BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

DECEMBER 31, 2023

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

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DECEMBER 31, 2023

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ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT
Year Ended December 31, 2023

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BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

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Financial Section

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Independent Auditor's Report

County Commissioner
Bleckley County Georgia
Cochran, Georgia

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Bleckley County, Georgia, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Bleckley County, Georgia's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, based on our audit and the report of the other auditors, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Bleckley County, Georgia, as of December 31, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We did not audit the financial statements of Bleckley County Board of Health, which represent 100 percent of the assets, net position and revenues of the discretely presented component unit. Those financial statements were audited by other auditors whose report thereon has been furnished to us, and our opinion, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for the discretely presented component unit, is based solely on the report of the other auditors.

Basis for Opinions

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

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

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

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

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Schedule of Changes in the County's Net Pension Liability and Related Ratios, Schedule of Pension Contributions and budgetary comparison information on pages 31-37 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

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

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise Bleckley County, Georgia's basic financial statements. The combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements and schedules and the schedule of expenditures of special purpose local option sales tax, as required by the Official Code of Georgia ("O.C.G.A.") §48-8-121, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements and schedules and the schedule of expenditures of special purpose local option sales tax are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 26, 2024 on our consideration of Bleckley County, Georgia's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of 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 Bleckley County, Georgia's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Nichols, Cauley & Associates, LLC

Dublin, Georgia
June 26, 2024

Basic Financial Statements

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 1

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
December 31, 2023

	Primary Government	Component Unit
	Governmental Activities	Bleckley County Board of Health
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 8,471,514	$ 1,190,106
Receivables, net of allowances for uncollectibles:		
Taxes	1,067,926	-
Accounts	3,450	16,041
Intergovernmental	628,952	-
Prepaid expenses	131,687	-
Inventory, at cost	22,028	-
Capital assets:		
Land and other non-depreciable assets	769,463	-
Other capital assets, net of depreciation	15,151,968	1,929
Total assets	26,246,988	1,208,076
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	300,217	134,447
Total assets and deferred outflows of resources	26,547,205	1,342,523
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	485,253	-
Intergovernmental payable	101,703	-
Accrued expenses	92,101	-
Unearned revenue	147,309	-
Landfill post-closure care costs	52,856	-
Long-term liability:		
Landfill post-closure care costs - noncurrent	521,074	-
Net pension liability	1,099,953	270,144
Net OPEB liability	-	17,955
Due within one year	688,377	1,760
Due in more than one year	3,638,071	7,039
Total liabilities	6,826,696	296,898
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	53,798	29,526
Total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources	6,880,494	326,424
NET POSITION		
Net investment in capital assets	11,772,417	1,929
Restricted for:		
Judicial	131,651	-
Public safety	85,146	-
Public works	997,251	-
Health and welfare	87,885	-
Capital projects	2,235,263	-
Prior year program income	-	194,243
Unrestricted	4,357,098	819,927
Total net position	$ 19,666,711	$ 1,016,099

The Accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 2

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
Year Ended December 31, 2023

Functions/Programs	Expenses	Program Revenues: Charges for Services	Program Revenues: Operating Grants and Contributions	Program Revenues: Capital Grants and Contributions	Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position: Primary Government: Governmental Activities	Primary Government: Total	Component Unit: Bleckley County Board of Health
Primary Government							
Governmental Activities:							
General government	$ 2,412,604	$ 145,010	$ 871,301	$ -	$ (1,396,293)	$ (1,396,293)	$ -
Judicial	853,406	964,393	-	-	110,987	110,987	-
Public safety	4,670,073	503,322	24,616	-	(4,142,135)	(4,142,135)	-
Public works	1,591,569	121,531	806,496	-	(663,542)	(663,542)	-
Health and welfare	709,445	-	309,008	-	(400,437)	(400,437)	-
Culture and recreation	208,693	-	-	-	(208,693)	(208,693)	-
Housing and development	164,297	-	-	-	(164,297)	(164,297)	-
Interest on long-term debt	131,463	-	-	-	(131,463)	(131,463)	-
Total governmental activities	10,741,550	1,734,256	2,011,421	-	(6,995,873)	(6,995,873)	-
Component Unit							
Bleckley County Public Health Center	496,772	169,818	351,355	-	-	-	24,401
Total component units	$ 496,772	$ 169,818	$ 351,355	$ -	-	-	24,401
General Revenues:							
General property taxes					5,379,258	5,379,258	-
Vehicle taxes					750,809	750,809	-
Sales taxes					3,567,024	3,567,024	-
Other taxes					665,739	665,739	-
Unrestricted investment earnings					67,855	67,855	-
Miscellaneous					34,888	34,888	12,247
Total general revenues and transfers					10,465,573	10,465,573	12,247
Change in net position					3,469,700	3,469,700	36,648
Net position-beginning					16,197,011	16,197,011	979,451
Net position-ending					$ 19,666,711	$ 19,666,711	$ 1,016,099

The Accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 3

BALANCE SHEET
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
December 31, 2023

	General	2019 SPLOST	ARPA	E911	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS						
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 4,548,345	$ 2,176,891	$ 268,802	$ 213,012	$ 1,264,464	$ 8,471,514
Receivables, net of allowances for uncollectibles:						
Taxes	1,067,926	-	-	-	-	1,067,926
Accounts	3,450	-	-	-	-	3,450
Intergovernmental	386,795	160,075	-	17,540	64,542	628,952
Interfund balance	352,045	-	-	-	-	352,045
Prepaid expenditures	131,687	-	-	-	-	131,687
Inventory, at cost	22,028	-	-	-	-	22,028
Total assets	$ 6,512,276	$ 2,336,966	$ 268,802	$ 230,552	$ 1,329,006	$ 10,677,602
LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES						
Liabilities:						
Accounts payable	$ 458,180	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 27,073	$ 485,253
Intergovernmental payable	-	101,703	-	-	-	101,703
Interfund balance	-	-	121,493	230,552	-	352,045
Unearned grant revenue	-	-	147,309	-	-	147,309
Accrued expenses	92,101	-	-	-	-	92,101
Total liabilities	550,281	101,703	268,802	230,552	27,073	1,178,411
Deferred Inflows of Resources						
Unavailable intergovernmental revenues	245,994	-	-	-	-	245,994
Unavailable property taxes	683,179	-	-	-	-	683,179
Total deferred inflows of resources	929,173	-	-	-	-	929,173
Total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources	1,479,454	101,703	268,802	230,552	27,073	2,107,584
Fund Balances:						
Nonspendable:						
Prepaid expenses	131,687	-	-	-	-	131,687
Inventory	22,028	-	-	-	-	22,028
Restricted for:						
Judicial	-	-	-	-	131,651	131,651
Public safety	-	-	-	-	85,146	85,146
Public works	-	-	-	-	997,251	997,251
Health and welfare	-	-	-	-	87,885	87,885
Capital projects	-	2,235,263	-	-	-	2,235,263
Unassigned	4,879,107	-	-	-	-	4,879,107
Total fund balances	5,032,822	2,235,263	-	-	1,301,933	8,570,018
Total liabilities and fund balances	$ 6,512,276	$ 2,336,966	$ 268,802	$ 230,552	$ 1,329,006	$ 10,677,602

The Accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 4

RECONCILIATION OF NET POSITION – GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS IN THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION TO TOTAL FUND BALANCE – GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS ON THE BALANCE SHEET

December 31, 2023

Fund balance - total governmental funds	$	8,570,018
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.		15,921,431
Some governmental revenues will not be collected for several months after the year end and are deferred in the governmental funds		929,173
Deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions represent unamortized difference between actual and projected income and changes in assumptions that accounting standards require to be amortized into income over future periods. These deferrals do not constitute current financial resources and are not reported in the funds.		246,419
Some liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds:		
Notes payable		(4,149,014)
Net pension liability		(1,099,953)
Post-closure care costs		(573,930)
Compensated absences		(177,433)
Net position of governmental activities	$	19,666,711

The Accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 5

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
Year Ended December 31, 2023

	General	2019 SPLOST	ARPA	E911	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES						
Taxes	$ 7,142,347	$ 1,707,901	$ -	$ -	$ 866,250	$ 9,716,498
Licenses and permits	86,190	-	-	-	-	86,190
Fines and forfeitures	867,733	-	-	-	44,739	912,472
Charges for services	356,282	-	-	200,036	180,660	736,978
Intergovernmental revenues	1,281,511	-	534,476	-	192,786	2,008,773
Interest income	67,657	-	-	-	198	67,855
Other revenues	36,152	-	-	-	-	36,152
Total revenues	9,837,872	1,707,901	534,476	200,036	1,284,633	13,564,918
EXPENDITURES						
Current:						
General government	1,828,312	-	149,284	-	-	1,977,596
Judicial	820,375	-	22,006	-	5,050	847,431
Public safety	3,900,931	3,595	118,573	200,036	143,324	4,366,459
Public w orks	1,809,365	103,325	187,281	-	56,585	2,156,556
Health and w elfare	530,762	-	53,071	-	13,484	597,317
Culture and recreation	584,352	24,268	-	-	-	608,620
Housing and development	159,932	-	4,261	-	-	164,193
Intergovernmental payments	-	568,227	-	-	-	568,227
Debt Service:						
Principal payments	4,752	487,840	-	-	89,963	582,555
Interest payments	509	66,162	-	-	64,792	131,463
Total expenditures	9,639,290	1,253,417	534,476	200,036	373,198	12,000,417
NET CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES	198,582	454,484	-	-	911,435	1,564,501
FUND BALANCES, BEGINNING	4,834,240	1,780,779	-	-	390,498	7,005,517
FUND BALANCES, ENDING	$ 5,032,822	$ 2,235,263	$ -	$ -	$ 1,301,933	$ 8,570,018

The Accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 6

RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Year ended December 31, 2023

Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds	$ 1,564,501
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:	
Capital outlays, reported as expenditures in governmental funds, are shown as capital assets in the Statement of Net Position.	1,633,358
Depreciation expenses on governmental capital assets are included in the governmental activities column in the Statement of Net Position but are not shown in the governmental funds.	(917,253)
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 governmental funds.	
Post-closure care costs	(37,547)
Compensated absences	(6,032)
Governmental funds report pension contributions as expenditures. However in the Statement of Activities, the cost of pension benefits earned net of employee contributions is reported as pension expense:	
Cost of benefits net of employee contributions	3,786
Repayment of long-term debt is reported as an expenditure in the governmental funds, but as a reduction of long-term liabilities in the Statement of Net Position	582,555
Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds. The amount of deferred revenues recognized as revenue in the statement of activities is as follows:	
Recreation grant	245,994
Property taxes	400,338
Change in net position of governmental activities	$ 3,469,700

The Accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 7

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
December 31, 2023

	Custodial Funds
ASSETS	
Cash	$ 2,937,704
Taxes receivable	2,819,897
Total assets	5,757,601
LIABILITIES	
Due to others	2,801,346
Total liabilities	2,801,346
NET POSITION	
Restricted for individuals, organizations, and other governments	$ 2,956,255

The Accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 8

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET POSITION
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
Year ended December 31, 2023

	Custodial Funds
ADDITIONS	
Taxes collected for others	$ 13,327,714
Fines and fees collected	1,113,524
Interest	797
Total additions	14,442,035
DEDUCTIONS	
Payments of taxes to others	14,169,863
Fines and fees disbursed	1,087,137
Total deductions	15,257,000
Change in net position	(814,965)
Net position - beginning- as restated	3,771,220
Net position - ending	$ 2,956,255

The Accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement

NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of Bleckley County, Georgia (County) have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to Government units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is responsible for establishing GAAP for state and local governments through its pronouncements. The more significant accounting policies established in GAAP and used by the County are described below.

Reporting Entity

The County is a local municipality governed by a sole commissioner. As required by GAAP, these financial statements present the government and its component units, entities for which the County is considered to be financially accountable.

Blended component units, although legally separate entities, are in substance part of the governments operations. The component unit column in the government-wide financial statements (see note below for description) includes the financial data of the County's discretely presented component units. Each discretely presented component unit is reported in a separate column to emphasize it is legally separate from the County.

Component Units and Related Entities

Blended Component Unit:

Public Purpose Corporation – The Public Purpose Corporation (PPC) was established on December 17, 2019 to account for the construction and ongoing maintenance of the State of Georgia Division of Family and Children Services building. The PPC is organized pursuant to the Georgia Nonprofit Corporation Code. The objects and purposes of the PPC are exclusively charitable through the lessening of burdens of government, within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the corresponding provision of any future tax law. The PPC is governed in the year 2023 by the Bleckley County Commissioner who serves as the PPC's sole director. The PPC is presented as blended as its primary purpose is to provide services almost entirely to the County. Separate financial statements are not issued by the PPC.

Discretely Presented Component Units:

Bleckley County Board of Health - It is the goal of the Bleckley County Board of Health (Board) to provide health services for the citizens of Bleckley County within the guidelines established by the Bleckley County Board of Public Health, the South Central Health District, and the Georgia Department of Public Health. The Board is responsible for health programs designed for prevention, early detection, treatment and referral. The Board receives revenue through a contractual agreement with DPH in addition to grant-in-aid funding. Based on the contract with DPH, fixed assets cannot be disposed of without approval of DPH. In the event the Board was to dissolve, all fixed assets are owned by Bleckley County, DPH or the donating agency.

The amounts included in these financial statement in the component unit columns are as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. Complete financial statements can be obtained at the Board's administrative office.

NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued

Related Organizations – The County is responsible for appointing some of the members of the board of other organizations, but the County's accountability for these organizations do not extend beyond making appointments. These related organizations include the following:

Bleckley County Board of Family and Children Services
Bleckley-Cochran Industrial Development Authority
Cochran-Bleckley Recreation Authority
Bleckley County Hospital Authority

Disbursements to these organizations are based on contractual agreements have been budgeted and expended as part of the regular operations of the County.

Government-wide and Fund Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net position and the statement of changes in net position) report information on all of the non-fiduciary activities of the primary government and its component units. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. *Governmental activities* are supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues and are reported separately from *business-type activities, if applicable,*, which rely to a significant extent on fees and charges for support. Likewise, the primary government is reported separately from its legally separate *component unit* for which the primary government is financially accountable.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment are 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 financial statements are provided for governmental funds and fiduciary funds, even though the latter are excluded from the government-wide financial statements. Major individual governmental funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Basis of Presentation

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. Property taxes are recognized 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 will be collected within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the County considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period with the exception of intergovernmental revenues, which are considered available if received within 180 days after the year end. 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.

Property taxes, franchise taxes, licenses and interest associated with the current fiscal period are all considered to be susceptible to accrual and so have been recognized as revenues of the current fiscal period. Only the portion of special assessments receivable due within the current fiscal period is considered to be susceptible to accrual as revenue of the current period. All other revenue items are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received by the County.

NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued

The County reports the following major governmental funds:

The *General Fund* is the general operating fund of Bleckley County, Georgia. It is used to account for all financial resources of the general government, except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

The *2019 SPLOST Fund* accounts for the accumulation of Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax revenues and the related capital expenditures.

The *ARPA Fund* accounts for all Local Fiscal Recovery Funds received by the local government through the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021 (HR1319, 117th Congress; Public Law No. 117-2). This Special Revenue Fund is reserved exclusively for the accounting of these recovery funds, in accordance with guidance from the United States Department of the Treasury.

The *E911 Fund* accounts for the revenues collected for operation of the Emergency 911 telephone communication system and related expenditures.

Additionally, the County reports the following fund types:

The *Special Revenue Funds* account for revenue sources that are legally restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The following Special Revenue Funds are used by Bleckley County, Georgia: Law Library, Confiscated Assets, Commissary, T-SPLOST Discretionary, and the Public Purpose Corporation.

The *Capital Projects Funds* account for revenue sources that are legally restricted to expenditure for capital improvements. The TSPLOST Capital Fund is used by Bleckley County, Georgia as a capital projects fund.

The *Custodial Funds* are used to account for the collection and disbursement of monies by the County on behalf of other governments and individuals, such as cash bonds, traffic fines, support payments and ad valorem and property taxes.

GASB 34 eliminates the presentation of *Account Groups*, but provides for these records to be maintained and used to account for capital assets and long-term liabilities that are not reflected on the balance sheet of Governmental type funds due to the current financial resources measurement focus that they use. Private-sector standards of accounting and financial reporting issued prior to December 1, 1989, generally are followed in both the government-wide and proprietary fund financial statements to the extent that those standards do not conflict with or contradict guidance of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. Governments also have the option of following subsequent private-sector guidance for their business-type activities and enterprise funds, subject to this same limitation. The County has elected not to follow subsequent private-sector guidance.

Governmental activities have been consolidated in the government-wide financial statements. Total governmental funds have been combined with general capital assets and long term liabilities. The effect of interfund activity has been removed from the government-wide financial statements. Due to/from other funds have been eliminated as well as transfers between funds.

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.

Proprietary funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from non-operating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with a proprietary fund's principal ongoing operations. Non-operating revenues and expenses are revenues and expenses associated with items that are not connected with a proprietary's fund principal ongoing operations.

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

NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued

Assets, Liabilities and Net Position or Fund Balance

1. Deposits and Investments - Cash includes amounts in both interest-bearing and non-interest-bearing demand deposits. State statutes authorize the Government to invest in obligations of the U.S. Treasury, obligations of the State of Georgia or any other states, obligations fully insured or guaranteed by the United States government or governmental agency, Local Government Investment Pool, commercial paper, corporate bonds, obligation of other political subdivisions of the State of Georgia, and repurchase agreements. Any bank deposit in excess of the total FDIC insured amount must be secured by an equivalent amount of State or U.S. obligations.

