





Pickens County, Georgia
Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2022

Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2022

Pickens County, Georgia

PREPARED BY:

THE FINANCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT
For the year ended December 31, 2022

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PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
LIST OF PRINCIPAL OFFICIALS
DECEMBER 31, 2022

Commission Chairman and District Commissioners

Kris Stancil
Commission Chairman

Josh Tippens
Post One (West)

Josh Tatum
Post Two (East)

Constitutional Officers

Daniel Reeves
Tax Commissioner

David Lindsey
Chief Probate Court Judge

Mark Godfrey
Coroner

Alan Morris
Chief Magistrate Court Judge

Brenda Weaver
Chief Superior Court Judge

Allison Sosebee
District Attorney

John Worcester
Superior Court Judge

Donald Craig
Sheriff

Jennifer Jordon
Clerk of Court

County Administration

Kris Stancil
Budget Officer

Lesa Thomason
County Clerk

Roy Dobbs
Tax Assessor

Bill Wood
General Administration Director

Sloan Elrod
Public Safety Director

Charlene Bunch
Chief Financial Officer

Kirk Anderson
Public Works Director

Paula Peace
Human Resources Director

Timothy Prather
Fire Chief

Stacy Godfrey
Elections Director

Emily Bell
Animal Shelter, Director

Kenneth Woodard
Solid Waste Director

Mike Carswell
County Marshal

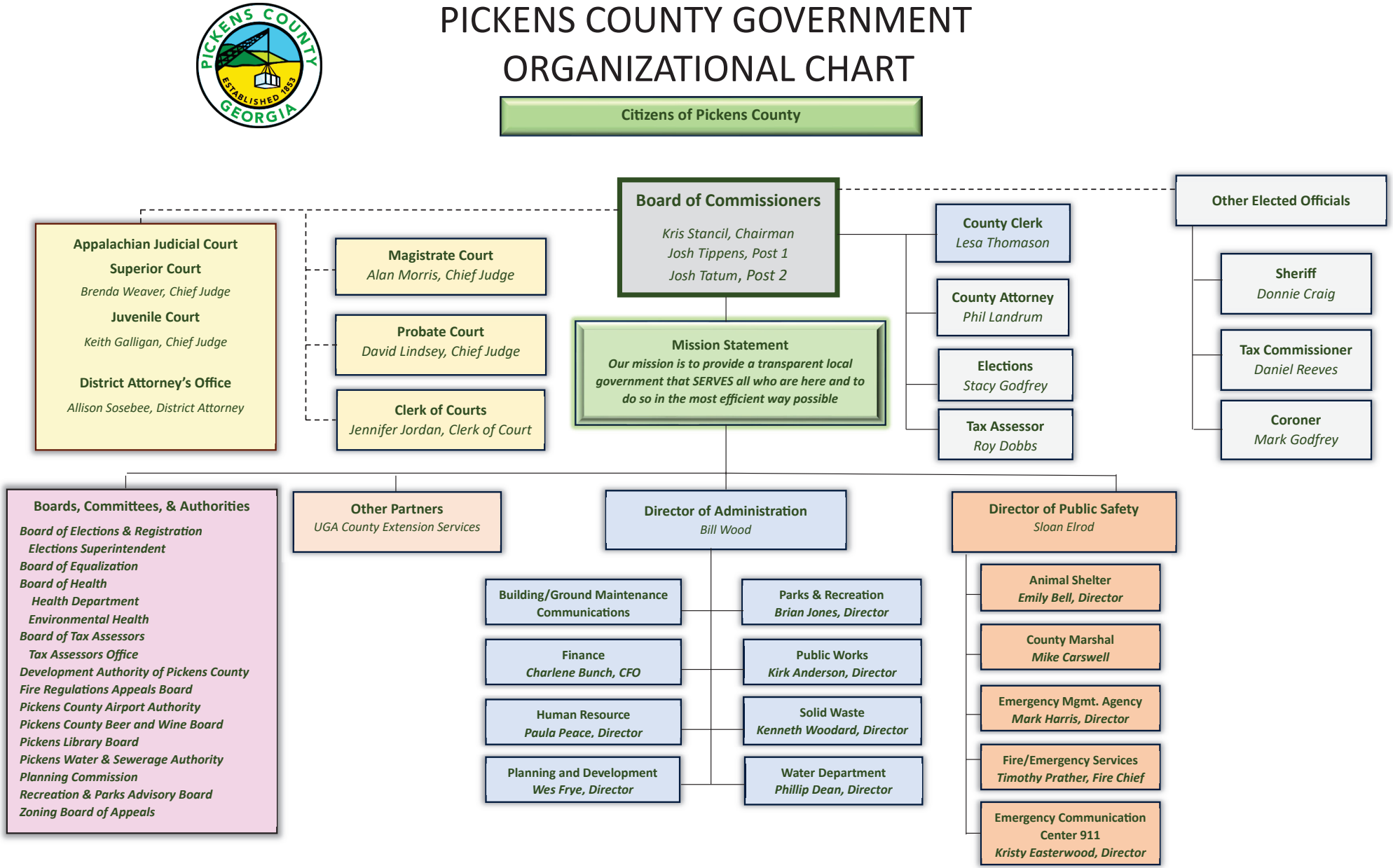
Brian Jones
Parks and Recreation Director

Mark Harris
EMA Director

Phillip Dean
Water Department, Director

Kristy Easterwood
E-911 Director

PICKENS COUNTY GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



PICKENS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
1266 EAST CHURCH STREET
JASPER, GA 30143

June 29, 2023

Pickens County Board of Commissioners
1266 West Church Street
Pickens County, Georgia 30143

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We are pleased to present the Annual Comprehensive Annual Report (ACFR) of Pickens County, Georgia ("the County") for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2022. Local Governments are required by State law and local ordinances to publish a complete set of audited financial statements within six months of the close of each fiscal year. This report, Pickens County, Georgia 2022 Annual Comprehensive Annual Report is published to fulfill that requirement for the fiscal year.

Management assumes full responsibility for the completeness and reliability of the information contained in the report, based on a comprehensive framework of internal controls established for this purpose. The single audit report, to the best of our knowledge, has been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) and the enclosed data is accurate in all material respects. This report has been created to impartially present the financial position and operational results of Pickens County.

As a part of this report, the County is required to have a single audit performed to comply with the Single Audit Act of 1984 and the amendments of 1996 and Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*. This is required because the County receives financial assistance from federal grant programs. The single audit is a separate report that includes the schedule of federal financial assistance, findings, questioned costs, and auditor's reports on the internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Pickens County's financial statements have been audited by Rushton, LLC, a firm of certified public accountants. The independent auditor's report is presented at the front of the financial section of this report.

Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) report is required by GAAP. This report follows the independent auditor's report. The MD&A provides a narrative introduction, overview, and analysis of the basic financial statements. The MD&A complements the letter of transmittal and should be read in conjunction with it.

PICKENS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
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INTRODUCTION

Pickens County, Georgia sits at the edge of the Blue Ridge Mountains (*at the southern end of the Appalachians*). Cherokee Indians populated this area of North Georgia from the late 1700s until the 1830s when the land was distributed to European settlers. In 1838 and 1839 U.S. troops, prompted by the state of Georgia, expelled the Cherokee Indians from their ancestral homeland in the Southeast and removed them along the "*Trail of Tears*" to the Indian Territory in what is now Oklahoma.

On December 5, 1853, the Georgia General Assembly Passed an act creating Pickens County from portions of Cherokee and Gilmer Counties. The County was names for an American Revolutionary War General Andrew Pickens. The County received several more land additions from Cherokee (1869) and Gilmer (1858 and 1863); and several sections of Pickens were transferred to other counties including Dawson, Gordon and back to Cherokee.

A little-known fact is that for almost a month after Georgia seceded, the Union flag flew from the Court House.

Pickens County is renowned for its exceptionally pure marble. Henry Fitzsimmons established the first marble quarries and the first marble mill in the 1830s.

Pickens County marble was used in buildings across the U.S. Including:

- The Lincoln Memorial
- House Office Building
- East Wing of the National Gallery of Art
- National Air and Space Museum
- New York Stock Exchange Annex
- Cleveland Federal Reserve
- Chicago's Buckingham Fountain
- Florida's Bok Sing Tower



(Pickens County Courthouse)



(Tate Marble Quarry)

The Pickens County Court House is one of the many buildings on the National Register of Historic Places and was built with Pickens County marble.

PICKENS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
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PROFILE OF GOVERNMENT

Pickens County is governed by a three-member commission, including a Commission Chairman, who also acts as the Budget Officer and two other board members.

The Board serves as the legislative and policymaking body of the county government. It enacts county ordinances, appropriates funds to conduct county business, and provides policy direction to the administrative staff.

The Chairman/Budget Officer oversees all county employees, the Budget Officer is responsible for the efficient ongoing operation of all county services. Pickens County provides services to 34,350 citizens and 802 businesses. These services include judicial/court services, planning and development, business licenses and building permits, road maintenance, parks and recreation, animal shelter services, airport, water and sewer, and public safety. Public safety includes the sheriff's office, fire protection, emergency/ambulance services, and code enforcement.



Kristopher Stancil

Chairman/Budget Officer



Josh Tippens

Commissioner



Josh Tatum

Commissioner

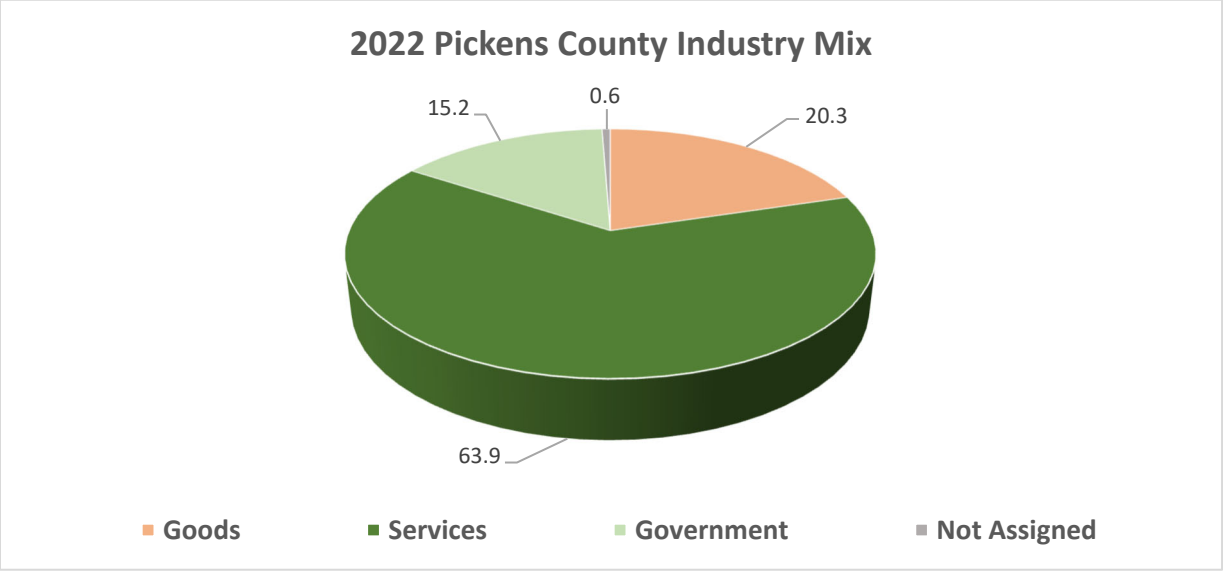
Under the direct control of the Board of the Commissioners are the financial statements, schedules, and statistical tables, and all the funds of the primary government, as well as its component units. A component unit is a separate legal entity for which the primary government is financially accountable. The two component units of Pickens County are the Pickens County Development Authority and the Pickens County Health Department. These component units are included in the financial reports as discretely presented component units.

The County operates under an annual Board-approved budget. The budget is developed on a line-item budget concept for both expenditures and anticipated revenues. A purchase order encumbrance system

is in place to gain control of our purchasing decisions and provide transparency and financial accountability. All purchase order requisitions are verified against the budget prior to being purchased. Purchase Order encumbrances do not carry over to the next fiscal year.

LOCAL ECONOMY

The Industry Mix of employment for Pickens County is 20.3% Goods, 63.9% Services, and 15.2% Government.



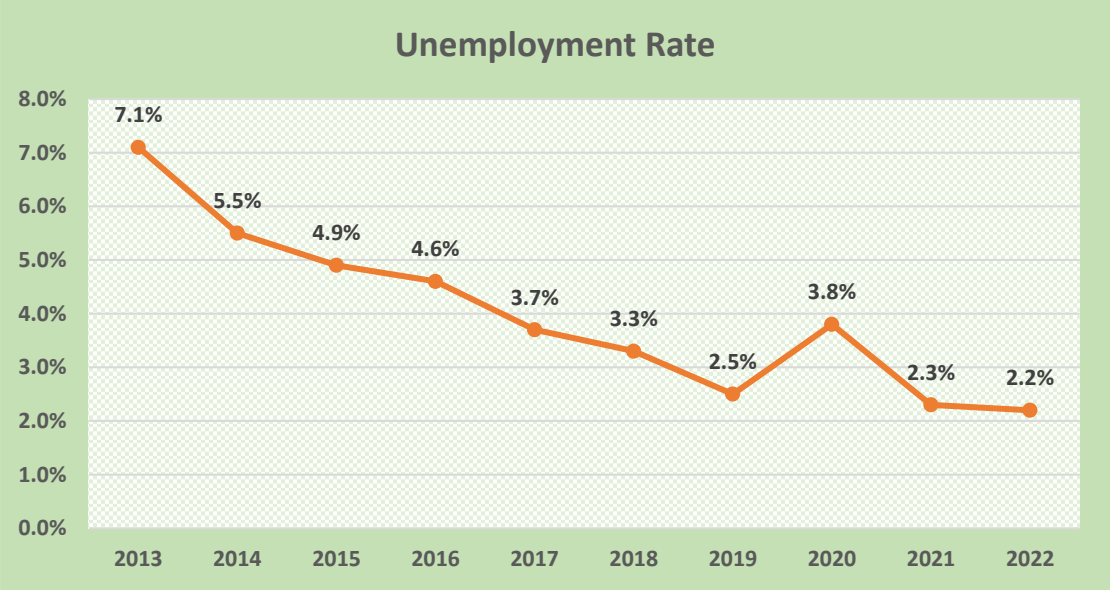
Pickens is a semi-rural area; there are many areas sparsely populated with towns and small cities sprinkling the County. A large portion of the population leaves the County for employment. By far the largest Service-Providing areas of the County are Health Care and Social Assistance and Accommodation and Food Service. These two areas tied at 13.1% of the available jobs or 1,086 people employed in each area. Local government employees account for 13% of the employment opportunities, or 1,077 people. The next largest area of employment is Retail Trade at 9.5% or 788 positions.

In the Goods-Producing area, the largest portion of the employment opportunities are in Construction, at 6.3% or 521 jobs.

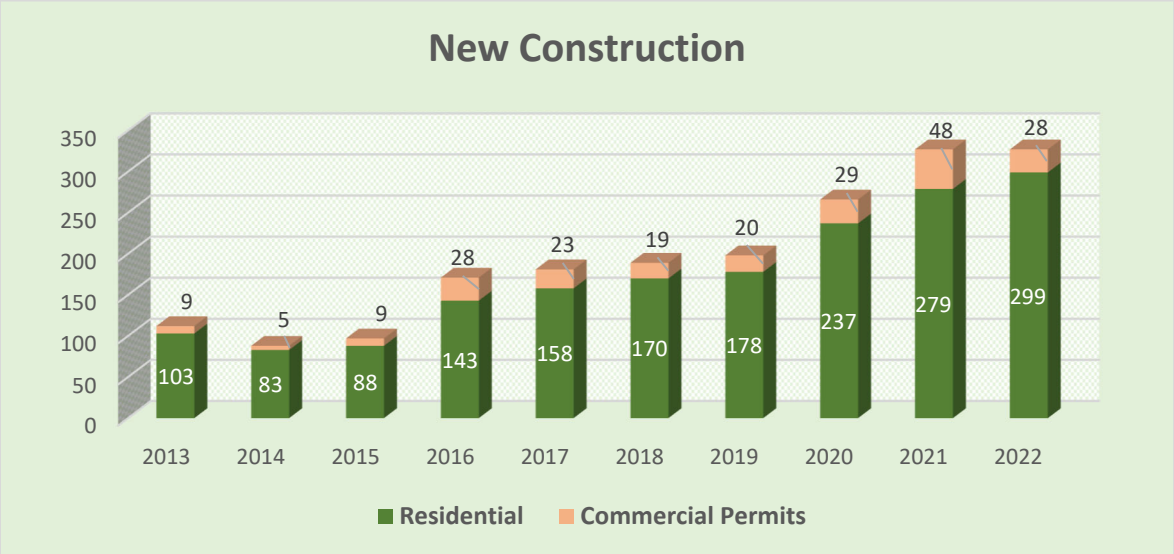
The Industry Mix does not fluctuate a lot from year to year. It may begin to change in the future, due to an increase in homes being built and people moving into the area.

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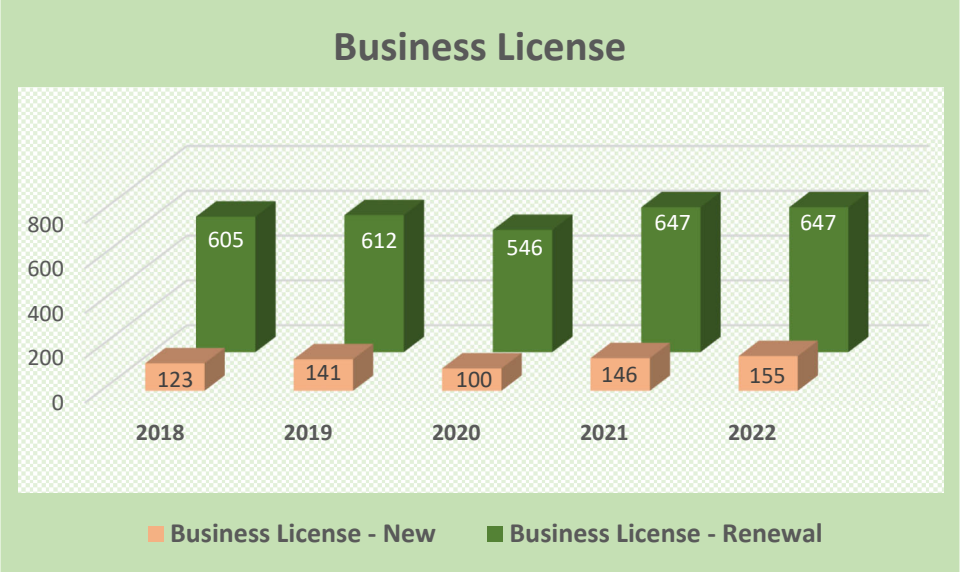
The unemployment rate in the County is steadily decreasing from a high ten years ago of 7.1%. The rate has decreased each year with a slight jump during the COVID 19 shutdown. Since then, the rate has continued to decline. At the end of 2022 the unemployment rate was 2.2%.



New Construction was slow in 2013, 2014, and 2015. As with most other Cities and Counties, the County was still recovering from the downturn in 2008 and 2009. In 2016, the number of new homes and businesses being constructed began to increase. This trend has continued each year.



As was mentioned previously, there is a trend in the County of building new subdivisions. These new homes are attracting residents of other Counties to move to Pickens County. Pickens County has experienced an increase in population for 10 consecutive years from 2013-2022 with an average annual growth rate of 1.61%. Prior to 2010 Pickens County's population increased 103.96% from 2,780 people in 1990 to 15,004 people in 2010. Pickens County is approximately 60 miles northeast from the City of Atlanta. As the area between Atlanta and Pickens County becomes more populated, people are beginning to look at Pickens as a viable place to live in while they work farther south.

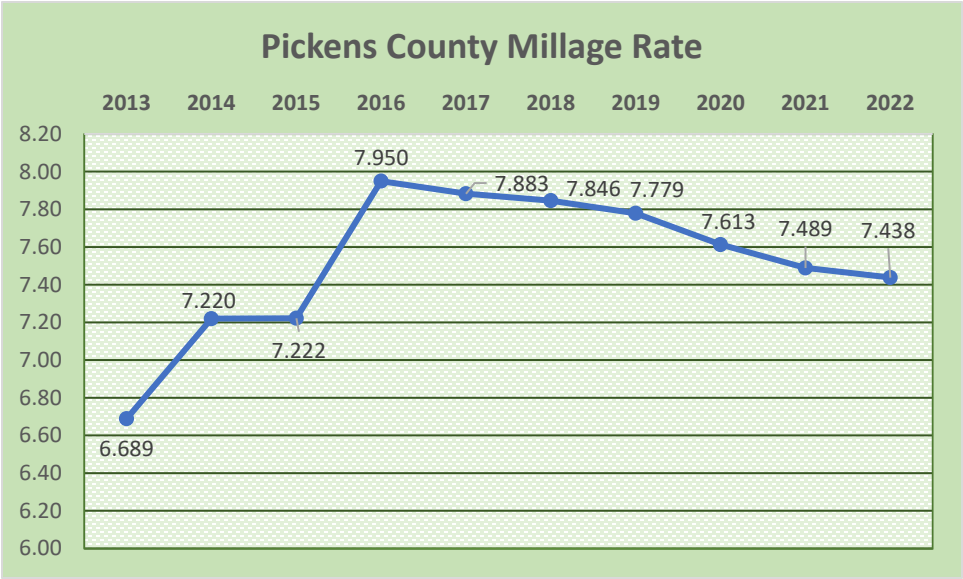


The number of businesses in the County is steadily increasing. As you can see in the chart above, each year more businesses are created, while a substantial portion of the established businesses continue to renew their licenses. There was a small dip in 2020 during the COVID 19 shutdown.

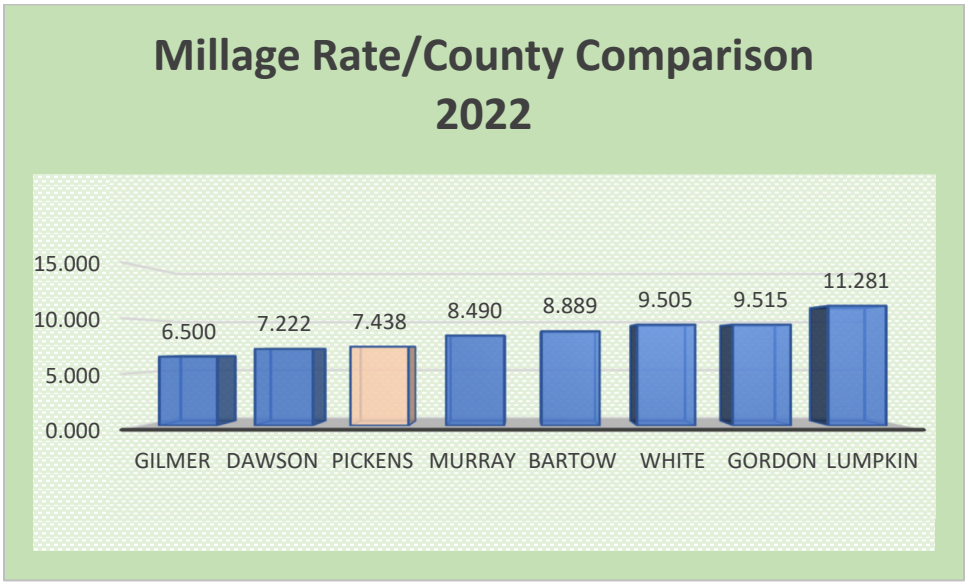
PROPERTY TAXES/MILLAGE RATE

As you can see in the chart below, there was a jump in the millage rate in 2016. This was due to a correction after the County had recovered from the downturn. Since then, the County has been steadily reducing the rate each year. This is due to a couple of factors; first, the County is fiscally conservative, and second, due to a continual increase in new homes and businesses, as discussed above. The County usually rolls back the millage rate to mirror the previous years' level. Also, the County has recently completed a reevaluation of the property values which increased the revenue. Pickens County has no tax abatements.

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In a comparison of millage rates to other Counties nearby and who also share similar in demographics, Pickens County is very competitive. We are the third lowest of these counties in millage rates. Each of the Counties shown in the comparison below have the LOST (Local Option Sales Tax).



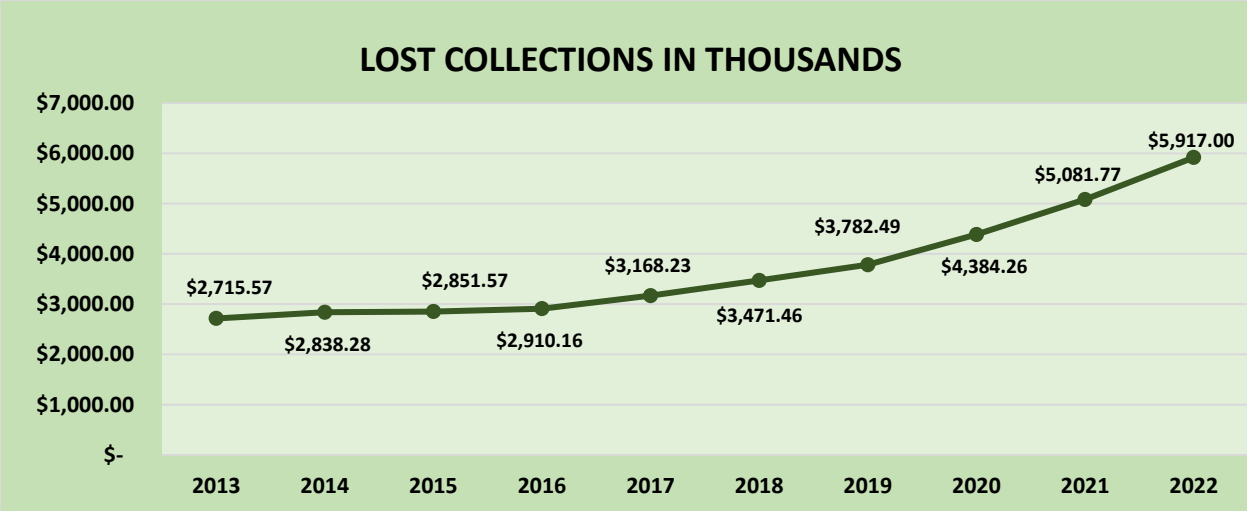
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Below is the Current 2022 Property Tax Digest and 5-Year History of Levy. The Gross and Net Digests have increased each year. These numbers are rolled back by the LOST and the general rollback. The final millage rate decreased each year, while the taxes levied continue to increase.

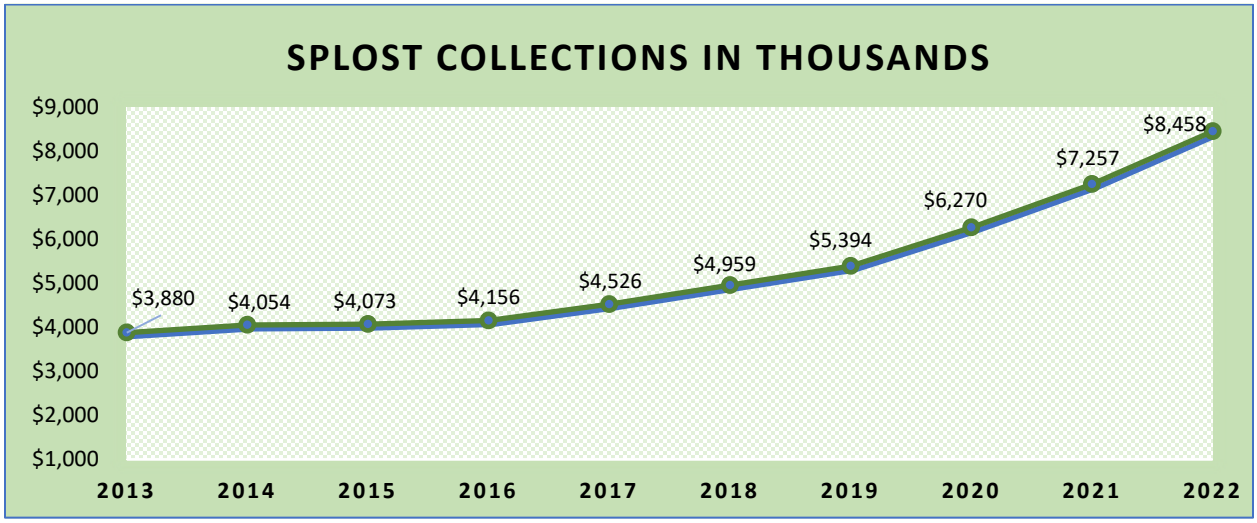
CURRENT 2022 PROPERTY TAX DIGEST AND 5 YEAR HISTORY OF LEVY

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Real & Personal	1,444,679,083	1,484,170,786	1,529,066,056	1,602,638,589	1,683,845,069	1,903,435,802
Motor Vehicles	35,062,710	28,440,130	24,371,490	22,632,950	19,966,600	18,049,830
Mobile Homes	9,840,193	10,481,846	10,699,059	10,860,424	11,433,396	11,992,348
Timber - 100%	191,782	0	3,870	1,134,367	100,730	466,479
Heavy Duty Equipment	53,613	1,874	3,095	105,014	377,237	269,915
Gross Digest	1,489,827,381	1,523,094,636	1,564,143,570	1,637,371,344	1,715,723,032	1,934,214,374
Less Exemptions	104,972,889	112,211,082	112,997,671	110,959,786	110,161,530	113,115,609
NET DIGEST VALUE	1,384,854,492	1,410,883,554	1,451,145,899	1,526,411,558	1,605,561,502	1,821,098,765
Gross Maintenance & Operation Millage	9.9720	10.0630	10.1450	10.0660	10.1898	10.1900
Less Rollback (Local Option Sales Tax)	2.0890	2.2170	2.3660	2.4530	2.7008	2.7520
NET M&O MILLAGE RATE	7.8830	7.8460	7.7790	7.6130	7.4890	7.4380
TOTAL M&O TAXES LEVIED	$10,916,808	$11,069,792	$11,288,464	$11,620,571	$12,024,050	$13,545,333
Net Tax $ Increase		$152,984	$218,672	$332,107	$403,479	$1,521,283
Net Tax % Increase		1.40%	1.98%	2.94%	3.47%	12.65%

The LOST collections continue to increase every year, thus giving more property tax relief to the citizens.



As the LOST revenue increases so does the SPLOST revenue. As the County adds more residents and businesses, the SPLOST receipts continue to increase.



