interest	19,893	22,121	31,217	33,236	30,361	27,044
Differences between expected and actual experience	-	27,358	-	(9,012)	-	-
Changes of assumptions	(174,339)	(236,090)	154,773	75,513	(52,214)	(62,897)
Benefit payments	(36,699)	(39,145)	(36,414)	(28,538)	(26,242)	(24,131)
Net Change in Total OPEB Liability	(181,677)	(212,215)	159,162	81,471	(36,815)	(47,485)
Total OPEB Liability - Beginning	827,397	1,039,612	880,450	798,979	835,794	883,279
Total OPEB Liability - Ending	<u>\$ 645,720</u>	<u>\$ 827,397</u>	<u>\$ 1,039,612</u>	<u>\$ 880,450</u>	<u>\$ 798,979</u>	<u>\$ 835,794</u>
Covered employee payroll	\$2,048,892	\$1,998,919	\$1,879,081	\$1,833,250	\$1,892,915	\$1,846,747
Total OPEB Liability as a percentage of covered employee payroll	31.52%	41.39%	55.33%	48.03%	42.21%	45.26%

Notes to Schedule:

Covered Payroll: Covered payroll is projected to the measurement date based on actual covered payroll as of the valuation date using applicable salary increase assumptions.

Changes of Assumptions: Changes of assumptions and other inputs reflect the effects of changes in the discount rate each period. The following are the discount rates used in each period:

Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2023:	4.77%
Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2022:	2.43%
Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2021:	2.14%
Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2020:	3.58%
Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2019:	4.18%
Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2018:	3.64%
Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2017:	3.06%

Also reflected as assumption changes in fiscal year 2022 are updated mortality rates, updated health care costs and premiums. In fiscal year 2020 assumption changes are updated mortality rates, updated health care costs and premiums, updated health care cost trend rates, and updated spouse election percentages.

Benefit Payment - The District did not provide actual net benefits paid by the Plan for the fiscal year ending on September 30, 2023. Expected net benefit payments produced by the valuation model for the same period are shown in the table above.

**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**

Board of Commissioners
Tice Fire Protection and Rescue Service District
Fort Myers, Florida

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities of the Tice Fire Protection and Rescue Service District, (the "District") as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated June 20, 2024.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

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

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

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the 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 no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

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

Ashley, Brown & Smith, CPAs

Punta Gorda, Florida
June 20, 2024

Report on the Financial Statements

Board of Commissioners
Tice Fire Protection and Rescue Service District
Fort Myers, Florida

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of the Tice Fire Protection and Rescue Service District, (the "District"), as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated June 20, 2024.

Auditor's Responsibility

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General.

Other Reporting Requirements

We have issued our Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of the Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards; and Independent Accountant's Report on an examination conducted in accordance with AICPA Professional Standards, AT-C Section 315, regarding compliance requirements in accordance with Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General. Disclosures in those reports and schedule, which are dated June 20, 2024, should be considered in conjunction with this management letter.

Prior Audit Findings

Section 10.554(1)(i)1., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we determine whether or not corrective actions have been taken to address findings and recommendations made in the preceding financial audit report. There were no recommendations made in the preceding audit report.

Official Title and Legal Authority

Section 10.554(1)(i)4., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that the name or official title and legal authority for the primary government and each component unit of the reporting entity be disclosed in this management letter, unless disclosed in the notes to the financial statements. The District had no component units as of September 30, 2023.

Financial Condition and Management

Sections 10.554(1)(i)5.a. and 10.556(7), Rules of the Auditor General, require us to apply appropriate procedures and communicate the results of our determination as to whether or not the District met one or more of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes, and to identify the specific condition(s) met. In connection with our audit, we determined that the District did not meet any of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes.

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

Section 10.554(1)(i)2., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we communicate any recommendations to improve financial management. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such recommendations.

Special District Component Units

Section 10.554(1)(i)5.c., Rules of the Auditor General, requires, if appropriate, that we communicate the failure of a special district that is a component unit of a county, municipality, or special district, to provide the financial information necessary for proper reporting of the component unit within the audited financial statements of the county, municipality, or special district in accordance with Section 218.39(3)(b), Florida Statutes. In connection with our audit, we did not note any special district component units that failed to provide the necessary information for proper reporting in accordance with Section 218.39(3)(b), Florida Statutes.

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

- a. The total number of district employees compensated in the last pay period of the district's fiscal year is 27.
- b. The total number of independent contractors to whom nonemployee compensation was paid in the last month of the district's fiscal year is 5.
- c. All compensation earned by or awarded to employees, whether paid or accrued, regardless of contingency is \$2,492,163.
- d. All compensation earned by or awarded to nonemployee independent contractors, whether paid or accrued, regardless of contingency is \$12,500.
- e. The District did not have any construction projects with a total cost of at least \$65,000 in the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023.

Special District Component Units, continued

- f. A budget variance based on the budget adopted under Section 189.016(4), Florida Statutes, before the beginning of the fiscal year being reported if the district amends a final adopted budget under Section 189.016(6), Florida Statutes, is located on pages 30-32.

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

- a. The mileage rate or rates imposed by the district is 3.75 mills.
- b. The total amount of ad valorem taxes collected by or on behalf of the district is \$4,827,545.
- c. The District does not have any bonds.

Additional Matters

Section 10.554(1)(i)3., Rules of the Auditor General, requires us to communicate noncompliance with provisions of contracts or grant agreements, or abuse, that have occurred, or are likely to have occurred, that have an effect on the financial statements that is less than material but warrants the attention of those charged with governance. In connection with our audit, we did not note any such findings.

Purpose of this Letter

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

Ashley, Brown & Smith, CPAs

Punta Gorda, Florida
June 20, 2024



PHONE: 941.639.6600 | FAX: 941.639.6115
366 E OLYMPIA AVE, PUNTA GORDA, FL 33950
AshleyBrownCPAS.com

Independent Accountant's Examination Report

Board of Commissioners
Tice Fire Protection and Rescue Service District
Fort Myers, Florida

We have examined the Tice Fire Protection and Rescue Service District's (the "District") compliance with Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, in regards to investments for the year ended September 30, 2023.

Management is responsible for the District's compliance with those requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the District's compliance based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the District complied, in all material respects, with the specified requirements referenced above. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether the District complied with the specified requirements. The nature, timing and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgement, including an assessment of the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

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

In our opinion, the District complied, in all material respects, with the aforementioned requirements for the year ended September 30, 2023.

Ashley, Brown & Smith, CPAs

Punta Gorda, Florida
June 20, 2024