2. Receivables and Payables - During the course of operations, numerous transactions occur between individual funds for goods provided or services rendered. The current portion of these interfund receivables and payables are classified as "interfund receivables" or "interfund payables" in the governmental funds.

   Property tax receivables are shown net of an allowance for uncollectibles. The property tax receivable allowance is equal to 21 percent of outstanding property taxes at December 31, 2023. Property taxes are levied as of September 1 on property values assessed as of the same date.

3. Prepaid Items - For prepaid expenditures in the government-wide and fund financial statements, the County reports the expenditures during the benefiting period.

4. Inventory – Inventories are valued at cost, which approximates market, using the first-in, first-out (FIFO) method. The consumption method is used to account for inventories. Under the consumption method, inventory items are recognized as expenditures when used.

5. Capital Assets – Capital assets, which include property, plant, equipment and infrastructure assets (e.g., roads, bridges, sidewalks and similar items), are reported in the applicable governmental columns in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the County as assets with an initial, individual cost exceeding the thresholds noted below and an estimated useful life in excess of two years. All purchased capital assets are valued at cost where historical records are available and at an estimated historical cost where no historical records exist. Donated capital assets are recorded at acquisition value at the time of donation and disposals are removed at recorded cost. General infrastructure assets acquired prior to July 1, 2003 are not reported in the basic financial statements.

   The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend asset lives are not capitalized. Improvements are capitalized and depreciated over the remaining useful lives of the related capital assets, as applicable.

   Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed. GASB statement 37 prohibits the capitalization of interest on assets constructed for use in governmental activities. Interest incurred during the construction phase of capital assets of business-type activities is included as part of the capitalized value of the assets constructed. No portion of interest expense was capitalized during the current year.

   Property, plant and equipment and infrastructure of the primary government is depreciated using the straight line method over the following estimated useful lives:

Asset Class	Years	Capitalization Threshold
Buildings	50	$ 15,000
Building improvements	20-30	$ 5,000
Infrastructure	30-40	$ 10,000
Machinery and equipment	3-10	$ 5,000

   Component Unit – Capital assets include equipment and various furniture and fixtures purchased during the performance of the Center's programs. Depreciation of capital assets is computed using the straight-line method. Equipment, furniture and fixtures with cost in excess of $5,000 are depreciated over a five-year life.

NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued

6. Compensated Absences - Accumulated unpaid vacation, sick pay, and other employee benefits are not accrued by the county government when incurred in the funds.

7. Long-term Obligations - In the government-wide financial statements and proprietary fund types in the fund financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the applicable governmental activities statement of net position. Bond premiums and discounts are deferred and amortized over the life of the bonds using the effective interest method. Bonds payable are reported net of the applicable bond premium or discount. In the fund financial statements, governmental fund types recognize bond premiums and discounts, as well as bond issuance costs, during the current period. The face amount of debt issued is reported as other financing sources. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financing sources while discounts on debt issuances are reported as other financing uses. Issuance costs, whether or not withheld from the actual debt proceeds received, are reported as debt service expenditures.

8. Fund Equity – Fund equity at the governmental fund financial reporting level is classified as “fund balance”. Fund equity for all other reporting is classified as “net position”.

   Fund Balance

   Generally, fund balance represents the difference between the assets and liabilities under the current financial resources measurement focus of accounting. In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report fund balance classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which the County is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in those funds can be spent. Fund balances are classified as follows:

   Nonspendable – Fund balances are reported as nonspendable when amounts cannot be spent because they are either (a) not in spendable form (i.e., items that are not expected to be converted to cash) or (b) legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

   Restricted – Fund balances are reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the County or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments.

   Committed – Fund balances are reported as committed when they can be used only for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the Board of Commissioners through the adoption of a resolution. Only the Board of Commissioners may modify or rescind the commitment.

   Assigned – Fund balances are reported as assigned when amounts are constrained by the County’s intent to be used for specific purposes, but are neither restricted nor committed. Through resolution, the County Commissioners can authorize a designee to assign fund balance.

   Unassigned – Fund balances are reported as unassigned when the balances do not meet any of the above criterion. The County reports positive unassigned fund balance only in the General Fund. Negative unassigned fund balances may be reported in all funds.

   When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the County’s policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed. For unrestricted amounts of fund balance, it is the County’s policy to use fund balance in the following order:

   - Committed
   - Assigned
   - Unassigned

NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued

Net Position

Net investment in capital assets – This amount consists of capital assets net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by outstanding debt attributed to the acquisition, construction or improvement of the assets.

Restricted net position – This amount is restricted by external creditors, grantors, contributors or laws or regulations of other governments.

Unrestricted net position – This amount is all net position that do not meet the definition of "net investment in capital assets" or "restricted net position."

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

NOTE 2. STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Budgets and Budgetary Accounting

Prior to the fiscal year end, the Commission prepares a proposed operating budget for the year commencing the following January 1. The operating budget includes proposed expenditures and the means of financing them. The Commission holds a public hearing on the budget, giving notice thereof at least ten days in advance by publication in the official organ of Bleckley County. The budget is then revised and adopted or amended by the Commission shortly after the beginning of the year to which it applies. The budget so adopted may be revised during the year only by formal action of the Commission in a regular meeting and no increase shall be made therein without provision also being made for financing same.

The budget for the General Fund is adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) inasmuch as encumbrances are not recorded. Budgeted amounts for the year are as originally adopted, with no amendments by the Commission. The County Financial Clerk is delegated to transfer sums within departments. No increases in the departmental budgets for the County may be made without the approval of the Commissioner and amendments to the budget. The General Fund is subject to budgetary control on a departmental basis.

Encumbrances – Encumbrance accounting, under which purchase orders, contracts, and other commitments for the expenditures of monies are reported in order to reserve that portion of applicable appropriations, is not employed by the County because it is considered impractical and not necessary to insure effective budgetary and cash planning and control.

Compliance With Legal Provisions
Deficit Fund Balances- There were no funds with a deficit fund balance at December 31, 2023.

NOTE 3. DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS

Deposits and Investments

Investments – The County owns no investments as of December 31, 2023.

Custodial Credit Risk - Deposits – In the case of deposits, this is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the County's deposits may not be returned to it. The County does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk. At December 31, 2023, none of the County's bank balances were exposed to custodial credit risk.

Additional disclosures with regards to deposits and investments can be located in the *Summary of Significant Accounting Policies* under the *Assets, Liabilities and Net Position or Fund Balance* section.

NOTE 3. DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS, continued

Property Taxes

State law requires that property taxes be based on assessed value, which is 40% of fair market value. All real and personal property (including motor vehicles) are valued as of September 1 of each year and must be declared and reported on a return for tax purposes by May 1. With the exception of motor vehicles and the property of public utilities, which are valued by the State Revenue Department, the Board of Tax Assessors of Bleckley County makes all assessments.

Upon completion of all assessments and tax returns, the information is turned over to the Bleckley County Tax Commissioner for compilation of the tax digest. The completed tax digest must be submitted to the State Revenue Commissioner for approval. The State Revenue Commissioner must ascertain that real property on the tax digest has been assessed at the state mandated forty percent (40%) of fair market value. If not, the Commissioner may require an across the board percentage adjustment to all real property. The County Tax Commissioner distributes tax notices and collects tax payments. Motor vehicle taxes must be paid by the birth date of the owner of the vehicle. The County levies property taxes on September 1 of each year. The due date for these taxes is December 20 and the lien date is the following April 1. Taxes are collected throughout the year.

The total real and personal property tax levy is recorded as revenue in the fiscal year in which such amounts will be available (collected within 60 days of year-end) as net current assets. In the accompanying financial statements, the portion of the property tax levy for the tax year 2023 collected during the current year and within 60 days of year-end has been recognized as revenue.

