

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND  
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

**SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
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SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board of Fire Commissioners  
South Walton Fire District

### **Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the pension trust fund of the South Walton Fire District (the District) as of and for the year ended September 30, 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

### **Management's Responsibility 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; this includes 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.

### **Auditors' Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. 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. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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 entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

## **Opinions**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the pension trust fund of the South Walton Fire District, as of September 30, 2021, and the respective changes in financial position thereof and the budgetary comparison for the General Fund for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

## **Other Matters**

### *Required Supplementary Information*

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

## **Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards**

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued a report dated January 10, 2022, on our consideration of the South Walton Fire District's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, 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 South Walton Fire District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

*Warren Averett, LLC*

Destin, Florida  
January 10, 2022

## MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

As management of South Walton Fire District (the District), we offer readers of the District's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of financial activities of the District for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2021.

### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- The assets and deferred outflows of resources of the District exceeded its liabilities and deferred inflows of resources by \$38.19 million (net position), which represents an increase of \$6.32 million (or 19.83%) over the prior year. Of this amount, \$17.64 million represents investments in capital assets (e.g. land, buildings, machinery, and equipment), \$1.24 million represents impact fees restricted by Florida statutes for items needed as a result of the expansion of District activities, and \$19.30 million is unrestricted and may be used to meet the District's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.
- The District's governmental fund reported an ending fund balance of \$19.60 million, an increase of \$5.65 million.
- At the end of the current fiscal year, unassigned fund balance in the General Fund was \$5.20 million or 24.25% of the total General Fund expenditures, which is available for spending at the District's discretion.

### OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This discussion and analysis intends to serve as an introduction to the District's basic financial statements. The District's basic financial statements comprise three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the financial statements. This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

#### Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the District's finances in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

The statement of net position presents information on all of the District's assets, deferred outflows, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources, with the difference reported as net position. This statement combines and consolidates the governmental fund's current financial resources (short-term spendable resources) with capital assets and long-term obligations. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of the financial position of the District.

The statement of activities presents information showing how the District's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flow in future fiscal periods.

The government-wide financial statements distinguish and demonstrate that, as a governmental activity, The District is principally supported by property tax, intergovernmental, and service revenues. The governmental activities of the District include public safety (fire and emergency medical services) and debt service. The government-wide financial statements are found on pages 11-12 of this report.

### **Fund Financial Statements**

A fund is a grouping of related accounts used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The District uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. The funds of the District can be divided into two categories: governmental funds and fiduciary funds.

## **FUNDS**

### **Governmental Funds**

Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year.

Such information may be useful in evaluating a government's near-term financial requirements. The basic governmental fund financial statements are found on pages 13-17 of this report.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the government's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balance provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities.

The District maintains one governmental fund (General Fund). Information is presented separately in the governmental fund balance sheet and in the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balance for the General Fund, which is considered a major fund.

The District adopts an annual appropriated budget for its General Fund. A budgetary comparison statement is provided for the General Fund to demonstrate compliance with this budget.

### **Fiduciary Funds**

Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the government. The District has one fiduciary fund (Pension Trust Fund). Fiduciary funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statements because the resources of those funds are not available to support the District's own programs. The accounting used for fiduciary funds is much like that used for the government-wide financial statement presentation (private-sector business). The basic fiduciary fund financial statements are found on pages 18-19 of this report.

## **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The notes provide additional information, which is essential to the full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. Beginning on page 20 of this report are the notes to the financial statements.

### **OTHER INFORMATION**

In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain required supplementary information concerning the District's progress in funding its obligation to provide pension and other post-employment benefits (OPEB) to its employees. This required supplementary information is found as listed in the table of contents of this report.

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

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. In the case of the District, assets and deferred outflows of resources exceeded liabilities and deferred inflows of resources by \$38.19 million (net position) as of September 30, 2021, as reported in Table 1.

The largest portion of the District's net position, \$17.64 million, or 46.19%, reflects its investment in capital assets (e.g. land, buildings, machinery, and equipment) less any related debt used to acquire those assets that is still outstanding.

The District uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although the District reports investment in its capital assets net of any related debt, it should be noted that the resources needed to repay that debt must be provided from other sources, since capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate such liabilities. The District had no such debt as of September 30, 2021.

**Table 1**  
**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT**  
**STATEMENTS OF NET POSITION**  
**AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2021 AND 2020**  
(In Thousands of Dollars, Rounded)

	<b>Governmental Activities</b>	
	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
Current, restricted, and other assets	\$ 20,853	\$ 15,392
Capital assets	17,643	17,597
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>38,496</b>	<b>32,989</b>
<b>Deferred outflows of resources</b>	<b>7,858</b>	<b>6,676</b>
Long-term liabilities outstanding	4,176	4,169
Other liabilities	513	860
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>4,689</b>	<b>5,029</b>
<b>Deferred inflows of resources</b>	<b>3,474</b>	<b>2,764</b>
Net investment in capital assets	17,643	17,597
Restricted	1,244	19
Unrestricted	19,304	14,256
<b>Total net position</b>	<b>\$ 38,191</b>	<b>\$ 31,872</b>

Deferred outflows and deferred inflows of resources are related to pensions and OPEB plans.

The balance of unrestricted net position of \$19.30 million may be used to meet the District's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.

**GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES**

Governmental activities increased the District's net position by \$6.32 million, as reported in Table 2. This increase is primarily attributable to an increase in taxable assessed property values within the District and increases in charges for services and capital grants and contributions during the year ending September 30, 2021, as compared to the prior year.



**Table 2**  
**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT**  
**STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET POSITION**  
**FOR THE YEARS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2021 AND 2020**  
(In Thousands of Dollars, Rounded)

	<b>Governmental Activities</b>	
	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Program revenues		
Charges for services	\$ 6,562	\$ 5,597
Operating grants and contributions	120	58
Capital grants and contributions	2,082	1,542
General revenues		
Property taxes	19,629	18,057
Other taxes	22	32
Other revenue	160	295
Total revenues	<u>28,575</u>	<u>25,581</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Current		
Public safety	<u>22,256</u>	<u>21,359</u>
Total expenses	<u>22,256</u>	<u>21,359</u>
<b>INCREASE IN NET POSITION</b>	6,319	4,222
<b>NET POSITION AT BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	<u>31,872</u>	<u>27,650</u>
<b>NET POSITION AT END OF YEAR</b>	<u>\$ 38,191</u>	<u>\$ 31,872</u>

**FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE GOVERNMENT'S FUNDS**

As noted earlier, the District uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

**Governmental Funds**

The focus of the District's governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the District's financing requirements. In particular, the unreserved fund balance may serve as a useful measure of a government's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

## GENERAL FUND BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS

During the year, revenues and expenditures were favorable compared to budgetary estimates. The most notable favorable variances occurred in the following areas:

- Ad valorem revenue exceeded the budgeted amount as a result of higher collection rate.
- Impact fees imposed on development within the District exceeded projections due to development in South Walton County being higher than expected.
- Charges for services exceeded budget as a result of a significant increase in bonfire permit fees and ambulance service fees exceeding management's expectations.
- Overall expenditures were below the amounts budgeted due to the intentional postponement of capital expenditures and payroll-related expenditures being less than expected.

## CAPITAL ASSET AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

### Capital Assets

The District's capital assets for its governmental activities as of September 30, 2021, totaled \$17.64 million (net of accumulated depreciation and amortization). Capital assets include land, buildings, improvements, machinery and equipment, software, etc. The additions to the District's capital assets for the current fiscal year were \$1,605,573, which was primarily for new ambulances and other vehicles, radios and EMS equipment. The net book value of the District's capital assets disposed was \$0, and depreciation and amortization expense in the current year totaled \$1,559,103.

**Table 3**  
**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT**  
**CAPITAL ASSETS**  
**(Net of Depreciation and Amortization)**  
**AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2021 AND 2020**

	<b>Governmental Activities</b>	
	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
Land	\$ 671,155	\$ 671,155
Buildings	11,117,948	11,447,678
Improvements other than buildings	102,950	102,054
Furniture and equipment	1,479,055	1,116,832
Trucks and automobiles	3,607,815	3,903,886
Intangible assets	77,893	99,083
Construction in progress	586,504	256,162
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 17,643,320</b>	<b>\$ 17,596,850</b>

Additional information on the capital assets of the District can be found in Note 6 of this report.

**Long-Term Liabilities**

At the end of the current fiscal year, the District had total long-term liabilities outstanding of \$2.17 million, which was comprised entirely of compensated absences. It should be noted that \$850,000 of the District's governmental fund balance has been assigned for compensated absences. The District had no debt as of September 30, 2021.

**Table 4  
SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
LONG-TERM LIABILITIES OUTSTANDING  
AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2021 AND 2020**

	<b>Governmental Activities</b>	
	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
Compensated absences	<u>\$ 2,170,497</u>	<u>\$ 2,136,522</u>

The District's long-term liabilities increased by \$33,975 during the 2021 fiscal year, which is attributable to the net increase in compensated absences. Additional information on the District's long-term liabilities can be found in Note 13 of this report.

**ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGETS AND RATES**

The State of Florida, by constitution, does not have a state personal income tax, and therefore the State operates primarily using sales, gasoline, and corporate income taxes. Local governments such as the District primarily rely upon property taxes and a limited array of permitted other sources (such as impact fees and user fees) for their governmental activities. There are a limited number of state shared revenues and recurring and non-recurring grants from both the State and Federal government, which provide funding for specific programs, projects, or activities.

