

EAST CASEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
Liberty, Kentucky

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2023 and 2022

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Board of Commissioners
East Casey County Water District
Liberty, Kentucky

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the East Casey County Water District (the District), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the East Casey County Water District, as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the respective changes in financial position, and cash flows thereof for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the East Casey County Water District, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit 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 the East Casey County Water District's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditors' 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 auditors' report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually

or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

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

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

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

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the pension and OPEB schedules on pages 21-27 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Management has omitted the Management Discussion and Analysis that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not 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. Our opinion on the basic financial statements is not affected by this missing information.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the East Casey County Water District's basic financial statements. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards, as required by Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and is 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 schedule of expenditures of federal awards is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 25, 2024, on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



RFH, PLLC
Lexington, Kentucky
March 25, 2024

EAST CASEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
STATEMENTS OF NET POSITION
December 31,

ASSETS	2023	2022
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 901,155	\$ 479,557
Investments - certificates of deposit	649,854	641,361
Customer accounts receivable, net	219,212	205,382
Grant receivable	-	53,801
Accrued interest receivable	<u>6,678</u>	<u>303</u>
Total current assets	<u>1,776,899</u>	<u>1,380,404</u>
Restricted assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	98,602	-
Investments - certificates of deposit	<u>38,630</u>	<u>38,630</u>
Total restricted assets	<u>137,232</u>	<u>38,630</u>
Net OPEB asset		
	<u>12,412</u>	<u>-</u>
Capital assets		
Land	101,814	101,814
Property, plant and equipment, net	10,735,109	11,115,668
Construction-in-progress	<u>1,179,088</u>	<u>2,014</u>
Total capital assets	<u>12,016,011</u>	<u>11,219,496</u>
Total assets	<u>13,942,554</u>	<u>12,638,530</u>
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Deferred outflows - pension	66,731	48,589
Deferred outflows - OPEB	<u>37,763</u>	<u>67,193</u>
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>104,494</u>	<u>115,782</u>
Total assets and deferred outflows of resources	<u>\$ 14,047,048</u>	<u>\$ 12,754,312</u>
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$ 114,371	\$ 142,997
Taxes payable	22,088	11,764
Construction payable	89,725	-
Customer deposits payable	31,350	33,825
Accrued interest payable	7,755	6,341
Current portion of long-term debt	<u>184,412</u>	<u>183,505</u>
Total current liabilities	<u>449,701</u>	<u>378,432</u>
Noncurrent liabilities		
Net pension liability	576,910	676,204
Net OPEB liability	-	184,563
KIA revolving loan payable	577,346	626,758
Interim financing loan	1,202,000	-
Bonds payable	<u>1,780,346</u>	<u>1,916,619</u>
Total noncurrent liabilities	<u>4,136,602</u>	<u>3,404,144</u>
Total liabilities	<u>4,586,303</u>	<u>3,782,576</u>
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Deferred inflows - pension	90,246	28,230
Deferred inflows - OPEB	<u>210,233</u>	<u>78,088</u>
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>300,479</u>	<u>106,318</u>
NET POSITION		
Net investment in capital assets	8,271,907	8,492,614
Restricted for construction	98,602	-
Restricted for reserves	38,630	38,630
Unrestricted	<u>751,127</u>	<u>334,174</u>
Total net position	<u>9,160,266</u>	<u>8,865,418</u>
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and net position	<u>\$ 14,047,048</u>	<u>\$ 12,754,312</u>

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

EAST CASEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES
IN NET POSITION
for the years ended December 31,

	2023	2022
OPERATING INCOME		
Water sales	\$ 2,571,817	\$ 2,106,412
Late charges	67,824	48,691
Other revenue	<u>35,785</u>	<u>16,084</u>
Total operating income	<u>2,675,426</u>	<u>2,171,187</u>
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Water purchases	953,969	985,351
Salaries	303,044	247,878
Employee benefits	94,161	154,720
Taxes	22,007	19,904
Office expense and postage	49,794	43,811
Insurance	37,852	31,144
Transportation expense	36,070	34,912
Line upkeep	135,829	129,106
Contract labor	69,719	95,697
Utilities and telephone	112,275	119,115
Legal and professional	37,245	32,134
Miscellaneous	45,462	37,777
Regulatory commission expenses	<u>2,827</u>	<u>2,935</u>
Total operating expenses	<u>1,900,254</u>	<u>1,934,484</u>
Operating income before depreciation	775,172	236,703
Depreciation expense	<u>(479,708)</u>	<u>(322,201)</u>
OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)	295,464	(85,498)
Non-operating income (expenses)		
Interest income	52,300	11,288
Interest expense	(122,037)	(77,934)
Long-term debt service costs	(7,186)	(7,631)
Grant income	8,608	53,801
Gain on disposal of assets	<u>10,459</u>	<u>7,259</u>
INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE CAPITAL CONTRIBUTIONS	237,608	(98,715)
Capital Contributions		
Tap fees	50,750	48,255
Other	<u>6,490</u>	<u>21,786</u>
Change in net position	294,848	(28,674)
Net position, beginning of year	<u>8,865,418</u>	<u>8,894,092</u>
NET POSITION, END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 9,160,266</u>	<u>\$ 8,865,418</u>

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

EAST CASEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
for the years ended December 31,

	2023	2022
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Receipts from customers	\$ 2,661,596	\$ 2,117,777
Payment to suppliers	(1,454,107)	(1,391,524)
Payment for employee services and benefits	<u>(557,744)</u>	<u>(506,787)</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>649,745</u>	<u>219,466</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Principal payments	(184,778)	(179,293)
Interest payments	(120,623)	(78,277)
Long-term debt service costs	(7,186)	(7,631)
Additions to capital assets	(1,186,498)	(75,397)
Proceeds from issuance of debt	1,202,000	-
Proceeds from disposal of capital assets	10,459	7,259
Tap fees	50,750	48,255
Other capital contributions	6,490	21,786
Grants received	<u>62,409</u>	<u>-</u>
Net cash (used) by capital and related financing activities	<u>(166,977)</u>	<u>(263,298)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
(Purchase) redemption of certificates of deposit	(8,493)	(10,086)
Interest income	<u>45,925</u>	<u>11,288</u>
Net cash provided by investing activities	<u>37,432</u>	<u>1,202</u>
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	520,200	(42,630)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	<u>479,557</u>	<u>522,187</u>
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 999,757</u>	<u>\$ 479,557</u>
Reconciliation of operating income (loss) to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Operating income (loss)	\$ 295,464	\$ (85,498)
Noncash items included in operating income (loss):		
Depreciation	479,708	322,201
Changes in net pension liability	(55,420)	(19,219)
Changes in net OPEB liability	(35,400)	10,727
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
(Increase) decrease in receivables	(13,830)	(53,410)
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable	(28,626)	43,669
Increase (decrease) in customer deposits	(2,475)	925
Increase (decrease) in taxes/other payables	<u>10,324</u>	<u>71</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>\$ 649,745</u>	<u>\$ 219,466</u>
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:		
Components of cash on the Statement of Net Position		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 901,155	\$ 479,557
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	<u>98,602</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>\$ 999,757</u>	<u>\$ 479,557</u>
Non-cash capital and related financing information:		
Amortization on bond premium	<u>\$ 1,273</u>	<u>\$ 1,273</u>
Net change in construction payable	<u>\$ 89,725</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

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

EAST CASEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2023 and 2022

1. ORGANIZATION AND ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The East Casey County Water District (the District) was created and organized as a public body corporate in Casey County, Kentucky, pursuant to Chapter 74 of the Kentucky Revised Statutes, by the Casey County Fiscal Court to operate a water distribution system. The District is regulated by the Kentucky Public Service Commission.