Property taxes receivable at December 31, 2023, is composed of the following:

Year of Levy:	
2023	$ 1,186,584
2022	102,737
2021	19,392
2020	7,441
2019	7,857
Prior to 2019	22,626
Total	1,346,637
Less - allowance for uncollectible	278,711
Net receivable	$ 1,067,926

Accounts Receivable

Primary Government

Receivables at December 31, 2023, for the County's individual major funds and its non-major and fiduciary funds in the aggregate, including applicable allowances for uncollectible accounts, are as follows:

	General	2019 SPLOST	E911	TSPLOST	Total
Receivables:					
Taxes	$ 1,346,637	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,346,637
Accounts	3,450	-	-	-	3,450
Intergovernmental	386,795	160,075	17,540	64,542	628,952
Gross receivables	1,736,882	160,075	17,540	64,542	1,979,039
Less: allowance for Uncollectibles	278,711	-	-	-	278,711
Net receivables	$ 1,458,171	$ 160,075	$ 17,540	$ 64,542	$ 1,700,328

NOTE 3. DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS, continued

Discretely Presented Component Units

Receivables of the Bleckley County Board of Health at June 30, 2023 are as follows:

	Bleckley County Board of Health
Receivables:	
Accounts	$ -
Intergovernmental	16,041
Gross receivables	16,041
Less - allowance for Uncollectibles	-
Net total receivables	$ 16,041

Governmental funds report deferred revenue in connection with receivables for revenues that are not considered to be available to liquidate liabilities of the current period. Governmental funds also defer revenue recognition in connection with resources that have been received, but not yet earned. At the end of the current fiscal year, the various components of deferred revenue and unearned revenue reported in the governmental funds were as follows:

	Unavailable	Unearned
Resources billed, but not yet received	$ 683,179	$ -
Unearned grant revenue	$ -	$ 147,309

NOTE 3. DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS, continued

Capital Assets

Primary Government

Capital asset activity for the year ended December 31, 2023 was as follows:

	Primary Government			
	Beginning Balance	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance
Governmental activities				
Capital assets not being depreciated -				
Land	$ 480,855	$ 49,786	$ -	$ 530,641
Construction in progress	-	238,822	-	238,822
Total capital assets not being depreciated	480,855	288,608	-	769,463
Other capital assets:				
Infrastructure	5,575,668	903,287	-	6,478,955
Buildings and other improvements	12,634,383	205,349	-	12,839,732
Machinery and equipment	7,902,737	236,114	21,600	8,117,251
Total other capital assets	26,112,788	1,344,750	21,600	27,435,938
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Infrastructure	(1,353,779)	(185,401)	-	(1,539,180)
Buildings and other improvements	(4,115,522)	(308,268)	-	(4,423,790)
Machinery and equipment	(5,919,016)	(423,584)	21,600	(6,321,000)
Total accumulated depreciation	(11,388,317)	(917,253)	21,600	(12,283,970)
Other capital assets, net	14,724,471	427,497	-	15,151,968
Governmental activities capital assets, net	$15,205,326	$ 716,105	$ -	$ 15,921,431

Depreciation expense was charged to functions/programs of the primary government for the year ended December 31, 2023 as follows:

Governmental activities:	
General government	$ 71,976
Judicial	5,506
Public safety	425,800
Public w orks	294,444
Public health and w elfare	112,259
Culture and recreation	7,268
Total governmental activities depreciation expense	$ 917,253

NOTE 3. DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS, continued

Discretely Presented Component Units

Capital asset activity for the Bleckley County Board of Health for the year ended June 30, 2023 was as follows:

	Discretely Presented Component Unit			
	Beginning Balance	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance
Bleckley County Public Health Center				
Other capital assets -				
Equipment and vehicles	$ 4,822	$ -	$ -	$ 4,822
Less accumulated depreciation	1,928	965	-	2,893
Capital assets, net	$ 2,894	$ (965)	$ -	$ 1,929

Interfund Receivables, Payables and Transfers

Generally, outstanding balances between funds reported as due to/from other funds include outstanding charges by one fund to another for services or goods, subsidy commitments outstanding, and other miscellaneous receivables and payables between funds. Balances to which a fiduciary fund is a party are treated as external receivables and payables. At December 31, 2023, the composition of interfund balances were as follows:

Due to/from other funds:

Receivable Fund	Payable Fund	Amount
General Fund	E911	$ 230,552
General Fund	ARPA	121,493
	Total	$ 352,045

Interfund Transfers

Transfers and payments within the reporting entity are substantially for the purposes of subsidizing operating functions, funding capital projects and asset acquisitions, or maintaining debt service. Resources are accumulated in a fund or component unit to support and simplify the administration of various projects or programs. There were no interfund transfers during the year ended December 31, 2023.

Due from Other Governments

Amounts due from other governmental entities at December 31, 2023 are as follows:

	Federal	State	Other	Total
General Fund	$ 13,166	$ 373,629	$ -	$ 386,795
2019 SPLOST	-	160,075	-	160,075
TSPLOST	-	64,542	-	64,542
E911	-	17,540	-	17,540
Total	$ 13,166	$ 615,786	$ -	$ 628,952

NOTE 3. DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS, continued

Long - Term Debt

Changes in Long-term Liabilities

Long-term liability activity for the year ended December 31, 2023 was as follows:

Long-term liabilities:	Beginning Balance	Additions	Reductions	Ending Balance	Amounts Due Within One Year	Amounts Due Within More Than One Year
Governmental Activities						
Notes payable	$ 4,731,569	$ -	$ (582,555)	$ 4,149,014	$ 599,660	$ 3,549,354
Compensated absences payable	171,401	6,032	-	177,433	88,717	88,717
Total Governmental Activities	$ 4,902,970	$ 6,032	$ (582,555)	$ 4,326,447	$ 688,377	$ 3,638,071
Discretely Presented Component Units						
Bleckley County Public Health Center						
Compensated absences payable	$ 9,150	$ -	$ (351)	$ 8,799	$ 1,760	$ 7,039
Total Public Health Center	$ 9,150	$ -	$ (351)	$ 8,799	$ 1,760	$ 7,039

Compensated absences are generally liquidated by the general fund and are therefore included in the above schedule.

Long-term Debt - The following is a summary of long-term debt at December 31, 2023:

	Total	Current	Long-Term
Note Payable - PNC Bank, incurred to contstruct a new county jail. Payable in annual payments of increasing amounts from $454,000 to $554,543, interest at 2.85%. Final payment due March 1, 2027.	$ 2,034,417	$ 501,944	$ 1,532,473
Note Payable - Ameris Bank, assignment and deed to secure DFCS building in the Public Purpose Corporation name, a blended component unit. Payable in monthly installments of $12,959, interest at 3.12%. Final payment due September 1, 2040.	2,096,540	93,366	2,003,174
Note Payable - USDA, incurred to purchase public safety vehicles. Payable in monthly installments of $396, interest at 2.50%. Final payment due December 21, 2027.	18,057	4,350	13,707
Total	$ 4,149,014	$ 599,660	$ 3,549,354

At December 31, 2023, the five-year maturity schedule of these notes payable is as follows:

Year Ending December 31	Principal	Interest
2024	$ 599,660	$ 115,147
2025	617,237	97,569
2026	635,331	79,476
2027	653,940	60,852
2028	105,759	49,753
2029-2033	581,176	196,385
2034-2038	679,156	98,405
2039-2040	276,755	8,352
	$ 4,149,014	$ 705,939

NOTE 4. OTHER INFORMATION

Landfill Post-Closure Care Costs

State and federal laws and regulations require that final cover be placed on the landfill when it stops accepting waste, and to perform certain maintenance and monitoring functions at the site after closure. The County's landfill stopped accepting waste on April 8, 1994. The closure certificate (Permit No. 012-004D(SL)) contains conditions requiring the County to conduct post-closure care for a period of five years from December 5, 1996, the date of the closure certificate. The certificate provided that the five-year period may be extended by the Director of the Environment Protection Division if deemed necessary to adequately protect human health and the environment.

On July 27, 2008, the County was notified by Georgia Department of Natural Resources – Environmental Protection Division that they had reviewed the Assessment of Corrective Measures (ACM), Site Characterization and Evaluation of Corrective Measures report for Bleckley County, Georgia. In July 2006, the EPD approved the County's corrective action plan. Estimates indicate that the post-closure period would be extended an additional twenty-two years from 2005.

The estimated remaining cost of $573,930 to monitor the landfill during the remaining post-closure period is reflected as a liability in the statement of net position at December 31, 2023. The estimates are based on the latest opinion of probable post-closure care costs prepared by professional engineers for the County. The estimates are based on average or typical costs with no provisions for potential changes due to inflation or deflation, technology, or applicable laws or regulations. However, actual costs may be higher.

Retirement Plans

The following pension and retirement plans are in effect but are not under the direct control of the County.

A. Employees' Retirement System of Georgia (ERS) – The ERS was established and began administering retirement benefits for State of Georgia employees on January 1, 1950 as provided by laws enacted through the Georgia General Assembly. The County's Tax Commissioner is eligible to participate in the ERS. Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued Employees' Retirement System of Georgia financial report at www.ers.ga.gov.

B. Judge of the Probate Courts Retirement Fund of Georgia (JPCRF) – The JPCRF was created in 1958 by an act of the General Assembly for the purpose of paying retirement benefits to Probate Judges of the State of Georgia. Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued Employees' Retirement System of Georgia financial report at www.pjrf.georgia.gov.

C. Magistrate Retirement fund of Georgia (MRF) – The MRF was created by an Act of the General Assembly on July 1, 2006 for the purpose of paying retirement benefits to the Chief Magistrates of the Magistrate Courts of the State of Georgia. Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued Employees' Retirement System of Georgia financial report at www.mrf.georgia.gov.

D. Superior Court Clerks' Retirement fund of Georgia (SCCRF) – The SCCRF was created in 1952 by an act of the Georgia General Assembly for the purpose of providing retirement benefits to Clerks of the Superior Courts of Georgia. Detailed information about the pension plans' fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued Employees' Retirement System of Georgia financial report at www.sccrf.com.

