BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

DECEMBER 31, 2024

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ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT
Year Ended December 31, 2024

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Financial Section

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, 2024, 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, 2024, 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* (GAS), 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 GAS 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 GAS, 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 33-37 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 30, 2025 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 30, 2025

Basic Financial Statements

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 1

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
December 31, 2024

	Primary Government	Component Unit
	Governmental Activities	Bleckley County Board of Health
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 8,985,735	$ 1,338,381
Receivables, net of allowances for uncollectibles:		
Taxes	755,345	-
Accounts	4,186	9,892
Intergovernmental	386,596	3
Prepaid expenses	159,192	-
Inventory, at cost	29,658	-
Capital assets:		
Land and other non-depreciable assets	858,722	-
Other capital assets, net of depreciation	15,690,022	5,600
Total assets	26,869,456	1,353,876
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	175,845	85,166
Total assets and deferred outflows of resources	27,045,301	1,439,042
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	941,705	-
Intergovernmental payable	102,827	-
Accrued expenses	223,736	10,520
Landfill post-closure care costs	47,863	-
Long-term liability:		
Landfill post-closure care costs - noncurrent	546,728	-
Net pension liability	1,136,504	239,399
Net OPEB liability	-	10,995
Due within one year	831,585	2,769
Due in more than one year	3,146,465	11,076
Total liabilities	6,977,413	274,759
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	4,891	15,250
Total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources	6,982,304	290,009
NET POSITION		
Net investment in capital assets	12,999,390	5,600
Restricted for:		
Judicial	142,880	-
Public safety	70,377	-
Public works	1,208,213	-
Health and welfare	106,305	238,708
Capital projects	2,731,199	-
Unrestricted	2,804,633	904,725
Total net position	$ 20,062,997	$ 1,149,033

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, 2024

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	$ 2,572,274	$ 94,208	$ 843,751	$ -	$ (1,634,315)	$ (1,634,315)	$ -
Judicial	948,552	665,159	-	-	(283,393)	(283,393)	-
Public safety	5,574,380	459,419	209,644	16,903	(4,888,414)	(4,888,414)	-
Public works	3,198,584	121,443	973,013	-	(2,104,128)	(2,104,128)	-
Health and welfare	678,432	-	311,852	-	(366,580)	(366,580)	-
Culture and recreation	134,300	-	-	439,481	305,181	305,181	-
Housing and development	128,231	-	-	-	(128,231)	(128,231)	-
Interest on long-term debt	114,973	-	-	-	(114,973)	(114,973)	-
Total governmental activities	13,349,726	1,340,229	2,338,260	456,384	(9,214,853)	(9,214,853)	-
Component Unit							
Bleckley County Public Health Center	483,195	189,015	356,870	-	-	-	62,690
Total component units	$ 483,195	$ 189,015	$ 356,870	$ -	-	-	62,690
General Revenues:							
General property taxes					3,955,449	3,955,449	-
Vehicle taxes					720,449	720,449	-
Sales taxes					3,317,129	3,317,129	-
Other taxes					693,658	693,658	-
Unrestricted investment earnings					60,156	60,156	-
Intra/inter agency					-	-	57,840
Other local funds					-	-	12,404
Gain from sale of capital assets					8,000	8,000	-
Insurance proceeds					33,840	33,840	-
Miscellaneous					39,747	39,747	-
Total general revenues and transfers					8,828,428	8,828,428	70,244
Change in net position					(386,425)	(386,425)	132,934
Net position-beginning					19,666,713	19,666,713	1,016,099
Prior period adjustment - correction of an error					782,709	782,709	-
Net position-beginning, as restated					20,449,422	20,449,422	1,016,099
Net position-ending					$ 20,062,997	$ 20,062,997	$ 1,149,033

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, 2024

	General	2019 SPLOST	TSPLOST	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS					
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 4,653,111	$ 2,714,621	$1,171,287	$ 446,716	$ 8,985,735
Receivables, net of allowances for uncollectibles:					
Taxes	755,345	-	-	-	755,345
Accounts	4,186	-	-	-	4,186
Intergovernmental	162,847	169,405	36,926	17,418	386,596
Interfund receivable	111,651	-	-	-	111,651
Prepaid expenditures	159,192	-	-	-	159,192
Inventory, at cost	29,658	-	-	-	29,658
Total assets	$ 5,875,990	$ 2,884,026	$1,208,213	$ 464,134	$ 10,432,363
LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES					
Liabilities:					
Accounts payable	$ 858,784	$ 50,000	$ -	$ 32,921	$ 941,705
Intergovernmental payable	-	102,827	-	-	102,827
Interfund payable	-	-	-	111,651	111,651
Accrued expenses	223,736	-	-	-	223,736
Total liabilities	1,082,520	152,827	-	144,572	1,379,919
Deferred Inflows of Resources					
Unavailable property taxes	412,572	-	-	-	412,572
Total deferred inflows of resources	412,572	-	-	-	412,572
Total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources	1,495,092	152,827	-	144,572	1,792,491
Fund Balances:					
Nonspendable:					
Prepaid expenses	159,192	-	-	-	159,192
Inventory	29,658	-	-	-	29,658
Restricted for:					
Judicial	-	-	-	142,880	142,880
Public safety	-	-	-	70,377	70,377
Public works	-	-	1,208,213	-	1,208,213
Health and welfare	-	-	-	106,305	106,305
Capital projects	-	2,731,199	-	-	2,731,199
Unassigned	4,192,048	-	-	-	4,192,048
Total fund balances	4,380,898	2,731,199	1,208,213	319,562	8,639,872
Total liabilities and fund balances	$ 5,875,990	$ 2,884,026	$1,208,213	$ 464,134	$ 10,432,363