MAJOR INITIATIVES

During 2022, the Pickens County Board of Commissioners have worked on a variety of ways to improve employee retention, especially within the public safety sector. The Board of Commissioners worked diligently to increase the pay for all Public Safety employees through the commitment to provide a $3.50 per hour increase to all public safety employees. This step, along with numerous other fringe benefits that are provided, has allowed Pickens County to be comparable to surrounding counties, including several metro counties. This initiative will continue in 2023.

The Board of Commissioners has also worked to improve the quality of services provided through Parks and Recreation by adding LED lighting to all ball fields, constructed a new playground, and is currently in the process of paving a walking path to provide a safe place for citizens to participate in an active lifestyle. In addition, to improve quality of life for those visiting Pickens County, a major renovation has taken place at the Tate Train Depot. This included the addition of a large, donated model train set that has created an attractive destination for train enthusiasts from all around.

To assist in infrastructure improvements, Pickens County has worked to secure additional water capacity through its partnership with neighboring jurisdictions. This has allowed for the additional capacity of 500,000 gallons of water per day for our citizens. Pickens County is in the north Georgia mountains and consist of 233 square miles of mountainous terrain, of which 232 square miles is land and .7 square

miles contain water. Further, Pickens County is the only county in the State of Georgia that does not contain nor has access to a major state waterway.

With over 400 miles of roads under its responsibility, Pickens County worked to pave over 21 miles of road in 2022 and is committed to resurfacing the same in 2023.

With a strong commitment to better protecting the environment, Pickens County has continually invested in recycling through our Recycling Center. In 2022, 1,203,947 pounds of materials were recycled and kept out of the landfills.

Pickens County is home to a very active airport and major improvements are currently underway. In 2021 and 2022, an addition of 4 new hangars was completed. In 2023, ground will be broken to construct a state-of-the-art terminal facility that will continue to attract new air traffic for years to come.



LONG TERM PLANNING

Pickens County and the Cities of Jasper, Nelson, and Talking Rock have joined together, in an effort, to meet the challenges ahead. Citizens, elected officials, professional staff, business leaders, and property owners worked as a team to prepare the *Pickens County Joint Comprehensive Plan Update 2023-2027*.

The Joint Comprehensive Plan represents both a shared cooperative vision and individual action steps for community success. The comprehensive plan describes the traits and values of each municipality, and balances future growth and development with these values, for growth that is respectful to local cultural attitudes and the scenic natural beauty of the area. The joint comprehensive plan and five-year community work program also demonstrates the importance of local projects to funding agencies such as the Appalachian Regional Commission and the Economic Development Administration.

A portion of the Joint Comprehensive Plan that pertains to Pickens County. The areas included in the Plan for Pickens County are:

Economic Development - This section is working toward achieving the Georgia Department of Community Affairs' Broadband Ready designation. Also, identifying areas unserved and a broadband provider to extend infrastructure to serve that area. This should be accomplished during 2023 and 2024.

The County will seek land for the development of a business Park. This should be accomplished 2023-2025.

Housing – Review, revise, and draft appropriate ordinances to improve housing type, variety, and conditions to create options that are appropriate for Pickens County. Then, promote the use of these alternative housing options. This should be accomplished 2023-2025.

Transportation - This section will explore alternative routes to improve traffic flow from one side of the County to the other. The County will also evaluate sidewalk, multipath, and other pedestrian infrastructure projects needed. These projects will continue the five-year period, 2023-2027.

Construction of new airport terminal. This will be completed 2023-2025.

Natural and Cultural Resources – Continue to work cooperatively with art groups to promote expansion of various arts programs, including natural recreational resources. Also, to review and revise County ordinances regarding environmental and land development to be responsible in relation to natural resources. These items will extend the next five years, 2023-2027.

Community Facilities and Services – The County will continue renovations to Roper Park and plan for park expansion. The County will also purchase property and construct a new park. This process will encompass the five years, 2023-2025.

The County will review the feasibility of acquiring property with private and nonprofit entities. This will be accomplished 2023-2024.

The County will secure funds and purchase a temporary emergency shelter. This will take place 2023-2025.

The County will construct a Fire Training Center. We will also work with the town of Talking Rock to create a Fire Department. 2023-2025

The County will secure grant funding and expand the water system capacity.

The funding for these projects varies. The funding for Economic Development, Housing, and Natural and Cultural Resources is time used by the County staff, with the exception of building a business park and that will be financed by ARPA and other grants. The Transportation projects will be funded use of County staff,

Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), and Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC). Projects In the Community Facilities and Services will be funded by a variety of Grants, SPLOST, and General Fund.

Economic Development	$503,000
Housing	$35,000
Transportation	$1,425,000
Natural and Cultural Resources	$75,000
Community Facilities and Services	$18,014,000

OTHER INFORMATION

Independent Audit

Pickens County requires an annual independent audit of County financial records by a certified public accountant selected by the Board of Commissioners. The accounting firm of Rushton, LLC was selected to fulfill this requirement, and a copy of the auditor's report on the financial statements is included in the financial section of this report.

Single Audit

As Pickens County is a recipient of federal and state financial assistance, the County also is responsible for ensuring that an adequate internal control structure is in place to ensure compliance with applicable laws and regulations that are related to those programs.

The County's annual single audit requires conformity with the provisions of the Single Audit Act of 1984 and the amendments of 1996 and Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*. Testing determines the adequacy of the internal control structure, including the portion that relates to federal financial assistance programs, as well as to determine the County has complied with all applicable laws and regulations.

PICKENS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
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JASPER, GA 30143

Budgetary Controls

Budgetary controls are maintained by the County to ensure compliance with the legal provisions of the annual appropriated budget that was approved by the Board of Commissioners. The annual appropriated budget includes activities of the general fund, special revenue funds, and enterprise funds. The official level of county budget control (the level on which expenditures may not legally exceed appropriations) for each legally adopted annual operating budget is the department, function, or activity within each fund. In case of unforeseen needs, the transfer of appropriations within a department may be authorized by the Budget Officer. This level does not require Commission approval. Transfers of appropriations outside departments or functions are reviewed with the Board of Commissioners prior to approval. The County maintains an encumbrance accounting system as one means of accomplishing budgetary control. Encumbered amounts at year end are not carried forward to the next year. In the case of SPLOST projects, a new purchase order is created at the beginning of the year to continue the project.

Acknowledgements

The preparation of the report could not have been accomplished without the efficient and dedicated efforts of the staff of the Finance Department, the auditors for the County and its component units, and the cooperation of the various elected officials and county management. My sincere appreciation is extended to each individual for the contributions made in the preparation of this report.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Bunch

Charlene Bunch
Chief Financial Officer

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Independent Auditor's Report

Honorable Chairman and Members
of the Board of Commissioners
Pickens County, Georgia

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Pickens County, Georgia, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Pickens 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 financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Pickens County, Georgia, as of December 31, 2022, and the respective changes in the financial position and the budgetary comparisons of the General Fund and American Rescue Plan Act Grant Fund for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We did not audit the financial statements of the Pickens County Health Department, a discretely presented component unit of Pickens County, Georgia, which represents 34.9% of the assets, 57.8% of the net position, and 83.4% of the revenues of the discretely presented component units for the year ended December 31, 2022. Those statements were audited by other auditors whose report has been furnished to us, and our opinion, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for the Pickens County Health Department, is based solely on the reports of the other auditors.

Basis for Opinions

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

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; and 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 Pickens 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 generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

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

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Pickens 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 Pickens 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 management's discussion and analysis and the required supplementary information on pages 4 through 11 and 81 through 89, respectively, 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.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise Pickens County, Georgia's basic financial statements. The combining and individual fund financial statements and schedules, the schedule of projects financed with special purpose local option sales tax, and the schedule of completed state awards expended are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. The schedule of expenditures of federal awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, and is also 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 fund financial statements and schedules, the schedule of projects financed with special purpose local option sales tax, the schedule of completed state awards expended, and the schedule of expenditures of federal awards are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information included in the annual report. The other information comprises the introductory and statistical sections but does not include the basic financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinions on the basic financial statements do not cover the other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the basic financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 29, 2023, on our consideration of Pickens County, Georgia's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, grant agreements, and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the 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 Pickens County, Georgia's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Rushton, LLC

Gainesville, Georgia
June 29, 2023

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MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

As management of Pickens County, Georgia (the "County"), we provide this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the County for the year ended December 31, 2022. The County's financial performance is discussed and analyzed within the context of the accompanying financial statements and disclosures following this section.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The County's assets exceeded its liabilities by $62,844,256 (net position) for the year reported. This represents an increase of $3,592,872 or 6% from the previous year.

Total net position is comprised of the following:

1. Net investment in capital assets equaled $50,338,040.
2. Net position of $9,607,455 is restricted for debt service, capital outlay, or by other constraints imposed by law or regulations.
3. At the end of 2022, unrestricted net position balance increased by $5,324,039 from $(2,425,278) to $2,898,761.

The County's governmental funds reported total ending fund balance of $22,694,246. This compares to the prior year ending fund balance of $20,674,611 showing an increase of $2,019,635, or 10% during the current year.

At the end of 2022, unassigned fund balance for the County's governmental funds was $12,638,728.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Management's Discussion and Analysis introduces the County's basic financial statements. The basic financial statements consist of three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the financial statements. The basic financial statements present two different views of the County through the use of government – wide statements and fund financial statements. This report contains other supplemental information that will enhance the reader's understanding of the financial condition of the County.

Government-wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide the reader with a broad overview of the County's finances and are more comparable to the financial statements of private-sector businesses. The government-wide statements provide both short and long-term information about the County's financial status as a whole. Government-wide statements report the County's net position and how it has changed. Net position is the difference between the County's total assets and total liabilities. Changes in net position indicate the improvement (an increase) or deterioration (a decrease) in the County's financial condition.

The first of these government-wide statements is the *Statement of Net Position*. This statement presents information that includes all of the County's assets and liabilities, with the difference reported as total net position.

The second government-wide statement is the *Statement of Activities* which indicates how the County's net position changed during the current fiscal year. This report is designed to show the financial reliance of the County's activities and functions on revenues provided by County taxpayers.

The government-wide statements are divided into governmental activities, business-type activities, and component units.

Governmental activities include most of the County's basic services such as general administration, public safety, public works, court systems, culture and recreation, health and welfare, and housing and development. Property taxes, sales taxes, and state and federal grants finance most of these activities.

Business type activities are those that the County charges customers to provide. These include water services and the Pickens County Airport.

Component Units for the County include the Development Authority and the Pickens County Department of Public Health. Separate financial statements are issued for both component units. See pages 30-31 of the financial statements for additional information.

Fund Financial Statements

Pickens County, like all other governmental entities in Georgia, uses fund accounting to ensure compliance with finance-related laws and regulations. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. All of the funds of the County can be classified as governmental funds, proprietary funds, or fiduciary funds.

Governmental funds are used to account for those functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. These funds focus on how assets can readily be converted into cash and the amount of funds left at year-end that will be available for spending in the next fiscal year. As a result, the governmental fund financial statements give the reader a detailed short-term view that helps determine if there are financial resources available to finance the County's programs. Most of the County's basic services are accounted for in governmental funds.

Proprietary funds are used to report the functions presented as business-type activities in the government-wide financial statements. Pickens County uses enterprise funds to account for the Water Department and the Airport.

Fiduciary Funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the Government. Pickens County's fiduciary funds are considered agency funds.

Notes to the Financial Statements provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data presented in both the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements begin on page 32 of this report.

GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

The table below presents the County's condensed *Statement of Net Position*. Comparison analysis is made from the year ended December 31, 2022, to the year ended December 31, 2021, as required by GASB Statement No. 34.

Comparative Schedule of Net Position

December 31

	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Total Primary Government	
	2022*	2021*	2022*	2021*	2022*	2021*
Assets:						
Current Assets	$ 29,937,206	$ 23,358,721	$ (1,835,096)	$ (3,600,618)	$ 28,102,110	$ 19,758,103
Noncurrent Assets	45,087,513	45,700,393	21,615,219	21,943,461	66,702,732	67,643,854
Total Assets	75,024,719	69,059,114	19,780,123	18,342,843	94,804,842	87,401,957
Deferred Outflows of Resources	2,589,957	2,943,571	430,385	91,804	3,020,342	3,035,375
Liabilities:						
Current Liabilities	6,582,641	3,104,014	1,987,836	1,448,750	8,570,477	4,552,764
Noncurrent Liabilities	11,919,115	13,148,107	12,511,991	11,850,459	24,431,106	24,998,566
Total Liabilities & Deffered Inflows	18,501,756	16,252,121	14,499,827	13,299,209	33,001,583	29,551,330
Deferred Inflows of Resources	1,876,353	1,195,520	102,292	36,098	1,978,645	1,231,618
Net Position:						
Net Investment in capital assets	42,361,620	42,478,827	7,976,420	9,336,236	50,338,040	51,815,063
Restricted	9,607,455	10,264,599	-	-	9,607,455	10,264,599
Unrestricted	5,267,492	1,811,618	(2,368,731)	(4,236,896)	2,898,761	(2,425,278)
Total Net Position	$ 57,236,567	$ 54,555,044	$ 5,607,689	$ 5,099,340	$ 62,844,256	$ 59,654,384

*Detailed information on the County's statement of net position can be found on pages 12-13.

Over time, net position serves as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. The County's combined net position (government and business-type activities) totaled $62,844,256 on December 31, 2022, compared to $59,251,983 on December 31, 2021. The total increase was $3,592,872.

The largest portion of net position, $50,338,040 (80%), reflects the County's investment in capital assets (land, buildings, machinery and equipment) less accumulated depreciation and any related debt still outstanding that was issued to acquire those assets. The County uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens; therefore, these assets are not available for future spending. Although the County's investments in capital assets are reported net of outstanding debt, the resources needed to repay the debt must be provided by other sources as the capital assets cannot be liquidated to pay the liabilities. The County has $9,607,455 (15%) of restricted net position that is subject to external restrictions, constitutional provisions, or enabling legislation on how they can be used. The remaining portion of net position represents $2,898,761 (5%) of unrestricted net position.

The table below presents the County's condensed *Statement of Activities* for the year ended December 31, 2022, with comparative amounts for the year ended December 31, 2021.

Comparative Schedule of Changes in Net Position

	Governmental Activities		Business-type Activities		Total Primary Government	
	2022*	2021*	2022*	2021*	2022*	2021*
Program Revenue:						
Charges for Services	$ 5,126,952	$ 5,064,930	$ 4,421,778	$ 3,710,825	$ 9,548,730	$ 8,775,755
Operating Grants	5,729,922	6,513,848	-	-	5,729,922	6,513,848
Capital Grants:	31,019	760,701	970,459	98,000	1,001,478	858,701
General Revenue:						
Property Taxes	17,412,502	14,547,046	-	-	17,412,502	14,547,046
Sales Taxes	14,375,222	12,338,995	-	-	14,375,222	12,338,995
Intangible	444,828	574,757	-	-	444,828	574,757
Insurance Premium Taxes	2,210,705	1,906,424	-	-	2,210,705	1,906,424
Other	1,105,540	902,890	-	-	1,105,540	902,890
Interest	22,002	11,706	10	-	22,012	11,706
Other	277,708	457,791	1,072	21,790	278,780	479,581
Gainon sale of capital Asset	4,500	-	4,900	-	9,400	-
TOTAL REVENUES	46,740,900	43,079,088	5,398,219	3,830,615	52,139,119	46,909,703
Program Expenses:						
General Government	4,913,551	4,777,527	-	-	4,913,551	4,777,527
Judicial	7,034,639	6,516,918	-	-	7,034,639	6,516,918
Public Safety	16,839,952	17,484,934	-	-	16,839,952	17,484,934
Public Works	10,929,737	7,793,817	-	-	10,929,737	7,793,817
Health and Welfare	295,209	257,349	-	-	295,209	257,349
Culture and Recreation	1,274,562	1,332,941	-	-	1,274,562	1,332,941
Housing and Development	1,204,813	1,011,310	-	-	1,204,813	1,011,310
Interest	23,105	28,771	-	-	23,105	28,771
Water and Sewer	-	-	3,825,534	3,199,884	3,825,534	3,199,884
Airport	-	-	2,205,744	1,001,041	2,205,744	1,001,041
TOTAL EXPENSES	42,515,568	39,203,567	6,031,278	4,200,925	48,546,846	43,404,492
Change in Net Position Before Transfers	4,225,332	3,875,521	(633,059)	(370,310)	3,592,273	3,505,211
Transfers	(1,141,408)	(359,980)	1,141,408	359,980	-	-
Changes in Net Position	3,083,924	3,515,541	508,349	(10,330)	3,592,273	3,505,211
Net Position - beginning (original)	54,555,044	49,914,580	5,099,340	5,109,670	59,654,384	55,024,250
Prior period adjustment	(402,401)	1,124,923	-	-	(402,401)	1,124,923
Net Position - beginning (restated)	54,152,643	51,039,503	5,099,340	5,109,670	59,251,983	56,149,173
Ending Net Position	$ 57,236,567	$ 54,555,044	$ 5,607,689	$ 5,099,340	$ 62,844,256	$ 59,654,384

*Detailed information on the County's statement of activities can be found on page 14.

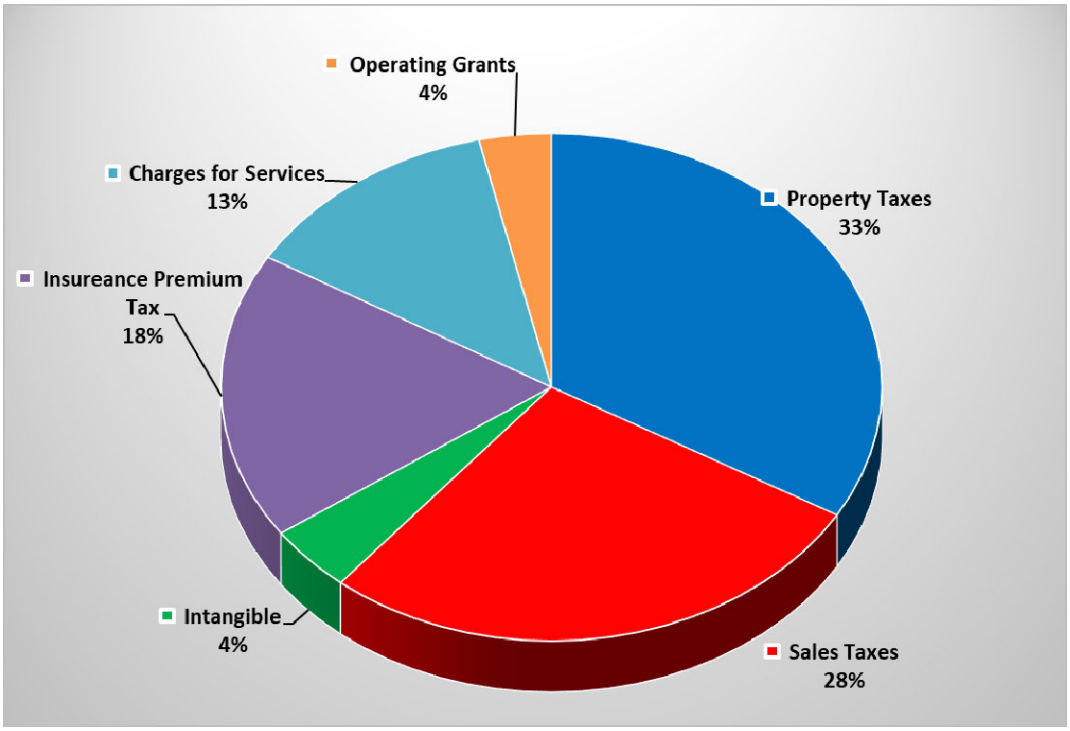
Governmental Activities General Revenues such as property taxes, insurance premium tax and other taxes, continue as the main source of revenue for governmental activities which totaled $35,853,007 in 2022 compared to $30,739,608 in 2021. This change is an increase of 17%.

Governmental Activities Expenses by function as reflected in the table above show that during 2022, the County expended 40% for Public Safety, 17% for Judicial, 26% for Public Works, 12% for General Government, 3% for Culture and Recreation, 3% for Housing and Development, and less than 1% for Health and Welfare and for Interest on Long-term debt.

As a comparative, during fiscal year 2021, the County expended 45% for Public Safety, 17% for Judicial, 20% for Public Works, 12% for General Government, 3% for Culture and Recreation, 3% for Housing and Development, and less than 1% for Health and Welfare and for Interest on Long-term debt.

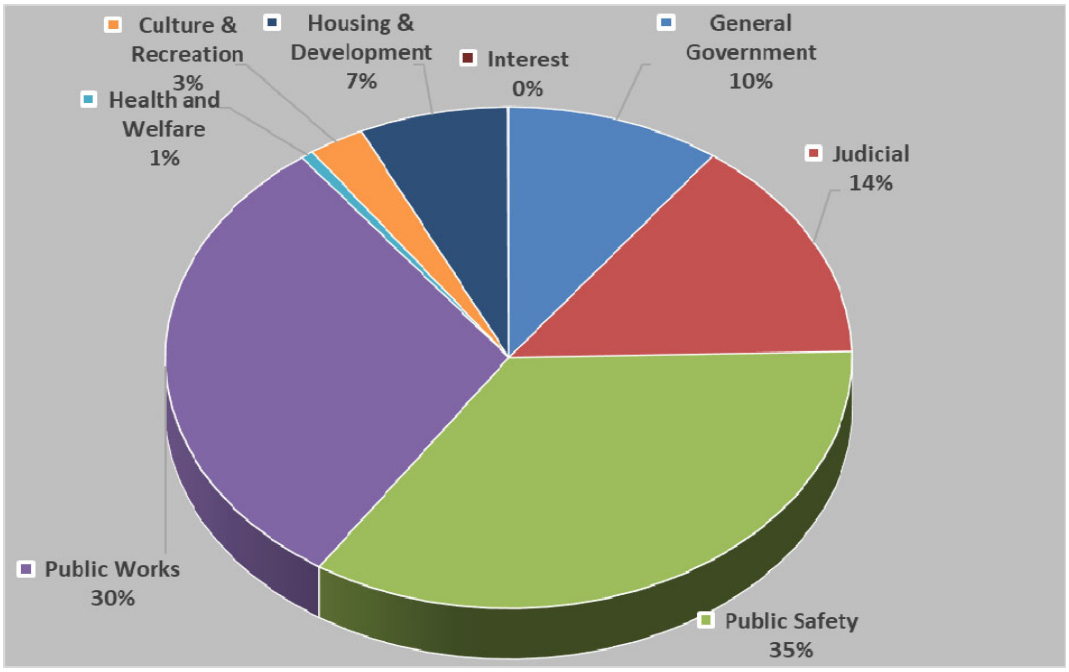
Business-type activities increased the County's net position by $508,349.

Revenues by Source
Government-Wide Activities



*Due to rounding, charts may not always equal 100%

Expenses by Function
Government-Wide Activities



*Due to rounding, charts may not always equal 100%

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE GOVERNMENT'S FUNDS

The County uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

Governmental Funds: The focus of the County's governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows and balances of spendable resources. This information is useful in assessing the Government's financing requirements. Specifically, unassigned fund balance can be a useful measure of a government's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

The major governmental funds are the General Fund, SPLOST, and the American Rescue Plan Act Grant (ARPA). The County's total governmental funds reported an ending fund balance of $22,694,246 This compares to the prior year ending fund balance of $20,272,210, an increase of $2,422,036 during the current year.

The General Fund is the chief operating fund of the County. It is used to account for all governmental financial resources not restricted by state or federal laws, local ordinances, or other imposed requirements. The General Fund reported ending fund balance of $12,983,852. This compares to the prior year ending fund balance of $10,468,413,an increase of $2,497,439 during the current year. At the end of fiscal year 2022, unassigned fund balance for the County's governmental funds was $12,638,728.

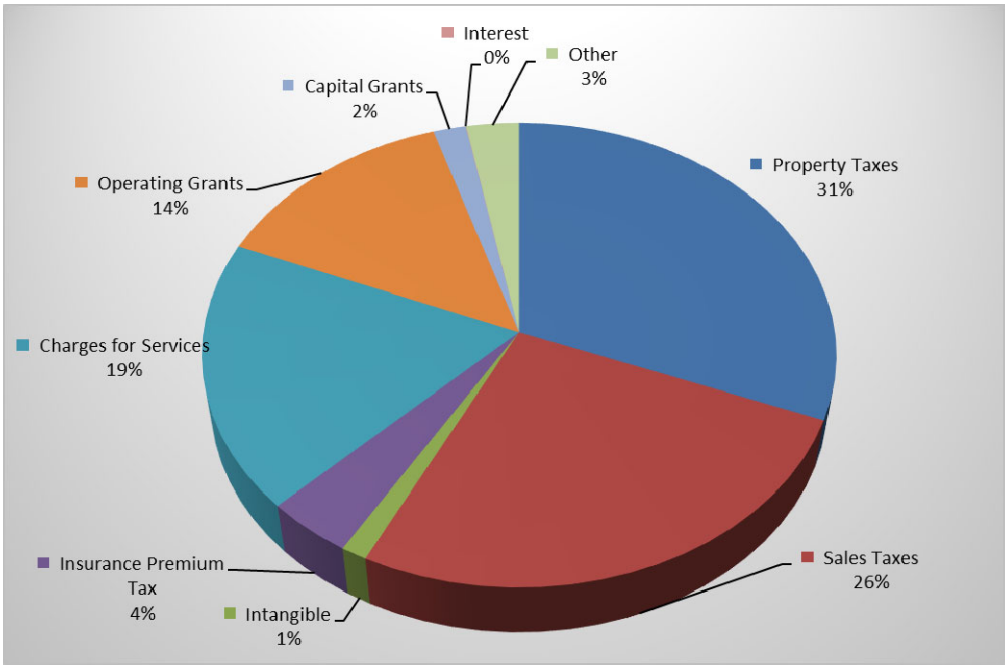
The County's SPLOST Fund is reported as a major fund. The fund balance of the SPLOST fund decreased by $676,205 during the current fiscal year. Collections for 2020 SPLOST began on July 1, 2020. Based on the approved 2020 SPLOST referendum, the majority of the 2020 SPLOST revenues are allocated for capital road projects and public safety. The SPLOST fund has an ending fund balance of $8,577,239 which is restricted for capital projects outlined in the 2020 SPLOST referendum.

The County's American Rescue Plan Act Grant Fund is reported as a major fund. The fund has no fund balance, all collections are reported as unearned revenue in the amount of $3,600,452. This balance will remain in unearned revenue until approved expenditures are spent to offset against revenue on the statement of changes in fund balances.

In 2022, governmental revenues increased $1,497,889 from 2021. This increase is primarily due to activity in the General Fund related to an increase in revenues from taxes, licenses and permits and charges for services. There was an 8% increase in revenues in the SPLOST fund.

The County's basic governmental fund financial statements are presented on pages 15-23 of this report.

Revenues by Source
Fund Level – Governmental Activities



Proprietary funds. When the County charges customers for it services it provides – these services are generally reported in the County's proprietary fund statements. The proprietary funds are prepared using the same accrual basis of accounting as the government-wide financial statements. The County's proprietary fund statements provide the same type of information found in the government-wide financial statements but in more detail.

CAPITAL ASSET AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

Capital assets. The County's capital assets for governmental and business-type activities as of December 31, 2022, total $66,702,732 (net of accumulated depreciation). These assets include land, land improvements, infrastructure, buildings, machinery and equipment, furniture and fixtures, vehicles, and construction in progress.

Pickens County Assets
(Net of Depreciation)

	Governmental Activities		*	Business-Type Activities		*	Total Primary Government	
	2022	2021		2022	2021		2022	2021
Land and improvements	$ 6,508,793	$ 6,535,415		$ 1,914,092	$ 1,942,351		$ 8,422,885	$ 8,477,766
Construction in progress	913,772	75,649		2,293,804	9,395,356		3,207,576	9,471,005
Buildings	28,428,834	29,269,821		3,289,519	1,200,972		31,718,353	30,470,793
Machinery & equipment	1,999,533	2,368,794		515,093	535,840		2,514,626	2,904,634
Vehicles	3,002,396	2,712,317		143,732	104,750		3,146,128	2,817,067
Infrastructure	4,234,185	4,738,397		13,458,979	8,764,192		17,693,164	13,502,589
Total Assets	45,087,513	45,700,393		21,615,219	21,943,461		66,702,732	67,643,854

Detailed information on the County's capital assets can be found in Note 8 of the basic financial statements.

Long-term Debt. During 2022, the long-term debt of Pickens County's governmental activities decreased $525,335. The notes payable category increased due to the expansion of the water lines and airport. The net pension liability decreased $788,575, and the net OPEB obligation increased by $186,103. Long-term debt increased in business-type activities in the amount of $661,532, this was due to the increase in notes payable and also in net pension liability and OPEB liability.

Pickens County's Outstanding Debt
Bonds Payable, Notes from Direct Borrowings, Claims, and Other Debts

	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Total Primary Government	
	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021
Bonds payable	$ -	$ -	$ 10,594,729	$ 10,529,974	$ 10,594,729	$ 10,529,974
Notes from direct borrowings	2,533,213	2,921,263	2,149,255	1,910,329	4,682,468	4,831,592
Claims	243,658	152,610	-	-	243,658	152,610
Landfill closure/postclosure	450,000	450,000	-	-	450,000	450,000
Compensated Absences	433,647	362,136	17,768	18,821	451,415	380,957
Net pension liability	7,669,172	8,674,912	477,193	260,028	8,146,365	8,934,940
Net OPEB liability	1,290,112	1,228,736	175,924	51,197	1,466,036	1,279,933
Total Outstanding Debt	$ 12,619,802	$ 13,789,657	$ 13,414,869	$ 12,770,349	$ 26,034,671	$ 26,560,006

Additional information regarding Pickens County's long-term debt and benefit plans can be found in Note 9 on pages 53 through 60 and Note 10 on pages 60 through 61 of this report.

ECONOMIC FACTORS AND THE 2021 BUDGET

- The 2022 millage rate decreased from 7.489 to 7.4380 per $1,000 of valuation. The 2022 millage rate was a decrease of 0.051%, however the 2022 tax digest reflected an increase of $215,537,263 in overall valuation. The 2022 total County taxes levied increased $1,521,283 as compared to 2021.

- The 2023 budget was approved and adopted by the Board of Commissioners on December 1, 2022. The 2023 operating budget increased from $33,708,038 to $32,856,476, a decrease of $851,562. The majority of the revenue increase is in property and sales tax revenues, title ad valorem tax, license and permit fees. The majority of expenditure increase is in purchased services and salaries and benefits.