The primary source of revenue for the District is property taxes, which were implemented in 1997. The District's millage rate for the current fiscal year and preceding four fiscal years was as follows:

<u>Fiscal year ended September 30,</u>	<u>Ad Valorem Millage Rate</u>
2021	1.0000
2020	1.0000
2019	1.0000
2018	.9799
2017	.9799

Current trends and forecasts indicate the District will continue to see an increase in growth with higher demands for service. The State's improving economic conditions are expected to result in an upward reassessment of property values within the District in the near future. The adopted budget for fiscal year 2022 estimates property tax revenues to increase by approximately 11.12%, as result of an increase in the taxable assessed value of property within the District. The District elected to set its millage rate for fiscal year 2022 at 1.0000.

## **REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION**

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of South Walton Fire District's finances for all those with an interest in the District's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional information should be addressed to the Fiscal Officer, 911 N County Highway 393, Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459. The District's website address is [www.swfd.org](http://www.swfd.org). Inquiries may also be sent via email to the fiscal agent at [cmartin@swfd.org](mailto:cmartin@swfd.org).

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

	<u><b>Primary Government</b></u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 13,903,537
Investments	4,621,415
Receivables, EMS	727,868
Receivables, other	19,119
Due from other governments	160,292
Prepaid expenses	163,873
Restricted assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	1,243,952
Capital assets	
Non-depreciable	1,257,659
Depreciable, net	16,385,661
Net pension asset	12,631
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u>38,496,007</u>
<b>DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>	<u>7,857,978</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
Accounts payable	219,491
Accrued liabilities	292,352
Unearned revenue	1,500
Non-current liabilities	
Due in more than one year	
Compensated absences	2,170,497
Other post-employment benefits	2,004,695
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<u>4,688,535</u>
<b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>	<u>3,473,844</u>
<b>NET POSITION</b>	
Net investment in capital assets	17,643,320
Restricted – impact fees	1,243,952
Unrestricted	19,304,334
<b>TOTAL NET POSITION</b>	<u><u>\$ 38,191,606</u></u>

See notes to the financial statements.



**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
GOVERNMENTAL FUND  
BALANCE SHEET  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

**ASSETS**

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 13,903,537
Investments	4,621,415
Receivables, EMS	727,868
Receivables, other	19,119
Due from other governments	160,292
Prepaid expenses	163,873
Restricted assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	1,243,952

**TOTAL ASSETS**

\$ 20,840,056

**LIABILITIES**

Accounts payable	\$ 219,491
Accrued liabilities	292,352
Unearned revenue	1,500
	<u>513,343</u>
Total liabilities	<u>513,343</u>

**DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES**

Unavailable resources	<u>727,868</u>
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**FUND BALANCE**

Nonspendable	163,873
Restricted for capital growth initiatives	1,243,952
Assigned for capital outlay	6,564,000
Assigned for compensatory time off	850,000
Assigned for contingencies	5,578,000
Unassigned	<u>5,199,020</u>
Total fund balance	<u>19,598,845</u>

**TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF  
RESOURCES, AND FUND BALANCE**

\$ 20,840,056

See notes to the financial statements.

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
GOVERNMENTAL FUND  
RECONCILIATION OF THE BALANCE SHEET TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

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Fund balance – total governmental fund (page 13)	\$ 19,598,845
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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 therefore are not reported in the funds.

Governmental non-depreciable assets	\$ 1,257,659	
Governmental depreciable and amortizable assets	28,592,078	
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	<u>(12,206,417)</u>	
		17,643,320

Deferred inflows of resources in the governmental funds are used to offset accounts receivables not expected to be collected within the period of availability of year-end. These receivables are a component of net position in the Statement of Net Position

Deferred inflows related to EMS receivable	727,868
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Other assets used in governmental activities are not current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental fund.

Net pension asset (liability)	12,631
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Deferred inflows of resources and deferred outflows of resources related to pensions and OPEB are not available/receivable or due/payable, respectively, in the current period and therefore are not reported in the governmental fund.

Deferred outflows of resources	7,857,978	
Deferred inflows of resources	<u>(3,473,844)</u>	
		4,384,134

Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the governmental fund.

Compensated absences	(2,170,497)	
Other postemployment benefits	<u>(2,004,695)</u>	
		<u>(4,175,192)</u>

Net position of governmental activities (page 11)	<u>\$ 38,191,606</u>
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See notes to the financial statements.



**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
GOVERNMENTAL FUND  
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

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**REVENUES**

Taxes	\$ 19,629,479
Intergovernmental	2,445,873
Impact fees	2,082,386
Charges for services	2,765,882
Miscellaneous and interest income	<u>148,775</u>
Total revenues	<u>27,072,395</u>

**EXPENDITURES**

Current	
Public safety	19,837,044
Capital outlay	<u>1,605,573</u>
Total expenditures	<u>21,442,617</u>

**EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES** 5,629,778

**OTHER FINANCING SOURCES**

Proceeds from sale of capital assets	<u>21,123</u>
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**NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE** 5,650,901

**FUND BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF YEAR** 13,947,944

**FUND BALANCE AT END OF YEAR** \$ 19,598,845

See notes to the financial statements.

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
GOVERNMENTAL FUND  
RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN  
FUND BALANCE TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

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Net change in fund balance – governmental fund (page 15) \$ 5,650,901

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

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures; however, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is depreciated or amortized over the estimated useful lives of the assets.

Expenditures for capital assets	\$ 1,605,573	
Less current year depreciation and amortization	<u>(1,559,103)</u>	
		46,470

Governmental funds do not report capital assets on the balance sheet; however, they are reported in the government-wide financial statements. Accordingly, proceeds received for disposal of capital assets are shown as income in the governmental financial statements and a gain or loss is reported in the statement of activities.

Proceeds from sale of capital assets	(21,123)	
Gain on sale of capital assets	<u>21,123</u>	
		-

EMS revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the fund. 1,481,584

Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and therefore are not reported as expenditures in the governmental fund.

Change in net pension asset and related deferrals	657,376	
Change in other post-employment benefits	(145,561)	
Change in long-term compensated absences	(33,975)	
Bad debt expense related to EMS receivables	<u>(1,337,554)</u>	
		<u>(859,714)</u>

Change in net position of governmental activities (page 12) \$ 6,319,241

See notes to the financial statements.

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
GOVERNMENTAL FUND  
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE –  
BUDGET TO ACTUAL  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>		<u>Actual</u>	<b>Variance with Final Budget – Positive (Negative)</b>
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>		
<b>REVENUES</b>				
Taxes	\$ 19,327,841	\$ 19,327,841	\$ 19,629,479	\$ 301,638
Intergovernmental	2,349,040	2,349,040	2,445,873	96,833
Impact fees	1,150,000	1,150,000	2,082,386	932,386
Charges for services	2,052,991	2,052,991	2,765,882	712,891
Miscellaneous	133,814	133,814	148,775	14,961
Total revenues	<u>25,013,686</u>	<u>25,013,686</u>	<u>27,072,395</u>	<u>2,058,709</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
Current				
Public safety	22,311,485	22,311,485	19,837,044	2,474,441
Capital outlay	2,182,863	2,182,863	1,605,573	577,290
Total expenditures	<u>24,494,348</u>	<u>24,494,348</u>	<u>21,442,617</u>	<u>3,051,731</u>
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES</b>	519,338	519,338	5,629,778	5,110,440
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES</b>				
Proceeds from sale of capital assets	-	-	21,123	21,123
<b>NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE</b>	519,338	519,338	5,650,901	5,131,563
<b>FUND BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	<u>7,485,497</u>	<u>7,485,497</u>	<u>13,947,944</u>	<u>6,462,447</u>
<b>FUND BALANCE AT END OF YEAR</b>	<u>\$ 8,004,835</u>	<u>\$ 8,004,835</u>	<u>\$ 19,598,845</u>	<u>\$ 11,594,010</u>

See notes to the financial statements.

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
FIDUCIARY FUND  
STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

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	<b>Pension Trust Fund</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,601,570
Investments	70,000,949
Interest receivable	<u>67,042</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	72,669,561
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
Accounts payable	<u>34,048</u>
<b>NET POSITION RESTRICTED FOR PENSIONS</b>	<u><u>\$ 72,635,513</u></u>

See notes to the financial statements.

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
FIDUCIARY FUND  
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

	<b>Pension Trust Fund</b>
<b>ADDITIONS</b>	
Contributions	
Employer	\$ 1,393,727
Plan members	479,736
State of Florida	968,968
Total contributions	2,842,431
Gain on investment	11,290,652
Less investment expense	(76,559)
Net gain on investment	11,214,093
Total additions	14,056,524
<b>DEDUCTIONS</b>	
Administrative expenses	86,845
Distributions to retirees	2,229,211
Distributions to terminated employees	28,888
Total deductions	2,344,944
<b>CHANGE IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION</b>	11,711,580
<b>NET POSITION RESTRICTED FOR PENSIONS</b>	
Beginning of year	60,923,933
End of year	\$ 72,635,513

See notes to the financial statements.

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

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**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND DESCRIPTION OF DISTRICT**

**Description of District**

South Walton Fire District (the District) is an unincorporated district created by Ordinance 83-6 of the Walton County Board of County Commissioners in 1983. The District's boundaries generally include all the land, excluding any federal land or land within a municipality, in that area of Walton County, south of the Intracoastal Waterway canal and Choctawhatchee Bay, west of the Walton-Bay County line and east of the Walton-Okaloosa County line.

The financial statements of the District have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted (GAAP) in the United States of America applicable to governmental units and the Uniform Accounting System mandated by Section 218.33, Florida Statutes. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for governmental accounting and financial reporting. The District's purpose is to protect lives, property, and natural resources through fire suppression, fire inspection, rescue, and emergency medical response.