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, 2024

Fund balance - total governmental funds	$	8,639,872
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.		16,548,744
Some governmental revenues will not be collected for several months after the year end and are deferred in the governmental funds		412,572
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.		170,954
Some liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds:		
Notes payable		(3,549,354)
Net pension liability		(1,136,504)
Post-closure care costs		(594,591)
Compensated absences		(428,696)
Net position of governmental activities	$	20,062,997

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, 2024

	General	2019 SPLOST	TSPLOST	Formerly Major ARPA	Formerly Major E911	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES							
Taxes	$ 6,967,714	$ 1,864,735	$ 370,837	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 9,203,286
Licenses and permits	46,040	-	-	-	-	-	46,040
Fines and forfeitures	519,354	-	-	-	-	32,826	552,180
Charges for services	357,185	-	-	-	-	384,823	742,008
Intergovernmental revenues	2,011,115	-	-	-	-	780,315	2,791,430
Investment income	59,742	-	-	-	-	414	60,156
Other revenues	42,962	-	-	-	-	-	42,962
Total revenues	10,004,112	1,864,735	370,837	-	-	1,198,378	13,438,062
EXPENDITURES							
Current:							
General government	1,925,377	-	-	-	-	86,797	2,012,174
Judicial	895,316	-	-	-	-	4,932	900,248
Public safety	4,532,092	17,518	-	-	-	416,671	4,966,281
Public works	3,042,762	109,450	159,875	-	-	28,952	3,341,039
Health and welfare	535,917	-	-	-	-	19,568	555,485
Culture and recreation	131,167	64,954	-	-	-	439,481	635,602
Housing and development	144,845	-	-	-	-	31,560	176,405
Intergovernmental payments	-	622,533	-	-	-	-	622,533
Debt Service:							
Principal payments	4,350	501,944	-	-	-	93,366	599,660
Interest payments	402	52,400	-	-	-	62,171	114,973
Total expenditures	11,212,228	1,368,799	159,875	-	-	1,183,498	13,924,400
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER(UNDER) EXPENDITURES	(1,208,116)	495,936	210,962	-	-	14,880	(486,338)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)							
Insurance proceeds	33,840	-	-	-	-	-	33,840
Proceeds from sale of capital assets	8,000	-	-	-	-	-	8,000
Total other financing sources (uses)	41,840	-	-	-	-	-	41,840
NET CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES	(1,166,276)	495,936	210,962	-	-	14,880	(444,498)
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING, as previously stated	5,032,822	2,235,263	-	-	-	1,301,933	8,570,018
Change within financial reporting entity (nonmajor to major)	-	-	997,251	-	-	(997,251)	-
Change within financial reporting entity (major to nonmajor)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Correction of an error	514,352	-	-	-	-	-	514,352
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING, as restated	5,547,174	2,235,263	997,251	-	-	304,682	9,084,370
FUND BALANCES, ENDING	$ 4,380,898	$ 2,731,199	$ 1,208,213	$ -	$ -	$ 319,562	$ 8,639,872

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, 2024

Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds	$	(444,498)
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.		1,342,272
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.		(983,317)
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		(20,661)
Compensated absences		(251,263)
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		(112,017)
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		599,660
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:		
Property taxes		(516,601)
Change in net position of governmental activities	$	(386,425)

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, 2024

	Custodial Funds
ASSETS	
Cash	$ 4,196,519
Taxes receivable	3,424,634
Total assets	7,621,153
LIABILITIES	
Due to others	4,115,471
Total liabilities	4,115,471
NET POSITION	
Restricted for individuals, organizations, and other governments	$ 3,505,682

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, 2024

	Custodial Funds
ADDITIONS	
Taxes collected for others	$ 13,634,239
Fines and fees collected	1,601,528
Investment income	714
Total additions	15,236,481
DEDUCTIONS	
Payments of taxes to others	13,128,258
Fines and fees disbursed	1,558,796
Total deductions	14,687,054
Change in net position	549,427
Net position - beginning	2,956,255
Net position - ending	$ 3,505,682

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 government's 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 2024 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 statements in the component unit columns are as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. Complete financial statements can be obtained at the Board's administrative office.

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.

NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued

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.

TSPLOST Discretionary accounts for the accumulation of the discretionary portion of TSPLOST revenues and the 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, ARPA, E911, and the Public Purpose Corporation.

The *Capital Projects Funds* account for revenue sources that are legally restricted to expenditure for capital improvements.

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 50 percent of outstanding property taxes at December 31, 2024. 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.