- Monthly budgetary reports are provided to all department heads, elected officials and the Board of Commissioners.

Pickens County management continues to monitor revenue collection rates and control budgetary spending in an effort to provide services at or above current levels without further burdening the county taxpayers.

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

This report is designed to provide the reader with a general overview of the County's finances and demonstrate Management's commitment to public accountability. Questions concerning any of the information found in this report or requests for additional information should be directed to Charlene Bunch, Finance Director for Pickens County Board of Commissioners, 1266 East Church Street, Suite 175, Jasper, Georgia 30143.

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
December 31, 2022

	Primary Government			Component Units
	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total	
ASSETS				
Current assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 22,075,993	$ 800	$ 22,076,793	$ 1,551,357
Receivables (net)				
Accounts	393,855	333,414	727,269	0
Intergovernmental	974,758	91,004	1,065,762	0
Taxes	3,793,517	0	3,793,517	0
Inventories	27,202	91,321	118,523	470
Note receivable	0	0	0	322,000
Prepaid items	117,547	0	117,547	0
Restricted assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	202,699	0	202,699	0
Internal balances	2,351,635	(2,351,635)	0	0
Total current assets	29,937,206	(1,835,096)	28,102,110	1,873,827
Noncurrent assets				
Notes receivable	0	0	0	1,848,000
Net OPEB asset	0	0	0	23,488
Capital assets				
Non-depreciable	6,605,768	4,010,669	10,616,437	0
Depreciable (net)	38,481,745	17,604,550	56,086,295	40,028
Total noncurrent assets	45,087,513	21,615,219	66,702,732	1,911,516
Total assets	75,024,719	19,780,123	94,804,842	3,785,343
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES				
Deferred outflows of resources - pension	2,174,100	310,308	2,484,408	126,036
Deferred outflows of resources - OPEB	415,857	120,077	535,934	30,761
Total deferred outflows of resources	2,589,957	430,385	3,020,342	156,797
LIABILITIES				
Current liabilities				
Payables				
Accounts	1,640,327	971,459	2,611,786	14,499
Retainages	87,728	66,351	154,079	0
Interest	0	11,937	11,937	0
Accrued salaries and expenses	497,781	18,871	516,652	0
Compensated absences	303,553	12,438	315,991	11,979
Due to others	43,486	0	43,486	167,543
Unearned revenue	3,612,632	16,340	3,628,972	0
Notes payable	397,134	22,420	419,554	0
Bonds payable	0	868,020	868,020	86,688
Total current liabilities	6,582,641	1,987,836	8,570,477	280,709

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

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
December 31, 2022

	Primary Government			Component Units
	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total	
Noncurrent liabilities				
Compensated absences	$ 130,094	$ 5,330	$ 135,424	$ 7,985
Net pension liability	7,669,172	477,193	8,146,365	226,663
Net OPEB liability	1,290,112	175,924	1,466,036	25,397
Claims and judgements payable	243,658	0	243,658	0
Notes payable	2,136,079	2,126,835	4,262,914	0
Bonds payable	0	9,726,709	9,726,709	1,330,303
Post-closure care costs	450,000	0	450,000	0
Total noncurrent liabilities	11,919,115	12,511,991	24,431,106	1,590,348
Total liabilities	18,501,756	14,499,827	33,001,583	1,871,057
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES				
Deferred inflows of resources - pension	1,798,475	101,014	1,899,489	769,334
Deferred inflows of resources - OPEB	77,878	1,978	79,856	123,801
Total deferred inflows of resources	1,876,353	102,992	1,979,345	893,135
NET POSITION				
Net investment in capital assets	42,361,620	7,976,420	50,338,040	40,028
Restricted for:				
Judicial	877,770	0	877,770	0
Public safety	152,446	0	152,446	0
Health and welfare	0	0	0	426,592
Capital outlay	8,577,239	0	8,577,239	0
Unrestricted	5,267,492	(2,368,731)	2,898,761	711,328
Total net position	$ 57,236,567	$ 5,607,689	$ 62,844,256	$ 1,177,948

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

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
For the year ended December 31, 2022

FUNCTIONS/PROGRAMS	Expenses	Program Revenues: Charges for Services	Program Revenues: Operating Grants and Contributions	Program Revenues: Capital Grants and Contributions	Net (Expense) Revenue
Primary government					
Governmental activities					
General Government	$ 4,913,551	$ 1,032,444	$ 578,307	$ 0	$ (3,302,800)
Judicial	7,034,639	191,897	4,131,000	0	(2,711,742)
Public Safety	16,839,952	2,866,006	589,229	15,000	(13,369,717)
Public Works	10,929,737	865,255	276,211	16,019	(9,772,252)
Health and Welfare	295,209	0	73,464	0	(221,745)
Culture and Recreation	1,274,562	149,430	6,066	0	(1,119,066)
Housing and Development	1,204,813	21,920	75,645	0	(1,107,248)
Interest on long-term debt	23,105	0	0	0	(23,105)
Total governmental activities	42,515,568	5,126,952	5,729,922	31,019	(31,627,675)
Business-type activities					
Water and Sewer	3,825,534	3,410,861	0	3,926	(410,747)
Airport	2,205,744	1,010,917	0	966,533	(228,294)
Total business-type activities	6,031,278	4,421,778	0	970,459	(639,041)
Total primary government	48,546,846	9,548,730	5,729,922	1,001,478	(32,266,716)
Component Units					
Pickens County Development Authority					
Housing and Development	61,655	126,000	0	0	64,345
Pickens County Health Department					
Health and Welfare	629,919	453,885	246,045	0	70,011
Total component units	691,574	579,885	246,045	0	134,356

	Primary Government: Governmental Activities	Primary Government: Business-Type Activities	Primary Government: Total	Component Units
Change in net position				
Net (expense) revenue	$ (31,627,675)	$ (639,041)	$ (32,266,716)	$ 134,356
General revenues				
Taxes				
Property	17,412,502	0	17,412,502	0
Sales	14,375,222	0	14,375,222	0
Intangible	444,828	0	444,828	0
Insurance premium	2,210,705	0	2,210,705	0
Other	1,105,540	0	1,105,540	299
Interest and investment revenue	22,002	10	22,012	0
Payments from Pickens County	0	0	0	12,700
Other	277,708	1,072	278,780	0
Gain on sale of capital asset	4,500	4,900	9,400	0
Transfers	(1,141,408)	1,141,408	0	0
Total general revenues and transfers	34,711,599	1,147,390	35,858,989	12,999
Change in net position	3,083,924	508,349	3,592,273	147,355
Net position - beginning (original)	54,555,044	5,099,340	59,654,384	1,030,593
Prior period adjustment	(402,401)	0	(402,401)	0
Net position - beginning (restated)	54,152,643	5,099,340	59,251,983	0
Net position - ending	$ 57,236,567	$ 5,607,689	$ 62,844,256	$ 1,177,948

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

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PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
BALANCE SHEET
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
December 31, 2022

	General	American Rescue Plan Act Grant
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 15,073,840	$ 0
Receivables (net)		
Accounts	264,533	0
Intergovernmental	174,827	0
Taxes	2,970,221	0
Prepaid items	117,547	0
Inventories	27,202	0
Due from other funds	2,567,112	3,600,452
Restricted assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	202,699	0
Total assets	$ 21,397,981	$ 3,600,452
LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES, AND FUND BALANCES		
Liabilities		
Payables		
Accounts	$ 447,194	$ 0
Retainage	0	0
Accrued salaries and expenses	477,415	0
Unearned revenue	12,180	3,600,452
Due to others	0	0
Due to other funds	6,116,334	0
Total liabilities	7,053,123	3,600,452
Deferred inflows of resources		
Unavailable revenue - property taxes	1,361,006	0
Fund balances		
Nonspendable:		
Prepaid items	117,547	0
Inventories	27,202	0
Restricted for:		
Judicial	200,375	0
Public Safety	0	0
Capital outlay	0	0
Assigned for:		
Public Safety	0	0
Housing and Development	0	0
Unassigned	12,638,728	0
Total fund balances	12,983,852	0
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and fund balances	$ 21,397,981	$ 3,600,452

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

SPLOST	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Totals
$ 6,109,433	$ 892,720	$ 22,075,993
0	129,322	393,855
0	799,931	974,758
787,824	35,472	3,793,517
0	0	117,547
0	0	27,202
2,510,785	5,097	8,683,446
0	0	202,699
$ 9,408,042	$ 1,862,542	$ 36,269,017
$ 743,075	$ 450,058	$ 1,640,327
87,728	0	87,728
0	20,366	497,781
0	0	3,612,632
0	43,486	43,486
0	215,477	6,331,811
830,803	729,387	12,213,765
0	0	1,361,006
0	0	117,547
0	0	27,202
0	677,395	877,770
0	152,446	152,446
8,577,239	0	8,577,239
0	127,769	127,769
0	175,545	175,545
0	0	12,638,728
8,577,239	1,133,155	22,694,246
$ 9,408,042	$ 1,862,542	$ 36,269,017

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

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
RECONCILIATION OF THE BALANCE SHEET OF
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
December 31, 2022

Total fund balance - total governmental funds		$ 22,694,246
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:		
Some assets are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds. These are:		
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation		45,087,513
Long-term assets (receivables) are not available to pay current period expenditures and, therefore, are reported as unavailable revenue in the funds. These are property taxes.		1,361,006
Deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions are applicable to future periods and, therefore, are not reported in the funds. These are:		
Deferred outflows of resources:		
Deferred outflows related to pensions	$ 2,174,100	
Deferred outflows related to other post-employment benefits	415,857	
Deferred inflows of resources:		
Deferred inflows related to pensions	(1,798,475)	
Deferred inflows related to other post-employment benefits	(77,878)	713,604
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and are not reported in the funds. These are:		
Notes payable	2,533,213	
Post-closure care costs	450,000	
Compensated absences	433,647	
Claims and judgements payable	243,658	
Net pension liability	7,669,172	
Net OPEB liability	1,290,112	(12,619,802)
Net position of governmental activities		$ 57,236,567

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

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PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
STATEMENT OF REVENUES,
EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
For the year ended December 31, 2022

	General	American Rescue Plan Act Grant
REVENUES		
Taxes	$ 25,488,132	$ 0
Licenses and permits	647,063	0
Fines, fees and forfeitures	256,016	0
Charges for services	3,182,445	0
Intergovernmental	1,703,594	431,182
Contributions	31,742	0
Investment	19,543	0
Other	277,230	0
Total revenues	31,605,765	431,182
EXPENDITURES		
Current		
General government	4,347,536	47,777
Judicial	3,492,769	0
Public safety	14,215,590	0
Public works	3,918,210	108,363
Health and welfare	265,329	0
Culture and recreation	1,206,454	0
Housing and development	661,067	139,454
Capital outlay	0	0
Intergovernmental	0	0
Debt service	0	0
Total expenditures	28,106,955	295,594
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	3,498,810	135,588
Other financing sources (uses)		
Transfers in	34,621	0
Transfers out	(616,577)	(135,588)
Proceeds from sale of capital assets	6,650	0
Total other financing sources (uses)	(575,306)	(135,588)
Net change in fund balance	2,923,504	0
Fund balances, January 1(original)	10,486,413	0
Prior period adjustment	(426,065)	0
Fund balances, January 1 (restated)	10,060,348	0
Fund balances, December 31	$ 12,983,852	$ 0

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

Exhibit A-5, continued

SPLOST	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Totals
$ 8,458,226	$ 463,080	$ 34,409,438
0	0	647,063
0	217,975	473,991
0	1,018,420	4,200,865
135,409	3,259,111	5,529,296
0	34,747	66,489
13,778	2,459	35,780
0	478	277,708
8,607,413	4,996,270	45,640,630
0	0	4,395,313
0	3,637,754	7,130,523
0	1,400,236	15,615,826
0	0	4,026,573
0	365,499	630,828
0	0	1,206,454
0	0	800,521
6,622,339	0	6,622,339
1,539,397	0	1,539,397
116,062	0	116,062
8,277,798	5,403,489	42,083,836
329,615	(407,219)	3,556,794
0	616,577	651,198
(1,005,820)	(34,621)	(1,792,606)
0	0	6,650
(1,005,820)	581,956	(1,134,758)
(676,205)	174,737	2,422,036
9,253,444	934,754	20,674,611
0	23,664	(402,401)
9,253,444	958,418	20,272,210
$ 8,577,239	$ 1,133,155	$ 22,694,246

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

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
For the year ended December 31, 2022

Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds		$ 2,422,036
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:		
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense.		
Capital outlays	$ 2,352,306	
Depreciation	(2,945,670)	(593,364)
Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds These include recognition of unavailable property taxes.		1,139,360
In the statement of activities, the loss on the disposal of capital assets is reported, whereas in the governmental funds, the proceeds from the sale of capital assets increase financial resources.		
Cost of assets disposed	(1,749,743)	
Related accumulated depreciation	1,713,084	(36,659)
Contributions of capital assets increase net position in the statement of activities, but do not appear in the governmental funds because they are not financial resources.		
Cost of assets	24,314	
Related accumulated depreciation	(7,170)	17,144
The proceeds of debt issuance provide current financial resources to governmental funds, but issuing debt increases long-term liabilities in the statement of net position. Repayment of debt principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net position. In addition, interest on long-term debt is not recognized in the governmental funds until due, but is recognized in the statement of activities as it accrues.		
Debt principal payments		388,050
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.		
Pension contributions	1,308,299	
Cost of benefits earned net of employee contributions	(1,396,797)	(88,498)
Other post employment benefits are reported in the statement of activities, but do not require the use of current financial resources and therefore are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.		
OPEB contributions	49,246	
Cost of benefits earned net of employee contributions	(50,832)	(1,586)
Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.		
Claims and judgements payable	(91,048)	
Compensated absences	(71,511)	(162,559)
Change in net position of governmental activities		$ 3,083,924

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

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
GENERAL FUND
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET (GAAP) AND ACTUAL
For the year ended December 31, 2022

	Budget			Variance with
	Original	Final	Actual	Final Budget
REVENUES				
Taxes	$ 22,343,806	$ 23,624,206	$ 25,488,132	$ 1,863,926
Licenses and permits	563,555	563,555	647,063	83,508
Fines, fees and forfeitures	270,400	270,400	256,016	(14,384)
Charges for services	3,744,023	3,744,023	3,182,445	(561,578)
Intergovernmental	1,516,730	1,516,730	1,703,594	186,864
Investment	10,100	10,100	19,543	9,443
Contributions	34,500	34,500	31,742	(2,758)
Other	283,189	283,189	277,230	(5,959)
Total revenues	28,766,303	30,046,703	31,605,765	1,559,062
EXPENDITURES				
Current				
General Government				
Administration	726,787	731,787	731,780	7
Commission Board	195,589	195,589	174,630	20,959
County clerk	212,829	212,829	158,649	54,180
Elections	440,831	512,831	512,510	321
Finance	432,787	432,787	384,525	48,262
Legal	180,000	180,000	171,912	8,088
Human Resources	175,773	195,773	195,573	200
Tax Commissioner	787,034	787,034	682,033	105,001
Tax Assessor	669,967	697,967	697,409	558
Board of Equalization	16,658	16,658	13,920	2,738
Buildings	660,545	660,545	595,243	65,302
Agencies	30,000	30,000	29,352	648
Judicial				
Administration	152,863	153,463	153,391	72
Superior Court	241,608	241,608	212,431	29,177
Clerk of Superior Court	702,064	720,064	719,188	876
District Attorney	635,042	635,042	463,305	171,737
Magistrate Court	483,589	483,589	395,539	88,050
Probate Court	528,855	528,855	464,016	64,839
Juvenile Court	411,011	418,011	416,922	1,089
Public Defender	691,620	691,620	667,977	23,643
Public Safety				
Sheriff department	4,620,444	5,145,444	5,125,986	19,458
Jail operations	2,753,628	3,113,628	3,108,818	4,810
Court services	131,351	131,351	109,174	22,177
School resource officers	642,135	642,135	598,661	43,474
Fire Department	4,509,238	4,677,238	4,676,508	730
Coroner	71,102	72,802	72,756	46
Animal Control	315,664	315,664	252,152	63,512
Emergency Management	160,520	160,520	111,069	49,451
County Marshall	162,694	162,694	160,466	2,228
Public Works				
Roads and walkways	2,681,393	2,681,393	2,552,603	128,790
Solid waste	1,042,062	1,110,062	1,109,513	549
Maintenance and shop	292,433	292,433	256,094	36,339
Health and Welfare				
Health department	2,750	2,750	822	1,928
Public health and welfare	115,778	115,778	105,381	10,397
Senior center	24,300	24,300	24,199	101
Transportation services	140,153	140,153	134,927	5,226

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

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
GENERAL FUND
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET (GAAP) AND ACTUAL
For the year ended December 31, 2022

	Budget			Variance with
	Original	Final	Actual	Final Budget
EXPENDITURES (continued)				
Current				
Culture and Recreation				
Parks and recreation	$ 798,150	$ 805,250	$ 805,204	$ 46
Library	402,250	402,250	401,250	1,000
Housing and Development				
Extension office	73,634	73,634	59,429	14,205
Planning and Zoning	474,798	474,798	452,410	22,388
Economic Development	178,194	178,194	149,228	28,966
Total expenditures	27,968,123	29,248,523	28,106,955	1,141,568
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	798,180	798,180	3,498,810	2,700,630
Other financing sources (uses)				
Transfers in	31,208	0	34,621	(34,621)
Transfers out	(739,467)	(708,259)	(616,577)	(91,682)
Proceeds from sale of capital assets	2,150	2,150	6,650	(4,500)
Contingency	(92,071)	(92,071)	0	(92,071)
Total other financing sources (uses)	(798,180)	(798,180)	(575,306)	(222,874)
Net change in fund balances	0	0	2,923,504	2,923,504
Fund balances, January 1 (original)	0	0	10,486,413	10,486,413
Prior period adjustment	0	0	(426,065)	(426,065)
Fund balances, January 1 (restated)	0	0	10,060,348	10,060,348
Fund balances, December 31	$ 0	$ 0	$ 12,983,852	$ 12,983,852

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

Exhibit A-7, continued

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT GRANT SPECIAL REVENUE FUND
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET (GAAP) AND ACTUAL
For the year ended December 31, 2022

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance
REVENUES				
Intergovernmental	$ 431,183	$ 431,183	$ 431,182	$ (1)
EXPENDITURES				
Current				
General Government				
Materials and supplies	47,777	47,777	47,777	0
Public Works				
Materials and supplies	243,950	243,950	108,363	135,587
Housing and Development				
Contract services	102,964	102,964	81,790	21,174
Capital outlay	36,492	36,492	57,664	(21,172)
Total expenditures	431,183	431,183	295,594	135,589
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	0	0	135,588	135,588
Other financing sources (uses)				
Transfers out	0	0	(135,588)	(135,588)
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over (under) expenditures and other financing uses	0	0	0	0
Fund balances, January 1	0	0	0	0
Fund balances, December 31	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0

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

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
PROPRIETARY FUNDS
December 31, 2022

	Business-Type Activities		
	Water and Sewer	Airport	Totals
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 800	$ 0	$ 800
Receivables			
Accounts (net)	317,599	15,815	333,414
Intergovernmental	0	91,004	91,004
Inventories	57,574	33,747	91,321
Total current assets	375,973	140,566	516,539
Noncurrent assets			
Capital assets			
Non-depreciable	864,192	3,146,477	4,010,669
Depreciable (net)	8,846,596	8,757,954	17,604,550
Total noncurrent assets	9,710,788	11,904,431	21,615,219
Total assets	10,086,761	12,044,997	22,131,758
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES			
Deferred outflows of resources - pension	206,800	103,508	310,308
Deferred outflows of resources - OPEB	69,490	50,587	120,077
Total deferred outflows of resources	276,290	154,095	430,385
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Payables			
Accounts	137,450	834,009	971,459
Retainages	0	66,351	66,351
Interest	11,937	0	11,937
Accrued salaries and other payroll liabilities	15,810	3,061	18,871
Compensated absences	9,406	3,032	12,438
Due to other funds	1,855,592	496,043	2,351,635
Unearned revenue	0	16,340	16,340
Notes payable	22,420	0	22,420
Bonds payable	555,000	313,020	868,020
Total current liabilities	2,607,615	1,731,856	4,339,471
Noncurrent liabilities			
Compensated absences	4,031	1,299	5,330
Net pension liability	374,937	102,256	477,193
Net OPEB liability	117,283	58,641	175,924
Notes payable	1,856,329	270,506	2,126,835
Bonds payable	3,620,000	6,106,709	9,726,709
Total noncurrent liabilities	5,972,580	6,539,411	12,511,991
Total liabilities	8,580,195	8,271,267	16,851,462
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES			
Deferred inflows of resources - pension	79,368	21,646	101,014
Deferred inflows of resources - OPEB	1,319	659	1,978
Total deferred inflows of resources	80,687	22,305	102,992
NET POSITION			
Net investment in capital assets	3,657,039	4,319,381	7,976,420
Unrestricted	(1,954,870)	(413,861)	(2,368,731)
Total net position	$ 1,702,169	$ 3,905,520	$ 5,607,689

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

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES,
AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION
PROPRIETARY FUNDS
For the year ended December 31, 2022

	Business-Type Activities		
	Water and Sewer	Airport	Totals
OPERATING REVENUES			
Charges for sales and services	$ 3,410,861	$ 1,010,917	$ 4,421,778
Other	1,072	0	1,072
Total operating revenues	3,411,933	1,010,917	4,422,850
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Costs of sales and services	1,418,012	847,520	2,265,532
Personal services	1,063,818	209,522	1,273,340
Depreciation	701,243	817,593	1,518,836
Total operating expenses	3,183,073	1,874,635	5,057,708
Operating income (loss)	228,860	(863,718)	(634,858)
Non-operating revenues (expenses)			
Gain (loss) on capital assets	(488,497)	4,900	(483,597)
Distribution of capital asset	(2,244)	0	(2,244)
Interest revenue	0	10	10
Interest expense	(151,720)	(331,109)	(482,829)
Total non-operating revenues (expenses)	(642,461)	(326,199)	(968,660)
Income (loss) before capital contributions and transfers	(413,601)	(1,189,917)	(1,603,518)
Capital contributions			
Intergovernmental	3,926	966,533	970,459
Net income (loss) before transfers	(409,675)	(223,384)	(633,059)
Transfers in (out)			
Transfers in	205,040	936,368	1,141,408
Change in net position	(204,635)	712,984	508,349
Net position, January 1	1,906,804	3,192,536	5,099,340
Net position, December 31	$ 1,702,169	$ 3,905,520	$ 5,607,689

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

Exhibit A-10

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
PROPRIETARY FUNDS
For the year ended December 31, 2022

	Business-Type Activities		
	Water and Sewer	Airport	Totals
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Receipts from customers	$ 3,340,773	$ 909,736	$ 4,250,509
Payments to suppliers	(1,587,639)	(839,509)	(2,427,148)
Payments to employees	(1,024,273)	(177,395)	(1,201,668)
Other receipts	1,072	0	1,072
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	729,933	(107,168)	622,765
Cash flows from non-capital financing activities:			
Receipts from other funds	134,123	0	134,123
Receipts from other governments	3,926	0	3,926
Payments to other funds	(53,146)	(1,686,843)	(1,739,989)
Net cash provided (used) by non-capital financing activities	84,903	(1,686,843)	(1,601,940)
Cash flows from capital and related financing activities:			
Receipts from other funds	205,040	936,368	1,141,408
Receipts from other governments	0	966,534	966,534
Proceeds from sale of capital assets	76,350	4,900	81,250
Acquisition of capital assets	(378,588)	(550,631)	(929,219)
Proceeds from notes payable	0	260,757	260,757
Proceeds from bonds payable	0	935,609	935,609
Payment of capital related accounts payable and retainage	0	(100,572)	(100,572)
Principal payments - bonds payable	(543,000)	(327,854)	(870,854)
Principal payments - notes payable	(21,831)	0	(21,831)
Interest paid	(152,807)	(331,110)	(483,917)
Net cash provided (used) by capital and related financing activities	(814,836)	1,794,001	979,165
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Receipts of interest revenue	0	10	10
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	0	0	0
Cash and cash equivalents, January 1	800	0	800
Cash and cash equivalents, December 31	$ 800	$ 0	$ 800

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

Exhibit A-11, continued

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
PROPRIETARY FUNDS
For the year ended December 31, 2022

	Business-Type Activities		
	Water and Sewer	Airport	Totals
Reconciliation of operating income (loss) to net cash provided (used) by operating activities:			
Operating income (loss)	$ 228,860	$ (863,718)	$ (634,858)
Adjustments to reconcile operating income (loss) to net cash provided (used) by operating activities:			
Depreciation expense	701,243	817,593	1,518,836
(Increase) decrease in accounts receivable	(70,088)	(10,340)	(80,428)
(Increase) decrease in intergovernmental receivable	0	(91,004)	(91,004)
(Increase) decrease in inventories	(8,185)	19,961	11,776
(Increase) decrease in deferred outflows of resources - pension	(127,623)	(103,508)	(231,131)
(Increase) decrease in deferred outflows of resources - OPEB	(56,863)	(50,587)	(107,450)
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable	(161,442)	(11,950)	(173,392)
Increase (decrease) in unearned revenue	0	163	163
Increase (decrease) in accrued payroll liabilities	(1,553)	3,020	1,467
Increase (decrease) in deferred inflows of resources - pension	44,306	21,646	65,952
Increase (decrease) in deferred inflows of resources - OPEB	283	659	942
Increase (decrease) in net pension liability	114,909	102,256	217,165
Increase (decrease) in net OPEB liability	66,086	58,641	124,727
Total adjustments	501,073	756,550	1,257,623
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	$ 729,933	$ (107,168)	$ 622,765

Noncash capital and related financing activities:

Acquisition of capital assets through accounts payable totaled $828,464.
Contribution of capital assets from the Governmental Activities totaled $90,344.
Contribution of capital assets to the Governmental Activities totaled $2,244.

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

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
December 31, 2022

	Custodial Funds
ASSETS	
Cash	$ 2,341,480
Taxes receivable, net	2,432,578
Total assets	4,774,058
LIABILITIES	
Due to others	3,251,425
NET POSITION	
Restricted for individuals, organizations, and other governments	$ 1,522,633

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

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
For the year ended December 31, 2022

	Custodial Funds
ADDITIONS	
Taxes collected for other agencies	$ 31,143,595
Court fees collected for other agencies	1,707,804
Court individual cases	422,036
Sheriff fees collected	141,264
Sheriff inmate account deposits	243,219
Total additions	33,657,918
DEDUCTIONS	
Taxes distributed to other agencies	31,143,595
Court fees distributed to other agencies	1,643,277
Payments to others	165,156
Sheriff fees distributed to other agencies	141,002
Payments from inmates to others	240,174
Total deductions	33,333,204
Change in net position	324,714
Net position, January 1	1,197,919
Net position, December 31	$ 1,522,633

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

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
COMPONENT UNITS
COMBINING STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
December 31, 2022

	Pickens County Development Authority	Pickens County Health Department	Totals
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 294,364	$ 1,256,993	$ 1,551,357
Receivable (net)			
Notes	322,000	0	322,000
Inventory	0	470	470
Total current assets	616,364	1,257,463	1,873,827
Noncurrent assets			
Notes receivable	1,848,000	0	1,848,000
Net OPEB asset	0	23,488	23,488
Capital assets			
Depreciable (net)	0	40,028	40,028
Total noncurrent assets	1,848,000	63,516	1,911,516
Total assets	2,464,364	1,320,979	3,785,343
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES			
Deferred outflows of resources - pension	0	126,036	126,036
Deferred outflows of resources - OPEB	0	30,761	30,761
Total deferred outflows of resources	0	156,797	156,797
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Accounts payable	0	14,499	14,499
Due to others	0	167,543	167,543
Compensated absences	0	11,979	11,979
Bonds payable	86,688	0	86,688
Total current liabilities	86,688	194,021	280,709
Noncurrent liabilities			
Compensated absences	0	7,985	7,985
Bonds payable	1,330,303	0	1,330,303
Net pension liability	0	226,663	226,663
Net OPEB liability	0	25,397	25,397
Total noncurrent liabilities	1,330,303	260,045	1,590,348
Total liabilities	1,416,991	454,066	1,871,057
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES			
Deferred inflows of resources - pension	550,017	219,317	769,334
Deferred inflows of resources - OPEB	0	123,801	123,801
Total deferred inflows of resources	550,017	343,118	893,135
NET POSITION			
Investment in capital assets	0	40,028	40,028
Restricted for health and welfare	0	426,592	426,592
Unrestricted	497,356	213,972	711,328
Total net position	$ 497,356	$ 680,592	$ 1,177,948

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

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
COMPONENT UNITS
COMBINING STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
For the year ended December 31, 2022

	Pickens County Development Authority	Pickens County Health Department	Totals
Expenses			
Health and Welfare	$ 0	$ 629,919	$ 629,919
Housing and Development	61,655	0	61,655
Total expenses	61,655	629,919	691,574
Program revenues			
Charges for services	126,000	453,885	579,885
Operating grants and contributions	0	246,045	246,045
Total program revenues	126,000	699,930	825,930
Net (expense) revenue	64,345	70,011	134,356
General revenues			
Payments from Pickens County	12,700	0	12,700
Investment	299	0	299
Total general revenues	12,999	0	12,999
Change in net position	77,344	70,011	147,355
Net position, January 1	420,012	610,581	1,030,593
Net position, December 31	$ 497,356	$ 680,592	$ 1,177,948

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

1. Description of Government Unit

Pickens County, Georgia (the County) is a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, located 60 miles north of Atlanta, Georgia, and was created by a legislative act in 1853. The County operates under a Commission-Administrator form of government and is governed by three elected Commissioners, governed by state statutes and regulations. There are certain elected officials whose operations are wholly included within the financial records and financial statements of the County. These elected officials include the Sheriff, Tax Commissioner, Probate Court Judge, Magistrate Court Judge, Juvenile Court Judge, Superior Court Judge and Clerk of the Superior Court. The County's major services include general government, courts, public safety, public works, health and welfare, parks, recreation and culture and planning and community development.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Description of Government-wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net position and the statement of activities) report information on all of the nonfiduciary activities of the primary government and its component units. All fiduciary activities are reported only in the fund financial statements. The primary government includes governmental activities, which normally are supported by taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other nonexchange transactions. The primary government is reported separately from certain legally separate component units for which the primary government is financially accountable.