The net position of the District is classified into three categories: net investment in capital assets, restricted and unrestricted. The restricted net position consists of reserves for depreciation costs relating to the construction, replacement, extension, additions and/or improvements to the system. These reserves are discussed in note 4.

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

For purposes of the statement of cash flows, the District defines cash and cash equivalents to include cash on hand, cash in bank and certificates of deposit with original maturities of 90 days or less.

The District records revenue as billed to its customers on monthly meter reading cycles. At the end of each year, water service which has been rendered from the latest date of each meter reading to the year end is unbilled.

The District reports all revenues and expenses as operating, except interest income, interest expense, amortization, capital contributions and gains and losses on sales of capital assets.

Capital assets are recorded at cost. Donated assets are valued at their fair market value on the date of donation. Depreciation has been provided using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets.

The allowance for uncollectible accounts at December 31, 2023 and 2022 was \$918,996 and \$909,278, respectively. The District charges all uncollected accounts directly against current earnings. Charges against earnings for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022 was \$9,718 and \$2,970, respectively.

Investments consist of certificates of deposit with original maturities of 90 days or longer. Investments are recorded at cost, which approximates fair value.

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 County Employees' Retirement System (CERS) and additions to/deductions from CERS' fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by CERS. For this purpose, benefit payments, including refunds of employee contributions, are recognized when due and payable in accordance with benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

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

EAST CASEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2023 and 2022

1. ORGANIZATION AND ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

In June 2017, the GASB issued Statement No. 87, *Leases* which establishes standards of accounting and financial reporting for leases by lessees and lessors. GASB Statement No. 87 requires recognition of certain lease assets and liabilities for leases that previously were classified as operating leases and establishes a single model for lease accounting based on the foundational principle that leases are financings of the right to use an underlying asset. In addition, GASB 87 requires the lessee to recognize a lease liability and an intangible right-to-use lease asset, and a lessor is required to recognize a lease receivable and a deferred inflow of resources. The District implemented GASB 87 during the year ending December 31, 2022. These changes were incorporated in the District's December 31, 2022, financial statements and had no effect on the net position of fund balances of the District.

Effective January 1, 2023, the District implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 96, *Subscription-based Information Technology Arrangements*. GASB Statement No. 96 requires recognition of a right-to-use subscription asset – an intangible asset – and a corresponding subscription liability for subscription-based information technology arrangements (SBITA) that were previously classified as operating expenses. It establishes uniform guidance for SBITA accounting based on the foundational principle that SBITA are financings of the right to use vendor-provided information technology assets. These changes had no effect on the financial statements.

The District has evaluated and considered the need to recognize or disclose subsequent events through March 25, 2024, which represents the date that these financial statements were available for issuance. Subsequent events past this date, as they pertain to the year ended December 31, 2023, have not been evaluated by the District.

2. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AND INVESTMENTS

KRS 66.480 authorizes the District to invest in the following, including but not limited to, obligations of the United States and of its agencies and instrumentalities, obligations and contracts for future delivery or purchase of obligations backed by the full faith and credit of the United States, obligations of any corporation of the United States government, bonds or certificates of indebtedness of this state, and certificates of deposit issued by or other interest-bearing accounts of any bank or savings and loan institution which have a physical presence in Kentucky and are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or which are collateralized, to the extent uninsured, by any obligation permitted by KRS 41.240(4). The Statute also authorizes investment in mutual funds, exchange traded funds, individual equity securities and high-quality corporate bonds that are managed by a professional investment manager and subject to additional requirements outlined in KRS 66.480. The District does not have a formal investment policy but follows Kentucky Revised Statutes for investing funds.

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the District will not be able to recover the value of the investment or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. In order to anticipate market changes and provide a level of security for all funds, the collateralization level shall be one hundred percent of the market value of the principal, plus accrued interest.

**EAST CASEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2023 and 2022**

2. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AND INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

The East Casey County Water District deposits at December 31, 2023 and 2022, were entirely covered by Federal Depository Insurance or by collateral held by the custodial banks in the District's name. The bank balances of the District's deposits were \$1,704,835 and \$1,168,621 at December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively. As of December 31, 2023 and 2022, \$598,602 and \$500,000, respectively, of the District's deposits were covered by Federal Depository Insurance, and \$667,749 and \$668,621, respectively, were covered by collateral held by the custodial banks in the District's name.

3. PROPERTY, PLANT, AND EQUIPMENT

The following is a summary of changes in capital assets for the District at December 31, 2023:

	Balance 12/31/2022	Additions	Deductions	Balance 12/31/2023
Capital assets not depreciated:				
Land	\$ 101,814	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 101,814
Construction in progress	<u>2,014</u>	<u>1,177,074</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,179,088</u>
Totals	<u>103,828</u>	<u>1,177,074</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,280,902</u>
Capital assets that are depreciated:				
Property, plant and equipment	<u>19,043,754</u>	<u>99,149</u>	<u>(7,359)</u>	<u>19,135,544</u>
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>7,928,086</u>	<u>479,708</u>	<u>(7,359)</u>	<u>8,400,435</u>
Totals	<u>11,115,668</u>	<u>(380,559)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,735,109</u>
Capital assets, net	<u>\$ 11,219,496</u>	<u>\$ 796,515</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 12,016,011</u>

The following is a summary of changes in capital assets for the District at December 31, 2022:

	Balance 12/31/2021	Additions	Deductions	Balance 12/31/2022
Capital assets not depreciated:				
Land	\$ 101,814	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 101,814
Construction in progress	<u>2,014</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,014</u>
Totals	<u>103,828</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>103,828</u>
Capital assets that are depreciated:				
Property, plant and equipment	<u>19,009,338</u>	<u>74,402</u>	<u>(39,986)</u>	<u>19,043,754</u>
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>7,645,871</u>	<u>322,201</u>	<u>(39,986)</u>	<u>7,928,086</u>
Totals	<u>11,363,467</u>	<u>(247,799)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,115,668</u>
Capital assets, net	<u>\$ 11,467,295</u>	<u>\$ (247,799)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 11,219,496</u>

**EAST CASEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2023 and 2022**

4. LONG-TERM DEBT

In December 2014, the Kentucky Bond Corporation issued Series 2014E Revenue Bonds for the District to refund all prior outstanding bonds. This issue contained a premium in the amount of \$30,552, which has been reported with bonds payable and is being amortized over the term of the debt. The new issue will reduce debt service payments by \$753,224 and has a net economic gain of \$149,472. This issue requires annual premium payments which began in February 2016. The bonds bear interest at an average rate of 3.63%.