10. Adoption of GASB Statement 100– In June 2022, the GASB issued Statement No. 100, Accounting Changes and Error Corrections – an amendment of GASB Statement No. 62. The primary objective of the Statement is to enhance accounting and financial reporting requirements for accounting changes and error corrections to provide more understandable, reliable, relevant, consistent, and comparable information for making decisions or accessing accountability. The County implemented the requirements of GASB 100 for accounting changes and error corrections in 2024, and has presented a restatement of fund balance for changes within the financial reporting entity accordingly. See note 4.

11. Adoption of GASB Statement 101 – In June 2022, the GASB issued Statement No, 101, Compensated Absences (Statement 101). This Statement is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2023. Statement 101 replaces GASB Statement No. 16, Accounting for Compensated Absences. The objective of Statement 101 is to better meet the information needs of financial statement users by updating the recognition and measurement guidance for compensated absences. That objective is achieved by aligning the recognition and measurement guidance under a unified model and by amending certain previously required disclosures.

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, 2024.

NOTE 3. DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS

Excess of Expenditures over Appropriations in Individual Departments:

For the year ended December 31, 2024, expenditures exceeded appropriations by more than 3% in the following funds or departments:

GENERAL FUND	Expenditures	Appropriations	Expenditures Over Appropriations
General government:			
Courthouse	$ 872,703	$ 716,604	$ 156,099
Judicial:			
Clerk of Superior Court	244,683	232,699	11,984
Superior Court	212,923	147,758	65,165
Probate Court	259,752	245,000	14,752
Magistrate Court	177,958	169,830	8,128
Public Safety:			
Sheriff	1,847,225	1,599,700	247,525
Jail	1,436,159	1,157,000	279,159
Communication center and E-911	355,597	288,500	67,097
Emergency Management	72,908	66,245	6,663
Coroner	36,840	32,780	4,060
Animal control	48,795	43,870	4,925
Public Works:			
Public Works	3,042,762	1,408,289	1,634,473
Health and Welfare:			
Sanitation	242,976	207,830	35,146
Senior Center	77,154	62,950	14,204
Culture and Recreation:			
Culture and Recreation	131,167	85,000	46,167
Housing and Development:			
Building inspection	56,608	45,442	11,166
ARPA			
Housing and development	31,560	-	31,560
Culture and recreation	439,481	-	439,481
Sheriff Commissary			
Public Safety	176,241	142,000	34,241

NOTE 3. DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS, continued

Deposits and Investments

Investments – The County owns no investments as of December 31, 2024.

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. December 31, 2024, 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.

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 2024 collected during the current year and within 60 days of year-end has been recognized as revenue.

Property taxes receivable at December 31, 2024, is composed of the following:

Year of Levy:		
2024	$	839,273
2023		600,486
2022		29,722
2021		8,588
2020		7,773
Prior to 2020		19,459
Total		1,505,301
Less - allowance for uncollectible		749,956
Net receivable	$	755,345

NOTE 3. DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS, continued

Accounts Receivable

Primary Government

Receivables at December 31, 2024, 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	TSPLOST	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total
Receivables:					
Taxes	$ 1,505,301	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,505,301
Accounts	4,186	-	-	-	4,186
Intergovernmental	162,847	169,405	36,926	17,418	386,596
Gross receivables	1,672,334	169,405	36,926	17,418	1,896,083
Less: allowance for Uncollectibles	749,956	-	-	-	749,956
Net receivables	$ 922,378	$ 169,405	$ 36,926	$ 17,418	$ 1,146,127

Discretely Presented Component Units

Receivables of the Bleckley County Board of Health at June 30, 2024 are as follows:

	Bleckley County Board of Health
Receivables:	
Accounts	$ 9,892
Intergovernmental	3
Gross receivables	9,895
Less - allowance for Uncollectibles	-
Net total receivables	$ 9,895

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
Resources billed, but not yet received	$ 412,572

NOTE 3. DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS, continued

Capital Assets

Primary Government

Capital asset activity for the year ended December 31, 2024 was as follows:

	Primary Government			
	Beginning Balance	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance
Governmental activities				
Capital assets not being depreciated -				
Land	$ 530,641	$ -	$ -	$ 530,641
Construction in progress	238,822	89,259	-	328,081
Total capital assets not being depreciated	769,463	89,259	-	858,722
Other capital assets:				
Infrastructure*	6,747,313	775,024	-	7,522,337
Buildings and other improvements	12,839,732	190,009	-	13,029,741
Machinery and equipment	8,117,251	287,980	30,500	8,374,731
Total other capital assets	27,704,296	1,253,013	30,500	28,926,809
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Infrastructure	(1,539,180)	(234,399)	-	(1,773,579)
Buildings and other improvements	(4,423,790)	(318,660)	-	(4,742,450)
Machinery and equipment	(6,321,000)	(430,258)	(30,500)	(6,720,758)
Total accumulated depreciation	(12,283,970)	(983,317)	(30,500)	(13,236,787)
Other capital assets, net	15,420,326	269,696	-	15,690,022
Governmental activities capital assets, net	$16,189,789	$ 358,955	$ -	$ 16,548,744

* Beginning balance restated for correction of an error, see Note 4.