B. Reporting Entity

As required by generally accepted accounting principles, the financial statements of the reporting entity include those of Pickens County (the primary government) and material component units. The component units discussed below are included in the County's reporting entity because of the significance of their operational and financial relationship with the County.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

B. Reporting Entity, continued

In conformity with generally accepted accounting principles, as set forth in Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 14, *The Financial Reporting Entity*, as amended by Statement No. 61, the financial statements of component units have been included either as blended or discretely presented component units.

Discretely Presented Component Units – Discretely presented component units are reported in separate columns in the government-wide financial statements to emphasize they are legally separate from the government.

Pickens County Health Department – The Health Department works to promote and preserve the health of the citizens of the County. The Health Department's Board consists of seven members, including a County Commissioner and two of these members are appointed by the County Commissioners. The County has the authority to approve or modify the Health Department's budgets and the ability to approve environmental health services. The Health Department is reported on a June 30 fiscal year. Complete financial statements for the Health Department may be obtained from its administrative office at 60 Health Jasper Way, Jasper, Georgia, 30143.

Pickens County Development Authority – The Development Authority is responsible for promoting industrial and commercial development within Pickens County, Georgia. The Development Authority is governed by a seven-member board. The County Commissioners appoint a voting majority to the Authority's board and the County has a significant financial relationship with the Authority. Separate financial statements are not prepared for the Pickens County Development Authority.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

C. Basis of Presentation – Government-wide Financial Statements

While separate government-wide and fund financial statements are presented, they are interrelated. The governmental activities column incorporates data from governmental funds. Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds and fiduciary funds, even though the latter are excluded from the government-wide financial statements.

As discussed earlier, the government has two discretely presented component units that are shown in separate columns in the government-wide financial statements.

As a general rule, the effect of interfund activity has been eliminated from the government-wide financial statements.

D. Basis of Presentation – Fund Financial Statements

The fund financial statements provide information about the government's funds, including its fiduciary funds. Separate statements for each fund category—governmental and fiduciary—are presented. The emphasis of fund financial statements is on major governmental funds, each displayed in a separate column. All remaining governmental funds are aggregated and reported as nonmajor funds.

The County reports the following major governmental funds:

General Fund - The general operating fund of the County is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

American Rescue Plan Act Special Revenue Fund – accounts for the revenues and expenditures of the American Rescue Plan Act Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund.

Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax Capital Projects Fund – accounts for the proceeds of a 1 percent special purpose local option sales tax for funding various long-term projects.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

D. Basis of Presentation – Fund Financial Statements, continued

Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund – This fund is used to account for activities connected with the development, operation and maintenance of water and sewer services in Pickens County.

Airport Enterprise Fund – This fund is used to account for activities connected with the development, operation, and maintenance of the Pickens County Airport. The Pickens County Airport Authority provides oversight of capital projects and has delegated operations and long-term debt obligations to Pickens County.

Additionally, the County reports the following fund types:

Governmental Fund Types

Special Revenue Funds – accounts for the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are legally or donor restricted to be expended for specified purposes.

Capital Projects Funds – accounts for financial resources to be used for the acquisition or construction of specifically planned projects (other than those financed by proprietary funds).

Fiduciary Fund Types

Custodial Funds - Custodial funds are fiduciary in nature and are accounted for using the accrual basis of accounting. These funds are used to account for assets that are held for others.

During the course of operations, the government has activity between funds for various purposes. Any residual balances outstanding at year end are reported as due from/to other funds and advances to/from other funds. While these balances are reported in fund financial statements, certain eliminations are made in the preparation of the government-wide financial statements.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

D. Basis of Presentation – Fund Financial Statements, continued

Further, certain activity occurs during the year involving transfers of resources between funds. In fund financial statements these amounts are reported at gross amounts as transfers in/out. While reported in fund financial statements, certain eliminations are made in the preparation of the government-wide financial statements.

E. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

The accounting and financial reporting treatment is determined by the applicable measurement focus and basis of accounting. Measurement focus indicates the type of resources being measured such as current financial resources or economic resources. The basis of accounting indicates the timing of transactions or events for recognition in the financial statements.

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. 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.

The governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the government considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period.

Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures, as well as expenditures related to compensated absences, and claims and judgments, are recorded only when payment is due. General capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Issuance of long-term debt and acquisitions under leases are reported as other financing sources.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

E. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting, continued

Property taxes, sales 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. Entitlements are recorded as revenues when all eligibility requirements are met, including any time requirements, and the amount is received during the period or within the availability period for this revenue source (within 60 days of year-end). Expenditure-driven grants are recognized as revenue when the qualifying expenditures have been incurred and all other eligibility requirements have been met, and the amount is received during the period or within the availability period for this revenue source (within 60 days of year-end). All other revenue items are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received by the government.

F. Revenues and Expenditures/Expenses

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. All taxes, including those dedicated for specific purposes, and other internally dedicated resources are reported as general revenues rather than as program revenues.

G. Budgetary Information

The applicable statues of the State of Georgia require the County to operate under an annual balanced budget adopted by resolution. The County adopts an annual operating budget for all governmental funds except the capital projects funds, which have an adopted project length budget. The budget resolution reflects the total of each department's appropriation in each fund.

The legal level of control (the level at which expenditures may not legally exceed appropriations) for each adopted annual operating budget generally is the department level within each individual fund. Any change in total to a fund or changes between department appropriations within a fund requires approval of the County Commission.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

G. Budgetary Information, continued

The budget is adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles, and on the same basis of accounting used by each fund to which the budget applies. The County Commission must also approve budget transfers within departments.

The current year original budget was amended during the year. All unencumbered annual appropriations lapse at year-end. Encumbered appropriations are carried forward to the subsequent year automatically.

H. Cash, Cash Equivalents, and Investments

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, demand deposits, certificates of deposits and deposits with the Georgia Fund 1 (i.e., the local government investment pool) as well as short-term investments with a maturity date within three months of the date acquired by the County.

Currently, the County does not have a formal investment policy that limits investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates. Investments are stated at fair value based on quoted market prices.

Georgia law authorizes the County to invest in the following type of obligations:

- Obligations of the State of Georgia or of any other states
- Obligations of the United States Government
- Obligations fully insured or guaranteed by the United States Government or United States Government Agency
- Obligations of any corporation of the United States Government
- Prime bankers' acceptances
- The State of Georgia local government investment pool (i.e., Georgia Fund 1)
- Repurchase agreements
- Obligations of the other political subdivisions of the State of Georgia

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

I. Intergovernmental Receivables

Receivables from state, federal, and local governments are recorded as revenue for the period of the allocation or as earned based on expenditures made for which reimbursement is due.

J. Inventories

Inventories are valued at cost using the first-in/first out (FIFO) method. The costs of de minimis governmental fund-type inventories are recorded as expenditures at the time of purchase. The County uses the purchase method of accounting for the purchase of materials and supplies or services. These items are charged directly to the expenditure account.

K. Prepaid Items

Payments made to vendors for services that will benefit periods beyond the current year are recorded as prepaid items. The costs of governmental fund-type prepaid items are recorded as expenditures when consumed rather than when purchased.

L. Capital Assets

General capital assets are those assets not specifically related to activities reported in the proprietary funds. These assets generally result from expenditures in governmental funds. The County reports these assets in the governmental activities column of the government-wide statement of net position but does not report these assets in the government funds balance sheet.

All capital assets are capitalized at cost (or estimated historical cost) and updated for additions and retirements during the year. Donated capital assets are recorded at acquisition value. The County maintains a capitalization threshold of $5,000 and an estimated useful life of two years or more (excluding infrastructure). All infrastructure is capitalized with a cost of $50,000 and an estimated life of two years or more. The County's infrastructure consists of roads and bridges.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

L. Capital Assets, continued

The County's entire infrastructure has been reported regardless of acquisition date. Improvements to capital assets are capitalized. The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend an asset's life are expensed.

All reported capital assets are depreciated except for land and construction in progress. Improvements are depreciated over the remaining useful lives of the related capital assets. Useful lives for infrastructure are estimated based on the County's historical records of necessary improvements and replacement.

Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

	Useful Life in Years
Land improvements	12-15
Site improvements	12-15
Infrastructure	10-30
Buildings	25-50
Building improvements	10-25
Machinery and equipment	3-15
Furniture and fixtures	5-20
Intangibles - software	5
Vehicles	2-15

M. Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources

In addition to assets, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred outflows of resources, represents a consumption of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. The County reports deferred outflows of resources related to their defined benefit pension plan and other postemployment benefit plan.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

M. Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources continued

In addition to liabilities, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred inflows of resources, represents an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. The County has only one type of item, which arises only under a modified accrual basis of accounting that qualifies for reporting in this category. Accordingly, the item, unavailable revenue, is reported only in the governmental funds balance sheet. The governmental funds report unavailable revenues from two sources: property taxes and special assessments. These amounts are deferred and recognized as an inflow of resources in the period that the amounts become available. The County also reports deferred inflows of resources related to their defined benefit pension plan and other postemployment benefit plan.

N. Compensated Absences

Vacation benefits are accrued as a liability as the benefits are earned if the employees' rights to receive compensation are attributable to services already rendered and it is probable that the employer will compensate the employees for the benefits through paid time off or some other means.

All compensated absence liabilities include salary-related payments, where applicable.

The total compensated absence liability is reported on the government-wide financial statements. Governmental funds report the compensated absence liability only if the benefit has matured (is, unused reimbursable leave still outstanding following an employee’s resignation or retirement) and is expected to be liquidated with expendable available financial resources.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

O. Net Position Flow Assumption

Sometimes the County will fund outlays for a particular purpose from both restricted (e.g., restricted bond or grant proceeds) and unrestricted resources. In order to calculate the amounts to report as restricted net position and unrestricted net position in the government-wide financial statements, a flow assumption must be made about the order in which the resources are considered to be applied. It is the County's policy to consider restricted net position to have been depleted before unrestricted net position is applied.

P. Fund Balance Flow Assumption

Sometimes the County will fund outlays for a particular purpose from both restricted and unrestricted resources (the total of committed, assigned, and unassigned fund balance). In order to calculate the amounts to report as restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned fund balance in the governmental fund financial statements, a flow assumption must be made about the order in which the resources are considered to be applied. It is the County's policy to consider restricted fund balance to have been depleted before using any of the components of unrestricted fund balance. Further, when the components of unrestricted fund balance can be used for the same purpose, committed fund balance is depleted first, followed by assigned fund balance. Unassigned fund balance is applied last.

Q. Restricted Assets and Restricted Net Position

Restricted assets represent certain resources restricted by funding source or required to be set aside for the repayment of debt. They are maintained in a separate bank account and their use is limited.

Restricted net position is equal to the excess of the restricted assets funded from operations over the liabilities to be paid with restricted assets which are due in one year or less. Restricted assets exclude unspent bond proceeds for calculation of restricted net position.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

R. Fund Balances – Governmental Funds

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, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources under the current financial resources management 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 purpose for which amounts in those funds can be spent.

In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report the following classifications of fund balance:

Nonspendable – includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are either not spendable in form or are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. All amounts reported by the County as nonspendable at the end of the current year are nonspendable in form. The County has not reported any amounts that are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

Restricted – includes amounts restricted by external sources (creditors, laws of other governments, etc.) or by constitutional provision or enabling legislation.

Committed – includes amounts that can only be used for specific purposes. Committed fund balance is reported pursuant to resolutions passed by the County Commissioners, the County's highest level of decision making authority, which include the language "committed for the purpose of". Commitments may be modified or rescinded only through adoption of a subsequent resolution, which shall refer to the original resolution by its number.

Assigned – includes amounts that are intended to be used by the County for a specific purpose, but do not meet the definition of restricted or committed fund balance. Intent can only be expressed by the County Commissioners or their designee. Assigned Fund Balance differs from Committed Fund Balance in that assignments do not require a resolution.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

R. Fund Balances – Governmental Funds, continued

Unassigned – includes amounts that do not fall into one of the above four categories. This classification represents fund balance that has not been assigned to other funds and that has not been restricted, committed, or assigned to specific purposes within the General Fund. In addition, any remaining deficits in the County's governmental funds which remain after all other fund balances have been exhausted are classified as unassigned.

S. Net Position

Net position represents the difference between assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources in reporting, which utilizes the economic resources measurement focus. Net investment in capital assets consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowing used (i.e., the amount that the County has spent) for the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets. Net position is reported as restricted using the same definition as used for restricted fund balance as described in the section above. All other net position is reported as unrestricted.

T. Pensions

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Pickens County Defined Benefit Plan (the Plan) and additions to/deductions from the Plan's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the Plan. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

U. Other Post-employment Benefits (OPEB)

For purposes of measuring the net OPEB liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB, and OPEB expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Pickens County Other Post-employment Benefits Plan (the Plan) and additions to/deductions from the Plan's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the Plan. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

V. Long-Term Obligations

In the government-wide financial statements long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities under governmental activities. Bond premiums and discounts are deferred and amortized over the life of the bonds using the straight-line method. Bonds payable are reported net of the applicable bond premium or discount. Prepaid bond insurance is amortized over the term of the debt. Issuance costs are recognized during the current period.

In the fund financial statements, governmental fund types, bond premiums and discounts, as well as issuance costs, are recognized during the current period. The face amount of debt issued is reported as any other financing source. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financing sources while discounts on debt issuances are reported as other financing uses. Issuance costs, even if withheld from the actual net proceeds received, are reported as debt service expenditures.

W. Capital Contributions

Federal, state and local government assistance in the form of grants that are permanent in nature and restricted for the construction or acquisition of specific property and equipment is recorded as an asset and as program revenue.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

X. Management Estimates

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

3. Deposit and Investment Risk

Custodial Credit Risk – Deposits

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a financial institution failure, the County's deposits may not be returned. The County has no formal policy, but follows the State of Georgia requirement that all deposits be federally insured or fully collateralized.

Interest Rate Risk

The County does not have a formal investment policy that limits investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates.

Credit Risk

State of Georgia law limits investments to include certificates of deposit, prime bankers' acceptances, repurchase agreements, direct and agency obligations of the United States, obligations of any corporation of the United States government, obligations of the State of Georgia or other states, obligations of other political subdivisions of the State of Georgia, and pooled investment programs of the State of Georgia. The County has no investment policy that would further limit its investment choices.

Concentration of Credit Risk

The County has no formal policy on the amount the County may invest in any one issuer.

Foreign Currency Risk

The County has no investments denominated in a foreign currency.

4. Accounts Receivable

Net accounts receivable at the end of the current year consist of the following:

Primary Government:		
Major Funds		
General Fund		$ 264,533
Water and Sewer Fund	$ 332,931	
Less: Allowance for Uncollectible	(15,332)	317,599
Airport Fund		15,815
Nonmajor Funds		
E911		129,322
Total primary government		$ 727,269

5. Intergovernmental Receivables

Intergovernmental receivables at the end of the current year consist of the following:

Primary Government:	
Major Funds	
General Fund	$ 174,827
Airport Fund	91,004
Nonmajor Funds	
Special Revenue Funds	
Restricted Programs	799,931
Total primary government	$ 1,065,762

6. Property Taxes

The County Commissioners levied property taxes on August 29, 2022. Property taxes attach as an enforceable lien on property as of January 1. Property taxes were billed on September 15, 2022, and due on November 18, 2022. The County bills and collects its own property taxes and also collects property taxes for the County Board of Education and the State of Georgia. The County also collects vehicle and mobile home taxes for the cities located in the County and the State of Georgia. Collection of the County's taxes and for the other governmental agencies is the responsibility of the Tax Commissioner's Office, which is accounted for in a custodial fund.

7. Interfund Receivables, Payables, and Transfers

The balances reported as Due to/Due from resulted from timing differences between the dates that transactions are recorded in the accounting system and payments between the funds are made.

A summary of interfund receivables and payables at the end of the current year is as follows:

Receivable Fund	Payable Fund	Amount
General	Water and Sewer	$ 1,855,592
	Airport	496,043
	Nonmajor Governmental	215,477
American Rescue Plan Act Grant	General	3,600,452
SPLOST	General	2,510,785
Nonmajor Governmental	General	5,097
Total		$ 8,683,446

7. Interfund Receivables, Payables, and Transfers (continued)

A summary of interfund transfers for the current year is as follows:

Transfer Out Fund	Transfer In Fund	Amount
General	Nonmajor Governmental	$ 616,577
American Rescue Plan Act Grant	Water and Sewer	135,588
SPLOST	Water and Sewer	69,452
	Airport	936,368
Nonmajor Governmental	General	34,621
Total		$ 1,792,606

Interfund balances at the end of the current year represent charges for services or reimbursable expenses. These remaining balances resulted from the time lag between the dates that (1) interfund goods or services are provided or reimbursable expenditures occur, (2) transactions are recorded in the accounting period, and (3) payments between funds are made. The County expects to repay all interfund balances within one year.

Any residual balances outstanding between the governmental activities and the business-type activities are reported in the government-wide financial statements as “internal balances”.

The interfund receivables in the SPLOST Capital Project Fund are for intergovernmental revenues recorded in the General Fund in prior years. The County’s General Fund plans to pay the interfund balance during the upcoming fiscal years.

8. Capital Assets

Capital asset activity for the primary government for the current year was as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance
Governmental activities				
Non-depreciable assets				
Land	$ 5,691,996	$ 0	$ 0	$ 5,691,996
Construction in progress	75,649	913,772	(75,649)	913,772
Total non-depreciable assets	5,767,645	913,772	(75,649)	6,605,768
Depreciable assets				
Land improvements	1,571,096	38,219	(119,454)	1,489,861
Buildings and improvements	40,351,096	116,113	(18,000)	40,449,209
Machinery and equipment	9,338,097	333,521	(1,509,360)	8,162,258
Vehicles	8,648,973	1,050,644	(82,929)	9,616,688
Infrastructure	10,547,196	0	(20,000)	10,527,196
Total depreciable assets	70,456,458	1,538,497	(1,749,743)	70,245,212
Less accumulated depreciation				
Land improvements	(727,677)	(58,850)	113,463	(673,064)
Buildings and improvements	(11,086,170)	(943,218)	9,013	(12,020,375)
Machinery and equipment	(6,969,303)	(685,757)	1,492,335	(6,162,725)
Vehicles	(5,931,762)	(765,858)	83,328	(6,614,292)
Infrastructure	(5,808,799)	(499,157)	14,945	(6,293,011)
Total accumulated depreciation	(30,523,711)	(2,952,840)	1,713,084	(31,763,467)
Total depreciable assets, net	39,932,747	(1,414,343)	(36,659)	38,481,745
Governmental activities capital assets, net	$ 45,700,392	$ (500,571)	$ (112,308)	$ 45,087,513

8. Capital Assets (continued)

	Beginning Balance	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance
Business-type Activities				
Non-depreciable assets				
Land	$ 1,716,865	$ 0	$ 0	$ 1,716,865
Construction in progress	9,395,356	1,446,599	(8,548,151)	2,293,804
Total non-depreciable assets	11,112,221	1,446,599	(8,548,151)	4,010,669
Depreciable assets				
Land improvements	865,080	0	(158,610)	706,470
Buildings and improvements	1,842,926	2,227,692	0	4,070,618
Machinery and equipment	1,649,209	254,343	(440,792)	1,462,760
Vehicles	299,750	96,249	0	395,999
Infrastructure	18,443,201	5,859,774	0	24,302,975
Total depreciable assets	23,100,166	8,438,058	(599,402)	30,938,822
Less accumulated depreciation				
Land improvements	(639,594)	(28,259)	158,610	(509,243)
Buildings and improvements	(641,954)	(139,145)	0	(781,099)
Machinery and equipment	(1,113,369)	(219,520)	385,222	(947,667)
Vehicles	(195,000)	(57,267)		(252,267)
Infrastructure	(9,679,009)	(1,164,987)	0	(10,843,996)
Total accumulated depreciation	(12,268,926)	(1,609,178)	543,832	(13,334,272)
Total depreciable assets, net	10,831,240	6,828,880	(55,570)	17,604,550
Business-type activities capital assets, net	$ 21,943,461	$ 8,275,479	$ (8,603,721)	$ 21,615,219

Decreases in construction in progress for the business-type activities consist of projects placed in service in the amount of $8,036,630 and projects abandoned in the amount of $511,521.

8. Capital Assets (continued)

Capital asset activity for the discretely presented component units for the respective year ends was as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance
Pickens County Health Department				
Depreciable Assets				
Site Improvements	$ 74,694	$ 0	$ 0	$ 74,694
Machinery and equipment	48,059	0	0	48,059
Furniture and Fixtures	11,030	0	0	11,030
Vehicles	20,011	0	0	20,011
Total depreciable assets	153,794	0	0	153,794
Less accumulated depreciation				
Site Improvements	(28,194)	(6,297)	0	(34,491)
Machinery and equipment	(35,574)	(6,363)	0	(41,937)
Furniture and Fixtures	(11,030)	0	0	(11,030)
Vehicles	(26,308)	0	0	(26,308)
Total accumulated depreciation	(101,106)	(12,660)	0	(113,766)
Total depreciable assets, net	52,688	(12,660)	0	40,028
Pickens County Health Department capital assets, net	$ 52,688	$ (12,660)	$ 0	$ 40,028

Depreciation expense was charged to functions/programs as follows:

Primary Government	
Governmental Activities	
General Government	$ 542,975
Judicial	5
Public Safety	1,072,749
Public Works	1,142,336
Health and Welfare	29,881
Culture and Recreation	75,216
Housing and Development	82,508
Total depreciation expense for governmental activities	$ 2,945,670
Business-type activities	
Water and Sewer	$ 701,243
Airport	817,593
Total depreciation expense for business-type activities	$ 1,518,836
Component units	
Pickens County Health Department	$ 12,660

8. Capital Assets (continued)

	Primary Government	
	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities
Current year depreciation expense	$ 2,945,670	$ 1,518,836
Prior accumulated depreciation on assets through transfer to/from Governmental Activities	7,170	90,342
Additions to accumulated depreciation	$ 2,952,840	$ 1,609,178

9. Long-Term Debt

Governmental Activities

Notes from Direct Borrowings

The County has entered into an agreement with Association of County Commissioner of Georgia to finance the purchase of land to be used to build a Public Works department facility in the original amount of $1,030,000 ($745,643 outstanding). The agreement is secured by the Public Works building. Payments of $58,031 are due semiannually, interest at 3.33% The agreement matures in 2029.

The County has entered into an agreement with Association of County Commissioner of Georgia to finance the purchase of land to be used to build a recycling facility in the original amount of $2,077,308 ($1,674,734 outstanding). The agreement is secured by the recycling facility property. Payments of $121,607 are due semiannually, interest at 2.18% The agreement matures in 2030.

Finance Purchases

The County entered into a finance agreement for the acquisition of certain equipment. The agreement bears interest at 2.33% and requires annual payments through 2024. The balance outstanding at the end of the current year is $112,836.

9. Long-Term Debt (continued)

Governmental Activities, continued

Notes from Direct Borrowings, continued

The annual requirements to amortize notes from direct borrowings at the end of the current year are as follows:

Year Ending December 31,	Principal	Interest	Total
2023	$ 397,134	$ 54,216	$ 451,350
2024	336,921	45,379	382,300
2025	321,076	38,198	359,274
2026	328,260	31,014	359,274
2027	335,604	23,668	359,272
2028-2030	814,218	25,948	840,166
Totals	$ 2,533,213	$ 218,423	$ 2,751,636

Business-type Activities

GEFA Loans

The County entered into borrowings with the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA) for expansion of the County's water and sewer system. These notes, including original balances, are as follows as of the end of the current year:

Interest Rate	Term	Due Date	Original Balance
2.39%	10 Years	2027	$ 2,600,000
1.89%	20 Years	2040	1,413,000
1.63%	20 Years	2040	525,000
			$ 4,538,000

9. Long-Term Debt (continued)

Business-type Activities, continued

Notes from Direct Borrowings, continued

- During 2018, the County entered into two note agreements with GEFA to borrow up to $4,013,000, interest from 1.89% to 2.39%, to finance the construction of water distribution lines and related appurtenances, a new 0.325 million gallon per day water treatment plant, a 100,000-gallon ground storage tank, and the purchase of water rights from the Grandview Lake Company including the water withdrawal permits and water treatment plant. At of the end of the current year, the note had a balance of $1,850,640 and was still in draw down phase. Therefore, a future payment schedule has not been established. The note requires interest only payments until the earlier of August 1, 2023, the completion date, or the date that the loan is fully disbursed.

- During 2021, the County entered into a note agreement with GEFA to borrow up to $525,000 to finance the costs of acquiring, constructing, and installing a sewer main and pump station at the County airport. At the end of the current year, the note had a balance of $270,506, and was still in the draw down phase at the end of the current year. Therefore, a future payment schedule has not been established. The note requires interest only payments until the earlier of August 1, 2023, the completion date, or the date that the loan is fully disbursed. The note bears an interest rate of 1.63%. Subsequent to the current year, the project was terminated, and the loan closed. The County will begin payments on the loan in the subsequent fiscal year.

All of the County's notes from direct borrowing are still in drawdown phase; therefore, not included in the amortization schedule below, all balances are classified as noncurrent.

Finance Purchases

- The County entered into a finance agreement for the acquisition of certain equipment. The agreement bears interest at 2.33% and requires annual payments through 2024. The balance outstanding at the end of the current year is $28,109.

9. Long-Term Debt (continued)

Business-type Activities, continued

Notes from Direct Borrowings, continued

Year Ending December 31,	Principal	Interest	Total
2023	$ 22,420	$ 528	$ 22,948
2024	5,689	38	5,727
Totals	$ 28,109	$ 566	$ 28,675

Revenue Bonds

Revenue bonds have been issued for business-type activities and are comprised of the following individual issues as of the end of the current year:

Water and Sewer Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2015: The County issued Water and Sewer Bonds in the amount of $8,090,000, due in annual installments of $184,000 to $1,190,000 through 2029, with an interest rate of 2.35% ($4,175,000 outstanding). All proceeds were used to advance payment on previously issued debts of the County which had been issued to finance the acquisition and construction of waterline infrastructure and secured by collateral of water service infrastructure. The refunding was undertaken to reduce total future debt service payments. The refunding resulted in an economic gain of $3,599,055.

Development Authority of Pickens County Revenue Bonds, Series 2014: The County entered into an agreement with the Development Authority of Pickens County to issue revenue bonds in the amount of $3,966,969 due in monthly installments of $33,447 through 2029, with an interest rate of 3.25% ($2,630,535 outstanding). All proceeds were used to finance the construction of an airport taxiway. During 2014, the agreement was modified due to additional project costs.

9. Long-Term Debt (continued)

Business-type Activities, continued

Revenue Bonds, continued

Development Authority of Pickens County Revenue Bonds, Series 2018: The County entered into an agreement with the Development Authority of Pickens County to issue revenue bonds in the amount of $1,500,000 due in monthly installments of $11,179 through 2035, with an interest rate of 6.00% ($1,179,139 outstanding). All proceeds were used to finance the acquisition and construction of an airport hangar.

Development Authority of Pickens County Revenue Bonds, Series 2021: The County entered into an agreement with the Development Authority of Pickens County to issue revenue bonds in the amount of $5,800,000 due in monthly installments through 2040, with an interest rate of Wall Street Journal Prime Rate plus .75% with a minimum interest rate of 4% and a maximum interest rate of 8% ($2,610,055 outstanding). The bonds are interest only until 2026 when monthly installment of principal and interest will commence. The bonds are currently in draw down phase. Therefore, a future payment schedule has not been established and the payment schedule of the bonds is not included in the annual debt service requirement schedule below. The bonds are interest only until 2026. All proceeds were used to finance the costs of acquisition and construction of the Pickens County Airport expansion.

The County's outstanding Airport bonds are secured by a pledge by the Development Authority and contain a provision that if the County is unable to make its scheduled debt service payments, all outstanding amounts become due immediately.

9. Long-Term Debt (continued)

Business-type Activities, continued

Revenue Bonds, continued

The annual requirements to amortize bonds payable as of the end of the current year are as follows:

Year Ending December 31,	Principal	Interest	Total
2023	$ 868,020	$ 368,199	$ 1,236,219
2024	915,795	322,241	1,238,036
2025	956,081	281,514	1,237,595
2026	998,760	239,075	1,237,835
2027	1,043,658	194,089	1,237,747
2028-2032	2,882,787	341,169	3,223,956
2033-2035	319,573	26,128	345,701
Totals	$ 7,984,674	$ 1,772,415	$ 9,757,089

9. Long-Term Debt (continued)

Development Authority of Pickens County

Revenue Bonds

During 2015, the Development Authority issued $1,960,000 of revenue bonds to fully refund a loan agreement with Restaurant Interiors to finance the purchase of an industrial building in the original amount of $1,249,206 ($1,416,991 outstanding). The refunding was undertaken to reduce total future debt service payments. Payments are due in monthly installments with annual principal of $60,447 through $143,831 with a variable interest rate. The interest rate at December 31, 2022 is 6.20%.

The annual requirements to amortize bonds payable as of the end of the current year are as follows:

Year Ending December 31,	Principal	Interest	Total
2023	$ 86,688	$ 31,490	$ 118,178
2024	90,601	29,564	120,165
2025	95,042	27,550	122,592
2026	99,520	25,438	124,958
2027	104,210	23,226	127,436
2028-2032	599,293	79,143	678,436
2033-2035	341,637	12,689	354,326
Totals	$ 1,416,991	$ 229,100	$ 1,646,091

10. Long-Term Liabilities

Changes in Long - Term Liabilities

The following is a summary of changes in long-term liabilities of the County for the current year:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Deductions	Ending Balance	Due Within One Year
Governmental activities					
Compensated absences	$ 362,136	$ 325,006	$ 253,495	$ 433,647	$ 303,553
Notes from direct borrowings	2,921,263	0	388,050	2,533,213	397,134
Totals	$ 3,283,399	$ 325,006	$ 641,545	$ 2,966,860	$ 700,687
Business-type activities					
Compensated absences	$ 18,821	$ 12,122	$ 13,175	$ 17,768	$ 12,438
Notes from direct borrowings	1,910,329	260,757	21,831	2,149,255	22,420
Bonds payable	10,529,974	935,609	870,854	10,594,729	868,020
Totals	$ 12,459,124	$ 1,208,488	$ 905,860	$ 12,761,752	$ 902,878

In prior years, long-term liabilities, such as compensated absences and landfill closure and post-closure care costs were liquidated by the General Fund.

Total interest incurred and expensed in the governmental activities and the business-type activities for the current fiscal year was $23,105 and $482,829, respectively.