E. Sheriffs' Retirement Fund of Georgia (SRF) – The SRF was created by an act of the Georgia General Assembly in 1963 for the purpose of providing benefits to the elected officials serving in the capacity of Sheriff of the counties of Georgia. Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued Sheriffs' Retirement Fund of Georgia financial report that can be obtained at www.gerogiasheriffs.org.

NOTE 4. OTHER INFORMATION, continued

Component Unit - Bleckley County Board of Health - The Bleckley County Board of Health participate in the ERS cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan. The amounts recorded in the Statement of Net Position as of June 30, 2023, related to the pensions are as follows: deferred outflows of resources of $114,825, net pension liability of $270,144 and deferred inflows of resources of $6,543. The detailed disclosures and required supplementary information related to pensions are available in the financial statements of the Bleckley County Board of Health, which can be obtained from their office at 152 Northeast 8th Street, Cochran, Georgia.

1. Defined Benefit Pension Plan

a. Plan Description

The County contributes to the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG) Defined Benefit Plan (the Plan), an agent multiple-employer public employee retirement system that acts as a common investment and administrative agent for participating counties in Georgia. The Plan does not issue a stand-alone financial report, but the Plan is included in the financial report of the ACCG which is publicly available at www.gebcorp.com.

The specific benefit provisions of the County's plan were established by an adoption agreement executed by the County Board of Commissioners. The Plan provides for benefits upon retirement, death, disablement and termination of employment, if certain eligibility conditions are met.

b. Benefits Provided

All full-time County employees are eligible to participate in the Plan after three years of service. Benefits are fully vested after five years of service. Participants become eligible to retire at age 65 with 5 years of service and three years of participation in the Plan. An employee may elect early retirement at age 55 with 25 years of service or at age 60 with 20 years of service to receive full benefits. An employee may elect early retirement at age 60 with 10 years of service to receive reduced benefits. Compensation is averaged over a five-year period prior to retirement or termination. The Plan also provides benefits in the event of death or disability. These benefit provisions were established by an adoption agreement executed by the County Commissioner.

Plan membership consisted of the following at January 1, 2023, the date of the latest actuarial valuation:

Retirees and beneficiaries currently receiving benefits	39
Terminated plan members entitled to but not yet receiving benefits	35
Active employees participating in the Plan	50
Total	124
Part-time active employees not participating in the Plan	15
Covered compensation for active participants	$2,213,666
Contributions as a percentage of its covered-employee payroll	8.20%
Average remaining future service for active participants	8.65

NOTE 4. OTHER INFORMATION, continued

c. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The Plan's financial statements are prepared on an accrual basis, modified to include unrealized gains or losses on marketable securities owned by the Plan and increments in the cash value of pre-retirement life insurance policies owned by the trust.

Plan member contributions are recognized in the period in which contributions are due. County contributions are recognized when due and the County has made a formal commitment to provide the contributions. Benefits and refunds are recognized when due and payable.

Investments in securities are valued at current market prices. The trust fund is invested approximately in 70% equities and 30% fixed income securities on a cost basis.

Plan assets do not include any loans, notes, bonds, or other instruments or securities for the County or related parties.

d. Contributions

The County is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. Section 47-20 of the Georgia Code sets forth the minimum funding standards for state and local governmental pension plans. Administrative expenses are based on total covered compensation of active plan participation and are added to the state-required annual funding requirement.

The Georgia Constitution enables the governing authority of the County, the County Commissioner, to establish, and amend from time-to-time the contribution rates for the County and its plan participants.

County employees are not required or permitted to contribute to the Plan. The County contributes to the entire cost of the Plan, using the basis determined using actuarial methods and assumptions approved by the ACCG Plan trustees and must satisfy the minimum contribution requirement contained in the State of Georgia Statute 47-20. The annual County contribution meets or exceeds the minimum funding requirements of Georgia Statute 47-20. The required and actual contribution for the 2023 plan year was $200,806. This amount represents 9.07% of covered payroll.

e. Net Pension Liability

The County's net pension liability was measured as of December 31, 2023, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date.

Actuarial assumptions
The total pension liability as of the January 1, 2023 valuation was determined by an actuarial valuation using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Investment rate of return	7.0% per annum
Projected salary increases	3.0% - 5.5% per annum

Mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 GE (50%) and PS (50%) Amt-Weighted with Scale AA to 2023 (Pre-Retirement; Employee, Post-Retirement: Retiree). This table reflects the mortality tables developed specifically for governmental employees by the Society of Actuaries which were released late in 2018. The tables were projected to 2023 to reflect that mortality rates in Georgia are in the highest quartile in the nation.

The actuarial assumptions used in the actuarial valuation were determined based on the results of an actuarial experience study conducted February 2024.

NOTE 4. OTHER INFORMATION, continued

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 nominal returns, net of pension plan investment expense and the assumed rate of inflation) are developed for each major asset class. 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.

The plan's target asset allocation as of December 31, 2023 is summarized in the following table:

	Target Allocation	Projected Return*	Weighted Return**
US Fixed Income	30%	3.60%	1.08%
US Equity Large Core	30%	8.20%	2.46%
International Core	15%	8.90%	1.34%
Smid Cap Core	10%	9.10%	0.91%
Private Real Estate	5%	8.50%	0.43%
Global Core	5%	8.50%	0.43%
US Equity Core	5%	8.30%	0.42%
Weighted Return			7.07%

* Projected returns based on UBS capital market assumptions

** To address the anticipated difficult economic environment over the next ten years, the Weighted Return was limited to 6.00%

Change in assumption

The actuarial valuation as of January 1, 2023 reflected a mortality improvement change from Pub-2010 with Scale AA to 2020 to Pub-2010 with Scale AA to 2023. No change in discount rate or other assumptions. Changing the mortality table used in the valuation resulted in the actuarially determined total pension liability increasing by $48,226.

Discount rate

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.00%. In projecting cash flows, the assumed contribution was based on the average contribution made to the plan over the prior five years. Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected benefits promised to current plan participants. Therefore, the expected long-term rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

The discount rate is calculated as follows:

Estimated 50th percentile return based on	
UBS Capital Market Assumptions	6.71%
Five year performance in excess of benchmarks	0.90%
Assumed annual investment return (limited to 7.00%)	7.61%

NOTE 4. OTHER INFORMATION, continued

Changes in the Net Pension Liability

Changes in the Net Pension Liability for the year ended December 31, 2023 were as follows:

	Increase (Decrease)		
	Total Pension Liability	Fiduciary Net Position	Net Pension Liability
Balance at December 31, 2022	$ 4,397,032	$ 3,279,261	$ 1,117,771
Changes for the year:			
Service Cost	97,053	-	97,053
Interest	299,605	-	299,605
Liability experience (gain)/loss	156,361	-	156,361
Assumption Change	48,226	-	48,226
Employer Contributions	-	200,806	(200,806)
Employee Contributions	-	-	-
Net Investment Income	-	483,227	(483,227)
Benefit Payments	(233,928)	(233,928)	-
Administrative Expense	-	(31,095)	31,095
Other Changes *	-	(33,875)	33,875
Net Changes	367,317	385,135	(17,818)
Balance at December 31, 2023	$ 4,764,349	$ 3,664,396	$ 1,099,953

* Other changes include post-retirement death benefit expense of $19,442 and investment expense of $14,433

Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a % of Total Pension Liability	77%
Covered Payroll	$ 2,213,666
Net Pension Liability as a % of Covered Payroll	50%

Sensitivity of the net pension liability to changes in the discount rate

The following presents the County's net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.00%, as well as what the County's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate the is 1-percentage –point lower (6.00%) or 1-percentage-point higher (8.00%) than the current rate:

	6.00%	7.00%	8.00%
Total Pension Liability	$ 5,345,084	$ 4,764,349	$ 4,280,795
Fiduciary Net Position	3,664,396	3,664,396	3,664,396
Net Pension Liability	$ 1,680,688	$ 1,099,953	$ 616,399

Pension plan fiduciary net position

Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net pension is available in the separately issued ACCG financial report which is publicly available at www.gebcorp.com.

NOTE 4. OTHER INFORMATION, continued

f. Pension Expense and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions

The following schedule reconciles the pension contributions to the total pension expense reported by the County in the government-wide statements:

Pension contributions	$	200,806
Other changes in net pension liability		(218,624)
Deferred outflow related to investment results		249,202
Deferred outflow related to change in assumption		(48,226)
Deferred inflow related to experience gain		(156,361)
Amortization of deferred inflows and outflows		(30,583)
Pension expense (benefit)	$	(3,786)

The unamortized deferred outflows and inflows related to pension items are as follows:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	$ 152,077	$ -
Changes in assumptions	36,454	-
Differences between expected and actual experience	111,686	53,798
Total	$ 300,217	$ 53,798

The County made its pension contribution for the 2023 plan year in December 2023. Accordingly, the County did not make any contributions to the pension plan between the measurement date and the County's fiscal year-end, so the County does not report a deferred outflow of resources related to pension contributions. None of the deferred outflows of resources will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability.