Depreciation expense was charged to functions/programs of the primary government for the year ended December 31, 2024 as follows:

Governmental activities:	
General government	$ 77,160
Judicial	5,903
Public safety	456,468
Public w orks	315,651
Public health and w elfare	120,344
Culture and recreation	7,791
Total governmental activities depreciation expense	$ 983,317

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, 2024 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	$ 5,123	$ -	$ 9,945
Less accumulated depreciation	(2,893)	(1,452)	-	(4,345)
Capital assets, net	$ 1,929	$ 3,671	$ -	$ 5,600

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, 2024, the composition of interfund balances were as follows:

Receivable Fund	Payable Fund	Amount
General Fund	E911	$ 105,992
General Fund	Public Purpose Corporation	5,659
		$ 111,651

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, 2024.

Due from Other Governments

Amounts due from other governmental entities at December 31, 2024 are as follows:

	Federal	State	Total
General Fund	$ 39,976	$ 122,871	$ 162,847
2019 SPLOST	-	169,405	169,405
TSPLOST	-	36,926	36,926
Nonmajor Governmental Funds	-	17,418	17,418
Total	$ 39,976	$ 346,620	$ 386,596

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, 2024 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	$ 4,149,014	$ -	$ (599,660)	$ 3,549,354	$ 617,237	$ 2,932,117
Compensated absences payable*	177,433	251,263	-	428,696	214,348	214,348
Total Governmental Activities	$ 4,326,447	$ 251,263	$ (599,660)	$ 3,978,050	$ 831,585	$ 3,146,465
Discretely Presented Component Units						
Bleckley County Public Health Center						
Compensated absences payable*	$ 8,799	$ 5,046	$ -	$ 13,845	$ 2,769	$ 11,076
Total Public Health Center	$ 8,799	$ 5,046	$ -	$ 13,845	$ 2,769	$ 11,076

* The change in compensated absences liability is presented as a net change.

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, 2024:

	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.	$ 1,594,596	$ 516,456	$ 1,078,140
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.	1,941,051	96,321	1,844,730
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.	13,707	4,460	9,247
Total	$ 3,549,354	$ 617,237	$ 2,932,117

NOTE 3. DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS, continued

At December 31, 2024, the five-year maturity schedule of these notes payable is as follows:

Year Ending December 31	Principal	Interest
2025	$ 617,237	$ 97,569
2026	635,331	79,476
2027	653,940	60,852
2028	105,759	49,753
2029	109,107	46,406
2030-2034	599,570	177,991
2035-2039	700,651	76,910
2040	127,759	1,836
	$ 3,549,354	$ 590,793

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 Environmental 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 $594,591 to monitor the landfill during the remaining post-closure period is reflected as a liability in the statement of net position at December 31, 2024. 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.

NOTE 4. OTHER INFORMATION, continued

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.

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, 2024, related to the pensions are as follows: deferred outflows of resources of $85,166, net pension liability of $239,399 and deferred inflows of resources of $15,250. 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.

NOTE 4. OTHER INFORMATION, continued

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, 2024, the date of the latest actuarial valuation:

Retirees and beneficiaries currently receiving benefits	40
Terminated plan members entitled to but not yet receiving benefits	39
Active employees participating in the Plan	49
Total	128
Part-time active employees not participating in the Plan	15
Covered compensation for active participants	$2,260,703
Contributions as a percentage of its covered-employee payroll	8.10%
Average remaining future service for active participants	8.14

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 2024 plan year was $177,925 and $183,132, respectively. The actual contribution amount represents 8.10% of covered payroll.

NOTE 4. OTHER INFORMATION, continued

e. Net Pension Liability

The County's net pension liability was measured as of December 31, 2024, 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, 2024 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 2024 (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 2024 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.

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, 2024 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 7.00%

Change in assumption
The actuarial valuation as of January 1, 2024 reflected a mortality improvement change from Pub-2010 GE (50%) & PS (50%) Amt-Weighted with Scale AA to 2023 to Pub-2010 GE (50%) & PS (50%) Amt-Weighted with Scale AA to 2024. 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 $6,781.

NOTE 4. OTHER INFORMATION, continued

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%
Fifteen year performance in excess of benchmarks	0.90%
Assumed annual investment return (limited to 7.00%)	7.00%

Changes in the Net Pension Liability

Changes in the Net Pension Liability for the year ended December 31, 2024 were as follows:

	Increase (Decrease)		
	Total Pension Liability	Fiduciary Net Position	Net Pension Liability
Balance at December 31, 2023	$ 4,764,349	$ 3,664,396	$ 1,099,953
Changes for the year:			
Service Cost	101,823	-	101,823
Interest	325,136	-	325,136
Liability experience (gain)/loss	76,794	-	76,794
Assumption Change	6,781	-	6,781
Employer Contributions	-	183,132	(183,132)
Net Investment Income	-	385,295	(385,295)
Benefit Payments	(239,096)	(239,096)	-
Administrative Expense	-	(33,593)	33,593
Other Changes *	-	(60,851)	60,851
Net Changes	271,438	234,887	36,551
Balance at December 31, 2024	$ 5,035,787	$ 3,899,283	$ 1,136,504

* Other changes include post-retirement death benefit expense of $45,739 and investment expense of $15,112.

Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a % of Total Pension Liability	77%
Covered Payroll	$ 2,260,703
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	$ 5,647,282	$ 5,035,787	$ 4,526,445
Fiduciary Net Position	3,899,283	3,899,283	3,899,283
Net Pension Liability	$ 1,747,999	$ 1,136,504	$ 627,162

NOTE 4. OTHER INFORMATION, continued

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.