The District has obtained a Federally Assisted Drinking Water Revolving Loan from the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority to fund the Various Waterline Extensions Project. The project was completed during 2016, and no draws have been made since. At project completion in 2016, final loan less forgiveness amounts totaled \$1,004,250. Loan repayments began during 2016. The loan has a stated interest rate of 1% to be repaid over 20 years.

In April 2023, the District obtained an interim financing loan through the Rural Water Financing Agency. The interim financing loan was obtained to finance the Systems Upgrade Project for the construction period between when the District was awarded a Rural Utilities Services (RUS) federal loan and the RUS bond closing date. The interim financing loan was issued for a principal amount of \$1,202,000 at an interest rate of 5.30% set to mature on April 1, 2025. The District's RUS Series 2023 Waterworks Revenue Bond was finalized on February 22, 2024. The bond issuance proceeds were used to pay off the interim financing loan. Final RUS Series 2023 Waterworks Revenue Bond was issued for a principal amount of \$1,202,000 at an interest rate of 1.375% set to mature January 2064.

The annual requirements to amortize all direct borrowings outstanding as of December 31, 2023, are as follows:

Year Ending	Principal	Interest	Fees	Payment
2024	\$ 184,412	\$ 75,224	\$ 6,727	\$ 266,363
2025	211,991	82,478	6,265	300,734
2026	217,991	77,477	5,791	301,259
2027	210,247	72,149	5,303	287,699
2028	214,507	66,916	4,836	286,259
2029-2033	1,015,950	254,663	17,218	1,287,831
2034-2038	807,155	128,189	6,850	942,194
2039-2043	150,256	54,224	59	204,539
2044-2048	151,500	43,825	-	195,325
2049-2053	162,500	33,052	-	195,552
2054-2058	173,500	21,482	-	194,982
2059-2063	185,000	9,178	-	194,178
2064	<u>40,000</u>	<u>275</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>40,275</u>
	<u>3,725,009</u>	<u>\$ 919,132</u>	<u>\$ 53,049</u>	<u>\$ 4,697,190</u>
Premium on refunding	<u>19,095</u>			
	<u>\$ 3,744,104</u>			

**EAST CASEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2023 and 2022**

4. LONG-TERM DEBT (CONTINUED)

The following is a summary of long-term liabilities for the year ended December 31, 2023:

	Interest Rate	Balance January 1, 2023	Issued	Payments	Balance December 31, 2023
Direct borrowings					
KY Bond Corporation	3.63%	\$ 2,030,834	\$ -	\$ 134,583	\$ 1,896,251
Premium on Refunding		20,368	-	1,273	19,095
Interim Financing Loan	5.30%	-	1,202,000	-	1,202,000
KIA Revolving Loan	1.00%	<u>675,680</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>48,922</u>	<u>626,758</u>
Total direct borrowings		2,726,882	1,202,000	184,778	3,744,104
Net pension liability		676,204	-	99,294	576,910
Net OPEB liability		<u>184,563</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>184,563</u>	<u>-</u>
Total long-term liabilities		<u>\$ 3,587,649</u>	<u>\$ 1,202,000</u>	<u>\$ 468,635</u>	<u>\$ 4,321,014</u>

For the year ended December 31, 2023 the net OPEB liability is now presented as a net OPEB asset on the Statement of Net Position.

The following is a summary of long-term liabilities for the year ended December 31, 2022:

	Interest Rate	Balance January 1, 2022	Issued	Payments	Balance December 31, 2022
Direct borrowings					
KY Bond Corporation	3.63%	\$ 2,160,417	\$ -	\$ 129,583	\$ 2,030,834
Premium on Refunding		21,641	-	1,273	20,368
KIA Revolving Loan	1.00%	<u>724,117</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>48,437</u>	<u>675,680</u>
Total direct borrowings		2,906,175	-	179,293	2,726,882
Net pension liability		627,506	48,698	-	676,204
Net OPEB liability		<u>188,382</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,819</u>	<u>184,563</u>
Total long-term liabilities		<u>\$ 3,722,063</u>	<u>\$ 48,698</u>	<u>\$ 183,112</u>	<u>\$ 3,587,649</u>

Depreciation Reserve - Per the assistance agreement with KIA, the District is required to maintain a depreciation reserve in the amount of \$38,630. The District met this requirement at December 31, 2023 and 2022.

Construction Reserve – The District has \$98,602 of restricted cash related to debt issued for ongoing construction projects.

**EAST CASEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2023 and 2022**

5. RETIREMENT PLAN

The East Casey County Water District is a participating employer of the County Employees' Retirement System (CERS). Under the provisions of Kentucky Revised Statute 61.645, the Board of Trustees of Kentucky Public Pensions Authority administers the CERS. The plan issues publicly available financial statements which may be downloaded from the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority's website.

Plan Description – CERS is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan that covers substantially all regular full-time members employed in positions of each participating county, city, and school board, and any additional eligible local agencies electing to participate in the System. The plan provides for retirement, disability, and death benefits to plan members. Retirement benefits may be extended to beneficiaries of plan members under certain circumstances. Cost-of-living adjustments (COLA) are provided at the discretion of state legislature.

Contributions – For the year ended December 31, 2023, plan members were required to contribute 5% of wages for non-hazardous job classifications. Employees hired after September 2008 are required to contribute an additional 1% to cover the cost of medical insurance that is provided through CERS. Participating employers are required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. Per Kentucky Revised Statute Section 78.545 (33), normal contribution and past service contribution rates shall be determined by the Board on the basis of an annual valuation last proceeding the July 1 of a new biennium. The Board may amend contribution rates as of the first day of July of the second year of a biennium, if it is determined on the basis of a subsequent actuarial valuation that amended contribution rates are necessary to satisfy requirements determined in accordance with actuarial basis adopted by the Board.