Long-term liability activity for the Pickens County Health Department, a discretely presented component unit, for the respective fiscal year was as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Deductions	Ending Balance	Due Within One Year
Pickens County Health Department					
Compensated absences	$ 19,153	$ 10,388	$ 9,577	$ 19,964	$ 11,979

10. Long-Term Liabilities (continued)

Changes in Long - Term Liabilities, continued

Long-term liability activity for the Pickens County Development Authority, a discretely presented component unit, for the respective fiscal year was as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Deductions	Ending Balance	Due Within One Year
Pickens County Development Authority					
Bonds payable	$ 1,499,778	$ -	$ 82,787	$ 1,416,991	$ 86,688

11. Landfill Post-Closure Care Costs

State and Federal laws and regulations require that the County place a final cover on its landfill when officially closed as well as perform certain maintenance and monitoring functions at the landfill site for a period of thirty years after such closure. In addition to operating expenses related to current activities of the landfill, an expense provision and related liability are being recognized based on the future closure and post closure care costs that will be incurred near or after the date the landfill no longer accepts waste. The recognition of these landfill closure and post closure care costs is based on the amount of the landfill capacity used during the year.

The County has recorded a liability in the amount of $450,000 for its solid waste landfill at the end of the current year which represents the estimated closure and postclosure costs based on 100% of landfill capacity used to date. All estimated liability for these costs has been recognized since the landfill is closed.

These amounts are based on what it would cost to perform all closure and postclosure care in 2022. Actual costs may be higher due to inflation, changes in technology, or changes in regulations.

The County is also required to demonstrate financial assurance that the closure and postclosure care cost can be paid in the future. The County is in compliance at the end of the current year, based requirements issued by the EPA.

12. Net Investment in Capital Assets

The net investment in capital assets reported on the government-wide statement of net position is calculated as follows at the end of the current year:

	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities
Cost of capital assets	$ 76,850,980	$ 34,949,491
Accumulated depreciation	(31,763,467)	(13,334,272)
Book value	45,087,513	21,615,219
Capital-related accounts payable	(104,952)	(828,464)
Retainages payable	(87,728)	(66,351)
Notes payable	(2,533,213)	(2,149,255)
Bonds payable	0	(10,594,729)
Net investment in capital assets	$ 42,361,620	$ 7,976,420

13. Retirement Plans

County Defined Benefit Pension Plan

Plan Description. The Pickens County Defined Benefit Pension Plan and Trust, (the "Plan"), is affiliated with the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia Defined Benefit Plan (ACCG), an agent multiple-employer public employee retirement system that acts as a common investment and administrative agent for participating counties in Georgia. The authority for the Plan, benefits, vesting and contributions are established by the Board of Commissioners. The Plan is administered by the Government Employee Benefits Corporation of Georgia (GEB Corp). GEB Corp issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for ACCG. The Plan is a defined benefit pension plan that provides retirement, disability and death benefits to Plan members and beneficiaries. All full-time employees are eligible to participate in the Plan after completing three years of service.

13. Retirement Plans (continued)

County Defined Benefit Pension Plan, continued

Participant counts as of January 1, 2021 (the most recent actuarial valuation) are as follows:

Retirees, beneficiaries, and disablees currently receiving benefits	96
Terminated participants entitled to but not yet receiving benefits	117
Active employees participating in the plan	140
Total number of participants	353

Benefits Provided. Benefits vest after five years of service. Participants become eligible to retire with unreduced benefits at age 65 with three years of plan participation. Upon eligibility to retire, participants are entitled to an annual benefit in the amount of 2% of annual average compensation plus $36 for each year of service payable as a life annuity. Compensation is average 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 Commission.

Contributions. County employees are not required to contribute to the Plan. The County contributes the entire cost of the Plan, using the actuarial basis described in the annual valuation report. The County's contributions to the Plan for the current year totaled $1,391,807, or 19.22% of covered payroll. The County Commissioners provide for the benefits and funding policy through County ordinance and maintains the authority to change the policy. The administrative expenses set by contract between the ACCG and GEBCorp are in addition to the state-required annual funding requirement.

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

13. Retirement Plans (continued)

County Defined Benefit Pension Plan, continued

Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, Deferred Outflows of Resources, and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions. At the end of the current year, the County reported a net pension liability of $8,146,365. The net pension liability was measured as of December 31, 2021, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of January 1, 2021. For the current year, the County recognized pension expense of $1,532,282. For governmental activities, the net pension liability is liquidated by the General Fund.

The components of the net pension liability are as follows:

	Total Pension Liability (a)	Plan Fiduciary Net Position (b)	Net Pension Liability (a) - (b)
Balances at December 31, 2020	$ 22,617,393	$ 13,682,453	$ 8,934,940
Changes for the year:			
Service cost	647,170	0	647,170
Interest	1,551,263	0	1,551,263
Liability Experience (Gain)/Loss	700,451	0	700,451
Assumption Change	38,004	0	38,004
Employer Contributions	0	1,418,719	(1,418,719)
Employee Contributions	0	371,786	(371,786)
Net Investment Income	0	2,093,436	(2,093,436)
Benefit Payments	(913,008)	(913,008)	0
Administrative expense	0	(51,241)	51,241
Other Changes	0	(107,237)	107,237
Net changes	2,023,880	2,812,455	(788,575)
Balance at December 31, 2021	$ 24,641,273	$ 16,494,908	$ 8,146,365

Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	66.94%
Covered payroll	$ 7,241,121
Employer's net pension liability as a percentage of covered payroll	112.50%

13. Retirement Plans (continued)

County Defined Benefit Pension Plan, continued

At the end of the current year, the County reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to the Plan from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
County contributions subsequent to the measurement date	$ 1,391,807	$ 0
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	0	(1,630,102)
Differences between expected and actual experience	643,151	(94,357)
Changes in participant fund allocation	175,030	(175,030)
Changes of assumptions	274,420	0
Totals	$ 2,484,408	$ (1,899,489)

The $1,391,807 of deferred outflows of resources resulting from the County's contributions subsequent to measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the subsequent year. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows and deferred inflows of resources will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year Ending December 31	
2023	$ 154,737
2024	(413,875)
2025	(328,602)
2026	(219,148)
Totals	$ (806,888)

13. Retirement Plans (continued)

County Defined Benefit Pension Plan, continued

Actuarial Assumptions. The total pension liability in the January 1, 2021 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Future salary increases	5.50% per year with an age based scale
Cost of living adjustments	2.00%
Net investment rate of return	7.00%

Healthy mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 Amount Weighted Mortality Table with a blend of 50% of the General Employees Table and 50% of the Public Safety Employees Table with Scale AA to 2021. Disabled rates were derived from the 1985 CIDA Table Class I.

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

The pension plan's target asset allocation as of December 31, 2021, is summarized in the following table:

	Target Allocation	Range
Fixed Income	30%	25-35%
Large Cap	30%	25-35%
Mid Cap	5%	2.5-10%
Small Cap	5%	2.5-10%
REIT	5%	2.5-10%
International	15%	10-20%
Multi Cap	5%	2.5-10%
Global Allocation	5%	2.5-10%

13. Retirement Plans (continued)

County Defined Benefit Pension Plan, continued

Discount Rate. The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.00 percent. The discount rate is determined using the estimated 65th percentile return based on UBS Capital Market Assumptions (6.10%) and five-year performance in excess of benchmarks (0.90%). The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from employer will be made at contractually required rates, actuarially determined. Based on those assumptions, the Plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current active and inactive employees. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on Plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate. The following presents what the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage-point lower (6.00 percent) or one percentage-point higher (8.00 percent) than the current rate:

	Discount Rate	Net Pension Liability
1% decrease	6.00%	$ 11,684,565
Current discount rate	7.00%	8,146,365
1% increase	8.00%	5,222,897

Plan Fiduciary Net Position. Detailed information about the Plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued Association County Commissioners of Georgia GEBCorp financial report.

13. Retirement Plans (continued)

County Defined Contribution Plan

The County provides retirement benefits for its employees through a deferred compensation, defined contribution plan with the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia Defined Contribution Plan. The Plan was created under Internal Revenue Code Sections 457 and 401(a). The Plan is administered by the Government Employee Benefits Corporation of Georgia (GEBCORP) as the third party service provider and The Charles Schwab Trust Company serves as the trustee of the trust fund under the Plan. Under the terms of the Plan, employees can make voluntary contributions to the 457 and the County will match ½% for each 1% voluntarily contributed by employee up to a total County match of 2.5%.

Employee contributions are vested 100% at the time of contribution. Employer contributions vest 0% prior to four full years of employee service, 100% after four full years of employee service. Amounts held in the Plan are not available to the employees until termination, retirement, death, or unforeseeable emergency.

During the current year, County and employee contributions to the Plan totaled $127,976 and $185,313, respectively.

The County has no fiduciary relationship with the plan, and plan assets are not available to the County or its general creditors. The Plan assets are held in trust by the administrator for the exclusive benefit of the participants of the Plan. The County Commissioners provide the funding policy though a County ordinance and maintains the authority to change the policy. Separate financial statements are not issued for the Plan.

13. Retirement Plans (continued)

Deferred Compensation Plan

The County offers its employees an optional deferred compensation plan created in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 457. The plan is available to all County employees and permits them to defer a portion of their salary until future years. The deferred compensation is not available to employees until termination, retirement, death, or unforeseeable emergency. All amounts of compensation deferred under the plan, all property and rights purchased with those amounts, and all income attributable to those amounts, property, or rights are (until paid or made available to the participant or other beneficiary) solely the property and rights of a Trust created by the County for the benefit of the participants. The County has adopted the provisions of GASB Statement No. 32 which required the removal of plan assets and liabilities from the financial statements of the County.

ROTH Deferred Compensation Plan

The County offers its employees an optional deferred compensation plan created in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 457. The plan is available to all County employees and permits them to defer a portion of their salary until future years. The deferred compensation is not available to employees until termination, retirement, death, or unforeseeable emergency. All amounts of compensation deferred under the plan, all property and rights purchased with those amounts, and all income attributable to those amounts, property, or rights are (until paid or made available to the participant or other beneficiary) solely the property and rights of a Trust created by the County for the benefit of the participants. The County has adopted the provisions of GASB Statement No. 32 which required the removal of plan assets and liabilities from the financial statements of the County.

During the current year, County and employee contributions to the Plan totaled $2,830 and $5,371, respectively.

13. Retirement Plans (continued)

Other County Plans

In addition to the plans above, various County employees are covered under the following plans: Georgia Firefighters' Pension Fund, Georgia State Employees' Retirement System (ERS), Magistrates' Retirement Fund of Georgia, Peace Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund of Georgia, Probate Judges' Retirement Fund of Georgia, Sheriffs' Retirement Fund of Georgia, and Superior Court Clerks' Retirement Fund of Georgia. Further information regarding these plans can be obtained from the plans' annual reports. These plans are immaterial to the financial statements.

Pickens County Health Department Retirement Plan

Eligible employees of the Pickens County Health Department participate in the Georgia State Employees' Retirement System (ERS), a statewide multiple-employer public employee retirement system. During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, the Department contributed $55,399. As of June 30, 2022, the Department reported a liability in the amount of $226,663 for its proportionate share (0.009240%) of the net pension liability. The Department recognized pension expense of $(40,660) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022. Additional information regarding the plan can be obtained from Department's annual audit report by contacting Pickens County Health Department, 60 Health Way, Jasper, Georgia 30143.

14. Post-Employment Benefits Other Than Pensions

County Plan

Plan Description. Pickens County administers a single-employer defined benefit health care plan, the "*The Pickens County Other Postemployment Benefits Plan."* The OPEB financial statements are included in this report. No stand-alone financial report is issued.

14. Post-Employment Benefits Other Than Pensions (continued)

County Plan, continued

At January 1, 2022, the date of the most recent actuarial valuation, membership consisted of the following:

Inactive members or beneficiaries currently receiving benefits	6
Inactive members entitled to but not yet receiving benefits	0
Active employees	18
Total membership	24

Benefits Provided. Coverage under the plan includes medical, prescription drug and dental benefits for retirees and dependents. Eligible retirees must be a minimum age of 55 with 15 or more years of consecutive full-time service, enrolled in the medical insurance plan for a minimum of 3 years prior to retirement, and hired prior to January 1, 2002, to retire and continue medical coverage. Employees hired after March 1, 2002 are not eligible to participate in the plan.

Contributions. The County has not elected to advance fund the OPEB Plan, but rather maintains the OPEB Plan on a “pay-as-you-go” basis, in that claims are paid as they arise, rather than establishing an irrevocable trust to accumulate restricted funds. The County Commission authorizes participation in the OPEB plan and sets the contribution rates and benefits and maintains the authority to change the policy.

The cost of coverage is paid in part by the employer and in part by the retiree. Eligible retirees and former employees are offered the same health coverage as active employees. Retirees contribute an average of $777 per month towards the actuarial calculated monthly rates. The County contributes the remainder of the required contributions. For the measurement period ended December 31, 2021, plan members receiving benefits contributed $5,874 through their required contributions and the County contributed $55,961 to the plan.

14. Post-Employment Benefits Other Than Pensions (continued)

County Plan, continued

OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Expense, Deferred Outflows of Resources, and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB. At the end of the current year, the County reported a net OPEB liability of $1,466,036. The net OPEB liability was measured as of January 1, 2022, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined and measured from actuarial valuations using data as of January 1, 2022. During the current year, the County recognized OPEB expense of $177,375.

The components of the net OPEB liability are as follows:

	Total OPEB Liability (a)	Plan Fiduciary Net Position (b)	Net OPEB Liability (a)-(b)
Balances at December 31, 2021	$ 1,279,933	$ 0	$ 1,279,933
Changes for the year:			
Service cost	37,876	0	37,876
Interest	26,303	0	26,303
Differences between expected and actual experience	255,260	0	255,260
Contributions-employer	0	75,407	(75,407)
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	21,654	0	21,654
Benefit payments	(154,990)	(75,407)	(79,583)
Net changes	186,103	0	186,103
Balances at December 31, 2022	$ 1,466,036	$ 0	$ 1,466,036

Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability	0.00%
Covered-employee payroll	$ 941,266
Plan net OPEB liability as a percentage of covered employee payroll	155.75%

14. Post-Employment Benefits Other Than Pensions (continued)

County Plan, continued

At the end of the current year, the County reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to the OPEB Plan from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	$ 303,067	$ (1,048)
Changes of assumptions	113,535	(15,438)
Changes in participant fund allocation	63,370	(63,370)
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	55,962	0
Totals	$ 535,934	$ (79,856)

The $55,962 of deferred outflows of resources resulting from the County's contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability in the subsequent year. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows and deferred inflows of resources will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

Year Ending December 31	
2023	$ 111,686
2024	109,502
2025	109,459
2026	69,469
2027	0
Totals	$ 400,116

14. Post-Employment Benefits Other Than Pensions (continued)

County Plan, continued

Actuarial Assumptions. The total OPEB liability in the January 1, 2022 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	3.00%
Projected salary increases	4.50% - 6.50% per year, with adjustments by age
Actuarial cost method	Entry age normal
Discount rate	2.06%, 2.12% at prior measurement date
Healthcare cost trend rates	Pre-Medicare: 7.00% trended down to 4.50% over 10 years
Mortality rates	Mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 GE (50%) & PS (50%) Amount-Weighted gender distinct and projected generationally with Scale AA to 2022.
Amortization method	Closed level dollar for remaining unfunded liability
Remaining amortization period	Remaining amortization period varies for the bases, with a net effective amortization period of 15 years.

The demographic actuarial assumptions for retirement, disability incidence, withdrawal, and salary increases used in the January 1, 2022 actuarial valuation were based on the pension valuation prepared by GEBCorp as of January 1, 2021.

The remaining actuarial assumptions (e.g., initial per capita costs, health care cost trends, etc.) used in the January 1, 2022 actuarial valuation were based on a review of recent plan experience performed concurrently with the January 1, 2022 valuation.

14. Post-Employment Benefits Other Than Pensions (continued)

County Plan, continued

Development of Long-Term Rate. Since the County funds this plan on a pay-as-you-go basis, GASB requires the discount rate be based on a yield or index rate for 20-year, tax-exempt municipal bonds with an average rating of AA/Aa or higher (or equivalent quality on another rating scale). The Municipal Bond Index Rate selected by the County for this purpose is the Bond Buyer General Obligation 20-year Municipal Bond Index published at the last Thursday of December by The Bond Buyer (www.bondbuyer.com). The Municipal Bond Index Rate as of the measurement date was 2.06%.

Sensitivity of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate. The following presents what the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage-point lower (1.06%) or one percentage-point higher (3.06%) than the current rate. Also, shown is the net OPEB liability as if it were calculated using healthcare cost trend rates that were one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current healthcare trend rates:

Discount Rate		Net OPEB Liability
1% decrease	1.06%	$ 1,342,893
Current discount rate	2.06%	1,466,036
1% increase	3.06%	1,605,028

Healthcare Cost Trend Rates	Net OPEB Liability
1% decrease	$ 1,568,631
Current trend rate	1,466,036
1% increase	1,367,819

OPEB Plan Fiduciary Net Position. Detailed information about the Plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued GASB Statement No. 75 Report for The Pickens County Other Postemployment Benefits Plan.

14. Post-Employment Benefits Other Than Pensions (continued)

Pickens County Health Department Component Unit

Eligible employees of the Pickens County Health Department are provided OPEB through the State of Georgia OPEB Fund, a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit post-employment healthcare plan and life insurance through the SEAD-OPEB Fund, a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit other post-employment benefit plan. During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021, the Department contributed $12,821. As of June 30, 2022, the Department reported a net OPEB asset in the amount of $23,488 and net OPEB liability in the amount of $25,397 for its proportionate share (0.000344%) for the SEAD-OPEB Fund and 0.009240% for the State of Georgia OPEB Fund) of the net OPEB asset and liability. The Department recognized OPEB expense of ($40,660) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022. Additional information regarding the plan can be obtained from Department's annual audit report by contacting Pickens County Health Department, 60 Health Way, Jasper, Georgia 30143.

15. Hotel/Motel Lodging Tax

The County has levies a 5% lodging tax in accordance with OCGA 48-13-51. A summary of the transactions for the current year follows:

Lodging Tax Receipts	$	463,080	
Disbursements for trade and tourism	$	351,757	76% of tax receipts

16. Joint Ventures

The County, in conjunction with cities and counties in the thirteen-county northwest Georgia area are members of the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission (RC). Membership in an RC is automatic for each municipality and county in the state. The official Code of Georgia Section 50-8-34 (Georgia Planning Act of 1989) provides for the organizational structure of the RC's. Each county and municipality in the state is required by law to pay minimum annual dues to the RC. The RC Board membership includes the chief elected official of each county and the chief elected official of each municipality. The County board members and municipal board members from the same county elect one member of the Board who is a resident (but not an elected or appointed official or employee of the County or municipality) to serve as the non-public Board member from a County. The Georgia Planning Act of 1989 (O.C.G.A. 50-8-34) defines RC's as "public agencies" and instrumentalities of their members. Georgia laws also provide that the member governments are liable for any debts or obligations of an RC beyond its resources (O.C.G.A. 50-8-39.1). Separately issued financial statements are available at the RC's administrative office.

On January 4, 1995, Pickens County entered into an agreement with Bartow County, Georgia, establishing a Joint Development Authority. The County Commissioners of Pickens County, Georgia and the County Commissioner of Bartow County, Georgia signed an agreement whereby the Joint Development Authority of Pickens County and Bartow County was established for the promotion of business development in each county as well as expanding industry, trade, and employment opportunities for the citizens of Bartow and Pickens Counties. The Board of Directors of the Joint Development Authority consists of seven members. Three members of the board are appointed by the Bartow County Commissioner and four members are appointed by the Pickens County Commission. At the end of the current year, the Joint Development Authority owned no assets and had no liabilities. There were no financial transactions conducted by the Joint Development Authority in the current year; therefore, no balance sheet or income statement is presented in the current year financial statements.

17. Risk Management

The County is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; and natural disasters for which, except as described in the following paragraph, the County carries commercial insurance in amounts deemed prudent by County management.

Workers' Compensation

The County participates in the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia Group Self-Insurance Workers Compensation Fund, a self-insured cooperative public entity risk pool currently operating among its members to finance workers' compensation insurance coverage. The fund is owned by its members and is managed by a seven-member Board of Trustees who a representative from participating counties. Settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded insurance coverage in any of the past three years.

As part of these risk pools, the County is obligated to pay all contributions and assessments as prescribed by the pools, to cooperate with the pools' agents and attorneys, to follow loss reduction procedures established by the funds, and to report as promptly as possible, and in accordance with any coverage descriptions issued, all incidents which could result in the funds being required to pay any claim of loss.

Group Health Insurance

The County maintains a self-insured group health insurance plan through Cigna Health and Life Insurance Company, the County's third-party administrator, that carries a $100,000 aggregate individual claim stop loss. Claims up to that amount are paid by the County through the Pickens County Benefits account. The insurer absorbs any amounts in excess of this claims level. The insurer agreement also has a maximum contractual obligation in the event of termination for the incurred but not reported claims. Reserves are established for the medical insurance liabilities based on information provided by the plan administrator. The third-party administrator reviews and approves all claims on behalf of the County.

17. Risk Management (continued)

Liabilities

Liabilities of the funds are reported when it is probable that a loss has occurred and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. Liabilities include an amount for claims that have been incurred but not reported (IBNR).

Changes in the County's balance of health and dental claims reserve liability is as follows:

Beginning Balance	$ 152,610
Incurred claims, net of any changes	3,645,483
Payments	(3,554,435)
Ending Balance	$ 243,658

18. Contingencies

The County has received federal and state grants for specific purposes that are subject to review and audit by the grantor agencies or their designee. These audits could result in a request for reimbursement to the grantor agency for costs disallowed under the terms of the grant. Based on prior experience, the County believes such disallowances, if any, will be immaterial.

The County was a defendant in several lawsuits at the end of the current year. In the opinion of County management, the outcome of these contingencies will not have a material effect on the financial position of the County.

19. Changes in Beginning Balances

Governmental Activities

General Fund

A prior period adjustment has been made to correct the beginning balance of deferred inflow of resources - unavailable property tax revenue. This adjustment decreased beginning fund balance by $426,065.

Restricted Programs Special Revenue Fund

A prior period adjustment has been made to correct receivable and payable balances. This adjustment increased beginning fund balance by $23,664.

The net effect of these adjustments decreased beginning net position in the Governmental Activities by $402,401.

20. Subsequent Events

Subsequent to the current year, the County entered into a $5,500,000 tax anticipation line of credit for operating cash flow purposes. The line of credit bears interest at a rate of 4.99% and is secured by County property tax revenues.

21. New Accounting Pronouncements

The County implemented GASB Statement No. 87, *Leases*, effective for the County's current year. The requirements of this statement are effective for periods beginning after June 15, 2021. The implementation of this standard had no effect on net position.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
SCHEDULE OF NET PENSION LIABILITY (ASSET) AND RELATED RATIOS
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS
December 31, 2022
(Unaudited)

	Fiscal Year End		
	2022	**2021**	**2020**
Total pension liability			
Service cost	$ 647,170	$ 639,263	$ 645,330
Interest	1,551,263	1,426,797	1,292,096
Liability experience (gain) / loss	700,451	(205,361)	197,356
Assumption change	38,004	37,588	880,753
Plan change	0	744,132	0
Benefit payments, including refunds of employee contributions	(913,008)	(815,684)	(683,385)
Net change in total pension liability	2,023,880	1,826,735	2,332,150
Total pension liability - beginning	22,617,393	20,790,658	18,458,508
Total pension liability - ending (a)	$ 24,641,273	$ 22,617,393	$ 20,790,658
Plan fiduciary net position			
Contributions - employer	$ 1,418,719	$ 1,346,566	$ 1,238,819
Contributions - employee	371,786	364,175	375,521
Net investment income	2,093,436	1,681,747	1,725,926
Benefit payments, including refunds of employee contributions	(913,008)	(815,684)	(660,275)
Administrative expense	(51,241)	(49,350)	(54,658)
Other	(107,237)	(81,810)	(92,775)
Net change in plan fiduciary net position	2,812,455	2,445,644	2,532,558
Plan fiduciary net position - beginning	13,682,453	11,236,809	8,704,251
Plan fiduciary net position - ending (b)	$ 16,494,908	$ 13,682,453	$ 11,236,809
Net pension liability - ending : (a) - (b)	$ 8,146,365	$ 8,934,940	$ 9,553,849
Plan's fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	66.94%	60.50%	54.05%
Covered payroll	$ 7,241,121	$ 6,914,445	$ 6,813,847
Net pension liability as a percentage of covered payroll	112.50%	129.22%	140.21%

Note: Fiscal year 2015 was the first year of implementation. Therefore, years prior to 2015 are not reported.

The accompanying notes to the required supplementary information are an integral part of this schedule.

Fiscal Year End					
2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
$ 563,685	$ 516,229	$ 485,085	$ 253,346	$ 264,362
1,099,774	976,033	634,742	578,687	538,805
1,029,288	742,096	148,184	(79,204)	0
895,492	36,116	471,061	312,106	0
0	0	3,698,277	0	0
(598,066)	(529,326)	(346,769)	(288,319)	(254,487)
2,990,173	1,741,148	5,090,580	776,616	548,680
15,468,335	13,727,187	8,636,607	7,859,991	7,311,311
$ 18,458,508	$ 15,468,335	$ 13,727,187	$ 8,636,607	$ 7,859,991
$ 1,077,733	$ 990,265	$ 866,021	$ 576,852	$ 604,422
334,523	349,920	329,750	0	0
(369,268)	1,046,254	429,014	27,148	319,652
(598,066)	(529,326)	(346,769)	(288,319)	(254,487)
(37,089)	(34,798)	(38,193)	(32,894)	(33,048)
(80,874)	(58,529)	(44,922)	(53,498)	(37,331)
326,959	1,763,786	1,194,901	229,289	599,208
8,377,292	6,613,506	5,418,605	5,189,316	4,590,108
$ 8,704,251	$ 8,377,292	$ 6,613,506	$ 5,418,605	$ 5,189,316
$ 9,754,257	$ 7,091,043	$ 7,113,681	$ 3,218,002	$ 2,670,675
47.16%	54.16%	48.18%	62.74%	66.02%
$ 6,761,050	$ 6,732,730	$ 6,261,763	$ 6,455,121	$ 7,234,670
144.27%	105.32%	113.61%	49.85%	36.91%

The accompanying notes to the required supplementary information are an integral part of this schedule.

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS
December 31, 2022
(Unaudited)

	Fiscal Year End		
	2022	**2021**	**2020**
Actuarially determined contribution	$ 1,291,448	$ 1,233,511	$ 1,137,984
Contributions in relation to the actuarially determined contribution	(1,391,807)	(1,418,719)	(1,238,819)
Contribution deficiency (excess)	$ (100,359)	$ (185,208)	$ (100,835)
Covered payroll	$ 9,999,504	$ 6,914,445	$ 7,261,035
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	13.92%	20.52%	17.06%

Note: Fiscal year 2015 was the first year of implementation. Therefore, years prior to 2015 are not reported.

The accompanying notes to the required supplementary information are an integral part of this schedule.

Fiscal Year End					
2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
$ 986,766	$ 865,930	$ 726,960	$ 556,622	$ 565,792
(1,077,733)	(990,265)	(866,021)	(576,852)	(604,422)
$ (90,967)	$ (124,335)	$ (139,061)	$ (20,230)	$ (38,630)
$ 6,813,847	$ 6,761,050	$ 6,732,730	$ 6,261,763	$ 6,455,121
15.82%	14.65%	12.86%	9.21%	9.36%

The accompanying notes to the required supplementary information are an integral part of this schedule.

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN THE NET OPEB LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS
LAST TEN YEARS
December 31, 2022
(Unaudited)

	Fiscal Year End		
	2022	**2021**	**2020**
Total OPEB liability			
Service cost	$ 37,876	$ 31,896	$ 22,883
Interest	26,303	32,534	36,447
Differences between expected and actual experience	255,260	39,451	147,839
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	21,654	58,486	111,532
Benefit payments	(154,990)	(75,407)	(12,165)
Implicit subsidy credit	0	0	(16,900)
Net change in total OPEB liability	186,103	86,960	289,636
Total OPEB liability - beginning	1,279,933	1,192,973	903,337
Total OPEB liability - ending (a)	$ 1,466,036	$ 1,279,933	$ 1,192,973
Plan fiduciary net position			
Contributions - employer	$ 55,961	$ 75,407	$ 12,165
Benefit payments	(55,961)	(75,407)	(12,165)
Net change in plan fiduciary net position	0	0	0
Plan fiduciary net position - beginning	0	0	0
Plan fiduciary net position - ending (b)	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0
Net OPEB liability - ending : (a) - (b)	$ 1,466,036	$ 1,279,933	$ 1,192,973
Plan's fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Covered-employee payroll	$ 941,266	$ 1,328,504	$ 1,328,504
Net OPEB liability as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	155.75%	96.34%	89.80%

Note: Fiscal year 2018 was the first year of implementation. Therefore, years prior to 2018 are not reported.

The accompanying notes to the required supplementary information are an integral part of this schedule.

Fiscal Year End	
2019	2018
$ 25,288	$ 22,750
32,082	34,339
(3,444)	7,844
(50,730)	26,958
(36,498)	(44,902)
(27,900)	(26,000)
(61,202)	20,989
964,539	943,550
$ 903,337	$ 964,539
$ 36,498	$ 44,902
(36,498)	(44,902)
0	0
0	0
$ 0	$ 0
$ 903,337	$ 964,539
0.00%	0.00%
$ 1,239,011	$ 1,239,011
72.91%	77.85%

The accompanying notes to the required supplementary information are an integral part of this schedule.

Pension Plan

1. Valuation Date

The actuarially determined contribution rate was determined as of January 1, 2021, with an interest adjustment to the fiscal year. Contributions in relation to this actuarially determined contribution rate will be reported for the year ending December 31, 2023.

2. Methods and Assumptions Used to Determine Contribution Rates

Actuarial cost method = Entry Age Normal

Amortization method = Level percentage of payroll, open

Remaining amortization period = 30 years

Asset valuation method = Smoothed market value with a 5-year smoothing period

Net investment rate of return = 7.00%, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation

Future salary increases = 5.50% per year with a per year with adjustments by age

Cost of living adjustments = 2.00%

Normal retirement age = 65

Mortality = Healthy mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 Amount Weighted Mortality Table with a blend of 50% of the General Employees Table and 50% of the Public Safety Employees Table with Scale AA to 2021.