**The Reporting Entity**

The District is governed by a seven (7) member commission, one elected at-large and six (6) from three specifically described geographic areas (two each) for four-year terms. The powers of this commission are regulated by ordinances and resolutions of the District, Walton County, and the Statutes of the State of Florida.

In evaluating the District as a reporting entity, management has considered all potential component units for which the District may or may not be financially accountable and, as such, be included within the District's financial statements. Management utilized criteria set forth in GASB pronouncements for determining financial accountability of potential component units in evaluating all potential component units.

As of September 30, 2021, the District had no component units.

**Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements**

The basic financial statements include both government-wide (based on the District as a whole) and fund financial statements. The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net position and the statement of activities) report information on the nonfiduciary activities of the primary government. Governmental activities, which normally are supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, are reported separately from business-type activities (the District has no business-type activities to report on the government-wide financial statements), which rely, to a significant extent, on fees and charges for support.

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

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**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND DESCRIPTION OF DISTRICT – CONTINUED**

**Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements – Continued**

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment is offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program revenues include 1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment and 2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Taxes and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenues.

Separate fund financial statements are provided for governmental funds and fiduciary funds, even though fiduciary funds are excluded from the government-wide financial statements.

**Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting**

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting, as are the fiduciary fund financial statements. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. The Pension Trust Fund recognizes revenue when contributions are due as there is a statutory requirement to make the contribution. Property taxes are recorded as revenues in the year for which they are levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

Governmental 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. For this purpose, the District considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 30 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures, as well as expenditures related to compensated absences and claims and judgments, are recorded only when payment is due.

Interest associated with the current fiscal period is considered to be susceptible to accrual and is recognized as revenue of the current fiscal period. Intergovernmental revenues collected and held by other governments at year-end on behalf of the District, are also recognized as revenue. All other revenue items are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received by the government.

The Walton County Tax Collector bills and collects property taxes for the District in accordance with the laws of the State of Florida. Property taxes attach as an enforceable lien on property as of the date of assessment and remain in effect until discharged by payment. Taxes are payable when levied (on November 1 or as soon thereafter as the assessment roll becomes available to the Tax Collector).

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

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**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND DESCRIPTION OF DISTRICT – CONTINUED**

**Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting – Continued**

The following is the property tax calendar:

Lien Date	January 1 <sup>st</sup>
Levy Date	November 1 <sup>st</sup>
Due Date	November 1 <sup>st</sup>
Delinquent Date	April 1 <sup>st</sup>

Discounts of 1% for each month taxes are paid prior to March 1<sup>st</sup> are granted.

Revenue recognition criteria for property taxes under the GASB requires that property taxes expected to be collected within 30 days of the current period be accrued. No accrual has been made for 2021 ad valorem taxes because property taxes are not legally due until subsequent to the end of the fiscal year. Current year taxes, which are uncollected as of the end of the fiscal year, are generally immaterial in amount and highly susceptible to uncollectibility, and therefore are not recorded as a receivable as of the balance sheet date.

**Basis of Presentation**

The financial transactions of the District are recorded in individual funds. Each fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts recording cash and other financial resources, together with all related liabilities and residual equities or balances and changes there-in, which are segregated for the purpose of carrying on specific activities or attaining certain objectives in accordance with special regulations, restrictions, or limitations.

Amounts reported as program revenues include 1) charges to customers or applicants for goods, services, or privileges provided, 2) operating grants and contributions, and 3) capital grants and contributions, including special assessments. Internally dedicated resources are reported as general revenues rather than as program revenues. Likewise, general revenues include all taxes.

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

It is the District's policy that a committed fund balance can only be modified or rescinded by a majority vote of the Board of Fire Commissioners by way of a resolution, which is the highest level of decision-making authority available to the Board. An assigned fund balance can be authorized for a specific purpose by the Board of Fire Commissioners. When committed, assigned, and unassigned resources are available for use, it is the government's policy to use committed resources first, then assigned, and then unassigned resources, as they are needed.



**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

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**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND DESCRIPTION OF DISTRICT – CONTINUED**

**Basis of Presentation – Continued**

The following two broad classifications are used to categorize the fund types used by the District:

***Governmental***

Governmental funds focus on the determination of financial position and changes in financial position (sources, uses, and balances of financial resources) and not net income. The District has the following major governmental fund.

*General Fund* – This is the District's primary operating fund and is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

***Fiduciary***

Fiduciary funds are used to account for the assets held on behalf of outside parties, including other governments, or on behalf of other funds within the District. The District has one type of fiduciary fund.

*Pension Trust Fund* – Used to report the resources that are required to be held in trust for the members and beneficiaries of the defined benefit pension plan administered by the Firefighters' Pension Fund Board of Trustees.

**Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, and Net Position or Fund Balance**

***Cash and Cash Equivalents***

Each fund's cash on hand, demand deposits, and short-term investments are considered cash and cash equivalents. For purposes of these statements, all highly liquid investments (including restricted assets) with a maturity of three months or less when purchased are considered to be cash equivalents.

***Deposits and Investments***

Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, requires the investment of surplus public funds and prescribes allowable investments, specifically the State of Florida Local Government Surplus Funds Trust Fund, direct obligations of the United States Government or other obligations unconditionally guaranteed by the United States Government, collateralized interest-bearing time deposits or savings accounts in state or federal banks or savings and loan associations, debt securities of the Federal Farm Credit Banks, the Federal Home Loan Mortgages Corporation, the Federal Home Loan Bank, the Government National Mortgage Association, the Federal National Mortgage Association, and securities of or other interest in certain investment companies or investment trusts, the portfolio of which is limited to United States Government obligations or repurchase agreements fully collateralized by such obligations. The District adheres strictly to the provisions of those cited Statutes, as well as with Chapter 280, Florida Statutes, which requires the District to maintain deposits only with "Qualified Public Depositories." The District's cash and investments are stated at fair value.

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

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**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND DESCRIPTION OF DISTRICT – CONTINUED**

**Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, and Net Position or Fund Balance – Continued**

***Deposits and Investments – Continued***

Pension trust funds may invest in annuity and life insurance contracts with life insurance companies, collateralized interest-bearing time deposits or savings accounts in state or federal banks or savings and loan associations, direct obligations of the United States Government or other obligations unconditionally guaranteed by the United States Government, bonds issued by the State of Israel, stocks, commingled funds administered by national or state banks, mutual funds or other evidences of indebtedness, provided that (a) all individually held securities in a commingled mutual fund must be issued or guaranteed by a corporation organized under the laws of the United States or its territories and in the case of bonds shall hold a rating in one of the three highest classifications by a rating service; (b) up to ten percent (10%) of the assets may be invested in foreign securities; (c) the Board shall not invest more than five percent (5%) of its assets in the common stock, capital stock, or convertible securities of any one issuing company, nor shall the aggregate investment in any one issuing company exceed five percent (5%) of the outstanding capital stock of that company; nor shall the aggregate of its investments in common stock, capital stock and convertible securities at cost exceed sixty percent (60%) of the assets of the fund. During the year, the District maintained cash and investments in accordance with retirement fund plan documents. Investments are stated at fair value.

***Receivables***

District management places all emergency medical services receivables greater than 120 days outstanding into a "Pending Collections" status, turns them over to a contracted collection agency, and removes them from the accounts receivable. If payment is subsequently collected by the collection agency, the District recognizes bad debt recovery income. Accordingly, the District has not recorded an allowance for any uncollectible trade accounts as of September 30, 2021.

***Capital Assets***

Capital assets, which include property and equipment, are reported in the governmental activities column in the government-wide financial statements.

Capital assets are defined by the District as assets with an initial cost more than the following:

Land	All
Buildings	\$10,000
Improvements other than buildings	\$10,000
Vehicles	\$ 5,000
Equipment and furnishings	\$ 1,500
Intangible assets (software)	\$ 1,500

Assets are recorded at cost if purchased or constructed, while donated capital assets are recorded at estimated acquisition value on the date of donation.

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND DESCRIPTION OF DISTRICT – CONTINUED**

**Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, and Net Position or Fund Balance – Continued**

***Capital Assets – Continued***

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets' lives are not capitalized.

Intangible assets include purchased and internally developed software. These assets are stated at cost, less accumulated amortization. Amortization is provided using the straight-line method.

Property and equipment of the primary government are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

Assets	Years
Buildings	5-40 Years
Improvements other than buildings	10-40 Years
Vehicles	3-15 Years
Equipment and furnishings	5-40 Years
Intangible assets (software)	3-5 Years

***Compensated Absences***

The current portion of paid time off (i.e., termination payments for unused leave, due for payment) is recorded as an expenditure and a liability in the General Fund, while the remainder is recorded as a liability in the government-wide financial statements. At September 30, 2021, the District's compensated absences liability is all long-term.

On September 11, 2018, the District ratified the 2018 through 2021 union contract (South Walton Professional Fire Fighters Association, IAFF Local 3516), which established the following policy for accruing paid time off for full-time 24-hour shift members and regular full-time communications members.