For the year ended December 31, 2023, participating employers contributed 26.79% through June 30th and 23.34% thereafter, of each non-hazardous employee's wages, which is equal to the actuarially determined rate set by the Board. The contributions are allocated to both the pension and insurance trust. The insurance trust is more fully described in Note 6. Plan members contributed 23.40% through June 30th and 23.34% thereafter to the pension trust for non-hazardous job classifications for the year ended December 31, 2023. Administrative costs of Kentucky Public Pensions Authority are financed through employer contributions and investment earnings.

Plan members who began participating on, or after, January 1, 2014, are required to contribute to the Cash Balance Plan. The Cash Balance Plan is known as a hybrid plan because it has characteristics of both a defined benefit plan and a defined contribution plan. Members in the plan contribute a set percentage of their salary each month to their own account. Plan members contribute 5% of wages to their own account and 1% to the health insurance fund. The employer contribution rate is set annually by the Board based on an actuarial valuation. The employer contributes a set percentage of each member's salary. Each month, when employer contributions are received, an employer pay credit is deposited to the member's account. For non-hazardous members, their account is credited with a 4% employer pay credit. The employer pay credit represents a portion of the employer contribution.

The District contributed \$69,096 for the year ended December 31, 2023, or 100% of the required contribution for non-hazardous job classifications. The District contributed \$57,205 for the year ended December 31, 2022, or 100% of the required contribution for non-hazardous job classifications.

**EAST CASEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2023 and 2022**

5. RETIREMENT PLAN (CONTINUED)

Benefits – CERS provides retirement, health insurance, death and disability benefits to Plan employees and beneficiaries. Employees are vested in the plan after five years' service.

For retirement purposes, employees are grouped into three tiers based on hire date:

Tier 1	Participation date	Before September 1, 2008
	Unreduced retirement	27 years service or 65 years old and 1 month of service
	Reduced retirement	At least 5 years service and 55 years old or 25 years service and any age
Tier 2	Participation date	September 1, 2008 - December 31, 2013
	Unreduced retirement	At least 5 years service and 65 years old or age 57+ and sum of service years plus age equal to 87+
	Reduced retirement	At least 10 years service and 60 years old
Tier 3	Participation date	After December 31, 2013
	Unreduced retirement	At least 5 years service and 65 years old or age 57+ and sum of service years plus age equal to 87+
	Reduced retirement	Not available

Cost of living adjustments are provided at the discretion of the General Assembly. Retirement is based on a factor of the number of years' service and hire date multiplied by the average of the highest five years' earnings. Reduced benefits are based on factors of both of these components. Participating employees become eligible to receive the health insurance benefit after at least 180 months of service. Death benefits are provided for both death after retirement and death prior to retirement. Death benefits after retirement are \$5,000 in lump sum. Five years' service is required for death benefits prior to retirement and the employee must have suffered a duty-related death. The decedent's beneficiary will receive the higher of the normal death benefit and \$10,000 plus 25% of the decedent's monthly final rate of pay and any dependent child will receive 10% of the decedent's monthly final rate of pay up to 40% for all dependent children. Five years' service is required for nonservice-related disability benefits.

Pension Liabilities, Expense, Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources – At December 31, 2023, the District reported a liability of \$576,910 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2023, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2022 and was rolled forward using generally accepted actuarial procedures. The District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on a projection of the District's long-term share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating entities, actuarially determined. At June 30, 2023, the District's proportion was .00899 percent, which was a decrease of .00036 percent from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2022.

**EAST CASEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2023 and 2022**

5. RETIREMENT PLAN (CONTINUED)

For the year ended December 31, 2023, the District recognized pension expense of \$13,673. For the year ended December 31, 2022, the District recognized pension expense of \$40,158. At December 31, 2023, the District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual results	\$ 29,865	\$ 1,568
Changes of assumptions	-	52,874
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on Plan investments	-	7,870
Changes in proportion and differences between District contributions and proportionate share of contributions	118	27,934
District contributions subsequent to the measurement date	36,748	-
Total	\$ 66,731	\$ 90,246

The \$36,748 of deferred outflows of resources resulting from the District's contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ending December 31, 2024. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources as of December 31, 2023 will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year ending December 31,	
2024	\$ (37,755)
2025	\$ (29,800)
2026	\$ 12,879
2027	\$ (5,587)

Actuarial Assumptions – The total pension liability in the June 30, 2023, actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.50%
Salary increases	3.30% to 10.30%, varies by service
Investment rate of return	6.50%, net of Plan investment expense, including inflation

The mortality table used for active members was a Pub-2010 General Mortality table, projected with the ultimate rates from the MP-2014 mortality improvement scale using a base year of 2010. The mortality table used for healthy retired members was a system-specific mortality table based on mortality experience from 2013-2022, projected with the ultimate rates from MP-2020 mortality improvement scale using a base year of 2023. The mortality table used for the disabled members was PUB-2010 Disabled Mortality table, with rates multiplied by 150% for both male and female rates, projected with the ultimate rates from the MP-2020 mortality improvement scale using a base year of 2010.

The actuarial assumption used in the June 30, 2023 valuation was based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2022. The total pension liability was rolled-forward from the valuation date (June 30, 2022) to the plan's fiscal year ending June 30, 2023.

**EAST CASEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2023 and 2022**

5. RETIREMENT PLAN (CONTINUED)

The long-term expected rate of return was determined by using a building-block method in which best estimate ranges of expected future real rate of returns are developed for each asset class. The ranges are combined by weighting the expected future real rate of return by the target asset allocation percentage. As of December 31, 2023, the target allocation and best estimates of nominal real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Equity	60.00%	
Public Equity	50.00%	5.90%
Private Equity	10.00%	11.73%
Fixed Income	20.00%	
Core Fixed Income	10.00%	2.45%
Specialty Credit	10.00%	3.65%
Cash	0.00%	1.39%
Inflation Protected	20.00%	
Real Estate	7.00%	4.99%
Real Return	13.00%	5.15%
Total	100.00%	5.75%
Long term inflation assumption		2.50%
Expected nominal return for portfolio		8.25%

Discount Rate – The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 6.50 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that local employers would contribute the actuarially determined contribution rate of projected compensation over the remaining closed 28-year amortization period of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability. The actuarial determined contribution rate is adjusted to reflect the phase in of anticipated gains on actuarial value of assets over the first four years of the projection period. The discount rate determination does not use a municipal bond rate.

Sensitivity of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate – The following presents the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 6.50 percent, as well as what the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (5.50 percent) or 1-percentage-point higher (7.50 percent) than the current rate:

	Discount rate	District's proportionate share of net pension liability
1% decrease	5.50%	\$ 728,382
Current discount rate	6.50%	\$ 576,910
1% increase	7.50%	\$ 451,028

Payable to the Pension Plan – At December 31, 2023 and 2022, the District reported a payable of \$7,020 and \$5,929, respectively, for the outstanding amount of contributions to the pension plan required for the years then ended, respectively. The payable includes both the pension and insurance contribution allocation.