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	$ 183,132
Other changes in net pension liability	(146,581)
Deferred outflow related to investment results	124,051
Deferred outflow related to change in assumption	(6,781)
Deferred inflow related to experience gain	(76,794)
Amortization of deferred inflows and outflows	34,989
Pension expense (benefit)	$ 112,016

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	$ 31,367	$ -
Changes in assumptions	25,445	-
Differences between expected and actual experience	119,033	4,891
Total	$ 175,845	$ 4,891

The County made its pension contribution for the 2024 plan year in December 2024. 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
2025	$ 36,975	$ 16,149	$ 64,556
2026	93,853	9,077	47,108
2027	(74,651)	219	2,478
2028	(24,810)	-	-
	$ 31,367	$ 25,445	$ 114,142

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, 2024 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, 2024.

NOTE 4. OTHER INFORMATION, continued

Correction of an error

During the year ended December 31, 2024, the County identified and corrected errors related to the recognition of intergovernmental revenues and capitalization of assets in the government-wide financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2023.

The first error involved a cost-reimbursement grant in which eligible expenditures incurred during 2023 were not recognized as intergovernmental revenue in the appropriate period. As a result, intergovernmental revenue was understated by $514,352, and unearned revenue was overstated by $245,994 in the government-wide financial statements as of December 31, 2023.

Additionally, capital assets were understated by $268,358 due to an unintentional error in capitalization. This error did not have a material effect on depreciation expense.

The combined effect of these corrections resulted in an increase to beginning net position of governmental activities in the amount of $782,709 as reported in the government-wide financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2024.

At the fund level, ARPA Fund revenues and expenditures for the year ended December 31, 2023, were both understated by $514,352. Because the error equally affected both revenue and expenditures, there was no impact on the ARPA Fund's ending fund balance. In the General Fund, expenditures were overstated by $514,352 as of December 31, 2023. The correction of this error resulted in an increase in beginning fund balance of the General Fund in the amount of $514,352.

Adjustments to and Restatements of Beginning Balances

During fiscal year 2024, changes to or within the financial reporting entity and error corrections resulted in adjustments to and restatements of beginning net position and fund net position, as follows:

	Reporting Units Affected by Adjustments to and Restatements of Beginning Balances					
	Funds					Government-Wide
	General Fund	ARPA	E911	TSPLOST	Nonmajor Governmental	Governmental Activities
12/31/23, as previously reported	$ 5,032,822	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,301,933	$ 19,666,711
Change from major to nonmajor fund	-	-	-	-	-	-
Change from nonmajor to major fund	-	-	-	997,251	(997,251)	-
Correction of an error	514,352	-	-	-	-	782,709
12/31/23, as adjusted or restated	$ 5,547,174	$ -	$ -	$ 997,251	$ 304,682	$ 20,449,420

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, 2024

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
CHANGES IN TOTAL PENSION LIABILITY					
Total Pension Liability - beginning of year	$ 4,764,349	$ 4,397,032	$ 4,432,206	$ 4,290,538	$ 4,069,547
Service cost	101,823	97,053	78,090	65,747	70,680
Interest	325,136	299,605	300,868	291,434	284,868
Assumption change	6,781	48,226	5,655	5,796	5,850
Benefit payments	(239,096)	(233,928)	(268,175)	(254,411)	(238,112)
Liability experience gain/loss	76,794	156,361	(151,612)	33,102	97,705
Total Pension Liability - end of year	$ 5,035,787	$ 4,764,349	$ 4,397,032	$ 4,432,206	$ 4,290,538
CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION					
Fiduciary Net Position - beginning of year	$ 3,664,396	$ 3,279,261	$ 3,965,488	$ 3,602,369	$ 3,289,207
Employer contributions	183,132	200,806	195,715	183,677	159,150
Net investment income	385,295	483,227	(561,254)	540,509	438,201
Benefit payments	(239,096)	(233,928)	(268,175)	(254,411)	(230,060)
Administrative expense	(33,593)	(31,095)	(26,928)	(24,844)	(25,517)
Other	(60,851)	(33,875)	(25,585)	(81,812)	(28,612)
Fiduciary Net Position - end of year	$ 3,899,283	$ 3,664,396	$ 3,279,261	$ 3,965,488	$ 3,602,369
Net Pension Liability	$ 1,136,504	$ 1,099,953	$ 1,117,771	$ 466,718	$ 688,169
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a % of Total Pension Liability	77%	77%	75%	89%	84%
Covered payroll	$ 2,260,703	$ 2,260,703	$ 1,768,824	$ 1,585,660	$ 1,778,938
Net Pension Liability as a % of Covered Payroll	50%	49%	63%	29%	39%