3. Changes in Benefits

There have been no substantive changes since the last actuarial valuation.

Pension Plan (continued)

4. Changes of Assumptions

The mortality table was changed for Pub-2010 Amount Weighted Mortality Table with a blend of 50% of the General Employees Table and 50% of the Public Safety Employees Table with Scale AA to 2021 instead of to 2020.

OPEB Plan

1. Valuation Date

The net OPEB liability was measured as of January 1, 2022, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined and measured from actuarial valuations using data as of January 1, 2022.

2. Methods and Assumptions Used to Determine Contribution Rates

No assets are accumulated in a trust to pay benefits.

Actuarial cost method = Entry age normal

Amortization method = Closed level dollar for remaining unfunded liability

Remaining amortization period = Remaining amortization period varies for the bases, with a net effective amortization period of 15 years.

Asset valuation method = Fair value

Projected salary increases = 4.50% - 6.50% per year with adjustments by age

Inflation = 3.00%

OPEB Plan (continued)

2. Methods and Assumptions Used to Determine Contribution Rates (continued)

Discount rate = 2.06%, 2.12% at prior measurement date

Healthcare cost trend rates = Pre-Medicare: 7.00% trended down by 0.25% over 10 years to an ultimate rate of 4.50%; Medicare: 4.50%; Prescription Drug: 8.00% trended down by 0.25% over 14 years to an ultimate rate of 4.50%; Dental: 3.00%

Mortality = Mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 GE (50%) & PS (50%) Amount-Weighted gender distinct and projected generationally with Scale AA to 2022.

3. Changes in Benefits

There have been no benefit changes for the past two years.

4. Changes of Assumptions

The discount rate changed from 2.12% to 2.06%.

Healthcare claims costs and trends were updated to reflect the most recent experience.

Mortality rates were updated to use Pub-2010 GE(50%) & PS(50%) Amt-Weighted with Scale AA to 2022 study.

Anticipated spouse plan participation assumption was changed from 30% to 20%.

COMBINING STATEMENTS

Nonmajor Governmental Funds

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
COMBINING BALANCE SHEET
NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
December 31, 2022

	Special Revenue						Total Nonmajor Governmental Funds
	Law Library	Sheriff Law Enforcement	E-911	Drug Task Force	Restricted Programs	Hotel/Motel Tax	
ASSETS							
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 47,530	$ 147,520	$ 0	$ 48,412	$ 412,051	$ 237,207	$ 892,720
Receivable							
Accounts	0	0	129,322	0	0	0	129,322
Intergovernmental	0	0	0	0	799,931	0	799,931
Taxes receivable	0	0	0	0	0	35,472	35,472
Due from other funds		0	0	0	0	5,097	5,097
Total assets	$ 47,530	$ 147,520	$ 129,322	$ 48,412	$ 1,211,982	$ 277,776	$ 1,862,542
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES							
Liabilities							
Accounts payable	$ 998	$ 0	$ 1,553	$ 0	$ 345,276	$ 102,231	$ 450,058
Accrued salaries and expenses	0	0	0	0	20,366	0	20,366
Due to other funds	299	0	0	0	215,178	0	215,477
Due to other agencies	0	0	0	43,486	0	0	43,486
Total liabilities	1,297	0	1,553	43,486	580,820	102,231	729,387
Fund balances							
Restricted for:							
Judicial	46,233	0	0	0	631,162	0	677,395
Public safety	0	147,520	0	4,926	0	0	152,446
Assigned for:							
Public safety	0	0	127,769	0	0	0	127,769
Housing and Development	0	0	0	0	0	175,545	175,545
Total fund balances	46,233	147,520	127,769	4,926	631,162	175,545	1,133,155
Total liabilities and fund balances	$ 47,530	$ 147,520	$ 129,322	$ 48,412	$ 1,211,982	$ 277,776	$ 1,862,542

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
For the year ended December 31, 2022

	Special Revenue						Total Nonmajor Governmental Funds
	Law Library	Sheriff Law Enforcement	E-911	Drug Task Force	Restricted Programs	Hotel/Motel Tax	
REVENUES							
Taxes	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 463,080	$ 463,080
Intergovernmental	0	0	0	0	3,259,111	0	3,259,111
Charges for services	0	81,913	747,387	0	189,120	0	1,018,420
Fines, fees, and forfeitures	16,037	0	0	0	201,938	0	217,975
Contributions	0	17,000	0	0	17,747	0	34,747
Investment	86	345	0	386	1,259	383	2,459
Other	0	0	478	0	0	0	478
Total revenues	16,123	99,258	747,865	386	3,669,175	463,463	4,996,270
EXPENDITURES							
Current							
Judicial	14,000	0	0	0	3,623,754	0	3,637,754
Public safety	0	80,887	1,319,349	0	0	0	1,400,236
Housing and development	0	0	0	0	0	365,499	365,499
Total expenditures	14,000	80,887	1,319,349	0	3,623,754	365,499	5,403,489
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	2,123	18,371	(571,484)	386	45,421	97,964	(407,219)
Other financing sources (uses)							
Transfers in	0	0	575,279	0	38,798	2,500	616,577
Transfers out	0	0	0	(34,621)	0	0	(34,621)
Total other financing sources	0	0	575,279	(34,621)	38,798	2,500	581,956
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over (under) expenditures and other financing uses	2,123	18,371	3,795	(34,235)	84,219	100,464	174,737
Fund balances, January 1 (original)	44,110	129,149	123,974	39,161	523,279	75,081	934,754
Prior period adjustment	0	0	0	0	23,664	0	23,664
Fund balances, January 1 (restated)	44,110	129,149	123,974	39,161	546,943	75,081	958,418
Fund balances, December 31	$ 46,233	$ 147,520	$ 127,769	$ 4,926	$ 631,162	$ 175,545	$ 1,133,155

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NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS

Special revenue funds are used to account for specific revenues that are legally or donor restricted or committed to expenditure for particular purposes.

Law Library Fund – This fund is used to account for the fines and forfeitures received that are restricted for providing a County Law Library.

Sheriff Law Enforcement Fund – This fund is used to account for inmate welfare funds received, donations, and confiscated seizures restricted for law enforcement.

E-911 Fund – This fund is used to account for receipt of fees imposed on land and wireless telephone lines in the County used to offset the operation and personnel costs of providing emergency services.

Drug Task Force Fund – This fund is used to account for monies confiscated under Federal and Georgia law by the Pickens County Sheriff's Office related to controlled substances offenses. Such monies are restricted to defray the cost of complex investigations and to purchase equipment relating to said investigations.

Restricted Programs Fund – This fund is used to account for multiple court administered reimbursement grant monies received from various Federal and State agencies and the expenditure of these monies for the purposes intended.

Hotel Motel Fund – This fund is used to account for hotel/motel tax collections that are restricted for tourism in the County.

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
LAW LIBRARY SPECIAL REVENUE FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL
For the year ended December 31, 2022

	Final Budget	Actual	Variance
REVENUES			
Fines and forfeitures	$ 15,000	$ 16,037	$ 1,037
Investment	200	86	(114)
Total revenues	15,200	16,123	923
EXPENDITURES			
Current			
Public Safety	15,200	14,000	1,200
Total expenditures	15,200	14,000	1,200
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	0	2,123	2,123
Fund balances, January 1	0	44,110	44,110
Fund balances, December 31	$ 0	$ 46,233	$ 46,233

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
SHERIFF LAW ENFORCEMENT SPECIAL REVENUE FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL
For the year ended December 31, 2022

	Final Budget	Actual	Variance
REVENUES			
Charges for service	$ 96,100	$ 81,913	$ (14,187)
Investment	300	345	45
Contributions	8,600	17,000	8,400
Total revenues	105,000	99,258	(5,742)
EXPENDITURES			
Current			
Public Safety			
Contract services	10,900	6,805	4,095
Materials and supplies	28,100	8,263	19,837
Capital outlay	66,000	65,819	181
Total expenditures	105,000	80,887	24,113
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	0	18,371	18,371
Fund balances, January 1	0	129,149	129,149
Fund balances, December 31	$ 0	$ 147,520	$ 147,520

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
E-911 SPECIAL REVENUE FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL
For the year ended December 31, 2022

	Final Budget	Actual	Variance
REVENUES			
Charges for services	$ 670,100	$ 747,387	$ 77,287
Other	0	478	478
Total revenues	670,100	747,865	77,765
EXPENDITURES			
Current			
Public Safety			
Personal services	1,117,597	1,117,236	361
Contract services	209,153	197,598	11,555
Materials and supplies	11,650	4,515	7,135
Total expenditures	1,338,400	1,319,349	19,051
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	(668,300)	(571,484)	96,816
Other financing sources (uses)			
Transfers in (out)			
General Fund	668,300	575,279	(93,021)
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over (under) expenditures and other financing uses	0	3,795	3,795
Fund balance, January 1	0	123,974	123,974
Fund balance, December 31	$ 0	$ 127,769	$ 127,769

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
DRUG TASK FORCE SPECIAL REVENUE FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL
For the year ended December 31, 2022

	Final Budget	Actual	Variance
REVENUES			
Investment	$ 400	$ 386	$ (14)
Total revenues	400	386	(14)
EXPENDITURES			
Current			
Public Safety	400	0	400
Total expenditures	400	0	400
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	0	386	386
Other financing sources (uses)			
Transfers in (out)			
General Fund	0	(34,621)	(34,621)
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over (under) expenditures and other financing uses	0	(34,235)	(34,235)
Fund balances, January 1	0	39,161	39,161
Fund balances, December 31	$ 0	$ 4,926	$ 4,926

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
RESTRICTED PROGRAMS SPECIAL REVENUE FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL
For the year ended December 31, 2022

	Final Budget	Actual	Variance
REVENUES			
Intergovernmental	$ 4,231,482	$ 3,259,111	$ (972,371)
Charges for services	213,802	189,120	(24,682)
Fines and forfeitures	242,092	201,938	(40,154)
Contributions	15,000	17,747	2,747
Investment	1,002	1,259	257
Total revenues	4,703,378	3,669,175	(1,034,203)
EXPENDITURES			
Current			
Judicial			
Personal services	1,724,148	1,286,067	438,081
Contract services	998,129	982,842	15,287
Materials and supplies	304,407	304,361	46
Payments to others	1,637,080	1,050,484	586,596
Total expenditures	4,663,764	3,623,754	1,040,010
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	39,614	45,421	5,807
Other financing sources (uses)			
Transfers in (out)			
General Fund	39,534	38,798	(736)
Contingency	(79,148)	0	79,148
Total other financing sources	(39,614)	38,798	78,412
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over (under) expenditures and other financing uses	0	84,219	84,219
Fund balances, January 1 (original)	0	523,279	523,279
Prior period adjustment	0	23,664	23,664
Fund balances, January 1 (restated)	0	546,943	546,943
Fund balances, December 31	$ 0	$ 631,162	$ 631,162

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
HOTEL/MOTEL TAX SPECIAL REVENUE FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL
For the year ended December 31, 2022

	Final Budget	Actual	Variance
REVENUES			
Taxes	$ 376,100	$ 463,080	$ 86,980
Investment	400	383	(17)
Total revenues	376,500	463,463	86,963
EXPENDITURES			
Current			
Housing and Development			
Contract services	500	500	0
Materials and supplies	13,500	13,242	258
Payments to others	360,000	351,757	8,243
Total expenditures	374,000	365,499	8,501
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	2,500	97,964	95,464
Other financing sources (uses)			
Transfers in (out)			
General Fund	(2,500)	2,500	5,000
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over (under) expenditures and other financing uses	0	100,464	100,464
Fund balances, January 1	0	75,081	75,081
Fund balances, December 31	$ 0	$ 175,545	$ 175,545

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CUSTODIAL FUNDS

These funds are used to account for assets held by the County as a custodian to be expended in accordance with the conditions of its custodial capacity.

Clerk of Superior Court, Probate Court, Juvenile Court and Magistrate Court - These funds account for assets and related liabilities for the collection of court related fees.

Sheriff - This fund accounts for deposits held for incarcerated inmates.

Tax Commissioner - This fund accounts for assets and related liabilities for the collection of taxes and tag and title fees.

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
CUSTODIAL FUNDS
STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
December 31, 2022

	Tax Commissioner	Magistrate Court	Probate Court	Clerk of Superior Court	Sheriff Department	Total Custodial Funds
ASSETS						
Cash	$ 696,711	$ 258,005	$ 38,769	$ 1,277,921	$ 70,074	$ 2,341,480
Taxes receivable, net	2,432,578	0	0	0	0	2,432,578
Total assets	3,129,289	258,005	38,769	1,277,921	70,074	4,774,058
LIABILITIES						
Due to other agencies	3,129,289	4,995	9,337	95,639	12,165	3,251,425
NET POSITION						
Restricted for individuals, organizations, and other governments	$ 0	$ 253,010	$ 29,432	$ 1,182,282	$ 57,909	$ 1,522,633

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
CUSTODIAL FUNDS
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
For the year ended December 31, 2022

	Tax Commissioner	Magistrate Court	Probate Court	Clerk of Superior Court	Sheriff Department	Total Custodial Funds
ADDITIONS						
Taxes collected for other agencies	$ 31,143,595	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 31,143,595
Court fees collected for other agencies	0	191,915	210,529	1,305,360	0	1,707,804
Court individual cases	0	0	0	422,036	0	422,036
Sheriff fees collected	0	0	0	0	141,264	141,264
Sheriff inmate account deposits	0	0	0	0	243,219	243,219
Total additions	31,143,595	191,915	210,529	1,727,396	384,483	33,657,918
DEDUCTIONS						
Taxes distributed to other agencies	31,143,595	0	0	0	0	31,143,595
Court fees distributed to other agencies	0	193,009	144,908	1,305,360	0	1,643,277
Payments to others	0	0	69,614	95,542	0	165,156
Sheriff fees distributed to other agencies	0	0	0	0	141,002	141,002
Payments from inmates to others	0	0	0	0	240,174	240,174
Total deductions	31,143,595	193,009	214,522	1,400,902	381,176	33,333,204
Change in net position	0	(1,094)	(3,993)	326,494	3,307	324,714
Net position, January 1	0	254,104	33,425	855,788	54,602	1,197,919
Net position, December 31	$ 0	$ 253,010	$ 29,432	$ 1,182,282	$ 57,909	$ 1,522,633

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STATISTICAL SECTION

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PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA

NET POSITION BY COMPONENT
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Governmental Activities										
Invested in Capital Assets, net of related debt	$ 41,589,227	$ 42,464,693	$ 42,944,672	$ 41,895,236	$ 41,582,225	$ 41,403,763	$ 43,120,050	$ 43,192,890	$ 42,478,827	$ 42,361,620
Restricted	748,173	943,046	2,183,526	3,060,636	4,675,134	3,806,983	4,351,136	3,746,142	10,264,599	9,607,455
Unrestricted	3,838,325	4,235,799	1,988,188	3,027,863	523,699	3,127,673	1,108,426	2,975,548	1,811,618	5,267,492
Total Governmental Activities Net Position	46,175,725	47,643,538	47,116,386	47,983,735	46,781,058	48,338,419	48,579,612	49,914,580	54,555,044	57,236,567
Restricted										
Business type Activities										
Invested in Capital Assets, net of related debt	7,347,900	7,194,733	7,101,628	7,711,102	8,017,055	6,998,402	7,773,391	8,026,298	9,336,236	7,976,420
Restricted	41,116	41,172				837,722				
Unrestricted	(2,225,348)	(2,473,074)	(2,545,847)	(2,745,382)	(3,021,287)	(2,988,177)	(2,802,064)	(2,694,400)	(4,236,896)	(2,368,731)
Total Business-type Activities Net Position	5,163,668	4,762,831	4,555,781	4,965,720	4,995,768	4,847,947	4,971,327	5,331,898	5,099,340	5,607,689
Primary Government										
Invested in Capital Assets, net of related debt	48,937,127	49,659,426	50,046,300	49,606,338	49,599,280	48,402,165	50,893,441	51,219,188	51,815,063	50,338,040
Restricted	789,289	984,218	2,183,526	3,060,636	4,675,134	4,644,705	4,351,136	3,746,142	10,264,599	9,607,455
Unrestricted	1,612,977	1,762,725	(557,659)	282,481	(2,497,588)	139,496	(1,693,638)	281,148	(2,425,278)	2,898,761
Total Primary Government Net Position	$ 51,339,393	$ 52,406,369	$ 51,672,167	$ 52,949,455	$ 51,776,826	$ 53,186,366	$ 53,550,939	$ 55,246,478	$ 59,654,384	$ 62,844,256

Exhibit E-1

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA

CHANGES IN NET POSITION, LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS
(accrual basis of accounting)

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Expenses:										
Governmental Activities:										
General government	$ 3,388,578	$ 3,655,272	$ 3,610,343	$ 3,936,931	$ 4,393,388	$ 3,925,304	$ 4,232,770	$ 4,595,156	4,777,527	$ 4,913,551
Judicial	4,211,634	4,395,766	4,754,880	5,103,493	6,425,440	5,670,717	6,039,643	5,964,274	6,516,918	7,034,639
Public safety	10,540,018	10,777,290	12,071,736	12,656,456	14,598,060	13,732,265	14,969,883	15,366,236	17,484,934	16,839,952
Public works	3,452,723	4,633,500	4,884,645	6,116,049	6,311,425	7,006,435	8,062,619	6,972,201	7,793,817	10,929,737
Health and welfare	454,271	493,080	407,885	608,533	913,171	614,966	635,002	448,756	257,349	295,209
Culture and recreation	964,045	972,615	1,087,548	1,020,431	1,113,634	1,080,781	1,119,412	2,872,888	1,332,941	1,274,562
Housing and development	610,611	565,006	546,155	664,209	755,788	757,693	844,471	923,600	1,011,310	1,204,813
Interest on long-term debt	195,720	153,459	128,136	104,003	87,911	72,037	83,303	121,611	28,771	23,105
Total Governmental Activities	23,817,600	25,645,988	27,491,328	30,210,105	34,598,817	32,860,198	35,987,103	37,264,722	39,203,567	42,515,568
Business-type Activities:										
Water	2,186,264	2,165,208	2,232,705	2,206,324	2,401,116	2,404,270	2,609,295	2,673,792	3,199,884	3,825,534
Airport	358,828	656,841	520,816	496,946	580,662	649,732	1,035,345	831,611	1,001,041	2,205,744
Total Business-type Activities	2,545,092	2,822,049	2,753,521	2,703,270	2,981,778	3,054,002	3,644,640	3,505,403	4,200,925	6,031,278
Total Primary Government	26,362,692	28,468,037	30,244,849	32,913,375	37,580,595	35,914,200	39,631,743	40,770,125	43,404,492	48,546,846
Program Revenues										
Governmental Activities										
Charges for services										
General government	876,930	873,106	803,574	859,616	896,509	872,661	919,246	1,167,698	1,071,946	1,032,444
Judicial	1,262,267	1,200,411	1,229,872	1,055,608	1,411,195	1,245,475	1,115,004	1,064,858	195,885	191,897
Public safety	2,073,842	2,274,172	2,755,355	3,129,532	2,797,779	2,355,225	2,265,101	1,996,066	2,732,802	2,866,006
Public works	302,865	340,580	355,239	363,440	424,710	449,996	409,380	703,906	859,104	865,255
Health and welfare	775	725	15,240	200	17,918	33,966	25,015	24,066	-	-
Culture and recreation	167,695	187,889	182,250	157,942	159,836	182,888	211,929	94,014	175,772	149,430
Housing and development	149,938	162,314	154,405	216,414	245,839	272,831	300,050	351,099	29,421	21,920
Operating grants and contributions	2,834,942	2,887,823	3,175,239	3,760,012	4,518,129	4,184,847	6,135,698	5,577,705	6,513,848	5,729,922
Capital grants and contributions	-	51,672	1,264,247	165,347	359,286	17,973	-	8,962	760,701	31,019
Total Governmental Activities	7,669,254	7,978,692	9,935,421	9,708,111	10,831,201	9,615,862	11,381,423	10,988,374	12,339,479	10,887,893
Business-type Activities:										
Water and Sewer										
Charges for services	2,044,799	2,085,620	2,075,598	2,274,148	2,405,684	2,487,632	2,622,072	2,811,993	2,969,863	3,410,861
Operating grants and contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-	36,333	44,445	-	-
Capital grants and contributions	-	-	-	-	-	16,006	-	-	85,000	3,926
Airport										
Charges for services	328,694	374,594	325,750	307,668	304,959	383,543	732,888	536,670	740,962	1,010,917
Operating grants and contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital grants and contributions		128,063	151,731	531,386	157,770	-	141,664	110,861	13,000	966,533
Total Business-type Activities	2,373,493	2,588,277	2,553,079	3,113,202	2,868,413	2,887,181	3,532,957	3,503,969	3,808,825	5,392,237
Total Primary Government	10,042,747	10,566,969	12,488,500	12,821,313	13,699,614	12,503,043	14,914,380	14,492,343	16,148,304	16,280,130

Exhibit E-2, continued

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA

CHANGES IN NET POSITION, LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS
(accrual basis of accounting)

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Net (Expenses) Revenue										
Governmental Activities	(16,148,346)	(17,667,296)	(17,555,907)	(20,501,994)	(23,767,616)	(23,244,336)	(24,605,680)	(26,276,348)	(26,864,088)	(31,627,675)
Business-type Activities	(171,599)	(233,772)	(200,442)	409,932	(113,365)	(166,821)	(111,683)	(1,434)	(392,100)	(639,041)
Total Primary Government Net Expense	(16,319,945)	(17,901,068)	(17,756,349)	(20,092,062)	(23,880,981)	(23,411,157)	(24,717,363)	(26,277,782)	(27,256,188)	(32,266,716)
General Revenues and Other Changes in Net Position										
Governmental Activities										
Property taxes	11,010,792	10,483,955	10,744,340	12,102,447	12,102,775	13,001,906	13,111,108	14,094,266	14,547,046	17,412,502
Sales taxes	6,633,643	6,892,818	6,925,062	7,065,668	7,694,259	8,430,048	9,176,567	10,654,570	12,338,995	14,375,222
Insurance premium taxes	1,162,534	1,226,610	1,313,298	1,397,559	1,496,738	1,613,886	1,730,464	1,832,076	1,906,424	2,210,705
Intangible	182,978	172,785	188,503	368,329	384,426	306,133	360,511	562,787	574,757	444,828
Other taxes	344,923	360,113	355,425	363,124	538,990	530,004	466,622	501,587	902,890	1,105,540
Interest and investment revenue	5,367	4,209	20,872	25,909	10,452	17,795	30,715	10,979	11,706	22,002
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	457,791	277,708
Grants and contributions not restricted	-	6,201	21,496	21,936	-	49,496	52,228	48,718	-	-
Gain/(loss) on sale of capital assets	-	34,590	44,425	24,372	14,697	37,382	152,320	232,333	-	4,500
Transfers	60,105	14,558	26,336	-	(143,409)	-	(233,662)	(326,000)	(359,980)	(1,141,408)
Total Governmental Activities	19,400,342	19,195,839	19,639,757	21,369,344	22,098,928	23,986,650	24,846,873	27,611,316	30,379,629	34,711,599
Business-type Activities										
Unrestricted investment earnings	56	56	16	7	3	-	-	-	-	10
Grants and contributions not restricted	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,401	3	-	-
Gain/(loss) on sale of capital assets	-	-	19,712	-	-	19,000	-	36,002	-	4,900
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21,790	1,072
Transfers	(60,105)	(14,558)	(26,336)	-	143,409	-	233,662	326,000	359,980	1,141,408
Total Business-type Activities	(60,049)	(14,502)	(6,608)	7	143,412	19,000	235,063	362,005	381,770	1,147,390
Total Primary Government	19,340,293	19,181,337	19,633,149	21,369,351	22,242,340	24,005,650	25,081,936	27,973,321	30,761,399	35,858,989
Change in Net Position										
Governmental Activities	3,251,996	1,528,543	2,083,850	867,350	(1,668,688)	742,314	241,193	1,334,968	3,515,541	3,083,924
Business-type Activities	(231,648)	(248,274)	(207,050)	409,939	30,047	(147,821)	123,380	360,571	(10,330)	508,349
Total Primary Government	**$ 3,020,348**	**$ 1,280,269**	**$ 1,876,800**	**$ 1,277,289**	**$ (1,638,641)**	**$ 594,493**	**$ 364,573**	**$ 1,695,539**	**$ 3,505,211**	**$ 3,592,273**

Exhibit E-2, continued

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PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA

FUND BALANCES, GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
General Fund										
Nonspendable:										
Prepaids	$ 36,673	$ 20,653	$ 150	$ 112,103	$ 37,529	$ 64,838	$ 550,653	$ 723,390	$ 108,756	$ 117,547
Inventory	42,701	20,791	32,120	21,356	39,326	49,820	51,157	59,495	104,463	27,202
Restricted										
Capital outlay projects	-	-	-	125,000	518,329	572,203	628,172	572,636	-	-
Judicial	38,301	56,496	76,313	126,578	95,537	137,692	197,782	151,108	200,375	200,375
Unassigned	4,088,445	5,732,762	6,352,457	7,312,571	8,013,069	8,234,338	7,443,233	10,082,804	10,072,819	12,638,728
Total General Fund	**4,206,120**	**5,830,702**	**6,461,040**	**7,697,608**	**8,703,790**	**9,058,891**	**8,870,997**	**11,589,433**	**10,486,413**	**12,983,852**
All Other Governmental Funds										
Nonspendable:										
Prepaids	2,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted:										
Judicial	150,930	83,038	228,479	455,788	186,188	356,277	372,057	509,031	567,389	677,395
Public Safety	-	263,621	289,174	200,917	198,692	263,099	321,126	315,007	168,310	152,446
Housing and Development	12,813	14,224	20,837	30,499	34,494	23,706	20,624	15,264	75,081	-
Capital Outlay Projects	275,972	525,667	1,568,723	2,248,432	3,641,894	2,454,006	2,811,375	2,179,448	9,253,444	8,577,239
Assigned										
Public Safety	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	123,974	127,769
Housing and Development	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	175,545
Total All Other Governmental Funds	441,715	886,550	2,107,213	2,935,636	4,061,268	3,097,088	3,525,182	3,018,750	10,188,198	9,710,394
Total All Governmental Funds	**$ 4,647,835**	**$ 6,717,252**	**$ 8,568,253**	**$ 10,633,244**	**$ 12,765,058**	**$ 12,155,979**	**$ 12,396,179**	**$ 14,608,183**	**$ 20,674,611**	**$ 22,694,246**

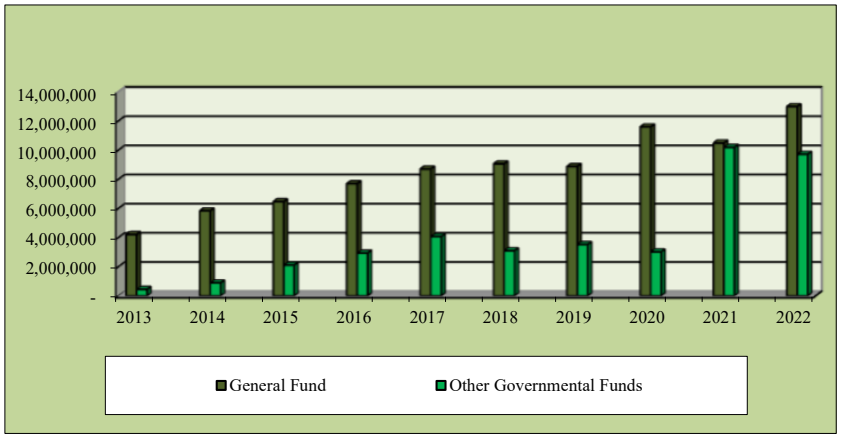


Exhibit E-3

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA

CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE, GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS
(modified accrual basis of accounting)

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Revenues										
Taxes	$ 18,272,931	$ 20,292,537	$ 19,650,239	$ 20,947,833	$ 22,079,858	$ 23,383,845	$ 24,776,109	$ 27,645,397	$ 31,300,550	$ 34,409,438
Licenses and permits	281,861	288,022	292,090	347,577	413,660	445,799	470,932	547,158	642,024	647,063
Fines and penalties	848,395	633,791	726,784	605,404	891,546	729,014	717,149	448,380	570,555	473,991
Charges for services	3,627,345	4,011,729	4,275,996	4,717,149	4,546,333	4,107,467	3,959,181	3,915,138	4,122,046	4,200,865
Intergovernmental	2,822,010	2,945,101	4,427,432	3,874,880	4,840,773	4,121,775	6,117,237	5,592,113	6,980,681	5,529,296
Contributions	12,932	28,985	33,549	72,414	22,766	112,568	70,689	34,308	50,868	66,489
Investment earnings	5,366	4,207	20,872	25,908	24,330	35,768	30,714	19,942	18,226	35,780
Other revenues	76,717	105,654	201,065	112,623	102,246	130,761	98,460	491,031	457,791	277,708
Total revenues	25,947,557	28,310,026	29,628,027	30,703,788	32,921,512	33,066,997	36,240,471	38,693,467	44,142,741	45,640,630
Expenditures										
General government	2,918,883	3,105,355	3,004,816	3,292,362	3,232,962	3,387,005	3,588,495	3,918,661	4,322,237	4,395,313
Judicial	4,039,579	4,310,192	4,684,573	4,988,961	5,132,788	5,366,413	5,386,594	5,463,671	6,449,688	7,130,523
Public safety	9,313,851	9,769,301	11,144,914	11,463,221	12,166,524	12,794,226	13,580,828	13,954,155	15,673,171	15,615,826
Public works	2,750,613	3,420,360	3,415,354	4,525,874	4,235,673	5,166,405	5,948,305	4,680,193	3,999,109	4,026,573
Health and welfare	361,221	384,276	340,382	508,945	881,477	576,520	596,750	411,332	201,555	630,828
Culture and recreation	854,736	864,775	980,876	905,225	924,294	975,777	1,013,168	2,763,765	1,215,186	1,206,454
Housing and development	574,814	542,074	503,709	554,070	552,563	601,660	669,308	745,135	962,706	800,521
Capital Outlay	7,154,400	218,708	2,713,553	869,109	1,321,048	2,451,366	3,812,163	4,535,966	2,938,408	6,622,339
Intergovernmental	432,038	1,017,375	1,155,235	1,274,127	1,584,384	1,594,425	1,839,772	1,676,972	1,320,815	1,539,397
Debt Service										
Principal	1,281,644	2,815,924	916,609	775,261	911,871	946,115	432,018	552,986	47,110	96,989
Interest	195,720	153,458	128,136	104,003	87,910	72,036	83,303	121,611	10,921	19,073
Total expenditures	29,877,499	26,601,798	28,988,157	29,261,158	31,031,494	33,931,948	36,950,704	38,824,447	37,140,906	42,083,836
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	(3,929,942)	1,708,228	639,870	1,442,630	1,890,018	(864,951)	(710,233)	(130,980)	7,001,835	3,556,794
Other Financing Sources (Uses)										
Capital lease proceeds	98,960	136,640	1,047,772	271,056	450,000	218,490	-	2,523,234	-	-
Proceeds from sale of assets	-	6,201	44,425	51,305	14,698	37,382	154,095	145,750	-	6,650
Payment to refunded bond escro	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Issuance of notes payable	-	-	-	300,000	-	-	1,030,000	-	-	-
Transfers in	551,857	528,261	699,556	605,118	614,620	723,358	672,702	728,351	643,001	882,888
Transfers out	(491,752)	(513,703)	(673,221)	(605,118)	(758,029)	(723,358)	(906,364)	(1,054,351)	(1,002,981)	(2,024,296)
Total other financing sources (uses)	159,065	157,399	1,118,532	622,361	321,289	255,872	950,433	2,342,984	(359,980)	(1,134,758)
Net Change in Fund Balance	$ (3,770,877)	$ 1,865,627	$ 1,758,402	$ 2,064,991	$ 2,211,307	$ (609,079)	$ 240,200	$ 2,212,004	$ 6,641,855	$ 2,422,036