**EAST CASEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2023 and 2022**

6. POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSIONS (OPEB)

Plan Description – As more fully described in Note 5, the District participates in the County Employees’ Retirement System (CERS). CERS is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan that covers substantially all regular full-time members employed in positions of each participating county, city, and school board, and any additional eligible local agencies electing to participate in the System. In addition to retirement benefits, the plan provides for health insurance benefits to plan members (other postemployment benefits or OPEB). OPEB benefits may be extended to beneficiaries of plan members under certain circumstances.

Contributions – As more fully described in Note 5, plan members contribute to CERS for non-hazardous job classifications. For the year ended December 31, 2023, the employer’s contribution was 3.39% through June 30th and 0.00% thereafter to the insurance trust for non-hazardous job classifications. Employees hired after September 1, 2008, are required to contribute an additional 1% to cover the cost of medical insurance that is provided through CERS. Participating employers are required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. Per Kentucky Revised Statute Section 78.545(33), normal contribution and past service contribution rates shall be determined by the Board on the basis of an annual valuation last proceeding the July 1 of a new biennium. The Board may amend contribution rates as of the first day of July of the second year of a biennium, if it is determined on the basis of a subsequent actuarial valuation that amended contribution rates are necessary to satisfy requirements determined in accordance with actuarial basis adopted by the Board. The contribution rates are equal to the actuarially determined rate set by the Board. Administrative costs of Kentucky Public Pensions Authority are financed through employer contributions and investment earnings.

For the year ended December 31, 2023, the District contributed \$4,686, or 100% of the required contribution for non-hazardous job classifications. For the year ended December 31, 2022, the District contributed \$9,375, or 100% of the required contribution for non-hazardous job classifications.

Benefits – CERS provides health insurance benefits to Plan employees and beneficiaries.

For retirement purposes, employees are grouped into three tiers based on hire date:

Tier 1	Participation date Insurance eligibility Benefit	Before July 1, 2003 10 years of service credit required Set percentage of single coverage health insurance based on service credit accrued at retirement
Tier 1	Participation date Insurance eligibility Benefit	Before September 1, 2008 but after July 1, 2003 10 years of service credit required Set dollar amount based on service credit accrued, increased annually
Tier 2	Participation date Insurance eligibility Benefit	After September 1, 2008 and before December 31, 2013 15 years of service credit required Set dollar amount based on service credit accrued, increased annually
Tier 3	Participation date Insurance eligibility Benefit	After December 31, 2013 15 years of service credit required Set dollar amount based on service credit accrued, increased annually

**EAST CASEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2023 and 2022**

6. POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSIONS (OPEB) (CONTINUED)

OPEB Liabilities, Expense, Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources – At December 31, 2023, the District reported an asset for its proportionate share of the net OPEB asset of \$12,412. The net OPEB asset was measured as of June 30, 2023, and the total OPEB asset used to calculate the net OPEB asset was determined by an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2022 and was rolled forward using generally accepted actuarial procedures. The District's proportion of the net OPEB asset was based on a projection of the District's long-term share of contributions to the OPEB plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating entities, actuarially determined. The District's proportionate share at June 30, 2023 was .00899 percent, which was a decrease of .00036 percent from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2022.

For the year ended December 31, 2023, the District recognized OPEB expense of \$(29,270). For the year ended December 31, 2022, the District recognized OPEB expense of \$24,383. At December 31, 2023, the District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual results	\$ 8,654	\$ 176,241
Changes of assumptions	24,426	17,023
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on Plan investments	-	2,881
Changes in proportion and differences between District contributions and proportionate share of contributions	629	14,088
District contributions subsequent to the measurement date	4,054	-
Total	\$ 37,763	\$ 210,233

The \$4,054 of deferred outflows of resources resulting from the District's contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability in the year ending December 31, 2024. This includes an adjustment of \$4,054 related to the implicit subsidy, which is required to be recognized as a deferred outflow of resources. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources will be recognized in expense as follows:

Year ending December 31,

2024	\$	(45,089)
2025	\$	(53,851)
2026	\$	(42,180)
2027	\$	(35,404)

**EAST CASEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2023 and 2022**

6. POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSIONS (OPEB) (CONTINUED)

Actuarial Assumptions – The total OPEB asset in the June 30, 2023, actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Non-hazardous

Inflation	2.50%
Salary increases	3.30 to 10.30%, varies by service
Investment rate or return	6.50%, net of Plan investment expense, including inflation
Healthcare Trend Rates	
Pre – 65	Initial trend starting at 6.80% at January 1, 2025, and gradually decreasing to an ultimate trend rate of 4.05% over a period of 13 years.
Post – 65	Initial trend starting at 8.50% at January 1, 2025, then gradually decreasing to an ultimate trend rate of 4.05% over a period of 13 years.

The mortality table used for active members was a Pub-2010 General Mortality table, projected with the ultimate rates from the MP-2020 mortality improvement scale using a base year of 2010. The mortality table used for healthy retired members was a system-specific mortality table based on mortality experience from 2013-2022, projected with the ultimate rates from MP-2020 mortality improvement scale using a base year of 2023. The mortality table used for the disabled members was PUB-2010 Disabled Mortality table, with rates multiplied by 150% for both male and female rates, projected with the ultimate rates from the MP-2020 mortality improvement scale using a base year of 2010.

The actuarial assumption used in the June 30, 2023 valuation was based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2022. The total OPEB liability was rolled-forward from the valuation date (June 30, 2022) to the plan's fiscal year ending June 30, 2023.

The long-term expected rate of return was determined by using a building-block method in which best estimate ranges of expected future real rate of returns are developed for each asset class. The ranges are combined by weighting the expected future real rate of return by the target asset allocation percentage.

**EAST CASEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2023 and 2022**

6. POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSIONS (OPEB) (CONTINUED)

The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rate of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Equity	60.00%	
Public Equity	50.00%	5.90%
Private Equity	10.00%	11.73%
Fixed Income	20.00%	
Core Fixed Income	10.00%	2.45%
Specialty Credit	10.00%	3.65%
Cash	0.00%	1.39%
Inflation Protected	20.00%	
Real Estate	7.00%	4.99%
Real Return	13.00%	5.15%
Total	100.00%	5.75%
Long term inflation assumption		2.50%
Expected nominal return for portfolio		8.25%

Discount Rate – The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB asset as of June 30, 2023 was 5.93% for non-hazardous classifications. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that local employers would contribute the actuarially determined contribution rate of projected compensation over the remaining 22-year amortization period of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability. As of June 30, 2023, the discount rate determination used an expected rate of return of 6.50%, and a municipal bond rate of 3.86%, as reported in Fidelity Index’s “20 –Year Municipal GO AA Index”. However, the cost associated with the implicit employer subsidy was not included in the calculation of the System’s actuarial determined contributions, and any cost associated with the implicit subsidy will not be paid out of the System’s trusts. Therefore, the municipal bond rate was applied to future expected benefit payments associated with the implicit subsidy.