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, 2024

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
CHANGES IN TOTAL PENSION LIABILITY					
Total Pension Liability - beginning of year	$ 3,721,876	$ 3,439,993	$ 3,403,684	$ 3,079,401	$ 2,871,816
Service cost	65,554	66,854	55,388	63,252	59,031
Interest	260,531	249,399	246,767	226,348	215,386
Assumption change	142,456	131,599	6,425	83,422	94,585
Benefit payments	(219,542)	(195,443)	(165,538)	(122,848)	(149,557)
Liability experience gain/loss	98,672	29,474	(106,733)	74,109	(11,860)
Total Pension Liability - end of year	$ 4,069,547	$ 3,721,876	$ 3,439,993	$ 3,403,684	$ 3,079,401
CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION					
Fiduciary Net Position - beginning of year	$ 2,819,646	$ 3,034,130	$ 2,652,276	$ 2,479,158	$ 2,489,307
Employer contributions	139,181	149,629	153,395	182,448	143,902
Net investment income	581,094	(131,976)	418,769	178,080	19,723
Benefit payments	(212,118)	(188,606)	(159,747)	(122,848)	(144,152)
Administrative expense	(24,243)	(14,806)	(11,572)	(15,472)	(10,861)
Other	(14,353)	(28,725)	(18,991)	(49,090)	(18,761)
Fiduciary Net Position - end of year	$ 3,289,207	$ 2,819,646	$ 3,034,130	$ 2,652,276	$ 2,479,158
Net Pension Liability	$ 780,340	$ 902,230	$ 405,863	$ 751,408	$ 600,243
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a % of Total Pension Liability	81%	76%	88%	78%	81%
Covered payroll	$ 1,697,872	$ 1,963,325	$ 1,714,337	$ 1,781,952	$ 1,547,542
Net Pension Liability as a % of Covered Payroll	46%	46%	24%	42%	39%

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 10

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
SCHEDULE OF COUNTY CONTRIBUTIONS
Year Ended December 31, 2024

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
2024	$ 177,925	$ 183,132	(5,207)	$ 2,260,703	8.10%
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	681.00	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%

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 11

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE – GENERAL FUND
Year Ended December 31, 2024

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with Final Budget -
	Original	Final	Amounts	Positive (Negative)
REVENUES				
Taxes revenues	$ 6,589,500	$ 6,589,500	$ 6,967,714	$ 378,214
Licenses and permits	99,000	99,000	46,040	(52,960)
Fines and forfeitures	915,000	915,000	519,354	(395,646)
Charges for services	304,000	304,000	357,185	53,185
Intergovernmental revenues	811,419	811,419	2,011,115	1,199,696
Interest income	-	-	59,742	59,742
Other revenues	20,000	20,000	42,962	22,962
Total revenues	8,738,919	8,738,919	10,004,112	1,265,193
EXPENDITURES				
General government:				
Administration	277,659	277,659	271,525	6,134
Courthouse	716,604	716,604	872,703	(156,099)
Tax commissioner	276,000	276,000	272,782	3,218
Voter registars	144,890	144,890	130,185	14,705
Tax assessor	186,491	186,491	190,598	(4,107)
Non-departmental	216,490	216,490	187,584	28,906
Total General Government	1,818,134	1,818,134	1,925,377	(107,243)
Judicial:				
Clerk of Superior Court	232,699	232,699	244,683	(11,984)
Superior Court	147,758	147,758	212,923	(65,165)
Probate Court	245,000	245,000	259,752	(14,752)
Magistrate Court	169,830	169,830	177,958	(8,128)
Total Judicial	795,287	795,287	895,316	(100,029)
Public safety:				
Sheriff	1,599,700	1,599,700	1,847,225	(247,525)
Jail	1,157,000	1,157,000	1,436,159	(279,159)
Communication center and E-911	288,500	288,500	355,597	(67,097)
Fire department	364,630	364,630	359,568	5,062
Emergency Management	66,245	66,245	72,908	(6,663)
Ambulance	375,000	375,000	375,000	-
Coroner	32,780	32,780	36,840	(4,060)
Animal control	43,870	43,870	48,795	(4,925)
Total Public Safety	3,927,725	3,927,725	4,532,092	(604,367)

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 11

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE – GENERAL FUND
Year Ended December 31, 2024

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with Final Budget -
	Original	Final	Amounts	Positive (Negative)
Public Works	1,408,289	1,408,289	3,042,762	(1,634,473)
Health and Welfare:				
Public health and welfare appropriations	104,360	104,360	100,487	3,873
Sanitation	207,830	207,830	242,976	(35,146)
Senior center	62,950	62,950	77,154	(14,204)
Transit system	168,400	168,400	115,300	53,100
Total Health and Welfare	543,540	543,540	535,917	7,623
Culture and Recreation	85,000	85,000	131,167	(46,167)
Housing and Development				
Building inspection	45,442	45,442	56,608	(11,166)
County Agent	110,750	110,750	88,237	22,513
Total Housing and Development	156,192	156,192	144,845	11,347
Debt Service:				
Principal	4,350	4,350	4,350	-
Interest	402	402	402	-
Total Debt Service	4,752	4,752	4,752	-
Total Expenditures	8,738,919	8,738,919	11,212,228	(2,473,309)
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	-	-	(1,208,116)	(1,208,116)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCE (USE)				
Insurance proceeds	-	-	33,840	33,840
Proceeds from sale of capital assets	-	-	8,000	8,000
Total other financing source (use)	-	-	41,840	41,840
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	-	-	(1,166,276)	(1,166,276)
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING	5,032,822	5,032,822	5,032,822	-
Correction of an error	514,352	514,352	514,352	-
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING - AS RESTATED	5,547,174	5,547,174	5,547,174	-
FUND BALANCE, ENDING	$ 5,547,174	$ 5,547,174	$ 4,380,898	$ (1,166,276)

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.