Exhibit E-4

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA

PROGRAM REVENUES BY FUNCTION/PROGRAM
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS
(accrual basis of accounting)

Function/Program	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Primary Government:										
Governmental Activities:										
General government	$ 896,496	$ 891,237	$ 823,068	$ 1,093,620	$ 1,213,857	$ 884,374	$ 936,030	$ 1,206,971	$ 3,443,641	$ 1,610,751
Judicial	3,285,898	3,409,702	3,658,563	3,736,327	5,050,617	4,582,788	6,757,216	4,467,483	3,402,164	4,322,897
Public safety	2,651,462	2,752,743	3,335,977	3,906,691	3,247,886	3,065,960	2,677,481	2,550,588	3,252,293	3,470,235
Public works	302,865	340,580	355,239	442,071	624,436	467,969	409,380	2,158,543	1,956,976	1,157,485
Health and welfare	214,900	234,227	288,421	153,056	288,730	159,052	89,337	89,226	-	73,464
Culture and recreation	167,695	187,889	182,250	157,942	159,836	182,888	211,929	94,014	186,920	155,496
Housing and development	149,938	162,314	1,291,933	218,404	245,839	272,831	300,050	421,549	97,485	97,565
Total Governmental Activities	7,669,254	7,978,692	9,935,451	9,708,111	10,831,201	9,615,862	11,381,423	10,988,374	12,339,479	10,887,893
Business-type Activities:										
Water and Sewer	2,044,799	2,085,620	2,075,598	2,274,148	2,405,685	2,503,638	2,658,405	2,856,438	3,054,863	3,414,787
Airport	328,694	502,657	477,481	839,054	462,729	383,543	874,552	647,531	753,962	1,977,450
Total Business-type Activities	2,373,493	2,588,277	2,553,079	3,113,202	2,868,414	2,887,181	3,532,957	3,503,969	3,808,825	5,392,237
Total Primary Government	$ 10,042,747	$ 10,566,969	$ 12,488,530	$ 12,821,313	$ 13,699,615	$ 12,503,043	$ 14,914,380	$ 14,492,343	$ 16,148,304	$ 16,280,130

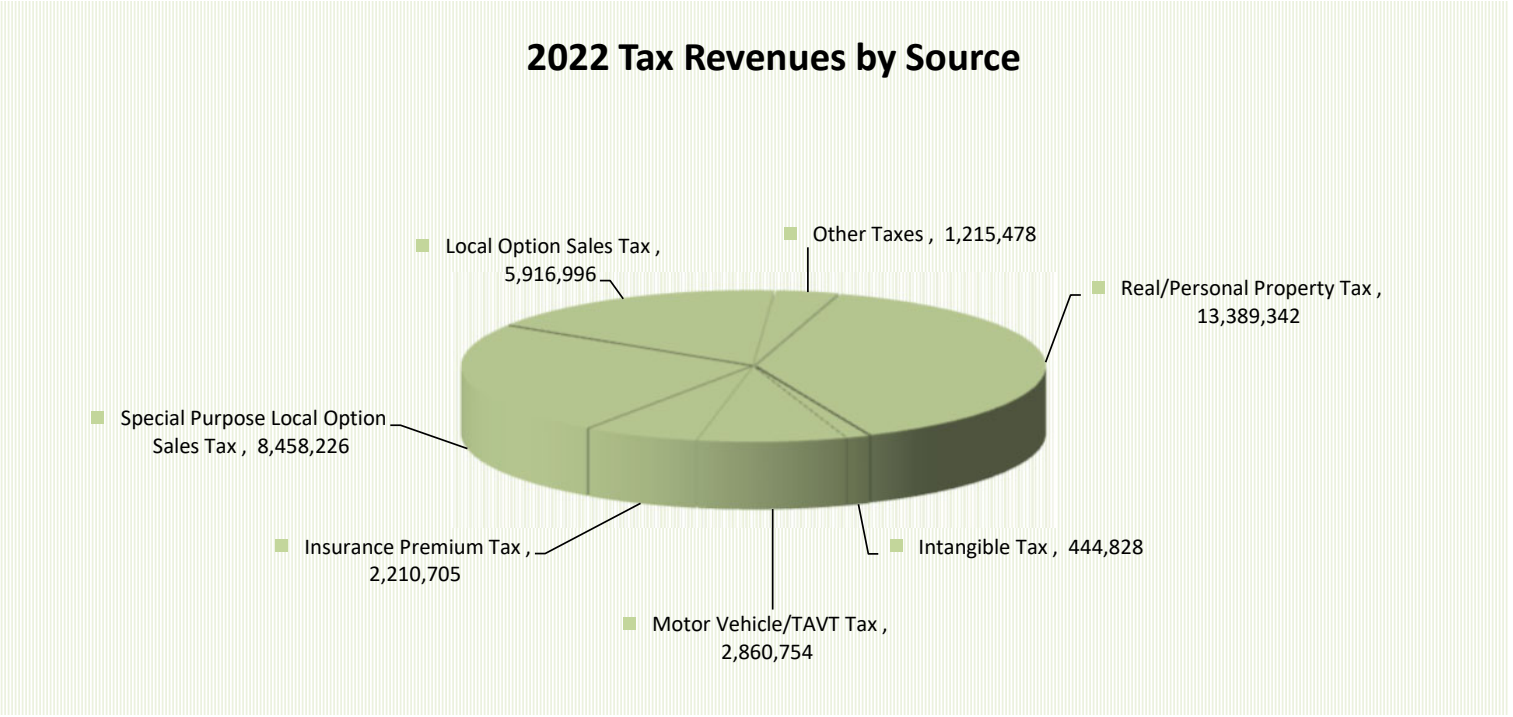
PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA

TAX REVENUES BY SOURCE , GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

(modified accrual basis of accounting)

Year Ended	Real/Personal Property Tax	Intangible Tax	Motor Vehicle/ TAVT Tax	Insurance Premium Tax	Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax	Local Option Sales Tax	Other Taxes	Total
12/31/2013	8,412,286	149,864	1,587,130	1,162,534	3,918,069	2,715,573	327,475	18,272,931
12/31/2014	10,402,675	127,619	1,302,642	1,226,610	4,054,541	2,838,277	340,172	20,292,536
12/31/2015	8,589,467	142,496	1,430,125	1,313,298	4,073,495	2,851,567	344,100	18,744,548
12/31/2016	10,523,592	184,326	1,363,945	1,397,559	4,155,507	2,910,161	350,399	20,885,490
12/31/2017	10,622,471	284,854	1,453,011	1,496,738	4,526,031	3,168,228	528,525	22,079,858
12/31/2018	11,014,513	215,537	1,631,886	1,613,886	4,958,587	3,471,461	477,976	23,383,846
12/31/2019	11,167,268	260,137	1,953,704	1,730,464	5,394,078	3,782,489	487,969	24,776,109
12/31/2020	11,861,068	427,123	2,378,288	1,832,076	6,270,311	4,384,259	492,272	27,645,397
12/31/2021	12,976,148	574,757	2,830,035	1,906,424	7,257,225	5,081,770	674,191	31,300,550
12/31/2022	13,389,342	444,828	2,860,754	2,210,705	8,458,226	5,916,996	1,215,478	34,496,329



PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA

ASSESSED VALUE AND ACTUAL VALUE OF TAXABLE PROPERTY
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

	Residential Property		Commercial Property		Industrial Property		Less: Tax Exempt Property	Total Reporting Entity		Total Direct Tax Rate
Digest Year	Assessed Value	Estimated Actual Value	Assessed Value	Estimated Actual Value	Assessed Value	Estimated Actual Value		Assessed Value	Estimated Actual Value	
2013	894,248,419	2,235,621,048	226,250,396	2,235,621,048	44,669,203	111,673,008	99,508,354	1,484,601,533	1,387,804,375	9.135
2014	894,463,679	2,236,159,198	225,222,885	2,236,159,198	44,397,943	110,994,858	98,570,083	1,465,092,676	1,369,499,825	9.999
2015	900,782,527	2,251,956,318	229,029,898	2,251,956,318	46,467,986	116,169,965	99,154,977	1,457,859,871	1,358,704,894	9.947
2016	909,395,850	2,273,489,625	232,807,566	2,273,489,625	48,454,262	121,135,655	100,740,995	1,463,639,794	1,362,898,799	9.908
2017	928,912,294	2,322,280,735	239,003,730	2,322,280,735	48,369,842	120,924,605	104,972,889	1,489,827,381	1,384,854,492	9.900
2018	952,955,127	2,382,387,818	244,056,902	2,382,387,818	51,937,570	129,843,925	122,211,082	1,523,094,636	1,410,883,554	9.663
2019	982,040,374	2,455,100,935	254,279,726	2,455,100,935	52,519,293	131,298,233	112,997,671	1,564,143,570	1,451,145,899	9.362
2020	1,036,766,846	2,591,917,115	264,616,697	2,591,917,115	52,325,462	130,813,655	110,959,786	1,637,371,344	1,526,411,558	9.138
2021	1,096,142,298	2,740,355,745	272,496,455	2,740,355,745	53,627,676	134,069,190	110,161,530	1,715,723,032	1,505,561,502	8.965
2022	1,260,010,601	3,150,026,503	303,282,389	3,150,026,503	58,287,621	145,719,053	113,115,609	1,934,214,374	1,821,098,765	8.965

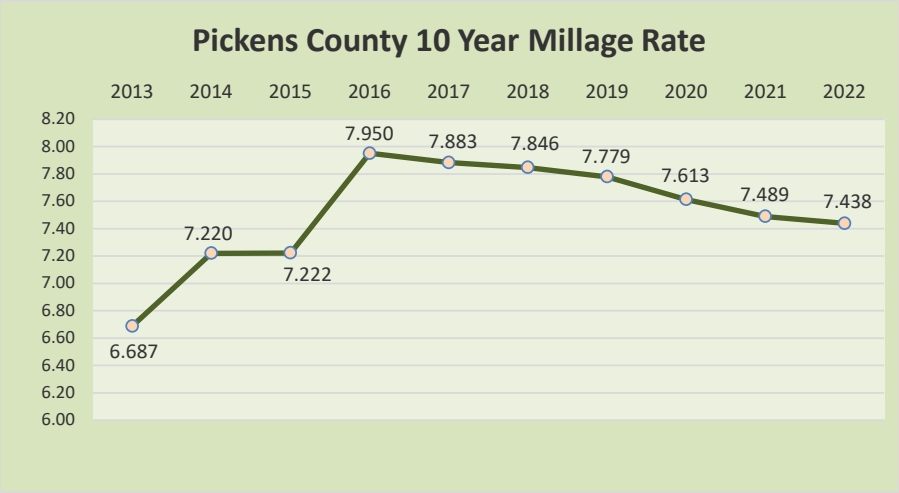
***** Source: Pickens County Tax Commissioner

Note: Property in Pickens County is assessed at 40% of actual value. Tax rates are per $1,000 of assessed value.

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA

PROPERTY TAX RATES - DIRECT AND OVERLAPPING
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS
(Per $1,000 of Assessed Value)

Year of Levy	General	State	Schools			Total
	Maintenance and Operations		Maintenance and Operations	Bonded Debt	Total	Direct and Overlapping
2013	6.687	0.15	16.100	-	16.100	22.937
2014	7.220	0.10	16.100	-	16.100	23.420
2015	7.222	0.50	16.100	-	16.100	23.822
2016	7.950	0.00	15.980	-	15.980	23.930
2017	7.883	0.00	15.670	-	15.670	23.553
2018	7.846	0.00	15.330	-	15.330	23.176
2019	7.779	0.00	15.180	-	15.180	22.959
2020	7.613	0.00	14.830	-	14.830	22.443
2021	7.489	0.00	14.300	-	14.300	21.789
2022	7.438	0.00	12.900	-	12.900	20.338



PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA

DIRECT AND OVERLAPPING SALES TAX RATES
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS
(Unaudited)

Fiscal Year	Pickens County SPLOST	Pickens County LOST	Pickens Schools E-SPLOST	State	Total Sales Tax Rate
2013	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	4.00%	7.00%
2014	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	4.00%	7.00%
2015	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	4.00%	7.00%
2016	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	4.00%	7.00%
2017	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	4.00%	7.00%
2018	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	4.00%	7.00%
2019	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	4.00%	7.00%
2020	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	4.00%	7.00%
2021	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	4.00%	7.00%
2022	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	4.00%	7.00%

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA

PRINCIPAL PROPERTY TAXPAYERS
CURRENT YEAR AND NINE YEARS AGO

	2022			2013		
Taxpayer	**Assessed Value**	**Rank**	**% of Total Assessment**	**Assessed Value**	**Rank**	**% of Total Assessment**
Amicalola EMC	$ 16,589,405	1	12.74%	13,314,882	1	11.08%
J M Huber Corporation	$ 15,692,805	2	12.05%	7,330,951	4	6.10%
Imerys Marble Inc	$ 8,780,991	3	6.74%	8,962,700	2	7.46%
Georgia Power Company	$ 7,232,292	4	5.55%	5,472,531	7	4.56%
Big Canoe Property Owners	$ 6,469,146	5	4.97%			
Imerys Marble Inc #41	$ 6,210,920	6	4.77%	4,643,124	10	3.86%
Georgia Transmission Corp	$ 5,311,453	7	4.08%			
Eric S Zorn as Turstee of Walmart	$ 4,963,333	8	3.81%	4,914,354	8	4.09%
TNT Garland Mtn Enterprises LLC	$ 4,883,740	9	3.75%			
MLF Gateway Development LLC	$ 4,564,158	10	3.50%			
Forestar (USA) Real Estate Group Inc				8,910,705	3	7.42%
Big Canoe Company LLC				5,870,896	5	4.89%
2573 LLC				5,775,916	6	4.81%
SpringBank LLC				4,807,758	9	4.00%
Mountainside Manor LP						
Community Bank of Pickens County						
SPP LandLLC						
Quality Synthetic Rubber						
AT&T Mobility LLC						
	$ 80,698,243		61.95%	$ 70,003,817		58.27%

Source: Pickens County County Tax Commissioners Office

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
PROPERTY TAX LEVIES AND COLLECTIONS
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS
(Unaudited)

		Collected within the Fiscal Year of the Levy				Total Collections to Date	
Fiscal Year Ended	Tax Levied for the Calendar Year	Amount	Percentage of Levy	Collections in Subsequent Years	Dates used for previous col.	Amount	Percentage of Levy
2013	29,089,757	25,068,219	86.18%	4,021,538	01-01-13 to 12-31-20	29,089,757	100.00%
2014	29,797,767	27,083,968	90.89%	2,713,799	01-01-14 to 12-31-21	29,797,767	100.00%
2015	29,943,739	26,714,050	89.21%	3,229,689	01-01-15 to 12-31-22	29,943,739	100.00%
2016	31,168,206	27,851,936	89.36%	3,316,270	01-01-16 to 12-31-22	31,168,206	100.00%
2017	31,297,576	28,750,179	91.86%	2,547,397	01-01-17 to 12-31-22	31,297,576	100.00%
2018	31,634,773	28,831,296	91.14%	2,803,477	01-01-18 to 12-31-22	31,634,773	100.00%
2019	32,458,045	29,586,845	91.15%	2,871,201	01-01-19 to 12-31-22	32,458,045	100.00%
2020	33,444,914	30,619,242	91.55%	2,825,672	01-01-20 to 12-31-22	33,444,914	100.00%
2021	34,246,036	31,527,147	92.06%	2,718,889	01-01-21 to 12-31-22	34,246,036	100.00%
2022	36,405,597	33,319,048	91.52%	3,086,549	01-01-22 to 12-31-22	36,405,597	100.00%

Source: Pickens County Tax Commissioner

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
TOTAL PROPERTY LIENS (FIFAs)
LAST SEVEN FISCAL YEARS

Year of Tax Levy	12/31/2016	12/31/2017	12/31/2018	12/31/2019	12/31/2020	12/31/2021	12/31/2022
2013	$ 281	$ 233	$ 141	$ 106	$ 15	$ 8	$ -
2014	1,579	452	119	115	53	31	-
2015	4,265	2,170	353	110	34	58	27
2016	-	-	2,238	447	75	120	45
2017	-	-	-	2,498	383	293	113
2018	-	-	-	2,980	2,530	1,663	173
2019	-	-	-	263	1,373	4,739	478
2020	-	-	-	-	-	16,970	5,802
2021	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,412
2022	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	**$ 6,125**	**$ 2,855**	**$ 2,850**	**$ 6,516**	**$ 4,462**	**$ 23,880**	**$ 22,049**

Source: Pickens County Tax Commissioner

Note: Information prior to 2016, not available.

Exhibit E-12

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA

RATIOS OF OUTSTANDING DEBT BY TYPE
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities						
Fiscal Year	Bonds	Notes from Direct Borrowing	Bonds	Notes from Direct Borrowing	Total Primary Government	% of Personal Income	Per Capita	Population	Personal Income
2013	$ 2,000,000	$ 2,692,981	$ 6,617,970	$ 1,822,807	$ 13,133,758	1.11%	$ 429.70	30,565	$ 38,877
2014	-	2,013,698	10,561,608	1,652,022	14,227,328	1.14%	459.79	30,943	40,165
2015	-	2,144,861	11,776,713	148,340	14,069,914	1.06%	449.22	31,321	42,419
2016	-	1,940,656	10,818,273	80,995	12,839,924	0.90%	405.06	31,699	44,819
2017	-	1,478,785	10,187,637	38,858	11,705,280	0.79%	364.91	32,077	46,360
2018	-	751,161	10,622,130	1,575,109	12,948,400	0.84%	398.96	32,455	47,383
2019	-	1,349,143	10,511,938	1,568,477	13,429,558	0.83%	409.03	32,833	49,335
2020	-	3,319,392	9,869,355	1,738,906	14,927,653	0.87%	449.41	33,216	51,623
2021	-	2,921,263	10,529,974	1,910,629	15,361,866	0.83%	457.28	33,594	55,398
2022	-	2,533,213	10,594,729	2,149,255	15,277,197	0.80%	444.75	34,350	** 55,398

** Current Information is not yet available. Used prior year for calculation.

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA

DIRECT AND OVERLAPPING GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES DEBT
DECEMBER 31, 2022
(Unaudited)

Governmental Unit	Outstanding Debt	Estimated Percentage Available	Estimated Share of Overlapping Debt
City of Jasper	$ -	0%	$ -
City of Nelson	-	0%	-
City of Talking Rock	-	0%	-
Pickens County County School System	-	0%	-
Subtotal, overlapping debt			$ -
Pickens County, Georgia direct debt			$ 2,533,213

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA

LEGAL DEBT MARGIN INFORMATION
LAST TEN YEARS
(dollars in thousands)

	Fiscal Year									
	2013	**2014**	**2015**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2020**	**2021**	**2022**
Assessed Value	$ 1,387,804	$ 1,369,500	$ 1,358,705	$ 1,362,899	$ 1,384,854	$ 1,410,884	$ 1,451,146	$ 1,526,412	$ 1,605,562	$ 1,821,099
Debt Limit: 10% of assessed	138,780	136,950	135,871	136,290	138,485	141,088	145,115	152,641	160,556	182,110
Less: Debt applicable to debt limit	2,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Legal Debt Margin	$ 136,780	$ 136,950	$ 135,871	$ 136,290	$ 138,485	$ 141,088	$ 145,115	$ 152,641	$ 160,556	$ 182,110

Note: Numbers are in thousands.

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA

PLEDGED- REVENUE COVERAGE
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS
(dollars in thousands)

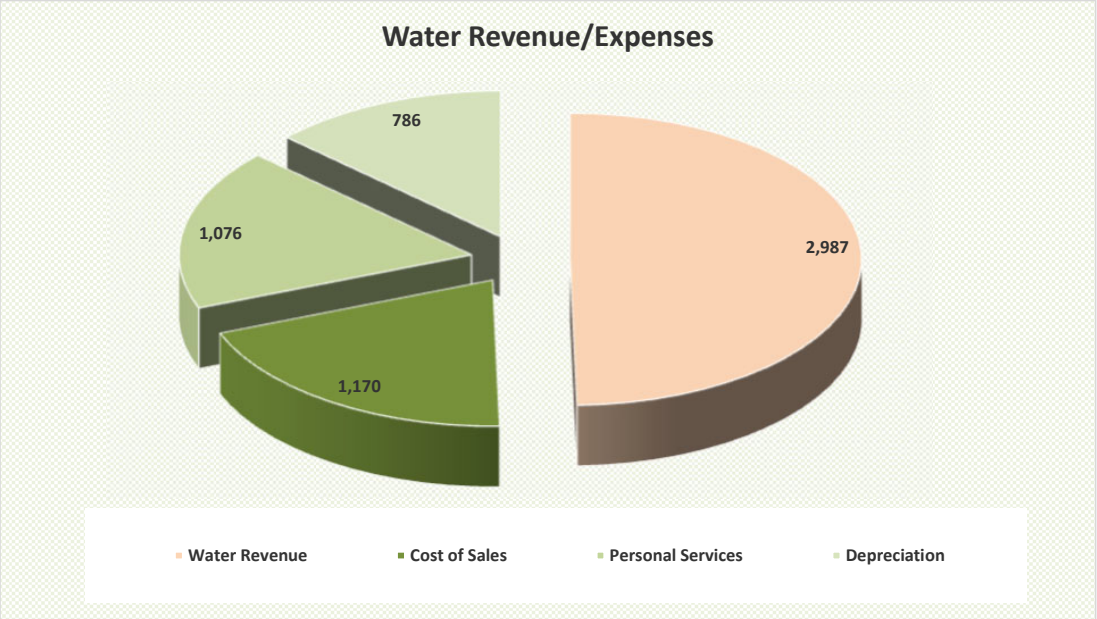
	Debt Service			Water Department			Airport Authority			
Fiscal Year	Principal	Interest	Coverage	Gross Revenue	Less: Operating Expenses	Net Available Revenue	Gross Revenue	Less: Operating Expenses	Net Available Revenue	Total Net Revenue Available
2013	$ 175	$ 68	4.00	$ 3,411	$ 2,482	$ 929	$ 328	$ 285	$ 43	**$ 972**
2014	291	349	1.03	2,987	2,246	741	375	455	(80)	**661**
2015	298	478	1.37	2,812	1,771	1,041	326	306	20	**1,061**
2016	471	320	1.14	2,622	1,758	864	308	273	35	**899**
2017	483	263	1.19	2,488	1,571	917	305	336	(31)	**886**
2018	495	318	1.00	2,406	1,606	800	384	367	17	**817**
2019	548	176	1.34	2,274	1,404	870	733	634	99	**969**
2020	537	315	0.84	2,095	1,442	653	537	476	61	**714**
2021	578	290	1.10	2,085	1,223	862	741	647	94	**956**
2022	359	257	1.25	2,044	1,231	813	1,011	1,057	(46)	**767**

Note: Numbers are in thousands.

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA

WATER DEPARTMENT OPERATING REVENUES/EXPENSES
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS
(dollars in thousands)

Fiscal Year	Water Revenue	Cost of Sales	Personal Services	Depreciation	Total Expenses	Net Operating Income (loss)
2022	$ 3,411	$ 1,418	$ 1,064	$ 701	$ 3,183	228
2021	2,987	1,170	1,076	786	3,032	(45)
2020	2,812	1,041	730	751	2,522	290
2019	2,622	1,096	662	670	2,428	194
2018	2,488	993	578	661	2,232	256
2017	2,406	1,021	585	628	2,234	172
2016	2,274	871	533	621	2,025	249
2015	2,095	973	469	606	2,048	47
2014	2,085	746	477	591	1,814	271
2013	2,044	714	517	557	1,788	256
Total	$ 21,813	$ 8,625	$ 5,627	$ 5,871	$ 20,123	$ 1,690



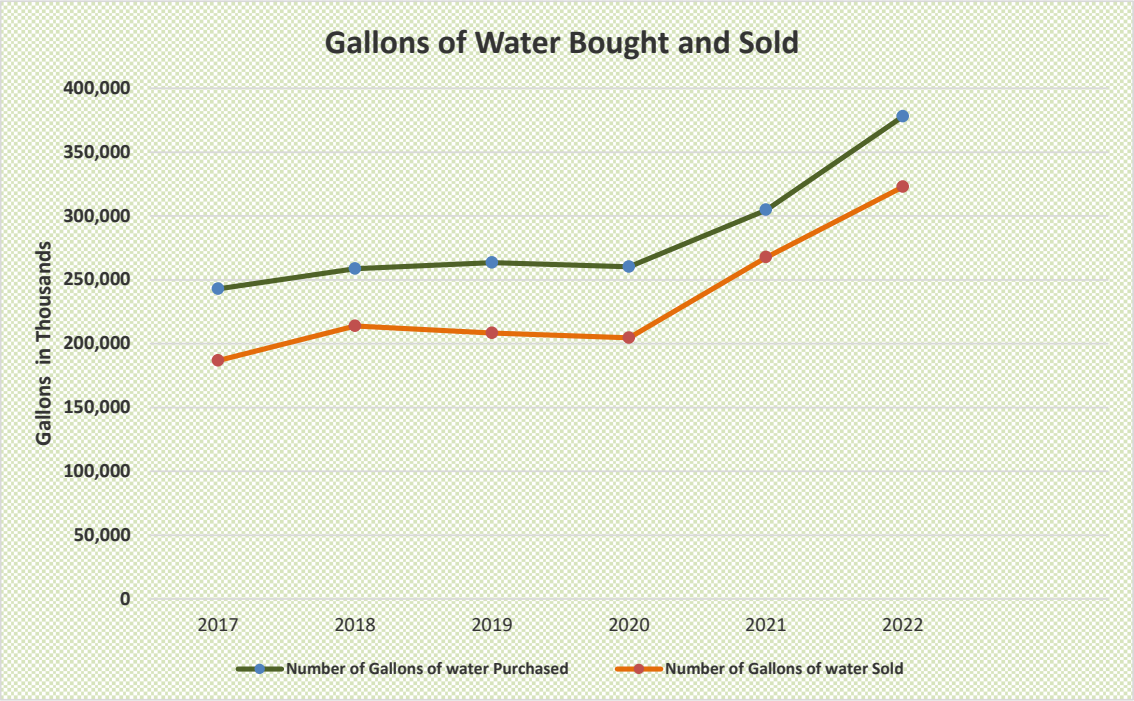
Note: The increase in expenses is due to rising costs of supplies and services.

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA

WATER DEPARTMENT GALLONS BOUGHT AND SOLD
LAST SIX YEARS

(gallons in thousands)

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Purchased	242,704	258,652	263,453	260,149	304,671	377,925
Number of Gallons of water Sold	186,641	213,745	208,272	204,518	267,575	322,870



Note: Information prior to 2017, not available.

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA

WATER DEPARTMENT PRINCIPAL CUSTOMERS
CURRENT YEAR AND FIVE YEARS AGO
(gallons in thousands)

	2022			2017		
Customer	**Usage (Gal)**	**Billed Amount**	**Rank**	**Usage (Gal)**	**Billed Amount**	**Rank**
City of Jasper #3	64,966	$ 110,442	1			
City of Jasper #1	17,227	$ 32,214	2			
Cherokee County Water	13,937	$ 33,450	3	9,758	$ 22,932	1
City of Jasper #2	12,595	$ 22,294	4	5,691	$ 9,228	3
City of Fairmount	10,173	$ 19,328	5	4,670	$ 8,893	4
Pilgrims Pride	3,386	$ 30,871	6	3,591	$ 25,765	5
Tsitaga Farm	1,446	$ 13,407	7			
Bihun's Barbecue	1,255	$ 9,059	8			
Josh Gibbons	1,231	$ 8,339	9			
Georgia Stone Quarries	1,126	$ 11,804	10			
Big Canoe				7,812	$ 18,865	2
Richard Bundy				3,113	$ 20,718	6
Imerys				3,085	$ 21,420	7
Black Crow Ventures				1,694	$ 12,726	8
Foothills Financial				1,628	$ 13,217	9
Housing Authority				1,361	$ 10,658	10
	127,341.23	$ 291,206		42,401.70	$ 164,421	

Source: Pickens County Water Department

Note: Information prior to 2017, not available.

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA

DEMOGRAPHIC AND ECONOMIC STATISTICS
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

Year Ended	Estimated Population	Personal Income (in thousands)	Per Capita Personal Income	Median Age	School Enrollment	Unemployment Rate
12/31/2013	30,565	1,144,928	38,877	* N/A	4,304	7.10%
12/31/2014	30,943	1,200,403	40,165	* N/A	4,331	5.50%
12/31/2015	31,321	1,282,678	42,419	* N/A	4,331	4.90%
12/31/2016	31,699	1,379,205	44,819	* N/A	4,339	4.60%
12/31/2017	32,077	1,468,858	46,360	* N/A	4,361	3.70%
12/31/2018	32,455	1,525,816	47,383	* N/A	4,354	3.30%
12/31/2019	32,833	1,619,850	49,335	* N/A	4,349	2.50%
12/31/2020	33,216	1,720,748	51,623	45.4	4,307	3.80%
12/31/2021	33,594	1,884,874	55,398	46.1	4,143	2.30%
12/31/2022	34,350	** 1,884,874	** 55,398	** 46.1	4,048	2.20%

Sources: Georgia Department of Labor, Bureau of the Census,
Homefacts.com, and Pickens County School District.