Sensitivity of the District’s Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Asset to Changes in the Discount Rate – The following presents the District’s proportionate share of the net OPEB liability calculated using the discount rate as well as what the District’s proportionate share of the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower or 1-percentage-point higher than the current rate:

	Discount rate	Proportionate share of net OPEB liability (asset)
1% decrease	4.93%	\$ 23,293
Current discount rate	5.93%	\$ (12,412)
1% increase	6.93%	\$ (42,311)

**EAST CASEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2023 and 2022**

6. POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSIONS (OPEB) (CONTINUED)

Sensitivity of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Asset to Changes in the Healthcare Cost Trend Rate – The following presents the District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability calculated using healthcare cost trend rates that are 1-percentage-point lower or 1-percentage-point higher than the current healthcare cost trend rates:

		Proportionate share of net OPEB liability (asset)
1% decrease	\$	(39,783)
Current trend rate	\$	(12,412)
1% increase	\$	21,211

OPEB plan fiduciary net position – Detailed information about the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued financial report.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. In addition to its general liability insurance, the District also carries commercial insurance for all other risks of loss such as worker's compensation and employee health and accident coverage. Settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded commercial insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

8. SUBSEQUENT EVENT

On February 22, 2024, the District issued Waterworks Revenue Bonds, Series 2023 to fund the systems upgrade project that began in 2023. The Waterworks Revenue Bonds, Series 2023 were sold to USDA, Rural Development at a par value of \$1,202,000 with an interest rate of 1.375%. The District used the Waterworks Revenue Bonds, Series 2023 to pay off the interim financing loan.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**EAST CASEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY SCHEDULE OF
PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET PENSION LIABILITY
Last Ten Years**

Reporting Year End (Measurement Date)	December 31, 2014 (June 30, 2014)	December 31, 2015 (June 30, 2015)	December 31, 2016 (June 30, 2016)	December 31, 2017 (June 30, 2017)	December 31, 2018 (June 30, 2018)	December 31, 2019 (June 30, 2019)	December 31, 2020 (June 30, 2020)	December 31, 2021 (June 30, 2021)	December 31, 2022 (June 30, 2022)	December 31, 2023 (June 30, 2023)
District's proportion of the net pension liability	0.00977%	0.00971%	0.00963%	0.01012%	0.00991%	0.01012%	0.00980%	0.00984%	0.00935%	0.00899%
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset)	\$ 317,000	\$ 417,568	\$ 474,260	\$ 592,296	\$ 603,671	\$ 711,955	\$ 751,422	\$ 627,506	\$ 676,204	\$ 576,910
District's covered employee payroll	\$ 224,206	\$ 229,730	\$ 240,266	\$ 257,062	\$ 245,659	\$ 255,348	\$ 250,947	\$ 251,398	\$ 258,551	\$ 260,978
District's share of the net pension liability (asset) as a percentage of its covered employee payroll	141.39%	181.76%	197.39%	230.41%	245.74%	278.82%	299.43%	249.61%	261.54%	221.06%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	66.80%	59.97%	55.50%	53.32%	53.54%	50.45%	47.81%	57.33%	52.42%	57.48%

**EAST CASEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY
SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS - PENSION
Last Ten Calendar Years**

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Contractually required employer contribution	\$ 29,813	\$ 29,587	\$ 34,089	\$ 34,090	\$ 38,922	\$ 45,071	\$ 47,899	\$ 52,763	\$ 57,205	\$ 64,446
Contributions relative to contractually required employer contribution	<u>29,813</u>	<u>29,587</u>	<u>34,089</u>	<u>34,090</u>	<u>38,922</u>	<u>45,071</u>	<u>47,899</u>	<u>52,763</u>	<u>57,205</u>	<u>64,446</u>
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
District's covered employee payroll	\$ 224,349	\$ 236,962	\$ 257,403	\$ 239,758	\$ 253,314	\$ 253,713	\$ 248,183	\$ 260,445	\$ 247,777	\$ 295,685
Employer contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	13.29%	12.49%	13.24%	14.22%	15.37%	17.76%	19.30%	20.26%	23.09%	21.80%

**EAST CASEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY SCHEDULE OF
PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET OPEB LIABILITY / ASSET
Last Eight Years**

Reporting Year End (Measurement Date)	December 31, 2016 (June 30, 2016)	December 31, 2017 (June 30, 2017)	December 31, 2018 (June 30, 2018)	December 31, 2019 (June 30, 2019)	December 31, 2020 (June 30, 2020)	December 31, 2021 (June 30, 2021)	December 31, 2022 (June 30, 2022)	December 31, 2023 (June 30, 2023)
District's proportion of the net OPEB liability (asset)	0.01012%	0.01012%	0.00991%	0.01012%	0.00979%	0.00984%	0.00935%	0.00899%
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability (asset)	\$ 159,562	\$ 203,427	\$ 175,968	\$ 170,231	\$ 236,495	\$ 188,382	\$ 184,563	\$ (12,412)
District's covered employee payroll	\$ 240,266	\$ 257,062	\$ 245,659	\$ 255,348	\$ 250,947	\$ 251,398	\$ 258,551	\$ 260,978
District's share of the net OPEB liability (asset) as a percentage of its covered employee payroll	66.41%	79.14%	71.63%	66.67%	94.24%	74.93%	71.38%	-4.76%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability (asset)	unavailable	52.39%	57.62%	60.44%	51.67%	62.91%	60.95%	104.23%

Notes:

The above schedule will present 10 years of historical data, once available.

**EAST CASEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY
SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS - OPEB
Last Ten Calendar Years**

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Contractually required employer contribution	\$ 11,174	\$ 11,147	\$ 12,068	\$ 11,304	\$ 12,627	\$ 12,709	\$ 11,814	\$ 13,759	\$ 9,375	\$ 9,336
Contributions relative to contractually required employer contribution	<u>11,174</u>	<u>11,147</u>	<u>12,068</u>	<u>11,304</u>	<u>12,627</u>	<u>12,709</u>	<u>11,814</u>	<u>13,759</u>	<u>9,375</u>	<u>9,336</u>
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
District's covered employee payroll	\$ 224,349	\$ 236,962	\$ 257,403	\$ 239,758	\$ 253,314	\$ 253,713	\$ 248,183	\$ 260,445	\$ 247,777	\$ 295,685
Employer contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	4.98%	4.70%	4.69%	4.71%	4.98%	5.01%	4.76%	5.28%	3.78%	3.16%

EAST CASEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
December 31, 2023

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Contributions

Contractually required employer contributions reported on the Schedule of Contributions - Pensions exclude the portion of contributions paid to CERS but allocated to the insurance fund of the CERS. The insurance contributions are reported on the Schedule of Contributions - OPEB.