***Regular Full-Time 24-Hour Shift Members:***

Years of Service	Accrual Rate	Annual Accrual
Date of Hire	11.04 hours per pay period	287.00 hours
5th Anniversary	12.22 hours per pay period	317.68 hours
9th Anniversary	13.39 hours per pay period	348.10 hours
13th Anniversary	14.58 hours per pay period	379.04 hours
17th Anniversary	15.76 hours per pay period	409.72 hours

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND DESCRIPTION OF DISTRICT – CONTINUED**

**Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, and Net Position or Fund Balance – Continued**

***Compensated Absences – Continued***

*Regular Full-Time Communications Members:*

<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Accrual Rate</u>	<u>Annual Accrual</u>
Date of Hire	8.31 hours per pay period	216.00 hours
5th Anniversary	9.61 hours per pay period	249.96 hours
9th Anniversary	10.89 hours per pay period	283.24 hours
13th Anniversary	12.16 hours per pay period	316.26 hours
17th Anniversary	13.44 hours per pay period	349.54 hours

Non-Union personnel accrue according to the following schedule:

*24-Hour Staff Personnel:*

<u>Years of Employment</u>	<u>Accrual Rate</u>	<u>Annual Accrual</u>
Date of Hire	11.04 hours per pay period	287.00 hours
5th Anniversary	12.22 hours per pay period	317.68 hours
9th Anniversary	13.39 hours per pay period	348.10 hours
13th Anniversary	14.58 hours per pay period	379.04 hours
17 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	15.76 hours per pay period	409.72 hours

*8-Hour Staff Personnel:*

<u>Years of Employment</u>	<u>Accrual Rate</u>	<u>Annual Accrual</u>
Date of Hire	5.08 hours per pay period	132.08 hours
5th Anniversary	6.00 hours per pay period	136.00 hours
15th Anniversary	6.92 hours per pay period	179.92 hours

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND DESCRIPTION OF DISTRICT – CONTINUED**

**Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, and Net Position or Fund Balance – Continued**

***Compensated Absences – Continued***

According to the 2018-2021 Union contract, employees start to accrue paid time off on their first day of employment; however, no paid time off may be scheduled during the first year of employment. Additionally, accumulated paid time off may be carried over from year to year according to the schedule below;

Employment Date	PTO Carry Over Maximum
Prior to October 1, 2000	3,000 hours
Between October 1, 2000 and September 30, 2005	2,500 hours
After October 1, 2005	2,000 hours

***Compensatory Time Off***

Employees may accrue compensatory time off for overtime hours worked in accordance with the provisions of the Union Contract. Upon retirement, termination, resignation, or line of duty death, compensatory time will be paid out up to a maximum of 240 hours. Non-Contract exempt employees may accrue compensatory time off for overtime hours worked. Upon retirement, termination, resignation or line of duty death, compensatory time will be paid out up to a maximum of 244 hours.

***Sick Leave***

Communications personnel shall accrue sick leave at the rate of 4.85 hours per pay period. Twenty-four (24) hour staff employees shall accrue sick leave at the rate of 6.46 hours per pay period. Eight (8) hour staff employees shall accrue sick leave at the rate of 3.69 hours per pay period until their tenth (10<sup>th</sup>) anniversary when the sick leave accrual increases to 4.62 hours per pay period.

The amount of the unpaid accrued leave at September 30, 2021, was \$2,170,497.

Subsequent to year-end, on October 11, 2021, a new Union contract was signed which will remain in effect through September 30, 2024.

***Long-Term Obligations***

In the government-wide financial statements, any long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as a governmental activity in the statement of net position.

***Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources***

In addition to assets, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *deferred outflows of resources*, represents a consumption of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will *not* be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. See Note 7 for additional information on the District’s deferred outflows of resources.

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

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**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND DESCRIPTION OF DISTRICT – CONTINUED**

**Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, and Net Position or Fund Balance – Continued**

***Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources – Continued***

In addition to liabilities, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for *deferred inflows of resources*. This separate financial statement element, deferred inflows of resources, represents an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will *not* be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. See Note 7 for additional information on the District's deferred inflows of resources.

***Classification of Fund Balance***

GASB Statement No. 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*, establishes fund balance classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which a government is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources reported in governmental funds. Fund balance classifications are comprised of the following:

Nonspendable – Includes amounts that are (a) not in spendable form, or (b) legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The "not in spendable form" criterion includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash, for example: inventories, deposits, and prepaid items.

Restricted – Includes amounts that can be spent only for the specific purposes stipulated by external resource providers, constitutionally or through enabling legislation. Restrictions may effectively be changed or lifted only with the consent of resource providers.

Committed – Includes fund balance amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes that are internally imposed by a formal action (a Resolution) of the government's highest level of decision making authority, the Board of Fire Commissioners. Commitments may be changed or lifted only by the District taking the same formal action (a Resolution) that imposed the constraint initially. Contractual obligations are included to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed for use in satisfying those contractual obligations.

Assigned – Includes spendable fund balance amounts that are intended to be used for specific purposes that are neither considered restricted or committed. Intent is expressed by the Board of Fire Commissioners or a body (for example: a budget or finance committee) or official to which the Board of Fire Commissioners has delegated the authority to assign amounts to be used for specific purposes.

Unassigned – Includes residual positive fund balance within the General Fund, which has not been classified within the other above mentioned categories. Unassigned fund balance may also include negative balances if expenditures exceed amounts restricted, committed, or assigned for those specific purposes.

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

---

**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND DESCRIPTION OF DISTRICT – CONTINUED**

**Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, and Net Position or Fund Balance – Continued**

***Net Position***

Net position in the government-wide financial statements is categorized as net investment in capital assets, restricted, or unrestricted. The net investment in capital assets represents net position related to property and equipment, net of any related debt. Restricted net position represents the net position restricted by enabling legislation. The District considers restricted amounts to be spent first when both restricted and unrestricted resources are available.

**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 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.

**Subsequent Events**

Management has evaluated subsequent events and transactions that occurred between September 30, 2021 through January 10, 2022, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued, for possible recognition or disclosure in the financial statements.

**2. STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE, AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

**Budgets**

Annual budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles. An appropriated budget is adopted for the General Fund. The Board of Fire Commissioners must approve any revision to the budget. Comparisons are made of actual results to budgeted amounts. Budget data presented in the financial statements includes approved amendments to the original adopted budget. Budgetary data reflected in the financial statements are based on procedures required by Florida Statutes.

Budget workshops are held by the District in which proposed budget information is reviewed and discussed. A newspaper of general circulation in the District advertises the proposed budget. Public hearings are conducted to hear requests and concerns from the public. The final budget is adopted by resolution. Any subsequent amendments must be enacted in the same manner as the original budget, except individual line-item transfers, which are approved by the Board of Fire Commissioners. The legal level of budgetary control is at the fund level.

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

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**2. STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE, AND ACCOUNTABILITY – CONTINUED**

**Encumbrances**

Encumbrances represent commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods or services. Encumbrance accounting, under which purchase orders, contracts, and other commitments for the expenditure of resources are recorded in order to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation, is employed in the governmental funds. Encumbrances outstanding at year-end are reported as assignments of fund balances and do not constitute expenditures or liabilities because the commitments will be re-appropriated and honored during the subsequent year. As of September 30, 2021, the District reported encumbrances of \$0 in the General Fund.

**3. DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS**

**Deposits**

*Custodial Credit Risk, Concentration of Credit Risk and Interest Rate Risk*

The District maintains its deposits in one "Qualified Public Depository" as defined in Chapter 280, Florida Statutes. The provisions of this statute allow "Qualified Public Depositories" to participate in a multiple financial institution collateral pool to ensure the security for public deposits. All Qualified Public Depositories must place with the Treasurer of the State of Florida, securities which have a market value equal to 50% of all public funds on deposit at the end of each month in excess of any applicable deposit insurance. In the event of default by a qualified public institution, the state treasurer will pay public depositors all losses. Losses in excess of insurance and collateral will be paid through assessments between all Qualified Public Depositories. Under this method, all District deposits, including any certificates of deposit, are fully insured or collateralized with securities held by the State Treasurer in the District's name. Interest rate risk is mitigated with certificates of deposit with a 181-day or less maturity. The District does not have a formal policy for custodial credit risk, concentration of credit risk, or interest rate risk.

*Custodial Credit Risk, Concentration of Credit Risk and Interest Rate Risk*

At year-end, the value of the District's deposits was \$15,423,374, all of which was held by a qualified public depository under Chapter 280, Florida Statutes.



**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

**3. DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS – CONTINUED**

**Investments**

The types of investments that can be made by the District are restricted by state statutes, retirement fund plan documents, and other contractual agreements. A description of the requirements and the types of investments allowed can be found in Note 1.

As of September 30, 2021, investments held by the General Fund and Pension Trust Fund were as follows:

General Fund	\$ 4,621,415
Pension Trust Fund	<u>70,000,949</u>
	<u><u>\$ 74,622,364</u></u>

**Interest Rate Risk**

Both the District's investment policy and the pension trust fund's investment policy encourage matching investment maturities with known cash needs and anticipated cash flow requirements in order to manage interest rate risk. As of September 30, 2021, the District held the following investments and related maturities:

Fair Value	INVESTMENT MATURITIES (YEARS)					
	<1	1-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25
Investments subject to interest rate risk						
U.S. Treasury	\$ 8,060,306	\$ 538,119	\$ 3,574,619	\$ 2,965,159	\$ -	\$ 982,409
U.S. Government Agencies	444,352	269,506	174,846	-	-	-
CMO's and asset-backed securities	4,925,225	-	2,746	-	1,489,280	3,433,199
Corporate bonds and other debt	6,329,165	458,060	2,103,246	3,767,859	-	-
	19,759,048	<u>\$ 1,265,685</u>	<u>\$ 5,855,457</u>	<u>\$ 6,733,018</u>	<u>\$ 1,489,280</u>	<u>\$ 3,433,199</u>
Investments not subject to interest rate risk						
Mutual and exchange-traded funds	46,306,146					
Commingled real estate funds	8,557,170					
Total	<u>\$ 74,622,364</u>					

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

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**3. DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS – CONTINUED**

**Investments – Continued**

*Credit Risk*

The pension trust fund was in compliance with its investment policies described in Note 1 regarding credit risk as of September 30, 2021. The District's investment policy does not limit investments to those with specific credit ratings.