The County amortizes the differences between projected and actual investment returns into pension expense equally over a closed four year amortization period. The County amortizes differences between actual and expected experience and any changes in assumptions over the expected remaining service period of participants (approximately 8.65 years). The expected amortization of the County's current deferred outflows and inflows over the next five years and thereafter is:

Year ended December 31,	Investment Results Difference	Assumption Change	Experience Difference
2024	$ 21,470	$ 15,603	$ (4,233)
2025	61,784	13,962	39,784
2026	118,663	6,889	22,337
2027	(49,840)	-	-
2028	-	-	-
Thereafter	-	-	-
	$ 152,077	$ 36,454	$ 57,888

NOTE 4. OTHER INFORMATION, continued

Risk Management – Claims and Judgments

The County is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The County joined the Association Interlocal Risk Management Agency on June 28, 1991. This membership allows the County to share liability, crime, motor vehicle and property damage risks.

Chapter 85 of Title 36 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated authorizes Georgia municipalities to form interlocal risk management agencies. The Interlocal Risk Management Agency (IRMA) is a municipal interlocal risk management agency organized to function as an unincorporated nonprofit instrumentality of its member municipalities - IRMA establishes and administers one or more group self-insurance funds and a risk management service to prevent or lessen the incidence and severity of casualty and property losses occurring in the operation of municipal government. IRMA is to defend and protect in accordance with the member government contract and related coverage descriptions any member of IRMA against liability or loss.

The County must participate at all times in at least one fund which is established by IRMA. Other responsibilities of the County are as follows:

- To pay all contributions, assessments, or other sums due to IRMA at such times and in such amounts as shall be established by IRMA.
- To select a person to serve as a Member representative.
- To allow IRMA and its agents reasonable access to all facilities of the County and all records, including but not limited to financial records, which relate to the purposes of IRMA.
- To allow attorneys appointed by IRMA to represent the County in investigation, settlement discussions and all levels of litigation arising out of any claim made against the County within the scope of loss protection furnished by the Fund or Funds established by IRMA.
- To assist and cooperate in the defense and settlement of claims against the County.
- To furnish full cooperation to IRMA's attorneys, claim adjusters, Service Company and any agent, employee, officer or independent contractor of IRMA relating to the purposes of IRMA.
- To follow all loss reduction and prevention procedures established by IRMA.
- To furnish to IRMA such budget, operating and underwriting information as may be requested.
- To report as promptly as possible, and in accordance with any Coverage Descriptions issued, all incidents to municipal property or injuries to persons or property when such loss or injury is within the scope of the protection of a Fund or Funds in which the County participates.

The basis for estimating the liabilities for unpaid claims is the "IBNR" established by an actuary.

Pursuant to Title 34, Chapter 9, Article 150 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, the County became a member of the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia Group Self-Insurance Workers' Compensation Fund. The County is obligated to pay all contributions and assessments as prescribed by the fund, to cooperate with the fund's agents and attorneys, to follow loss reduction procedures established by the fund, and to report as promptly as possible, and in accordance with any coverage descriptions issued, all incidents which could result in the fund being required to pay any claim of loss. The County is also to allow the fund's agents and attorneys to represent the County in investigation, settlement discussions and all levels of litigation arising out of any claim made against the County within the scope of loss protection furnished by the fund.

The fund is to defend and protect the members of the fund against liability or loss as prescribed in the member government contract and in accordance with the workers' compensation law of Georgia. The fund is to pay all costs taxed against members in any legal proceeding defended by the members, all interest accruing after entry of judgment, and all expenses incurred for investigation, negotiation or defense.

NOTE 4. OTHER INFORMATION, continued

Joint Venture

Under Georgia law, Bleckley County, in conjunction with other cities and counties in the seventeen county Middle Georgia area, is a member of the Heart of Georgia Regional Commission and is required to pay annual dues thereto. Membership in a Commission is required by the Official Code of Georgia Annotated (OCGA) Section 50-8-34 which provides for the organizational structure of the Commission in Georgia. The Commission Board membership includes the chief elected official of each county and municipality of the area. OCGA 50-8-39.1 provides that the member governments are liable for any debts or obligations of a Commission.

Separate financial statements may be obtained from:

Heart of Georgia Regional Commission
501 Oak Street
Eastman, Georgia 31023

Commitments

Reservations of fund balances of Governmental funds are established to either (1) satisfy legal covenants that require that a portion of the fund balance be segregated or (2) identify the portion of the fund balance that is not appropriable for future expenditures. Designations of fund balance represent tentative management plans that are subject to change.

Grant Funds

The County participates in numerous grant programs on the federal and state level. Amounts received or receivable from grantor agencies are subject to audit and adjustment by grantor agencies, principally the federal Government. Any disallowed claims, including amounts already collected, may constitute a liability of the applicable funds. The amount, if any, of expenditures which may be disallowed by the grantor cannot be determined at this time although the County expects such amounts, if any, to be immaterial.

Litigation

During the course of normal operations of the County, various claims and lawsuits arise. The County's legal counsel reports no cases pending against the County. Based upon the information available, management does not expect potential liabilities as of December 31, 2023 to impair the County's financial position.

Tax Abatements

The County was not under a tax abatement agreement and no property taxes were reduced for the year ended December 31, 2023.

NOTE 5. CORRECTION OF AN ERROR

At December 31, 2023, ending net position was understated in the Tax Commissioner Fund. The understatement occurred because uncollected taxes as of December 31, 2023 were incorrectly recorded as a liability instead of net position. As a result of this change, beginning net position in the tax commissioner fund was increased by $3,615,401.

Required Supplementary Information

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 9

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN THE COUNTY'S NET PENSION LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS
Year Ended December 31, 2023

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
CHANGES IN TOTAL PENSION LIABILITY					
Total Pension Liability - beginning of year	$ 4,397,032	$ 4,432,206	$ 4,290,538	$ 4,069,547	$ 3,721,876
Service cost	97,053	78,090	65,747	70,680	65,554
Interest	299,605	300,868	291,434	284,868	260,531
Assumption change	48,226	5,655	5,796	5,850	142,456
Benefit payments	(233,928)	(268,175)	(254,411)	(238,112)	(219,542)
Liability experience gain/loss	156,361	(151,612)	33,102	97,705	98,672
Total Pension Liability - end of year	$ 4,764,349	$ 4,397,032	$ 4,432,206	$ 4,290,538	$ 4,069,547
CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION					
Fiduciary Net Position - beginning of year	$ 3,279,261	$ 3,602,369	$ 3,602,369	$ 3,289,207	$ 2,819,646
Employer contributions	200,806	195,715	183,677	159,150	139,181
Employee contributions	-	-	-	-	-
Net investment income	483,227	(561,254)	540,509	438,201	581,094
Benefit payments	(233,928)	(268,175)	(254,411)	(230,060)	(212,118)
Administrative expense	(31,095)	(26,928)	(24,844)	(25,517)	(24,243)
Other	(33,875)	(25,585)	(81,812)	(28,612)	(14,353)
Fiduciary Net Position - end of year	$ 3,664,396	$ 2,916,142	$ 3,965,488	$ 3,602,369	$ 3,289,207
Net Pension Liability	$ 1,099,953	$ 1,480,890	$ 466,718	$ 688,169	$ 780,340
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a % of Total Pension Liability	77%	66%	89%	84%	81%
Covered payroll	$ 2,213,666	$ 1,768,824	$ 1,585,660	$ 1,778,938	$ 1,697,872
Net Pension Liability as a % of Covered Payroll	50%	84%	29%	39%	46%

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 9

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN THE COUNTY'S NET PENSION LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS
Year Ended December 31, 2023

	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
CHANGES IN TOTAL PENSION LIABILITY					
Total Pension Liability - beginning of year	$ 3,439,993	$ 3,403,684	$ 3,079,401	$ 2,871,816	$ 2,726,495
Service cost	66,854	55,388	63,252	59,031	57,602
Interest	249,399	246,767	226,348	215,386	200,266
Assumption change	131,599	6,425	83,422	94,585	-
Benefit payments	(195,443)	(165,538)	(122,848)	(149,557)	(112,547)
Liability experience gain/loss	29,474	(106,733)	74,109	(11,860)	-
Total Pension Liability - end of year	$ 3,721,876	$ 3,439,993	$ 3,403,684	$ 3,079,401	$ 2,871,816
CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION					
Fiduciary Net Position - beginning of year	$ 3,034,130	$ 2,652,276	$ 2,479,158	$ 2,489,307	$ 2,323,216
Employer contributions	149,629	153,395	182,448	143,902	142,661
Employee contributions	-	-	-	-	-
Net investment income	(131,976)	418,769	178,080	19,723	164,947
Benefit payments	(188,606)	(159,747)	(122,848)	(144,152)	(112,547)
Administrative expense	(14,806)	(11,572)	(15,472)	(10,861)	(11,181)
Other	(28,725)	(18,991)	(49,090)	(18,761)	(17,789)
Fiduciary Net Position - end of year	$ 2,819,646	$ 3,034,130	$ 2,652,276	$ 2,479,158	$ 2,489,307
Net Pension Liability	$ 902,230	$ 405,863	$ 751,408	$ 600,243	$ 382,509
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a % of Total Pension Liability	76%	88%	78%	81%	87%
Covered payroll	$ 1,963,325	$ 1,714,337	$ 1,781,952	$ 1,547,542	$ 1,669,186
Net Pension Liability as a % of Covered Payroll	46%	24%	42%	39%	23%