Payroll

The District's covered payroll reported on the Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability and the Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability / Asset is for the corresponding measurement date of the net liability and asset and differs from the District's calendar year payroll as reported on the Schedule of Contributions for Pension and OPEB.

2. CHANGES OF ASSUMPTIONS

December 31, 2023 – Pension and OPEB

The following change in assumptions was made by the Kentucky Legislature and reflected in the valuation performed as of June 30, 2023, for pension:

- The rate of inflation was increased from 2.30% to 2.50%.
- The salary productivity assumption was reduced by .20%, resulting in no change in the salary increase assumption for long-service employees of 3.30% in the non-hazardous funds.
- The individual rates of salary increases were increased during the select period for the CERS funds.
- The investment return assumption was increased from 6.25% to 6.50%.
- The Tier 3 cash balance interest crediting rate assumption was increased to 6.75% for the CERS pension funds.

The following change in assumptions was made by the Kentucky Legislature and reflected in the valuation performed as of June 30, 2023, for OPEB:

- The rate of inflation was increased from 2.30% to 2.50%.
- The salary productivity assumption was reduced by .20%, resulting in no change in the salary increase assumption for long-service employees of 3.30% in the non-hazardous funds.
- The individual rates of salary increases were increased during the select period for the CERS funds.
- The investment return assumption was increased from 6.25% to 6.50%.
- The initial healthcare trend rate for pre-65 was changed from 6.20% to 6.80%. The initial healthcare trend rate for post-65 was changed from 9.00% to 8.50%.

December 31, 2022 – Pension and OPEB

There were no changes in assumptions in the valuation of pension. The following change in assumptions was made by the Kentucky Legislature and reflected in the valuation performed as of June 30, 2022, for OPEB:

- The initial healthcare trend rate for pre-65 was changed from 6.30% to 6.20%. The initial healthcare trend rate for post-65 was changed from 6.30% to 9.00%.

**EAST CASEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
December 31, 2023**

2. CHANGES OF ASSUMPTIONS (CONTINUED)

December 31, 2021 – Pension and OPEB

There were no changes in assumptions in the valuation of pension. The following change in assumptions was made by the Kentucky Legislature and reflected in the valuation performed as of June 30, 2021, for OPEB:

- The initial healthcare trend rate for pre-65 was changed from 6.40% to 6.30%. The initial healthcare trend rate for post-65 was changed from 2.90% to 6.30%.

December 31, 2020 – Pension and OPEB

There were no changes in assumptions in the valuation of pension. The following change in assumptions was made by the Kentucky Legislature and reflected in the valuation performed as of June 30, 2020, for OPEB:

- The initial healthcare trend rate for pre-65 was changed from 7% to 6.40%. The initial healthcare trend rate for post-65 was changed from 5% to 2.90%.

December 31, 2019 – Pension and OPEB

The following changes in assumptions were made by the Kentucky Legislature and reflected in the valuation performed as of June 30, 2019, for both pension and OPEB:

- The assumed rate of salary increases was increased from 3.05% to 3.3% to 10.3% on average for non-hazardous and 3.05% to 3.55% to 19.05% on average for hazardous.

December 31, 2018 – Pension and OPEB

There were no changes in assumptions made by the Kentucky Legislature and reflected in the valuation performed as of June 30, 2018 for either pension or OPEB.

December 31, 2017 – Pension and OPEB

The following changes in assumptions were made by the Kentucky Legislature and reflected in the valuation performed as of June 30, 2017, for both pension and OPEB:

- The assumed rate of return was decreased from 7.5% to 6.25%.
- The assumed rate of inflation was reduced from 3.25% to 2.3%.
- Payroll growth assumption was reduced from 4% to 2%

December 31, 2016 – Pension and OPEB

There were no changes in assumptions made by the Kentucky Legislature and reflected in the valuation performed as of June 30, 2016 for either pension or OPEB.

EAST CASEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
December 31, 2023

2. CHANGES OF ASSUMPTIONS (CONTINUED)

December 31, 2015 – Pension

The following changes in assumptions were made by the Kentucky Legislature and reflected in the valuation performed as of June 30, 2015:

- The assumed rate of return was decreased from 7.75% to 7.5%.
- The assumed rate of inflation was reduced from 3.5% to 3.25%.
- The assumed rate of wage inflation was reduced from 1% to .75%.
- Payroll growth assumption was reduced from 4.5% to 4%.
- Mortality rates were based on the RP-2000 Combined Mortality Table projected with Scale BB to 2013 (multiplied by 50% for males and 30% for females).
- For healthy retired members and beneficiaries, the mortality table used is the RP-2000 Combined Mortality Table projected with Scale BB to 2013 (set back 1 year for females).
- For Disabled members, the RP-2000 Combined Disabled Mortality Table projected with Scale BB to 2013 (set back 4 years for males) is used for the period after disability retirement.
- The assumed rates of retirement, withdrawal, and disability were updated to reflect experience more accurately.

December 31, 2014 – Pension

There were no changes in assumptions made by the Kentucky Legislature and reflected in the valuation performed as of June 30, 2014.

December 31, 2013 – Pension

The following assumptions were made by the Kentucky Legislature and reflected in the initial valuation performed as of June 30, 2013:

- The assumed rate of return was 7.75%.
- The assumed rate of inflation was 3.5%.
- The assumed rate of wage inflation was 1%.
- Payroll growth assumption was 4.5%.
- Mortality rates were based on the 1983 Group Annuity Mortality Table for all retired members and beneficiaries as of June 30, 2006. The 1994 Group Annuity Mortality Table was used for all other members.



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

Board of Commissioners
East Casey County Water District
Liberty, Kentucky

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 East Casey County Water District (the District), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated March 25, 2024.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

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

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

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We identified certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as items 2023-001 and 2023-002 that we consider to be material weaknesses.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the District's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

East Casey County Water District's Response to Findings

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

Purpose of this Report

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

RFH

RFH, PLLC
Lexington, Kentucky
March 25, 2024



**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR
EACH MAJOR PROGRAM AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL
OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE**

Board of Commissioners
East Casey County Water District
Liberty, Kentucky

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We have audited East Casey County Water District'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 East Casey County Water District's major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2023. East Casey County Water District's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditors' results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

In our opinion, East Casey County Water District complied, in all material respects, with the 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, 2023.

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 Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of East Casey County Water District 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 East Casey County Water District'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 East Casey County Water District's federal programs.