*Custodial Credit Risk*

Investments are diversified to the extent practicable to control the risk of loss resulting from over concentration of assets in a specific maturity, issuer, instrument, dealer, or bank. When investment funds are needed, in whole or in part, for the purposes originally intended or for more optimal investments, investments may be redeemed at market price and the proceeds placed into the proper account for immediate use or investment.

**4. FAIR VALUE OF INVESTMENTS**

The District measures and records its investments using fair value measurements guidelines established by generally accepted accounting principles. These guidelines recognize a three-tiered fair value hierarchy, as follows:

Level 1 – Quoted prices (unadjusted) for identical assets in active markets that a government can access at the measurement date.

Level 2 – Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for an asset, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3 – Unobservable inputs for an asset. The District had no Level 3 investments as of September 30, 2021.

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

**4. FAIR VALUE OF INVESTMENTS – CONTINUED**

The following table presents the investments carried at fair value on September 30, 2021:

	<u>Fair Value</u>	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level 3</u>
Debt securities				
U.S. Treasury securities	\$ 8,060,306	\$ 8,060,306	\$ -	\$ -
U.S. Government agency obligations	444,352	-	444,352	-
CMO's and asset-backed securities	4,925,225	-	4,925,225	-
Corporate bonds	6,329,165	-	6,329,165	-
Total debt securities	<u>19,759,048</u>	<u>8,060,306</u>	<u>11,698,742</u>	<u>-</u>
Equity securities and commingled funds				
Mutual and exchange-traded funds	46,306,146	-	46,306,146	-
Private-equity funds	2,487,436	-	2,487,436	-
Commingled real estate investment funds	6,069,734	-	6,069,734	-
Total equity securities and commingled funds	<u>54,863,316</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>54,863,316</u>	<u>-</u>
Total investments measured at fair value	<u>\$ 74,622,364</u>	<u>\$ 8,060,306</u>	<u>\$ 66,562,058</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

**5. RECEIVABLES**

Receivables at September 30, 2021, were as follows:

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
<b>Receivables</b>	
EMS - ambulance and rescue services	\$ 727,868
Other receivables	19,119
<b>Total Receivables</b>	<u>\$ 746,987</u>
<b>Due From Other Governments</b>	
Due from the County Tax Collector for excess fees on prior year taxes	\$ 152,362
Due from the State for supplemental firefighter compensation	7,930
<b>Total Due From Other Governments</b>	<u>\$ 160,292</u>

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
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SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

**6. CHANGES IN CAPITAL ASSETS**

Capital asset activity for the year ended September 30, 2021, was as follows:

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Increases</u>	<u>Deletions/ Transfers</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
<b>Governmental Activities</b>				
Capital assets not being depreciated and amortized				
Land	\$ 671,155	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 671,155
Construction in progress	256,162	586,505	(256,163)	586,504
Total capital assets not being depreciated and amortized	<u>927,317</u>	<u>586,505</u>	<u>(256,163)</u>	<u>1,257,659</u>
Capital assets being depreciated and amortized				
Buildings	15,139,119	96,083	-	15,235,202
Improvements other than buildings	268,652	11,500	-	280,152
Furniture and equipment	3,157,568	672,595	(48,304)	3,781,859
Trucks and automobiles	8,809,592	495,053	(166,551)	9,138,094
Intangibles	156,771	-	-	156,771
Total capital assets being depreciated and amortized	<u>27,531,702</u>	<u>1,275,231</u>	<u>(214,855)</u>	<u>28,592,078</u>
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization				
Buildings	(3,691,441)	(425,813)	-	(4,117,254)
Improvements other than buildings	(166,598)	(10,604)	-	(177,202)
Furniture and equipment	(2,040,736)	(310,372)	48,304	(2,302,804)
Trucks and automobiles	(4,905,706)	(791,124)	166,551	(5,530,279)
Intangibles	(57,688)	(21,190)	-	(78,878)
Total accumulated depreciation and amortization	<u>(10,862,169)</u>	<u>(1,559,103)</u>	<u>214,855</u>	<u>(12,206,417)</u>
Total capital assets being depreciated and amortized, net	<u>16,669,533</u>	<u>(283,872)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,385,661</u>
<b>Governmental Activities, Net</b>	<u>\$ 17,596,850</u>	<u>\$ 302,633</u>	<u>\$ (256,163)</u>	<u>\$ 17,643,320</u>

Depreciation and amortization expense was charged to functions/programs of the primary government as follows:

<b>Governmental Activities</b>	
Public safety	<u>\$ 1,559,103</u>
<b>Total Depreciation Expense – Governmental Activities</b>	<u>\$ 1,559,103</u>

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**7. DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES**

As of September 30, 2021, the District had various components of deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources as follows:

	<b><u>Governmental Activities</u></b>
Deferred outflows of resources	
Pension related	
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	\$ 2,362,695
Changes of assumptions	3,229,053
Differences between expected and actual experience	<u>1,846,862</u>
Total pension related deferred outflows of resources	<u>7,438,610</u>
OPEB related	
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	29,864
Changes of assumptions	246,433
Differences between expected and actual experience	<u>143,071</u>
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u><u>\$ 7,857,978</u></u>
Deferred inflows of resources	
Pension related	
Net differences between projected and actual earnings on investments	\$ 1,325,410
Changes of assumptions	1,556,085
Differences between expected and actual experience	<u>262,270</u>
Total pension related deferred inflows of resources	<u>3,143,765</u>
OPEB related	
Changes of assumptions	<u>330,079</u>
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u><u>\$ 3,473,844</u></u>

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**8. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN**

**Plan Description**

***Plan Administration***

The Plan is a single-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by the Plan’s Board of Trustees comprised of:

- a) Two District Board appointees,
- b) Two Members of the System elected by a majority of the other covered Firefighters, and
- c) A fifth Member elected by the other four and appointed by the District Board.

Each person employed by the Fire Department as a full-time Firefighter becomes a member of the system as a condition of his or her employment. All Firefighters are therefore eligible for plan benefits as provided for in the plan document and by applicable law.

*Plan Membership as of October 1, 2019, updated to September 30, 2020:*

Inactive Plan Members or Beneficiaries Currently Receiving Benefits	25
Inactive Plan Members Entitled to But Not Yet Receiving Benefits	7
Active Plan Members	87
	119

***Benefits Provided***

The Plan provides retirement, termination, disability, and death benefits as follows:

***Normal Retirement:***

Eligibility: Earlier of age 55 and the completion of 10 years of credited service or the completion of 25 years of credited service, regardless of age.

Benefit Amount: Members hired prior to October 1, 2011: 4% of average final compensation times credited service. Additionally, these Members will receive a \$550.00 per month supplemental retirement benefit, payable until the earlier of death or age 65 (normal retirement only). Members hired on and after October 1, 2011: 3% of average final compensation times credited service.

***Early Retirement:***

Eligibility: Age 50 and 10 years of credited service.

Benefit Amount: Accrued benefit, reduced by 3% per year prior to normal retirement date.

***Disability:***

Eligibility: a) 10 years of credited service for non-service related; coverage from date of hire for service-incurred. b) Total and permanent disability prior to normal retirement date.

Benefit Amount: Accrued benefit, but not less than 42% of average final compensation for service related disabilities.

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**8. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN – CONTINUED**

**Plan Description – Continued**  
***Benefits Provided – Continued***

***Death:***

Less Than 10 Years of Credited Service: Refund of member contributions.

10 Years or More: Beneficiary is entitled to either: 1) the benefits otherwise payable to the firefighter at his early or normal retirement date, payable for 10 years, or 2) a refund of Member contributions.

***Vesting (Termination):***

Less Than 10 Years of Credited Service: Refund of member contributions.

10 Years or More: Accrued benefit payable at age 50 or later, on reduced basis if to commence prior to normal retirement date, or a refund of member contributions.

***Contributions***

Employee: Members hired prior to October 1, 2011: 7.0% of base pay (8.0% from 10/7/2012 to 9/30/2013). Members hired on and after October 1, 2011: 3.5% of base pay (4.5% from 10/7/2012 to 9/30/2013).

Premium Tax: 1.85% tax on premiums for fire insurance policies.

District: Remaining amount necessary for payment of normal (current year's) cost and amortization of the accrued past service liability as provided in Part VII of Chapter 112, Florida Statutes.

***Net Pension Liability (Asset)***

The measurement date is September 30, 2020, and the measurement period for the pension expense was October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020. The reporting period is October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021.

The District's net pension liability (asset) was measured as of September 30, 2020. The total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability (asset) was determined as of that date.

***Actuarial Assumptions***

The total pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of October 1, 2019, updated to September 30, 2020, using the following actuarial assumptions:

Inflation	2.50%
Salary Increases	Service based
Discount Rate	7.25%
Investment Rate of Return	7.25%

***Mortality Rate Healthy Active Lives:***

Female: PubS.H-2010 for Employees, set forward one year.

Male: PubS.H-2010 for Employees, set forward one year.

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**8. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN – CONTINUED**

**Net Pension Liability (Asset) – Continued**

**Actuarial Assumptions – Continued**

*Mortality Rate Healthy Retiree Lives:*

Female: PubS.H-2010 (Above Median) for Healthy Retirees, set forward one year.

Male: PubS.H-2010 (Above Median) for Healthy Retirees, set forward one year.

The date of the most recent experience study for which significant assumptions are based upon was dated August 19, 2019.

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expenses and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. For 2021, the inflation rate assumption of the investment advisor was 2.50%. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation.

Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in the pension plan's target asset allocation as of September 30, 2021, are summarized in the following table:

<b>Asset Class</b>	<b>Target Allocation</b>	<b>Long Term Expected Real Rate of Return</b>
Domestic equity	45.00%	7.50%
International equity	15.00%	8.50%
Broad market fixed income	20.00%	2.50%
Global fixed income	5.00%	3.50%
Real estate	10.00%	4.50%
Alternative	5.00%	6.08%
Total	<u>100.00%</u>	

*Discount Rate:*

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.25%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that plan member contributions will be made at the current contribution rate and that District contributions will be made at rates equal to the difference between actuarially determined contribution rates and the member rate. Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.



**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**8. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN – CONTINUED**

**Net Pension Liability (Asset) – Continued**

Changes in the District's net pension liability (asset) for the year ended September 30, 2021, were as follows:

	<b>Increase (Decrease)</b>		
	<b>Total Pension Liability (a)</b>	<b>Plan Fiduciary Net Position (b)</b>	<b>Net Pension Liability (Asset) (a) – (b)</b>
Balances at September 30, 2020 (Valuation date of 10/01/2019)	\$ 54,504,380	\$ 54,052,805	\$ 451,575
Changes:			
Service cost	2,209,986	-	2,209,986
Interest	4,045,880	-	4,045,880
Change in benefit terms	-	-	-
Share plan allocation	69,284	-	69,284
Differences between expected and actual experience	664,267	-	664,267
Change in assumptions	1,132,954	-	1,132,954
Contributions – employer	-	1,109,331	(1,109,331)
Contributions – state	-	778,357	(778,357)
Contributions – employee	-	453,636	(453,636)
Contributions – buy back	102,801	102,801	-
Net investment income	-	6,305,347	(6,305,347)
Benefit payments, including refunds of employee contributions	(1,818,250)	(1,818,250)	-
Administrative expenses	-	(60,094)	60,094
Net changes	<u>6,406,922</u>	<u>6,871,128</u>	<u>(464,206)</u>
Balances at September 30, 2021 (Measurement date of 09/30/2020)	<u>\$ 60,911,302</u>	<u>\$ 60,923,933</u>	<u>\$ (12,631)</u>

The sensitivity of the net pension liability (asset) to changes in the discount rate are as follows:

	<b>1% Decrease</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>1% Increase</b>
	<b>6.25%</b>	<b>Discount Rate 7.25%</b>	<b>8.25%</b>
Sponsor's net pension liability (asset)	\$ 7,946,176	\$ (12,631)	\$ (6,605,383)

*Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position*

Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in a separately issued plan financial report. A separate audited financial report of the pension plan is not available.

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
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**8. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN – CONTINUED**

**Pension Expense and Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions**

For the year ended September 30, 2021, the District recognized pension expense of \$1,705,319. On September 30, 2021, the District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>
District and state contributions subsequent to the measurement date	\$ 2,362,695	\$ -
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	-	1,325,410
Changes of assumptions	3,229,053	1,556,085
Differences between expected and actual experience	1,846,862	262,269
Total	\$ 7,438,610	\$ 3,143,764

Deferred outflows of resources related to pension of \$2,362,695 resulting from District and state contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ended September 30, 2021. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year ended September 30:

2022		\$ (108,470)
2023		318,110
2024		525,737
2025		485,316
2026		243,403
Thereafter		468,055
		\$ 1,932,151

**9. OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB)**

**Plan Description**

The District's Retiree Health Care Plan (the Plan) is a single-employer defined benefit postemployment 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 one of the District's retirement plans to purchase health insurance at the District's group rate as mandated by Section 112.0801, Florida Statutes.

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**9. OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) – CONTINUED**

**Plan Description – Continued**

For purposes of applying paragraph 4 under GASB 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.

Plan Membership as of September 30, 2019, updated to September 30, 2020:

Inactive Plan Members or Beneficiaries Currently Receiving Benefits	3
Inactive Plan Members Entitled to But Not Yet Receiving Benefits	-
Active Plan Members	120
	123

*Benefits Provided*

A retired employee and his or her spouse are eligible to continue health insurance identical to active employees if they meet the eligibility for retirement under the applicable Plan. The retiree is responsible for paying the entire monthly premium for health coverage and that of any covered spouse or eligible dependents. Medicare is assumed to become primary upon attainment of age 65.

**Total OPEB Liability**

The measurement date is September 30, 2020. The measurement period for OPEB expense is October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020. The reporting period is October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021.

The District’s Total OPEB Liability was measured as of September 30, 2020.

*Actuarial Assumptions*

The Total OPEB Liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of September 30, 2020, using the following actuarial assumptions:

Inflation	2.50%
Salary Increases	Service based
Discount Rate	2.14%
Initial Trend Rate	7.50%
Ultimate Trend Rate	4.00%
Years to Ultimate	55

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
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**9. OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) – CONTINUED**

**Total OPEB Liability – Continued**

All mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 mortality tables. All mortality rates are those outlined in Milliman's July 1, 2019 Florida Retirement System (FRS) valuation report. All tables include fully generational adjustments for mortality improvements using gender-specific improvement scale MP-2018.

*Mortality - Active Lives*

For female (non-special risk) lives, the headcount-weighted PubG-2010 female employee table was used. For female special risk lives, the headcount-weighted PubS-2010 female employee table, set forward one year, was used. For male (non-special risk) lives, the headcount-weighted PubG-2010 male employee table, set back one year, was used. For male special risk lives, the headcount-weighted PubS-2010 male employee table, set forward one year, was used.

*Mortality - Inactive Healthy Lives*

For female (non-special risk) lives, the headcount-weighted PubG-2010 female above-median income healthy retiree table was used. For female special risk lives, the headcount-weighted PubS-2010 female above-median income healthy retiree table, set forward one year, was used. For male (non-special risk) lives, the headcount-weighted PubG-2010 male above-median income healthy retiree table, set back one year, was used. For male special risk lives, the headcount-weighted PubS-2010 male above-median income healthy retiree table, set forward one year, was used.

*Mortality - Disabled Lives*

For female (non-special risk) lives, the headcount-weighted PubG-2010 female disabled retiree table, set forward three years, was used. For female special risk lives, an 80% headcount-weighted PubG-2010 female disabled retiree, 20% headcount-weighted PubS-2010 female disabled retiree blended table was used.

*Discount Rate*

Given the District's decision not to fund the program, all future benefit payments were discounted using a high-quality municipal bond rate of 2.14%. The high-quality municipal bond rate was based on the S&P Municipal Bond 20 Year High Grade Rate Index as published by S&P Dow Jones Indices as of the measurement date. 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 and Poor's Ratings Services, Aa2 by Moody's or AA by Fitch. If there are multiple ratings, the lowest rating is used.

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
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**9. OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) – CONTINUED**

**Change in Net OPEB Liability**

	Increase (Decrease)		
	Total OPEB Liability (a)	Plan Fiduciary Net Position (b)	Net OPEB Liability (a) – (b)
Balances at September 30, 2020	\$ 1,580,825	\$ -	\$ 1,580,825
Changes for the year:			
Service cost	114,786	-	114,786
Interest	60,260	-	60,260
Changes of assumptions	273,814	-	273,814
Benefit payments	(24,990)		(24,990)
Net changes	<u>423,870</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>423,870</u>
Reporting period ending September 30, 2021	<u>\$ 2,004,695</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 2,004,695</u>

Difference between expected and actual experience reflects the impact of changes to the census data from the prior valuation to the valuation as of September 30, 2020. Changes in assumptions reflect a change in the discount rate from 3.58% for the reporting period ended September 30, 2020, to 2.14% for the reporting period ended September 30, 2021. Also reflected as assumption changes are updated health care costs and premiums, updated health care cost trends rates, updated termination and disability rates (90% assumed in line of duty), and updated mortality rates.

*Sensitivity of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate:*

The following presents the Total OPEB Liability of the District, as well as 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	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
	1.14%	2.14%	3.14%
Net OPEB liability	\$ 2,225,960	\$ 2,004,695	\$ 1,809,427

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
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**9. OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) – CONTINUED**

**Change in Net OPEB Liability – Continued**

*Sensitivity of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Healthcare Trend Rates:*

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

	<b>Healthcare Cost</b>		
	<b>1% Decrease</b>	<b>Trend Rates</b>	<b>1% Increase</b>
	<b><u>3.00%-6.50%</u></b>	<b><u>4.00%-7.50%</u></b>	<b><u>5.00%-8.50%</u></b>
Net OPEB liability	\$ 1,748,261	\$ 2,004,695	\$ 2,306,898

*OPEB Plan Fiduciary Net Position*

The plan is unfunded, so the OPEB plan has no fiduciary net position.

**OPEB Expense and Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB**

For the year ended September 30, 2021, the District recognized OPEB expense of \$175,425. On September 30, 2021, the District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	<b><u>Deferred Outflows of Resources</u></b>	<b><u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u></b>
Differences between Expected and Actual experience	\$ 143,071	\$ -
Changes of assumptions	246,433	330,079
Employer contributions subsequent to measurement date	29,264	-
Total	<b><u>\$ 418,768</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 330,079</u></b>

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

Year ended September 30:

2022	\$ (8,071)
2023	(8,071)
2024	(8,071)
2025	(8,071)
2026	(8,070)
Thereafter	<u>99,779</u>
	<b><u>\$ 59,425</u></b>

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
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**10. DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLANS**

The District offers employees a deferred compensation plan created in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 457. The plan is a tax-deferred supplemental retirement program that allows District employees to contribute a portion of their salary before federal income taxes to a retirement account. The assets are held in trust for the employee's benefit. The plan participants, individually, select and make changes in funding options made available by the independent plan administrator. Since plan participants select the investment fund or funds in which their deferred compensation accounts are invested, the District has no liability for investment losses. The District's fiduciary responsibility is to administer the plan properly and to assure the investment alternatives made available are reasonable. For non-high risk employees hired before October 2, 2006, the District contributes 10% of their base wage to the deferred compensation plan. These accounts are fully vested.