Note: * = Information not available
** = Current Information is not yet available. Using prior year for calculation purposes.

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
PRINCIPAL EMPLOYERS
CURRENT YEAR AND ONE YEAR AGO

	2022			2021		
Employer	**Employees**	**Rank**	**% of Total County Employment**	**Employees**	**Rank**	**% of Total County Employment**
Pickens County Schools	617	1	3.97%	612	1	3.94%
Piedmont Mountainside Hospital	540	2	3.48%	535	2	3.44%
Pickens County Board of Commiss	328	3	2.11%	326	3	2.10%
Royston LLC	285	4	1.83%	280	4	1.80%
Home Depot	132	5	0.85%	128	5	0.82%
Walmart	130	6	0.84%	127	6	0.82%
Kroger	128	7	0.82%	124	7	0.80%
Ingles	120	8	0.77%	118	8	0.76%
Huber Engineered Materials	107	9	0.69%	104	10	0.67%
Amicalola EMC	106	10	0.68%	106	9	0.68%
	$ 2,493		16.05%	$ 2,460		15.84%

Source: GrowPickens.com
Note: Information before 2021 not available

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA

FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT EMPLOYEES BY FUNCTION

FOR THE LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

Function/Program	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
General Government	34	33	31	33	32	34	67	38	37	40
Judicial	56	58	60	72	71	74	78	75	77	75
Public Safety	176	177	178	177	182	177	187	178	177	153
Public Works	45	40	42	42	46	43	47	53	57	60
Health and Welfare	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Culture and Recreation	9	9	9	8	8	9	8	9	32	10
Housing and Development	8	7	7	7	8	8	8	7	8	9
	328	324	328	339	346	344	395	359	389	346

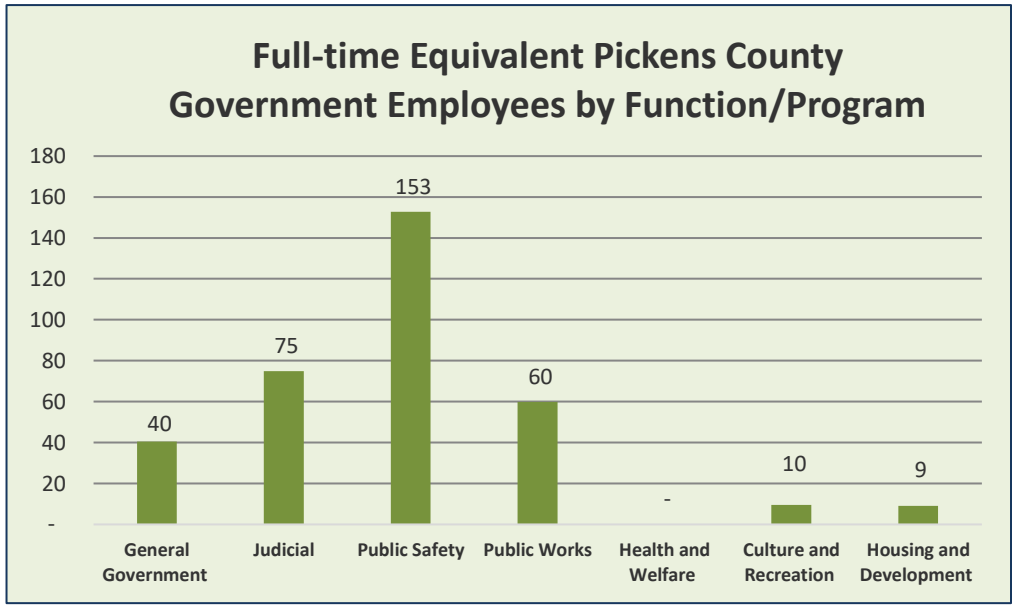


Exhibit E-22

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
OPERATING INDICATORS BY FUNCTION/PROGRAM
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS
Unaudited

Function/Program	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
General Government										
Voter Registration/Elections										
Precinct locations	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Advance voting locations	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Voters	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	N/A	23,664	23,499
Finance										
Accounts payable checks issued	* N/A	* N/A	4,151	4,695	4,275	4,664	4,754	5,623	4,657	5,068
Payroll checks issued	* N/A	* N/A	2,566	2,137	1,792	1,799	1,562	1,422	1,420	1,611
Payroll direct deposits issued	* N/A	* N/A	6,625	7,270	7,565	7,587	7,963	8,329	8,345	8,595
Human Resources										
New hires	118	66	107	130	88	107	81	74	127	208
Terminations	55	43.5	78	87.5	64.5	62	61	50	73.5	77
Employees eligible for health insurance plan	88	57	109	105	86	93	73	73	102	100
	254	271	274	274	280	290	284	295	300	311
Tax Commissioner										
Real property parcels	21,462	21,040	20,889	20,635	20,549	20,515	20,484	20,460	20,477	20,482
Personal property acct.	3,124	3,026	2,880	2,914	2,801	2,825	2,675	2,839	3,023	3,015
Judicial										
Superior Court										
Total Criminal Filings	* N/A	* N/A	N/A	883	895	675	760	723	595	532
Total Domestic Filings	* N/A	* N/A	N/A	348	322	316	461	304	332	391
General Civil Cases Filed	* N/A	* N/A	N/A	216	218	185	257	277	254	303
Contracts	* N/A	* N/A	N/A	86	80	75	100	109	91 **	N/A
Torts (Combined)	* N/A	* N/A	N/A	40	0	12	38	56	31 **	N/A
Real Property	* N/A	* N/A	N/A	14	23	21	36	21	21 **	N/A
Civil Appeals	* N/A	* N/A	N/A	4	6	3	4	3	3 **	N/A
Magistrate Court										
Total Warrants	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	N/A	784	889	700 **	N/A
Misdemeanors	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	N/A	23	5	3 **	N/A
Civil Filings	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	N/A	718	572	590 **	N/A
Total Criminal Filings	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	N/A	290	175	139 **	N/A
Probate Court										
Marriage Licenses Issued	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	N/A	269	255	324 **	N/A
Firearm Licenses Issued	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	N/A	1,020	1,661	1,345 **	N/A
Juvenile Court										
Total Delinquency Cases	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	N/A	64	35	89 **	N/A
Dependency	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	N/A	44	36	41 **	N/A
CHINS	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	N/A	40	39	83 **	N/A
Public Safety										
Law Enforcement										
Physical Arrests	1,172	1,151	1,431	1,430	1,330	1,223	1,202	931	871	852
Emergency Medical Services										
EMS Dispatches	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	N/A	4,597	5,952	5,968	6,714	7,447
Emergency 911										
All calls	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	N/A	28,847	59,520	28,962	29,380	27,595	26,705
Inbound calls	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	N/A	65,653	68,949	61,207
Outbound calls	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	N/A	19,358	22,653	17,640
Dispatched calls for police	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	N/A	15,548	14,983	14,106	13,748	14,375	13,482
Dispatched calls for fire	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	N/A	5,378	5,614	5,612	5,580	5,666	58,517
Average time to answer - E911 calls (in sec)	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	N/A	8	15	11	15	8	14
Average time to answer - other calls (in sec)	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	N/A
Call volume 0700hrs - 1900hrs - %	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	N/A	65%	66%	66%	66%	66%	66%
Call volume 1900hrs - 0700hrs -	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	N/A	35%	34%	34%	34%	34%	34%
Percent E911 calls answered in less than 10 seconds	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	N/A
Percent other calls answered in less than 10 seconds	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	N/A
Fire										
Emergency Medical Calls	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	N/A	3,951	3,993	4,063	4,118
Total Fire Calls	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	N/A	102	104	106	124
Motor Vehicle Accidents	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	N/A	278	232	252	271
False Alarms	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	N/A	77	144	73	78
Calls for Service	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	N/A	550	578	561	577
Other	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	N/A	559	580	610	644
Haz-Mat Calls	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	* N/A	N/A	17	10	14	18

Exhibit E-23, continued

Function/Program	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Emergency Management Agency										
EOC activations	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	1
Total hours EOC activated	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	12
Weather related damage (in millions)	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A
Animal Control										
Received	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	137	497	401	636
Adopted	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	83	295	350	537
Returned to Owner	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	7	51	80	53
Euthanized	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	2	7	3	2
Owner intended Euthanasia	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	-	-	7	-
Complaints	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	79	88	80	172
Warnings	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	79	46	38	134
Citations	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	36	42	42	38
Animals Impounded	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	2	12	79	104
Public Works										
Roads and Bridges										
Road miles maintained		396	396	399	399	399	401	401	401	401	401
DOT LMIG resurfaced	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	7	6	7	5	6	6
Recycling Center										
Recycling revenue		295,138	293,681	301,995	356,193	387,653	419,291	396,049	694,082	583,066	556,992
Recycled materials in tons:										
Card Board	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	62	367	243
Mixed Paper	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	139	142
#1 Plastic	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	17	37
#2 Plastic	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	14	10
Aluminum Cans	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	18	1
Metal	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	151	146
Shredded Paper	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	20	20
Water										
Number of Gallons of water Purchased (in 1000s)	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	242,704	258,652	263,453	260,149	304,671	377,925
Number of Gallons of water Sold (in 1000s)	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	186,641	213,745	208,272	204,518	267,575	322,870
Culture and Recreation										
Parks										
Rental Income		30,186	56,019	38,907	33,575	34,497	41,137	46,358	25,054	39,145	37,898
Youth Sports Participants		709	694	736	780	887	885	911	**912	1,138	1,202
Housing and Development										
Planning and Development										
Building Inspections Requested		1270	1143	995	1534	1964	1913	2199	2110	2293	2493
Site Built Home Permits		79	50	62	111	127	122	145	184	231	235
Mobile Home Permits		24	33	26	32	31	48	33	53	48	64
Miscellaneous Permits		189	199	196	210	211	240	227	253	281	275
Commercial Permits		9	5	9	28	23	19	20	29	48	28
Renewal Permits		62	55	42	80	52	46	94	104	126	189
Commercial Plan Review		*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	9	8	12	24	17
Certificate of Occupancy	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	251	234	258	308	334
Land Disturbance Permits	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	4	6	4	8	3
Access Encroachments	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	43	45	62	64	73
Business License - New	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	123	141	100	146	155
Business License - Renewal	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	605	612	546	647	647
Rezones & Conditional Use Permits	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	17	18	20	35	22
Variance Requests	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	0	0	0	0	2
Sign Permits	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	9	6	17	13	11
Code Enforcement										
Training Hours	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	71
Pubic Outreach	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	3
Miles Patrolled	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	5,896
Total Cases	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	267
Airport										
Number of Leased Hangers	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	32	32	55	55	87	88
Revenue from Hangers/Land Lease/Tie Downs	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	87,442	84,487	148,859	167,312	183,961	314,548
Gallons of JET-A Bought to Resale	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	22,978	30,548	61,205	30,504	76,006	76,032
Gallons a AVGAS Bought to Resale	*	N/A *	N/A *	N/A *	N/A	40,515	30,686	86,372	65,972	67,774	42,260

Notes: * = Information not available; ** = Covid; Baseball was cancelled and refunded - 552 Baseball participants before Covid; * = Computer system hacked, information not available**

**** = Covid; Baseball was cancelled and refunded - 552 Baseball participants before Covid; *** = Computer system hacked, information not available**

**** = Computer system hacked, information not available**

Exhibit E-23, continued

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA

CAPITAL ASSETS BY FUNCTION
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

Function/Program	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Governmental										
Buildings/Land	7	7	7	7	7	8	8	9	9	9
Acres of Greenspace	909	913	1195	1198	1200	1200	1,206	1,209	1,209	1,209
Vehicles	6	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	8	9
Judicial										
Buildings/Land	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Vehicles	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Sheriff/Law Inforcement										
Buildings/Land	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Vehicles	85	87	88	90	91	93	94	94	95	97
Fire/EMS										
Fire Stations/Land	5	5	5	5	5	7	7	8	8	8
Vehicles	25	26	26	27	27	28	29	29	30	32
Pumpers	18	18	18	18	18	18	20	20	20	20
Emergency Sirens	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
Animal Rescue										
Building/Land	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Vehicles										
Public Works										
Buildings/Land	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	4
Street Miles	396	396	399	399	399	401	401	401	401	401
Bridges/Culverts	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31
Vehicles	26	27	27	27	28	28	29	29	30	32
Machinery & Equipment	51	52	52	52	53	53	54	55	55	56
Water										
Vehicles	4	5	5	5	5	6	6	6	7	8
Water Tanks	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Pump Station	6	6	6	6	6	6	7	7	7	7
Recycling										
Buildings/Land	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Health Welfare										
Vehicles										
Culture/Recreation										
Buildings/Land	3	3	3	3	3	5	5	5	5	5
Vehicles	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Code Enforcement										
Vehicles	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Environmental Health										
Vehicles	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Airport										
Buildings/Land	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	4	4	9
Vehicles	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3
Total Assets	**1,612**	**1,622**	**1,909**	**1,915**	**1,920**	**1,931**	**1,944**	**1,951**	**1,956**	**1,965**

Source: Pickens County Finance Department

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OTHER REPORTING SECTION

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SINGLE AUDIT SECTION

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Independent Auditor's 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*

Honorable Chairman and Members
of the Board of Commissioners

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Pickens County, Georgia, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Pickens County, Georgia's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated June 29, 2023. Our report includes a reference to other auditors who audited the financial statements of Pickens County Health Department, as described in our report on Pickens 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 were 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 Pickens 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 Pickens County, Georgia's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Pickens 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. We consider the deficiency described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as item 2022-001 to be a material weakness.

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 did identify certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as items 2022-002 through 2022-006 that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Pickens County, Georgia's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed an instance of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and is described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as item 2022-007.

Pickens County, Georgia's Response to Findings

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on Pickens County, Georgia's response to the findings identified in our audit and described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs. Pickens 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 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 Pickens County, Georgia'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.

Rushton, LLC

Gainesville, Georgia
June 29, 2023

Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance for Each Major Program and on Internal Control over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance

Honorable Chairman and Members
of the Board of Commissioners

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We have audited Pickens County, Georgia's compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of Pickens County, Georgia's major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2022. Pickens County, Georgia's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

In our opinion, Pickens County, Georgia complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2022.

Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of Pickens County, Georgia and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with 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 opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of Pickens County, Georgia's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules, and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to Pickens County, Georgia's federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on Pickens County, Georgia's compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists.

The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about Pickens County, Georgia's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

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

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, 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 Pickens County, Georgia's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

- Obtain an understanding of Pickens County, Georgia's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Pickens County, Georgia's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Report on Internal Control over Compliance

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

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed. The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Rushton, LLC

Gainesville, Georgia
June 29, 2023

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
For the year ended December 31, 2022

Federal Grant/Pass-Through Grantor/Program Title	Federal Assistance Listing Number	Pass-Through Number	Total Federal Expenditures
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development			
Passed through Criminal Justice Coordinating Council:			
Covid-19 Emergency Solutions Grants Program	14.231	A50-8-005	$ 47,005
		A51-8-003	57,594
		A52-8-003	1,636
Total U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development			106,235
U.S. Department of Justice			
Passed through Criminal Justice Coordinating Council:			
Crime Victim Assistance	16.575	C22-8-044	32,799
		C22-8-076	79,443
		C21-8-001	26,042
		C20-8-078	76,898
			215,182
Covid-19 Crime Victim Assistance	16.575	B50-8-208	19,926
Drug Court Discretionary Grant Program	16.585	Q19-8-001	182,000
Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program	16.607	N/A	6,178
Total Department U.S. Department of Justice			423,286
U.S. Department of Transportation			
Passed through the Georgia Department of Transportation:			
Covid-19 Airport Improvement Program	20.106	T007564	682,631
		T007834	32,000
Total U.S. Department of Transportation			714,631
U.S. Department of Treasury			
Passed through the Georgia Governor's Office of Planning and Budget:			
COVID-19 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds	21.027	14819	63,191
Passed through the Georgia Administrative Office of the Courts:			
COVID-19 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds	21.027	2022_ARPA_01	930,677
COVID-19 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds	21.027	N/A	2,756,565
Total U.S. Department of Treasury			3,750,433

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
For the year ended December 31, 2022

Federal Grant/Pass-Through Grantor/Program Title	Federal Assistance Listing Number	Pass-Through Number	Total Federal Expenditures
Appalchian Regional Commission			
Applachian Regional Development Grant	23.001	N/A	$ 125,000
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services			
Passed through Criminal Justice Coordinating Council:			
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Projects of Regional and National Significance	93.243	E21-8-001	27,608
Passed through the Georgia of Human Services:			
MaryLee Allen Promoting Safe and Stable Families Program	93.556	42700-040C-PSSF-22-124	16,874
		42700-040C-PSSF-23-104	55,068
			71,942
Total U.S. Department of Health and Human Services			99,550
U.S. Department of Homeland Security			
Passed through the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency:			
Disaster Grants - Public Assistance (Presidentially Declared Disasters)	97.036	4600-DR-GA	142,717
Total Federal Awards			$ 5,361,852

See accompanying notes to the schedule of expenditures of federal awards and the schedule of findings and questioned costs.

1. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards (the Schedule) includes the federal award activity of Pickens County, Georgia, under programs for the federal government for the current fiscal year. The information in this schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Because this schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the County, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position, changes in net position or cash flows of the County.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Expenditures reported on the Schedule are reported on the accrual basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in in Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards,* wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement.

3. De Minimis Indirect Cost Rate

Pickens County, Georgia has elected not to use the 10-percent *de minimis* indirect cost rate allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

4. Payments to Subrecipients

For the current year, Pickens County, Georgia did not pass federal funds through to subrecipients.

1. Summary of the Auditor's Results

A. Financial Statements

Type of auditor's report issued:	Unmodified
Internal control over financial reporting:	
Material weaknesses identified?	Yes
Significant deficiencies identified not considered material weaknesses?	Yes
Noncompliance material to financial statements noted?	Yes

B. Federal Awards

Internal control over major programs:	
Material weaknesses identified?	None reported
Significant deficiencies identified not considered material weaknesses?	None reported
Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for major programs:	Unmodified
Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with the Uniform Guidance?	None reported

Identification of major programs:

21.027 COVID-19 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

Dollar threshold used to distinguish Between Type A and Type B programs:	$750,000
Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee?	No

2. Financial Statement Findings and Responses

A. Current Year Audit Findings

2022-001

Condition: The County lacks sufficient controls and procedures regarding year-end close to ensure timely and accurate financial reporting. This included material adjustments during the audit process.

Criteria: Internal controls should be in place to ensure the County can perform timely and accurate year-end close procedures for the County to be able to produce its annual financial statements timely.

Effect: Failure to properly design and implement internal controls over year-end close procedures may lead to financial statements that are materially misstated and lead to delays in financial reporting.

Cause: Various posting and classification misstatements led to additional audit adjustments.

Recommendation: We recommend that the County's Finance Department continue to implement and/or strengthen internal controls over the year-end closeout procedures. We also recommend management reconcile account balances monthly to the subsidiary ledgers to ensure proper and timely recording.

Management Response: Management concurs with this finding. County management has hired finance personnel proficient in the application and implementation of proper internal controls over the year-end close procedures are designed and implemented. The Finance Department will implement policies and procedures that will ensure that account balances are reconciled monthly to the subsidiary ledgers. This action was taken immediately upon receipt of the comment from our auditors.

2022-002

Condition: Appropriate segregation of duties does not exist among recording, distribution, and reconciliation of cash accounts and other operational functions in the various funds maintained by the County. This is especially prominent in the offices of the Tax Commissioner, Sheriff, Clerk of Courts, Probate Court, and Magistrate Court.

Criteria: Segregation of employees' duties is a common practice in an effective internal control structure. Segregation of duties is when specific employee functions related to important accounting areas (such as cash receipting and cash disbursements) are separated among different individuals to significantly reduce the risk that any one individual could intentionally or unintentionally misappropriate assets.

Effect: Failure to maintain adequate segregation of duties exposes the assets of the County to greater risk of misappropriation.

Cause: There are several departments and constitutional offices of the County in which the segregation of duties could be improved.

Recommendation: We recommend that each County office review its policies and procedures to determine where it can adequately segregate duties to alleviate the segregation of duties issues.

2. Financial Statement Findings and Responses, continued

A. Current Year Audit Findings (continued)

2022-002, continued

Management Response: Management has provided a copy of this finding to the appropriate Elected Officials and Department Heads, and they concur with this finding. Action was taken immediately upon receipt of this comment from our auditors.

2022-003

Condition: During audit procedures on journal entries, we noted that Accountability Court personnel are posting journal entries to the general ledger without approval. All journal entries reviewed during audit procedures appeared appropriate.

Criteria: Proper internal controls require that journal entries have supporting documentation with evidence of proper approval.

Effect: Failure to approve journal entries increases the County's risk of loss due to fraud.

Cause: The Accountability Court personnel are posting entries to the general ledger without approval.

Recommendation: We recommend the County implement a policy that requires approval of all journal entries and supporting documentation evidencing approval be retained.

Management Response: Management concurs with this finding. County finance personnel has a plan to implement proper approval procedures over manual journal entries. Action was taken immediately upon receipt of the comment from our auditors.

2022-004

Condition: While performing audit procedures on building permits, we noted that building permits fees were not properly documented, and we were unable to recalculate the accuracy of the building permit fees charged to customers.

Criteria: Proper internal controls require that licenses and permits such as building permits are accurately calculated and documented.

Effect: Failure to properly design and implement internal controls over building permits increases the County exposure to asset misappropriation and fraud.

Cause: County personnel are not adequately documenting permits fees charged to customers.

Recommendation: The County should implement a policy that all licenses and permits are properly documented before they are charged to a customer.

Management Response: Management concurs with this finding. Action was taken immediately upon receipt of the comment from our auditors.

2. Financial Statement Findings and Responses, continued

A. Current Year Audit Findings (continued)

2022-005

Condition: While performing procedures at the Accountability Court, we noted that appropriate segregation of duties does not exist among recording, distribution, and reconciliation of cash accounts and other operational functions.

Criteria: Segregation of employees' duties is a common practice in an effective internal control structure. Segregation of duties is when specific employee functions related to important accounting areas (such as cash receipting and cash disbursements) are separated among different individuals to significantly reduce the risk that any one individual could intentionally or unintentionally misappropriate assets.

Effect: Failure to maintain adequate segregation of duties exposes the assets of the County to greater risk of misappropriation.

Cause: There is no segregation of financial duties at the Accountability Court.

Recommendation: We recommend that the Accountability Court review its policies and procedures to determine where it can adequately segregate duties to alleviate the segregation of duties issues.

Management Response: Management has provided a copy of this finding to the appropriate Department Head, and they concur with this finding. Action was taken immediately upon receipt of this comment from our auditors.

2022-006

Condition: While performing audit procedures at the Tax Commissioner's office, we noted 5 of 25 (20%) voided transactions tested were recorded and approved by the same person.

Criteria: Proper internal controls require that voided transactions are approved by someone other than the individual that records the void transaction.

Effect: Failure to maintain proper supporting segregate approval and recording functions for voided transactions subjects the assets of the County to greater risk of misappropriation.

Cause: Current policy does not segregate duties of approval and recording for voided transactions.

Recommendation: We recommend separate employees record and approve voided transactions at the Tax Commissioner's office.

Management Response: Management has provided a copy of this finding to the appropriate Elected Official, and they concur with this finding. This action was taken immediately upon receipt of the comment from our auditors.

2. Financial Statement Findings and Responses, continued

A. Current Year Audit Findings (continued)

2022-007

Condition: The County deposited grant proceeds used to finance portions of SPLOST projects in the General Fund in prior years. The balance of the excess funds is reported as an interfund receivable in the SPLOST fund. The County is making the necessary payments to pay this balance in full over the next few fiscal years.

Criteria: OCGA Code Section 48-8-121 requires that SPLOST proceeds shall not be commingled with other funds of the County.

Effect: Failure to comply with OCGA Code Section 48-8-121 places the County in violation of state law.

Cause: County staff did not deposit grant proceeds used to finance portions of SPLOST projects into SPLOST Fund. The General Fund currently maintains a interfund payable to the SPLOST fund.

Recommendation: All revenues and expenditures should be accounted for within the appropriate fund. The amounts due from the General Fund should be deposited into this account promptly.

Management Response: Management concurs with this finding. The County recorded a due to the SPLOST Fund and will is currently making transfers to pay down the interfund balance. County management will also make sure that future amounts are correctly deposited and reported in the correct fund.

B. Prior Year Audit Findings Follow-Ups

2021-001

Condition: The County lacks sufficient controls and procedures regarding year-end close to ensure timely and accurate financial reporting. This included material adjustments during the audit process.

Not corrected

2021-002

Condition: The 2020 financial statements were restated for errors and incorrectly reported amounts in the Governmental Activities, General Fund, SPLOST Capital Projects Fund, Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund, and Tax Commissioner Custodial Fund.

Corrected

2. Financial Statement Findings and Responses, continued

B. Prior Year Audit Findings Follow-Ups (continued)

2021-003

Condition: County personnel may require additional training in the application of generally accepted accounting principles and the preparation of financial statements. Currently, the County relies on the external auditors for technical assistance in applying generally accepted accounting principles and the preparation of the financial statements. This is common for governments of similar size and structure to Pickens County. Under current auditing standards, providing technical assistance does not impair the independence of the external auditor. However, changes to auditing standards by standards setting boards could state that providing technical assistance would impair the independence of the external auditor. This does not indicate that the Finance Department is not trained to perform the daily accounting functions, but that the County has elected as a cost benefit to outsource this expertise to their auditors.

Corrected

2021-004

Condition: Appropriate segregation of duties does not exist among recording, distribution, and reconciliation of cash accounts and other operational functions in the various funds maintained by the County. This is especially prominent in the offices of the Tax Commissioner, Sheriff, Clerk of Courts, Probate Court, and Magistrate Court.

Not corrected

2021-005

Condition: During audit procedures on journal entries, we noted that journal entries did not have evidence of approval. All journal entries reviewed during audit procedures appeared appropriate.

Not corrected.

2021-006

Condition: While performing audit procedures on building permits, we noted that building permits fees were not properly documented, and we were unable to recalculate the accuracy of the building permit fees charged to customers.

Not corrected

2021-007

Condition: While performing audit procedures on deposits at the Accountability Court, we noted that deposits were not made timely. Further, we noted that deposits on hand were not adequately stored in a safe secure location such as a lock box or safe.

Corrected

2. Financial Statement Findings and Responses, continued

B. Prior Year Audit Findings Follow-Ups (continued)

2021-008

Condition: While performing procedures at the Accountability Court, we noted that appropriate segregation of duties does not exist among recording, distribution, and reconciliation of cash accounts and other operational functions.

Not corrected

2021-009

Condition: While performing audit procedures at the Clerk of Courts, we were unable to sight approval for 8 of 15 (40%) voided transactions selected for testing.

Corrected

2021-010

Condition: While performing audit procedures at the Clerk of Courts, we noted instances where deposits were not made timely. Receipts were held for more than seven days before depositing in 3 of 15 (8%) of receipts tested.

Corrected

2021-011

Condition: While performing audit procedures at the Magistrate Court, we were unable to sight approval for any voided transactions selected for testing.

Corrected

2021-012

Condition: While performing audit procedures at the Probate Court, we were unable to sight approval for any voided transactions selected for testing.

Corrected

2021-013

Condition: The County experienced a material excess of expenditures over appropriations in the General Fund. Also, an annual budget was not adopted for the Law Library Special Revenue Fund, Sheriff Law Enforcement Special Revenue Fund, E-911 Special Revenue Fund, Drug Task Force Special Revenue Fund, Hotel/Motel Tax Special Revenue Fund, and American Rescue Plan Act Grant Special Revenue Fund, as required by state law.

Corrected

2. Financial Statement Findings and Responses, continued

B. Prior Year Audit Findings Follow-Ups (continued)

2021-014

Condition: The County deposited grant proceeds used to finance portions of SPLOST projects in the General Fund in prior years.

Not corrected

3. Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs

The audit of our basic financial statements and schedule of expenditures of federal awards disclosed no audit findings or questioned costs which are required to be reported under Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*.

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STATE REPORTING SECTION

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
SCHEDULE OF PROJECTS FINANCED WITH SPECIAL PURPOSE LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX
For the year ended December 31, 2022

Project	Estimated Cost *		Expenditures		
	Original	Current	Prior Years**	Current Year	Total
SPLOST 2020					
Road Improvements	$ 16,039,500	$ 16,039,500	$ 1,619,652	$ 4,722,468	$ 6,342,120
Water and Sewer Facilities	1,110,000	1,110,000	168,161	83,838	251,999
Airport Debt Service	3,496,500	3,496,500	133,787	936,370	1,070,157
Capital Improvements					
Public Safety	2,960,000	2,960,000	170,849	333,140	503,989
Sheriff	2,960,000	2,960,000	678,920	633,285	1,312,205
Parks and Recreations	3,700,000	3,700,000	38,014	899,711	937,725
City of Jasper	5,002,400	5,002,400	1,448,429	1,143,552	2,591,981
City of Nelson	1,650,200	1,650,200	477,811	377,237	855,048
City of Talking Rock	81,400	81,400	23,569	18,608	42,177
	$ 37,000,000	$ 37,000,000	$ 4,759,192	$ 9,148,209	$ 13,907,401
Roads Expenditures Financed by Intergovernmental Revenues				135,409	
Total Expenditures and Transfers out SPLOST Capital Projects Fund				$ 9,283,618	

* Estimated cost represents the portion of these projects to be financed with Special Purpose Purpose Local Option Sales Tax. Actual costs that are in excess of these amounts have been financed through alternative funds.

** The prior years column has been restated in the amount of $112,180 to correct the beginning balance of intergovernmental payments and Water and Sewer Facilities.

PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
SCHEDULE OF COMPLETED STATE AWARDS EXPENDED
GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
For the year ended December 31, 2022

Grant Name	Grant Period	Contract Number	Amount Awarded	State Revenues	State Expenditures	Amount Due from State
DHS Operating Grant - Family Connection	07/01/21 to 06/30/22	42700-93-202100133	$ 48,000	$ 24,287	$ 24,287	$ 0
DHS Operating Grant - Family Connection	07/01/22 to 06/30/23	42700-93-202200081	52,500	25,897	25,897	12,809
Total			$ 100,500	$ 50,184	$ 50,184	$ 12,809