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

- 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.

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

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 12

COMBINING BALANCE SHEET
NON-MAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
December 31, 2024

	Law Library	Confiscated Assets	Sheriff Commissary	Public Purpose Corporation	ARPA	E911	Total Nonmajor Governmental Funds
ASSETS							
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 142,880	$ 19,296	$ 84,002	$ 111,964	$ -	$ 88,574	$ 446,716
Intergovernmental receivable	-	-	-	-	-	17,418	17,418
Total assets	$ 142,880	$ 19,296	$ 84,002	$ 111,964	$ -	$ 105,992	$ 464,134
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE							
Liabilities:							
Accounts payable	$ -	$ 5,385	$ 27,536	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 32,921
Interfund payable	-	-	-	5,659	-	105,992	111,651
Total liabilities	-	5,385	27,536	5,659	-	105,992	144,572
Fund Balances:							
Restricted for judicial	142,880	-	-	-	-	-	142,880
Restricted for public safety	-	13,911	56,466	-	-	-	70,377
Restricted for public health and w elfare	-	-	-	106,305	-	-	106,305
Total fund balance	142,880	13,911	56,466	106,305	-	-	319,562
Total liabilities and fund balance	$ 142,880	$ 19,296	$ 84,002	$ 111,964	$ -	$ 105,992	$ 464,134

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 13

COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
NON-MAJOR SPECIAL REVENUE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
Year Ended December 31, 2024

	Formerly Nonmajor TSPLOST	Law Library	Confiscated Assets	Sheriff Commissary	Public Purpose Corporation	Formerly Major ARPA	Formerly Major E911	Total Nonmajor Governmental Funds
REVENUES								
Fines and forfeitures	$ -	$ 15,747	$ 17,079	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 32,826
Intergovernmental revenue	-	-	-	-	193,525	586,790	-	780,315
Charges for services	-	-	-	171,310	-	-	213,513	384,823
Interest income	-	414	-	-	-	-	-	414
Total revenues	-	16,161	17,079	171,310	193,525	586,790	213,513	1,198,378
EXPENDITURES								
General government	-	-	-	-	-	86,797	-	86,797
Judicial	-	4,932	-	-	-	-	-	4,932
Public safety	-	-	26,917	176,241	-	-	213,513	416,671
Public works	-	-	-	-	-	28,952	-	28,952
Housing and development	-	-	-	-	-	31,560	-	31,560
Health and welfare	-	-	-	-	19,568	-	-	19,568
Culture and recreation	-	-	-	-	-	439,481	-	439,481
Debt service:								
Principal	-	-	-	-	93,366	-	-	93,366
Interest	-	-	-	-	62,171	-	-	62,171
Total expenditures	-	4,932	26,917	176,241	175,105	586,790	213,513	1,183,498
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES	-	11,229	(9,838)	(4,931)	18,420	-	-	14,880
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING, as previously stated	997,251	131,651	23,749	61,397	87,885	-	-	1,301,933
Change within financial reporting entity (nonmajor to major)	(997,251)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(997,251)
Change within financial reporting entity (major to nonmajor)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING, as restated	-	131,651	23,749	61,397	87,885	-	-	304,682
FUND BALANCE, ENDING	$ -	$ 142,880	$ 13,911	$ 56,466	$ 106,305	$ -	$ -	$ 319,562

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 14

BUDGETARY COMPARISON – LAW LIBRARY FUND
Year Ended December 31, 2024

	Original and Final Budgeted Amount	Actual Amounts	Variance with Final Budget - Positive (Negative)
REVENUES			
Fines and forfeitures	$ 8,000	$ 15,747	$ 7,747
Interest income	-	414	414
Total revenues	8,000	16,161	8,161
EXPENDITURES			
Judicial	8,000	4,932	3,068
Total expenditures	8,000	4,932	3,068
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	-	11,229	11,229
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING	131,651	131,651	-
FUND BALANCE, ENDING	$ 131,651	$ 142,880	$ 11,229

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 15

BUDGETARY COMPARISON – CONFISCATED ASSETS FUND
Year Ended December 31, 2024

	Original and Final Budgeted Amount	Actual Amounts	Variance with Final Budget - Positive (Negative)
REVENUES			
Fines and forfeitures	$ 56,000	$ 17,079	$ (38,921)
Total revenues	56,000	17,079	(38,921)
EXPENDITURES			
Public safety	56,000	26,917	29,083
Total expenditures	56,000	26,917	29,083
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	-	(9,838)	(9,838)
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING	23,749	23,749	-
FUND BALANCE, ENDING	$ 23,749	$ 13,911	$ (9,838)

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 16

BUDGETARY COMPARISON – SHERIFF COMMISSARY FUND
Year Ended December 31, 2024

	Original and Final Budgeted Amounts	Actual Amounts	Variance with Final Budget - Positive (Negative)
REVENUES			
Charges for services	$ 142,000	$ 171,310	$ 29,310
Total revenues	142,000	171,310	29,310
EXPENDITURES			
Public safety	142,000	176,241	(34,241)
Total expenditures	142,000	176,241	(34,241)
NET CHANCE IN FUND BALANCE	-	(4,931)	(4,931)
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING	61,397	61,397	-
FUND BALANCE, ENDING	$ 61,397	$ 56,466	$ (4,931)