For non-high risk employees hired after October 2, 2006, the District offers a 401(A) plan, a governmental money purchase plan, with the same independent plan administrator, also with participant selected investments. The District contributes 7% of these employees' base wage for the first three years of employment and 10% thereafter to the 401(A) plan with vesting occurring over seven (7) years.

For the year ending September 30, 2021, contributions made to these plans by plan members totaled \$326,298 and contributions made by the District totaled \$79,589.

**11. RISK MANAGEMENT**

South Walton Fire District is exposed to various risks of loss related to tort; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The District purchases insurance through commercial carriers to cover these risks.

All full-time District employees are covered under the District's employee health benefit program. The District pays 100% of the health insurance premium for District employees and 50% of the premium for employee dependents. The District's health insurance program has two plans. One plan has no deductibles and a maximum out-of-pocket cost of \$1,500 per individual and \$3,000 per family, if network providers are used. The other plan offers a health savings account with a deductible of \$1,500 per individual and \$3,000 per family and a maximum out-of-pocket cost of \$4,500 per individual and \$9,000 per family, if network providers are used. Under these plans, the District is not obligated to reimburse for deductibles or out-of-pocket costs.

It is at the employee's discretion in determining in which plan to participate.

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
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**12. OPERATING LEASES**

**Lessor**

The District receives rental income from leasing land, buildings, and other structures under noncancelable operating agreements. Rental income recognized under these leases was \$51,462 for the year ended September 30, 2021.

Future minimum lease payments are as follows:

<b>Year Ending September 30</b>	<b>Governmental Activities</b>
2022	\$ 13,118
2023	13,118
2024	13,118
2025	13,118
2026	13,118
Total minimum lease payments	<u>\$ 65,590</u>

**Lessee**

In 1999, the District entered into a lease agreement with the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund of the State of Florida. This is a 50-year lease for two lots on Mack Bayou Road with the only consideration from the District being the establishment and operation of a fire department, which was satisfied by the construction and operation of the Mack Bayou station.



**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
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**13. LONG-TERM LIABILITIES**

**Changes in Long-Term Liabilities**

The following table summarizes changes in long-term liabilities of the District for the year ended September 30, 2021:

	<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>Additions</b>	<b>Reductions</b>	<b>Ending Balance</b>
<b>Governmental Activities</b>				
Compensated absences	\$ 2,136,522	\$ 1,908,609	\$ (1,874,634)	\$ 2,170,497
<b>Total Governmental Activities</b>	<b>\$ 2,136,522</b>	<b>\$ 1,908,609</b>	<b>\$ (1,874,634)</b>	<b>\$ 2,170,497</b>

**Description of Long-Term Liabilities Outstanding**

	<b>Current</b>	<b>Long-Term</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Accrued Compensated Absences</b>			
Total long-term portion of accumulated, vested paid time off for governmental fund types	\$ -	\$ 2,170,497	\$ 2,170,497
<b>Total Governmental-Type Activities</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 2,170,497</b>	<b>\$ 2,170,497</b>

**REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN NET PENSION LIABILITY (ASSET)  
AND RELATED RATIOS  
(UNAUDITED)**

Fiscal year ending September 30, Measurement date ending September 30,	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
<b>Total Pension Liability</b>								
Service cost	\$ 2,209,986	\$ 1,978,247	\$ 1,782,394	\$ 1,571,972	\$ 1,513,160	\$ 1,861,588	\$ 1,779,595	\$ 1,647,773
Interest	4,045,880	3,702,378	3,300,501	2,925,711	2,533,992	2,590,317	2,279,605	1,995,347
Change in excess state money		-	-	-	(399,766)	179,685	128,212	-
Share plan allocation	69,284	42,799	20,864	4,899	422,953	-	-	-
Change in benefits	-	(4,505)						
Differences between expected and actual experience	664,267	501,045	833,461	292,955	712,281	(786,803)	-	-
Changes of assumptions	1,132,954	(351,043)	1,489,578	2,773,063	-	(3,878,418)	-	-
Contributions – buy back	102,801	24,084	160,587	103,630	-	89,010	-	-
Benefit payments, including refunds of employee contributions	(1,818,250)	(964,334)	(471,935)	(422,780)	(266,641)	(196,017)	(318,562)	(124,883)
<b>Net change in total pension liability</b>	<b>6,406,922</b>	<b>4,928,671</b>	<b>7,115,450</b>	<b>7,249,450</b>	<b>4,515,979</b>	<b>(140,638)</b>	<b>3,868,850</b>	<b>3,518,237</b>
<b>Total pension liability – beginning</b>	<b>54,504,380</b>	<b>49,575,709</b>	<b>42,460,259</b>	<b>35,210,809</b>	<b>30,694,830</b>	<b>30,835,468</b>	<b>26,966,618</b>	<b>23,448,381</b>
<b>Total pension liability – ending (a)</b>	<b>\$ 60,911,302</b>	<b>\$ 54,504,380</b>	<b>\$ 49,575,709</b>	<b>\$ 42,460,259</b>	<b>\$ 35,210,809</b>	<b>\$ 30,694,830</b>	<b>\$ 30,835,468</b>	<b>\$ 26,966,618</b>
<b>Plan Fiduciary Net Position</b>								
Contributions – employer	\$ 1,109,331	\$ 904,000	\$ 546,000	\$ 430,000	\$ 1,151,968	\$ 1,210,923	\$ 1,354,591	\$ 1,210,886
Contributions – state	778,357	725,387	681,518	649,588	686,162	756,247	704,774	632,791
Contributions – employee	453,636	452,684	431,182	421,681	421,011	405,366	397,215	438,276
Contributions – buy back	102,801	24,084	160,587	103,630	-	89,010	-	-
Net investment income	6,305,347	1,427,036	4,515,886	5,320,373	3,664,067	182,373	3,110,572	3,346,835
Benefit payments, including refunds of employee contributions	(1,818,250)	(964,334)	(471,935)	(422,780)	(266,641)	(196,017)	(318,562)	(124,883)
Administrative expenses	(60,094)	(49,031)	(53,221)	(63,823)	(42,840)	(43,231)	(30,188)	(25,992)
<b>Net change in plan fiduciary net position</b>	<b>6,871,128</b>	<b>2,519,826</b>	<b>5,810,017</b>	<b>6,438,669</b>	<b>5,613,727</b>	<b>2,404,671</b>	<b>5,218,402</b>	<b>5,477,913</b>
<b>Plan fiduciary net position – beginning</b>	<b>54,052,805</b>	<b>51,532,979</b>	<b>45,722,962</b>	<b>39,284,293</b>	<b>33,670,566</b>	<b>31,265,895</b>	<b>26,047,493</b>	<b>20,569,580</b>
<b>Plan fiduciary net position – ending (b)</b>	<b>60,923,933</b>	<b>54,052,805</b>	<b>51,532,979</b>	<b>45,722,962</b>	<b>39,284,293</b>	<b>33,670,566</b>	<b>31,265,895</b>	<b>26,047,493</b>
<b>Net pension liability (asset) – ending (a) – (b)</b>	<b>\$ (12,631)</b>	<b>\$ 451,575</b>	<b>\$ (1,957,270)</b>	<b>\$ (3,262,703)</b>	<b>\$ (4,073,484)</b>	<b>\$ (2,975,736)</b>	<b>\$ (430,427)</b>	<b>\$ 919,125</b>
<b>Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability (asset)</b>	100.02%	99.17%	103.95%	107.68%	111.57%	109.69%	101.40%	96.59%
<b>Covered employee payroll *</b>	\$ 7,414,380	\$ 7,133,977	\$ 6,630,379	\$ 6,383,199	\$ 6,237,566	\$ 6,438,507	\$ 5,790,475	\$ 5,638,637
<b>Net pension liability (asset) as a percentage of covered employee payroll</b>	-0.17%	6.33%	-29.52%	-51.11%	-65.31%	-46.22%	-7.43%	16.30%

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN NET  
PENSION LIABILITY (ASSET) AND RELATED RATIOS  
(UNAUDITED)**

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The Schedule of Changes in Net Pension Liability (Asset) is not available for years prior to 2013.

\*The covered employee payroll amounts are in compliance with GASB No. 82, except for the 09/30/2015 measurement period, which includes DROP payroll.

*Changes in Benefit Terms*

For measurement date 9/30/2019, amounts reported as changes of benefit terms resulted from the provisions of Chapter 112.1816, Florida Statutes. The Statutes state that, effective July 1, 2019, a death or disability (under the Plan's definition of total and permanent disability) for a Firefighter due to the diagnosis of cancer or circumstances that arise out of the treatment of cancer will be treated as duty-related.

*Changes of Assumptions*

For measurement date 9/30/2020, as required by Chapter 2015-157, Laws of Florida, the assumed rates of mortality were changed to the rates used in the July 1, 2019 actuarial valuation for special risk lives, with appropriate risk and collar adjustments made based on plan demographics.

For measurement date 09/30/2019, amounts reported as changes in assumptions resulted from an experience study dated August 19, 2019, the following changes have been incorporated:

- The assumed rates of termination have been amended from an age-based table to a service-based table to better align with actual plan experience.
- The assumed rates of disablement for active members have been amended to better align with actual plan experience.
- In anticipation of compliance with Chapter 2019-21, Laws of Florida, the in-line-of duty assumption has been increased from 75% of disablements to 90% of disablements.