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 10

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
SCHEDULE OF COUNTY CONTRIBUTIONS
Year Ended December 31, 2023

Schedule of Pension Contributions

	Actuarially Determined Contribution	Contributions in Relation to Actuarially Determined Contribution	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	Covered Employee Payroll	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll
2023	$ 189,154	$ 200,806	(11,652)	$ 2,213,666	9.07%
2022	195,715	195,715	-	1,768,824	11.06%
2021	185,380	183,677	1,703	1,585,660	11.58%
2020	159,302	159,150	152	1,778,938	8.95%
2019	152,405	139,181	13,224	1,697,872	8.20%
2018	137,906	146,629	(8,723)	1,963,325	7.47%
2017	154,076	153,395	681	1,714,337	8.95%
2016	182,448	182,448	-	1,781,952	10.24%
2015	143,902	143,902	-	1,547,542	9.30%
2014	142,661	142,661	-	1,669,186	8.55%

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 11

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE – GENERAL FUND
Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with Final Budget -
	Original	Final	Amounts	Positive (Negative)
REVENUES				
Taxes revenues	$ 5,845,000	$ 7,145,000	$ 7,142,347	$ (2,653)
Licenses and permits	64,500	64,500	86,190	21,690
Fines and forfeitures	937,250	937,250	867,733	(69,517)
Charges for services	275,000	275,000	356,282	81,282
Intergovernmental revenues	920,000	1,232,525	1,281,511	48,986
Interest income	55,000	55,000	67,657	12,657
Other revenues	215,000	215,000	36,152	(178,848)
Total revenues	8,311,750	9,924,275	9,837,872	(86,403)
EXPENDITURES				
General government:				
Administration	290,000	290,000	275,131	14,869
Courthouse	500,000	800,000	797,665	2,335
Tax commissioner	260,000	260,000	229,052	30,948
Voter registars	60,000	115,000	113,342	1,658
Tax assessor	200,000	200,000	198,072	1,928
Non-departmental	681,000	326,000	215,050	110,950
Total General Government	1,991,000	1,991,000	1,828,312	162,688
Public safety:				
Sheriff	1,539,000	1,539,000	1,496,022	42,978
Jail	1,050,450	1,200,000	1,199,037	963
Communication center and E-911	309,800	425,000	424,018	982
Fire department	210,000	248,000	248,777	(777)
Emergency Management:	80,000	80,000	73,873	6,127
Ambulance	375,500	375,500	375,000	500
Coroner	40,000	40,000	36,223	3,777
Animal control	40,000	40,000	47,981	(7,981)
Total Public Safety	3,644,750	3,947,500	3,900,931	46,569
Court System:				
Clerk of Superior Court	250,000	230,000	229,012	988
Superior Court:	260,000	190,000	185,994	4,006
Probate Court	250,000	240,000	239,286	714
Magistrate Court	158,000	168,000	166,083	1,917
Total Court System	918,000	828,000	820,375	7,625

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 11

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE – GENERAL FUND
Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with Final Budget -
	Original	Final	Amounts	Positive (Negative)
Public Works	800,000	1,800,000	1,809,365	(9,365)
Public Health and Welfare:				
Public health and welfare appropriations	128,000	120,000	101,595	18,405
Sanitation	270,000	220,000	219,427	573
Senior center	100,000	100,000	68,067	31,933
Transit system	130,000	147,250	141,673	5,577
Total Public Health and Welfare	628,000	587,250	530,762	56,488
Culture and Recreation	80,000	580,000	584,352	(4,352)
Housing and Development				
Building inspection	52,000	52,000	49,316	2,684
County Agent	110,000	110,000	110,616	(616)
Total Housing and Development	162,000	162,000	159,932	2,068
Natural Resources	23,000	23,000	-	23,000
Debt Service:				
Principal	55,000	5,000	4,752	248
Interest	10,000	525	509	16
Total Debt Service	65,000	5,525	5,261	264
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	-	-	198,582	198,582
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	-	-	198,582	198,582
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING	4,834,240	4,834,240	4,834,240	-
FUND BALANCE, ENDING	$ 4,834,240	$ 4,834,240	$ 5,032,822	$ 198,582

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 12

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE – ARPA FUND
Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Original Budgeted Amounts	Final Budgeted Amounts	Actual Amounts	Variance with Final Budget - Positive (Negative)
REVENUES				
Intergovernmental revenues	$ 800,000	$ 535,000	$ 534,476	$ (524)
Total revenues	800,000	535,000	534,476	(524)
EXPENDITURES				
General government	800,000	149,500	149,284	216
Judicial	-	22,100	22,006	94
Public safety	-	118,900	118,573	327
Public works	-	187,500	187,281	219
Health and welfare	-	53,000	53,071	(71)
Housing and devlopment	-	4,000	4,261	(261)
Total expenditures	800,000	535,000	534,476	524
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	-	-	-	-
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING	-	-	-	-
FUND BALANCE, ENDING	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 13

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE – E911 FUND
Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Original and Final Budgeted Amounts	Actual Amounts	Variance with Final Budget - Positive (Negative)
REVENUES			
Charges for services	$ 220,000	$ 200,036	$ (19,964)
Total revenues	220,000	200,036	(19,964)
EXPENDITURES			
Public safety	220,000	200,036	19,964
Total expenditures	220,000	200,036	19,964
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	-	-	-
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING	-	-	-
FUND BALANCE, ENDING	$ -	$ -	$ -

Other Supplementary Information

Non-major Governmental Funds

Special Revenue Funds are used to account for specific revenues that are legally restricted to expenditure for particular purposes.

- Law Library accounts for the law library fees included in all fines which are specifically designated for the County's law library.

- Confiscated Assets accounts for drug seized drug funds which are specifically designated for drug enforcement or capital outlay.

- Commissary accounts for the activities of the inmate canteen operated by the Sheriff's Department.

- TSPLOST Discretionary accounts for the accumulation of the discretionary portion of TSPLOST revenues and the related expenditures.

- Public Purpose Corporation accounts for the construction and ongoing maintenance of the State of Georgia Division of Family and Children Services building.

Capital Project Funds are used to account for specific revenues that are legally restricted to capital expenditures.

- TSPLOST Capital Fund accounts for the accumulation of the capital portion of TSPLOST revenues and the capital expenditures. No activity has been recorded in this fund as of December 31, 2023.

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 14

COMBINING BALANCE SHEET
NON-MAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
December 31, 2023

	TSPLOST	Law Library	Confiscated Assets	Sheriff Commissary	Public Purpose Corporation	Total Nonmajor Governmental Funds
ASSETS						
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 932,709	$ 131,910	$ 31,515	$ 80,445	$ 87,885	$ 1,264,464
Intergovernmental receivable	64,542	-	-	-	-	64,542
Total assets	$ 997,251	$ 131,910	$ 31,515	$ 80,445	$ 87,885	$ 1,329,006
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE						
Liabilities:						
Accounts payable	$ -	$ 259	$ 7,766	$ 19,048	$ -	$ 27,073
Total liabilities	-	259	7,766	19,048	-	27,073
Fund Balances:						
Restricted for judicial	$ -	$ 131,651	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 131,651
Restricted for public safety	-	-	23,749	61,397	-	85,146
Restricted for public works	997,251	-	-	-	-	997,251
Restricted for public health and welfare	-	-	-	-	87,885	87,885
Total fund balance	997,251	131,651	23,749	61,397	87,885	1,301,933
Total liabilities and fund balance	$ 997,251	$ 131,910	$ 31,515	$ 80,445	$ 87,885	$ 1,329,006

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 15

COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
NON-MAJOR SPECIAL REVENUE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
Year Ended December 31, 2023

	TSPLOST	Law Library	Confiscated Assets	Sheriff Commissary	Public Purpose Corporation	Total Nonmajor Governmental Funds
REVENUES						
Taxes	$ 866,250	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 866,250
Fines and forfeitures	-	24,150	20,589	-	-	44,739
Intergovernmental revenue	-	-	-	-	192,786	192,786
Charges for services	-	-	-	180,660	-	180,660
Interest income	-	198	-	-	-	198
Total revenues	866,250	24,348	20,589	180,660	192,786	1,284,633
EXPENDITURES						
Judicial	-	5,050	-	-	-	5,050
Public safety	-	-	5,396	137,928	-	143,324
Public works	56,585	-	-	-	-	56,585
Health and welfare	-	-	-	-	13,484	13,484
Debt service:						
Principal	-	-	-	-	89,963	89,963
Interest	-	-	-	-	64,792	64,792
Total expenditures	56,585	5,050	5,396	137,928	168,239	373,198
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES	809,665	19,298	15,193	42,732	24,547	911,435
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING	187,586	112,353	8,556	18,665	63,338	390,498
FUND BALANCE, ENDING	$ 997,251	$ 131,651	$ 23,749	$ 61,397	$ 87,885	$ 1,301,933