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 17

BUDGETARY COMPARISON – PUBLIC PURPOSE CORPORATION
Year Ended December 31, 2024

	Original and Final Budgeted Amounts	Actual Amounts	Variance with Final Budget - Positive (Negative)
REVENUES			
Intergovernmental	$ 200,000	$ 193,525	$ (6,475)
Total revenues	200,000	193,525	(6,475)
EXPENDITURES			
Public health and welfare	43,000	19,568	23,432
Debt service:			
Principal payments	94,244	93,366	878
Interest expenditures	62,756	62,171	585
Total expenditures	200,000	175,105	24,895
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	-	18,420	18,420
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING	87,885	87,885	-
FUND BALANCE, ENDING	$ 87,885	$ 106,305	$ 18,420

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 18

BUDGETARY COMPARISON – ARPA FUND
Year Ended December 31, 2024

	Original and Final Budgeted Amount	Actual Amounts	Variance with Final Budget - Positive (Negative)
REVENUES			
Intergovernmental revenues	$ 268,000	$ 586,790	$ 318,790
Total revenues	268,000	586,790	318,790
EXPENDITURES			
General government	134,000	86,797	47,203
Public works	134,000	28,952	105,048
Housing and devlopment	-	31,560	(31,560)
Culture and recreation	-	439,481	(439,481)
Total expenditures	268,000	586,790	(318,790)
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	-	-	-
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING	-	-	-
FUND BALANCE, ENDING	$ -	$ -	$ -

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 19

BUDGETARY COMPARISON – E911 FUND
Year Ended December 31, 2024

	Original and Final Budgeted Amounts	Actual Amounts	Variance with Final Budget - Positive (Negative)
REVENUES			
Charges for services	$ 220,000	$ 213,513	$ (6,487)
Total revenues	220,000	213,513	(6,487)
EXPENDITURES			
Public safety	220,000	213,513	6,487
Total expenditures	220,000	213,513	6,487
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	-	-	-
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING	-	-	-
FUND BALANCE, ENDING	$ -	$ -	$ -

Custodial Funds

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 20

CUSTODIAL FUNDS
COMBINING STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
December 31, 2024

	Superior Court	Probate Court	Tax Commissioner	Magistrate	Sheriff	Tax Assessor	Building Department	Total
ASSETS								
Cash	$ 115,532	$ 79,819	$ 3,993,347	$ 7,821	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 4,196,519
Taxes receivable	-	-	3,424,634	-	-	-	-	3,424,634
Total assets	115,532	79,819	7,417,981	7,821	-	-	-	7,621,153
LIABILITIES								
Due to others	17,007	23,503	4,067,140	7,821	-			4,115,471
Total liabilites	17,007	23,503	4,067,140	7,821	-	-	-	4,115,471
NET POSITION								
Restricted for individuals, organizations, and other governments	$ 98,525	$ 56,316	$ 3,350,841	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 3,505,682

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

EXHIBIT 21

CUSTODIAL FUNDS
COMBINING STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
Year Ended December 31, 2024

	Superior Court	Probate Court	Tax Commissioner	Magistrate	Sheriff	Tax Assessor	Building Department	Total
ADDITIONS								
Taxes collected	$ -	$ -	$ 13,634,239	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 13,634,239
Fines and fees collected	631,973	734,629	-	76,795	110,666	3,600	43,865	1,601,528
Investment income	-	13	701	-	-	-	-	714
Total additions	631,973	734,642	13,634,940	76,795	110,666	3,600	43,865	15,236,481
DEDUCTIONS								
Taxes disbursed	-	-	13,128,258	-	-	-	-	13,128,258
Fines and fees disbursed	606,182	717,688	-	76,795	110,666	3,600	43,865	1,558,796
Total deductions	606,182	717,688	13,128,258	76,795	110,666	3,600	43,865	14,687,054
NET INCREASE(DECREASE) IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION	25,791	16,954	506,682	-	-	-	-	549,427
Net position - beginning	72,734	39,362	2,844,159	-	-	-	-	2,956,255
Net position - ending	$ 98,525	$ 56,316	$ 3,350,841	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 3,505,682

OTHER INFORMATION

SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF SPECIAL LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX
Year Ended December 31, 2024

Project Description	Estimated Cost		Expenditures		
Per SPLOST Referendum	Original	Current	Prior Years	Current Year	Total
Capital projects					
Jail, capital projects	$3,327,258	$3,327,258	$2,160,886	$ 554,344	$2,715,230
Recreation department, capital projects	175,000	175,000	170,630	64,954	235,584
Fire department, capital projects	25,000	25,000	6,003	17,518	23,521
Roads and bridges, capital projects	472,942	472,942	433,276	109,450	542,726
City of Cochran	1,999,800	1,999,800	2,501,127	622,533	3,123,660
Total	$ 6,000,000	$ 6,000,000	$ 5,271,922	$ 1,368,799	$ 6,640,721

COMPLIANCE SECTION

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, 2024, 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 30, 2025. 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 2024-001 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 30, 2025

BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES

Finding 2024-001

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.