For measurement date 9/30/2018, amounts reported as changes of assumptions resulted from lowering the investment rate of return from 7.50% to 7.25%.

For measurement date 9/30/2017, as required by Chapter 2015-157, Laws of Florida, the assumed rates of mortality have been changed from those in the July 1, 2015 FRS valuation report to those used in the July 1, 2016 FRS valuation report. Additionally, the investment rate of return was lowered from 8.00% to 7.50%.

For the measurement date 09/30/2016, the inflation assumption rate was lowered from 3.00% to 2.50%, matching the long-term inflation assumption utilized by the Plan's investment consultant.

For the measurement date 09/30/2015, amounts reported as changes of assumptions were resulted from mandatory revisions to the mortality table to incorporate generational mortality improvements. Furthermore, the salary increase assumption has been changed from 7.50% per year to a service-based assumption that more closely aligns with actual plan experience.

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS  
(UNAUDITED)**

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Actuarially determined contribution	\$ 1,818,404	\$ 1,586,587	\$ 1,206,557	\$ 1,162,676	\$ 1,725,074	\$ 1,787,485	\$ 1,931,153
Contributions in relation to the actuarially determined contributions	<u>1,818,404</u>	<u>1,586,588</u>	<u>1,206,654</u>	<u>1,074,689</u>	<u>1,814,944</u>	<u>1,787,485</u>	<u>1,931,153</u>
<b>Contribution deficiency (excess)</b>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (1)</u>	<u>\$ (97)</u>	<u>\$ 87,987</u>	<u>\$ (89,870)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
<b>Covered employee payroll*</b>	\$ 7,414,380	\$ 7,133,977	\$ 6,630,379	\$ 6,383,199	\$ 6,237,566	\$ 6,438,507	\$ 5,790,475
<b>Contributions as a percentage of covered employee payroll</b>	24.53%	22.24%	18.20%	16.84%	29.10%	27.76%	33.35%

\* The Covered Employee Payroll numbers shown are in compliance with GASB 82, except for the 09/30/2015 measurement period which includes DROP payroll.

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS  
(UNAUDITED)**

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Valuation Date:           October 1, 2018

Actuarially determined contribution rates are calculated as of October 1, two years prior to the end of the fiscal year in which contributions are reported.

**Methods and assumptions used to determine contribution rates:**

Mortality Rate

The assumed rates of mortality are mandated by Chapter 2015-157, Laws of Florida. The law mandates the use of the assumption used in either of the two most recent valuations of the Florida Retirement Systems ("FRS"). The above rates are those outlined in the July 1, 2016 FRS actuarial valuation report for special risk employees. We feel this assumption sufficiently accommodates future mortality improvements.

Interest Rate

7.25% per year compounded annually, net of investment-related expenses. This is supported by the target asset allocation of the trust and the expected long-term return by asset class.

Retirement Age

Earlier of age 55 and 10 years of service or the completion of 25 years of service. Also, any member who has reached Normal Retirement is assumed to continue employment for one additional year. We feel this assumption is reasonable based upon the plan provisions.

Early Retirement

Commencing with the earliest Early Retirement Age (50), members are assumed to retire with an immediate subsidized benefit at the rate of 5% per year. We feel this assumption is reasonable based upon the plan provisions.

Funding Method

Entry Age Normal Actuarial Cost Method

Disability Rates

It is assumed that 90% of disablements are service related. This assumption was developed from those used by other plans containing Florida municipal firefighters.

Termination Rates

This assumption was developed from those used by other plans containing Florida municipal firefighters.

Payroll Growth

2.00% per year. This assumption complies with Part VII of Chapter 112, Florida Statutes.

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS  
(UNAUDITED)**

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Salary Increases

<u>Service</u>	<u>Increase</u>
0	12.0%
1	11.5%
2	11.0%
3	10.5%
4	10.0%
5	9.0%
6	8.0%
7	7.0%
8	6.0%
9	5.0%
10+	4.0%

The assumed rates were determined based on an experience analysis performed in conjunction with the August 19, 2019 actuarial valuation.

Asset Valuation Method

All assets are valued at market value with an adjustment made to uniformly spread actuarial investment gains and losses (as measured by actual market value investment return against expected market value investment return) over a three-year period.

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
 REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
 NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS – CONTINUED  
 (UNAUDITED)**

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Termination and Disability Rate Tables

Termination Rates:

Service	% Terminating During the Year
0	7.00%
1 - 6	2.00%
7 - 9	0.00%
10+	5.00%

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Disability Rates:

Age	% Becoming Disabled During the Year
20	0.12%
25	0.15%
30	0.18%
35	0.24%
40	0.27%
45	0.41%
50	0.70%
55	1.50%
60	3.60%
61+	5.00%



**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
 REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
 SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENT RETURNS  
 SEPTEMBER 30, 2021  
 (UNAUDITED)**

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	9/30/2020	9/30/2019	9/30/2018	9/30/2017	9/30/2016	9/30/2015	9/30/2014	9/30/2013
Annual Money-Weighted Rate of Return								
Net of Investment Expense	18.42%	2.77%	9.82%	13.49%	10.72%	0.57%	11.64%	15.50%

Note: This information is not available for previous years.

**SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT  
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN NET OPEB  
LIABILITY (ASSET) AND RELATED RATIOS  
(UNAUDITED)**

Fiscal year ending September 30, Measurement date ending September 30,	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>
<b>Total OPEB Liability</b>				
Service cost	\$ 114,786	\$ 91,868	\$ 100,374	\$ 111,340
Interest	60,260	62,514	55,051	47,573
Differences between expected and actual experience	-	178,839	-	-
Changes of assumptions	273,814	(152,892)	(157,747)	(184,679)
Benefit payments	(24,990)	(6,288)	(5,795)	(5,329)
<b>Net change in total OPEB liability</b>	423,870	174,041	(8,117)	(31,095)
<b>Total OPEB liability – beginning</b>	1,580,825	1,406,784	1,414,901	1,445,996
<b>Total OPEB liability – ending</b>	<u>\$ 2,004,695</u>	<u>\$ 1,580,825</u>	<u>\$ 1,406,784</u>	<u>\$ 1,414,901</u>
<b>Covered employee payroll <sup>1</sup></b>	\$ 9,141,660	\$ 8,617,704	\$ 8,292,772	\$ 7,792,770
<b>Sponsor's Total OPEB Liability as a percentage of covered employee payroll</b>	21.93%	18.34%	16.96%	18.16%

<sup>1</sup> FY 2020 Covered Payroll, projected based on actual FY 2019 Covered Payroll

**Notes to the Schedule of Changes in Net OPEB Liability (Asset) and Related Ratios**

*Difference Between Expected and Actual Experience*

Difference between expected and actual experience reflects the impact of changes to the census data from the prior valuation to the valuation as of September 30, 2019.

*Changes of Assumptions*

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

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 are updated health care costs and premiums, updated health care cost trend rates, updated termination and disability rates (90% assumed in line of duty), and updated mortality rates.

*Benefit Payments*

The plan sponsor did not provide actual net benefits paid by the Plan for the fiscal year ending on September 30, 2021. Expected net benefit payments produced by the valuation model for the same period are shown in the table above.

## COMPLIANCE SECTION

**INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON AN EXAMINATION OF  
COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 10.550,  
RULES OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL**

To the Board of Fire Commissioners  
South Walton Fire District

We have examined South Walton Fire District's (the District's) compliance with the following requirements for the year ended September 30, 2021.

- (1) Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, with regards to investments.

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 judgment, 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 South Walton Fire District complied, in all material respects, with the aforementioned requirements for the year ended September 30, 2021.

*Warren Averett, LLC*

Destin, Florida  
January 10, 2022

**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 Board of Fire Commissioners  
South Walton Fire District

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, the major fund, and the pension trust fund of the South Walton Fire District (the District), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated January 10, 2022.

**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 opinions 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 a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

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

**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 financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

**Purpose of this Report**

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

*Warren Averett, LLC*

Destin, Florida  
January 10, 2022

## MANAGEMENT LETTER

To the Board of Fire Commissioners  
South Walton Fire District

### **Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the financial statements of the South Walton Fire District, as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2021, and have issued our report thereon dated January 10, 2022.

### **Auditors' 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 Auditors' 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 Accountants' Report on an Examination of Compliance Requirements in Accordance with Chapter 10.550, *Rules of the Auditor General*. Disclosures in those reports are dated January 10, 2022, 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 annual financial audit report. There were no such findings and recommendations made in the preceding annual financial 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. This information can be found in Note 1 to the financial statements. There are no component units related to the District.

### **Financial Condition and Management**

Section 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 identification of 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.

### **Financial Condition and Management – Continued**

Pursuant to Sections 10.554(1)(i)5.b. and 10.556(8), *Rules of the Auditor General*, we applied financial condition assessment procedures. 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 the 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.

### **Specific Information**

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 as 161.
- b. The total number of independent contractors to whom nonemployee compensation was paid in the last month of the district's fiscal year as 0.
- c. All compensation earned by or awarded to employees, whether paid or accrued regardless of contingency as \$12,817,079.
- d. All compensation earned by or awarded to nonemployee independent contractors, whether paid or accrued, regardless of contingency as \$0.
- e. The District does not have any construction project with a total cost of at least \$65,000 approved by the District that is scheduled to begin on or after October 1 of the fiscal year being reported.
- 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, as \$5,131,563.

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 as 1.000.
- b. The total amount of ad valorem taxes collected by or on behalf of the district as \$19,629,479.
- c. The District does not have any outstanding 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 which 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 Fire Commissioners, and applicable management, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

We greatly appreciate the assistance and cooperation extended to us during our audit.

*Warren Averett, LLC*

Destin, Florida  
January 10, 2022