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 16

BUDGETARY COMPARISON – TSPLOST FUND
Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Original and Final Budgeted Amounts	Actual Amounts	Variance with Final Budget - Positive (Negative)
REVENUES			
Sales tax revenues	$ 305,000	$ 866,250	$ 561,250
Total revenues	305,000	866,250	561,250
EXPENDITURES			
Public works	305,000	56,585	248,415
Total expenditures	305,000	56,585	248,415
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	-	809,665	809,665
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING	187,586	187,586	-
FUND BALANCE, ENDING	$ 187,586	$ 997,251	$ 809,665

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 17

BUDGETARY COMPARISON – LAW LIBRARY FUND
Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Original and Final Budgeted Amount	Actual Amounts	Variance with Final Budget - Positive (Negative)
REVENUES			
Fines and forfeitures	$ 8,000	$ 24,150	$ 16,150
Interest income	-	198	198
Total revenues	8,000	24,348	16,348
EXPENDITURES			
Judicial	8,000	5,050	2,950
Total expenditures	8,000	5,050	2,950
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	-	19,298	19,298
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING	112,353	112,353	-
FUND BALANCE, ENDING	$ 112,353	$ 131,651	$ 19,298

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 18

BUDGETARY COMPARISON – CONFISCATED ASSETS FUND
Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Original and Final Budgeted Amount	Actual Amounts	Variance with Final Budget - Positive (Negative)
REVENUES			
Fines and forfeitures	$ 56,000	$ 20,589	$ (35,411)
Total revenues	56,000	20,589	(35,411)
EXPENDITURES			
Public safety	56,000	5,396	50,604
Total expenditures	56,000	5,396	50,604
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	-	15,193	15,193
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING	8,556	8,556	-
FUND BALANCE, ENDING	$ 8,556	$ 23,749	$ 15,193

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 19

BUDGETARY COMPARISON – SHERIFF COMMISSARY FUND
Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Original and Final Budgeted Amounts	Actual Amounts	Variance with Final Budget - Positive (Negative)
REVENUES			
Charges for services	$ 142,000	$ 180,660	$ 38,660
Total revenues	142,000	180,660	38,660
EXPENDITURES			
Public Safety	142,000	137,928	4,072
Total expenditures	142,000	137,928	4,072
NET CHANCE IN FUND BALANCE	-	42,732	42,732
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING	18,665	18,665	-
FUND BALANCE, ENDING	$ 18,665	$ 61,397	$ 42,732

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 20

BUDGETARY COMPARISON – PUBLIC PURPOSE CORPORATION FUND
Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Original Budgeted Amounts	Final Budgeted Amounts	Actual Amounts	Variance with Final Budget - Positive (Negative)
REVENUES				
Intergovernmental	$ 39,000	$ 195,000	$ 192,786	$ (2,214)
Total revenues	39,000	195,000	192,786	(2,214)
EXPENDITURES				
Public health and welfare	2,315,000	39,000	13,484	25,516
Debt Service:				
Principal payments	21,000	91,000	89,963	1,037
Interest expenditures	18,000	65,000	64,792	208
Total expenditures	2,354,000	195,000	168,239	26,761
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	(2,315,000)	-	24,547	24,547
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Proceeds from issurance of debt	2,315,000	-	-	-
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	-	-	24,547	24,547
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING	63,338	63,338	63,338	-
FUND BALANCE, ENDING	$ 63,338	$ 63,338	$ 87,885	$ 24,547

Custodial Funds

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 21

CUSTODIAL FUNDS
COMBINING STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
December 31, 2023

	Superior Court	Probate Court	Tax Commissioner	Magistrate	Sheriff	Tax Assessor	Building Department	Total
ASSETS								
Cash	$ 86,371	$ 75,426	$ 2,763,799	$ 12,108	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 2,937,704
Taxes receivable	-	-	2,819,897	-	-	-	-	2,819,897
Total assets	86,371	75,426	5,583,696	12,108	-	-	-	5,757,601
LIABILITIES								
Due to others	13,637	36,064	2,739,537	12,108	-			2,801,346
Total liabilites	13,637	36,064	2,739,537	12,108	-	-	-	2,801,346
NET POSITION								
Restricted for individuals, organizations, and other governments	$ 72,734	$ 39,362	$ 2,844,159	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 2,956,255

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 22

CUSTODIAL FUNDS
COMBINING STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Superior Court	Probate Court	Tax Commissioner	Magistrate	Sheriff	Tax Assessor	Building Department	Total
ADDITIONS								
Taxes collected	$ -	$ -	$ 13,327,714	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 13,327,714
Fines and fees collected	450,173	356,596	-	106,043	115,277	3,800	81,635	1,113,524
Interest	-	11	786	-	-	-	-	797
Total additions	450,173	356,607	13,328,500	106,043	115,277	3,800	81,635	14,442,035
DEDUCTIONS								
Taxes disbursed	-	-	14,169,863	-	-	-	-	14,169,863
Fines and fees disbursed	432,061	348,321	-	106,043	115,277	3,800	81,635	1,087,137
Total deductions	432,061	348,321	14,169,863	106,043	115,277	3,800	81,635	15,257,000
NET INCREASE(DECREASE) IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION	18,112	8,286	(841,363)	-	-	-	-	(814,965)
Net position - beginning - as restated	54,622	31,076	3,685,522	-	-	-	-	3,771,220
Net position - ending	$ 72,734	$ 39,362	$ 2,844,159	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 2,956,255

Other Reports

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

County Commissioner
Bleckley County Georgia
Cochran, Georgia

We have audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Bleckley County, Georgia as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Bleckley County, Georgia's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated June 26, 2024. Our report includes a reference to other auditors who audited the financial statements of Bleckley County Board of Health, as described in our report on Bleckley County, Georgia's financial statements. This report does not include the results of the other auditors' testing of internal control over financial reporting or compliance and other matters that are reported on separately by those auditors.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Bleckley County, Georgia'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 Bleckley County, Georgia's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Bleckley County, Georgia's internal control.

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

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. We identified a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses as item 2023-001 that we consider to be a significant deficiency.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Bleckley County, Georgia'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.*

Bleckley County, Georgia's Response to Findings

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

Purpose of this Report

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

Nichols, Cauley & Associates, LLC

Dublin, Georgia
June 26, 2024

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES

Finding 2023-001

Significant Deficiency in Internal Control over Financial Reporting—Segregation of Duties

Criteria: The segregation of duties and responsibilities between different individuals for custody of assets, recordkeeping for those assets, and reconciliation of those asset accounts is an important control activity needed to adequately protect the County's assets and ensure accurate financial reporting.

Condition: Due to the limited number of personnel, overlapping of duties exists in the County's operations, primarily in the areas of cash receipts and disbursements.

Context: We observed inadequate segregation of duties by observing the cash receipts and cash disbursements functions fieldwork, and through interviews of personnel.

Effect or Potential Effect: Without sufficient segregation of duties, the risk significantly increases that errors and fraud related to cash receipts and cash disbursements, could occur and not be detected within a timely basis.

Cause: The County's limited size and staffing resources have made it difficult for management to provide sufficient staffing to fully segregate incompatible duties in a cost-effective manner.

Recommendation: Management should continue exercise alert supervision of employees in order to protect the assets of the County. We further recommend that the County implement an internal audit to be performed on a quarterly basis. This internal audit would serve to further mitigate the lack of segregation of duties.

Views of Responsible Official and Planned Corrective Actions: The Commissioner concurs with the recommendation. The Commissioner realizes that with limited personnel adequate segregation of duties is not possible. Therefore, to mitigate this, the Commissioner will exercise alert supervision over all employees. The Commissioner will consider the feasibility of performing quarterly internal audits in the future.

OTHER INFORMATION

SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF SPECIAL LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX
Year Ended December 31, 2023

Project Description Per SPLOST Referendum	Estimated Cost		Expenditures		
	Original	Current	Prior Years	Current Year	Total
Capital projects					
Jail, capital projects	$3,327,258	$3,327,258	$1,606,884	$ 554,002	$2,160,886
Recreation department, capital projects	175,000	175,000	146,362	24,268	170,630
Fire department, capital projects	25,000	25,000	2,408	3,595	6,003
Roads and bridges, capital projects	472,942	472,942	329,951	103,325	433,276
City of Cochran	1,999,800	1,999,800	1,932,900	568,227	2,501,127
Total	$6,000,000	$6,000,000	$4,018,505	$ 1,253,417	$5,271,922