Auditors' 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 East Casey County Water District'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 East Casey County Water District'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 East Casey County Water District'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 East Casey County Water District'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 East Casey County Water District'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

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditors' 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 and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. However, as discussed below, we did identify a certain deficiency in internal control over compliance that we consider to be a significant deficiency.

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. We consider the deficiency in internal control over compliance described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as items 2023-003 to be a significant deficiency.

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.

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on East Casey County Water District's response to the internal control over compliance findings identified in our compliance audit described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs. East Casey County Water District's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of compliance and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

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.

RFH

RFH, PLLC
Lexington, Kentucky
March 25, 2024

**EAST CASEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
for the year ended December 31, 2023**

Grantor / Program Title	Federal AL Number	Grantor Number	Grant Award Period	Expenditures
<u>U.S. Department of Agriculture:</u>				
Water and Waste Disposal Systems for Rural Communities	10.760	N/A	4/7/2023-4/1/2025	<u>\$ 1,133,997</u>
TOTAL FEDERAL AWARDS				<u>\$ 1,133,997</u>

The Organization did not pass through any funds to subrecipients.

Note 1 - Basis of Presentation

This schedule is presented on the accrual basis of accounting. 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). Therefore, some amounts presented in this schedule may differ from amounts presented in, or used in the preparation of the basic financial statements.

Note 2 - Indirect Cost Rates

The District did not elect to use the 10 percent de minimis cost rate as allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

Note 3 - Pass Through Funds

The District did not pass through any funds to subrecipients.

**EAST CASEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
for the year ended December 31, 2023**

I. SUMMARY OF AUDITORS' RESULTS

Financial Statements:

Type of auditor's report issued: Unmodified

Internal control over financial reporting:

Material weaknesses identified	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Significant deficiencies identified that are not considered to be material weaknesses	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None reported

Noncompliance material to financial statements noted	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
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Federal Awards:

Internal control over major programs:

Material weaknesses identified	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Significant deficiencies identified that are not considered to be material weaknesses	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> None reported

Type of auditors' report issued on compliance for major programs:

Unmodified for all major programs.

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
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Major Programs:

AL Number	Name of Federal Program or Cluster
10.760	Water and Waste Disposal Systems for Rural Communities

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between type A and type B programs:	\$ 750,000
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Auditee qualified as a low-risk auditee?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
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**EAST CASEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS, Continued
for the year ended December 31, 2023**

II. FINDINGS RELATED TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2023-001 – Internal Control Over Financial Reporting (Recurring) (Material)

Criteria:

The District is required to have internal controls in place that enable it to prepare complete financial statements, including note disclosures, in compliance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Condition:

Management engaged the auditor to prepare cash to accrual adjustments, including recording a new bank account and related interim loan financing, and draft financial statements, including the related notes to the financial statements. Management reviewed, approved and accepted responsibility for the adjustments and the financial statements prior to their issuance.

Cause:

The District lacks personnel with the expertise to prepare cash to accrual adjustments, record a new bank account and interim financing loan, and draft the financial statements, including related note disclosures, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Effect:

Management engaged the auditor to prepare cash to accrual adjustments, including recording a new bank account and related interim loan financing, and draft financial statements, including the related notes to the financial statements. Management reviewed, approved and accepted responsibility for the adjustments and the financial statements prior to their issuance.

Recommendation:

We recommend management review the costs and benefits involved to retain a consultant with the required expertise to prepare the financial statements on the accrual basis of accounting.

Response:

This is an ongoing finding. Management has determined that it is more cost effective to continue to engage the auditor to adjust the books to the accrual basis, record complex loan activity and to draft the financial statements and related notes. Management has reviewed and accepts responsibility for the adjustments and financial statements.

2023-002 – Customer Deposit and Cut-Off Policies (Recurring) (Material)

Criteria:

Internal controls within the District should ensure that policies and procedures are in place and consistently applied to reduce the amount of uncollectible charges and bad debt write-offs the District incurs.

Condition:

Historically the District has written off significant customer charges as uncollectible. In the current year the District accumulated approximately \$9,718 of customer charges that were deemed uncollectible.

Cause:

At the present time, the District refunds customer deposits annually, regardless of a customer's payment history. In addition, we noted that customer cut-offs are not consistently performed and are often performed after substantial accumulation of past due account as a result of the District being behind on performing shut-offs. Approvals for payment plans and decisions not to cut a customer off are also not adequately documented.

**EAST CASEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS, Continued
for the year ended December 31, 2023**

2023-002 – Customer Deposit and Cut-Off Policies (Recurring) (Material) (Continued)

Effect:

The District's deposit policy does not allow for sufficient deposits to remain on hand to cover bad debts. This leaves the District vulnerable to customers who do not pay. In addition, the inconsistent application of cut-off procedures and lack of appropriate approval and documentation of determinations not to cut a customer off means the District could often be providing water to customers who will never pay.

Recommendation:

We recommend that the District revise its customer deposit policy to provide itself with assurance of at least partial coverage of final billings, especially for customers who have a history of late or non-payment. While the District amended its cut-off policy, we recommend that the District enforce the cut-off policy. We recommend that when payment plans are established, as well as decisions not to disconnect a customer, it be approved by management and that the approval for these policy exceptions be properly documented.

Response:

The District agrees with your recommendation, representing the best case scenario and will attempt to follow your recommendation.

III. FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS

2023-003 – AL 10.760 Water and Waste Disposal Systems for Rural Communities – Procurement Policies (Significant Deficiency)

Criteria:

In accordance with Uniform Guidance, Section 200.318(a), and 200.319(c) a non-Federal entity must have written procurement procedures that conform to procurement methods identified in the Uniform Guidance at Section 200.320.

Condition:

The District has not adopted written policies as required by 200.318(a) and 200.319(c) that are consistent with the methods of procurement outlined in Section 200.320 of the Uniform Guidance.

Cause:

The District received federal funds as part of loan drawdowns for a construction project. The District typically does not receive federal funding and is unfamiliar with the written procurement requirements of the Uniform Guidance.

Effect:

The District did not have written procurement policies that complied with the procurement standards of Uniform Guidance. However, due to State threshold's for bidding and oversight requirements of the loan program, the District complied, in all material respects, with the procurement methods allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

Recommendation:

We recommend that the District document written procurement policies that comply with the Uniform Guidance and include in those policies the allowed methods of procurement under Section 200.320.

Response:

Management agrees with the finding and will prepare or have prepared a written procurement policy which complies with the requirements of Uniform Guidance.

EAST CASEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS, Continued
for the year ended December 31, 2023

IV. PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS

2022-001 - The District is required to have internal controls in place that enable it to prepare complete financial statements, including note disclosures, in compliance with generally accepted accounting principles. (Repeat)

2022-002 - Internal controls within the District should ensure that policies and procedures are in place and consistently applied to reduce the amount of uncollectible charges and bad debt write-offs the District incurs. (Repeat)