

NOWATA COUNTY EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

AUTHORITY

NOWATA, OKLAHOMA

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

# Nowata County Educational Facilities Authority Annual Financial Report As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2024

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# Nowata County Educational Facilities Authority Annual Financial Report As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2024

# **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Timmie Benson Chairman
Troy Fiddle Trustee
Paul Crupper Trustee
Kay Spurgeon Secretary
Rachel Marrs Treasurer



#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Governing Board Nowata County Educational Facilities

#### **OPINION**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Nowata County Educational Facilities a component unit of Nowata County, State of Oklahoma, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Authority'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 financial position of Nowata County Educational Facilities as of June 30, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position, and, where applicable, cash flows therefor for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### **BASIS FOR OPINIONS**

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* (*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 Mayes County Public Facilities Authority and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

#### RESPONSIBILITIES OF MANAGEMENT FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Nowata County Educational Facilities' ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

#### 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 opinion. 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 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, including omissions, 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, 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 Nowata County Educational Facilities' 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 Nowata County Educational Facilities' 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.

#### **Emphasis of Matter**

As discussed in Note I, the financial statements present only the Nowata County Educational Facilities Authority, and do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of the County of Nowata, State of Oklahoma, as of June 30, 2024, the changes in its financial position, or where applicable, its cash flows, for the year then ended, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

#### **Other Matters**

#### REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Management has omitted management's discussion and analysis that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not 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.

#### OTHER REPORTING REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report, dated March 29, 2025 on our consideration of the Authority'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 Authority'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*, on considering the Authority's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

OBER & LITTLEFIELD, CPAS, PLLC MIAMI,

A Sittlefield, PLLC

OKLAHOMA MARCH 29, 2025



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

To the Board of Trustees Nowata County Educational Facilities Authority

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 enterprise fund of the Nowata County Educational Facilities Authority, a component unit of the county of Nowata, Oklahoma, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Nowata County Educational Facilities Authority's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated March 19, 2025.

### **Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

In planning, and performing, our audit, we considered the Authority's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures, for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control over financial reporting.

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. Material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

#### **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Nowata County Educational Facilities Authority'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*.



#### **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.

Very truly yours,

OBER & LITTLEFIELD, CPAS, PLLC

Obert Littlefield, PLLC

MIAMI, OKLAHOMA

March 29, 2025

ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalents, Restricted	\$ 14,168.81
Deposits with Third Party	31,017.50
Rent Receivable	1,000.00
Accrued Interest Receivable	26,412.60
Lease Purchase Receivable, current portion	835,000.00
Total Current Assets	907,598.91
Noncurrent Assets	
Lease Purchase Receivable, net of current portion	850,000.00
Construction in Progress	9,100,352.57
Total Noncurrent Assets	9,950,352.57
Total Assets	10,857,951.48
LIABILITIES Current Liabilities	
Accrued Interest Payable	24,601.00
Bonds Payable, current portion	835,000.00
Total Current Liabilities	859,601.00
Long Term Liabilities	•
Bonds Payable, net of current portion	850,000.00
Total Liabilities	1,709,601.00
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES Deferred Lease Purchase	8,730,000.00
NET POSITION	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	7,415,352.57
Restricted	(6,997,002.09)
Total Net Position	\$ 418,350.48
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# Nowata County Educational Facilities Authority Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Net position For Year ended June 30, 2024

Operating Revenues	
Rental Income	\$ 3,000.00
Total Operating Revenues	3,000.00
Operating Expenses	
Trustee Expense	 4,500.00
Total Operating Expenses	4,500.00
Net Income (Loss) From Operations	 (1,500.00)
Non Operating Revenue (Expense)	
Investment Earnings	2,206.42
Subsidy From Federal Government	82,849.56
Interest Expense	 (79,789.00)
Total Non-Operating Revenue (Expense)	5,266.98
Net Income (Loss)	3,766.98
Net Position, Beginning of Year	 414,583.50
Net Position, End of Year	\$ 418,350.48

Cash Flows from Operating Activities		
Cash Inflows:		
Payments Received from Customers	\$	3,000.00
Cash Outflows:		
Trustee Fees		(4,500.00)
Net Cash Provided (Used) by Operating Activities		(1,500.00)
Cash Flows from Capital and Related Financing Activities		
Proceeds from Lease Purchase		820,000.00
Debt Service on Bonds Payable, Principal		(820,000.00)
Debt Service on Bonds Payable, Interest		(91,761.00)
Net Cash Provided (Used) by Capital and Related Financing Activites		(91,761.00)
Cash Flows from Investing Activities		
Subsidy Received From Federal Government		95,694.33
Cash Flow from Investing Activities		2,206.42
Net Cash Provided by Investing Activities		97,900.75
Net Cash Inflow (Outflow) from All Activities		4,639.75
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Year		40,546.56
Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Year	\$	45,186.31
Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Year		45,186.31
Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Year	\$	45,186.31
Proceedings of Occupation Leaves (Leave) to Not C. I		
Reconciliation of Operating Income (Loss) to Net Cash		
Provided by Operating Activities	¢.	(1.500.00)
Net Operating Income (Loss)	\$	(1,500.00)
Net Cash Provided (Used) by Operating Activities	\$	(1,500.00)

The following notes to the financial statements are an integral part of Nowata County Educational Facilities Authority's financial statements.

The following notes to the financial statements are an integral part of Nowata County Educational Facilities Authority's financial statements.

#### I. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Nowata County Educational Facilities Authority, Nowata County, Oklahoma (the Authority) was established as a Trust for the use and benefit of the Beneficiary for the public purposes hereinafter set forth, under the provisions of Title 60, Oklahoma Statues. However, the Board is not included in any other governmental "reporting entity" as defined in Section 2100, codification of Governmental Accounting and Financial Reporting Standards, since Board members are elected by the public and have decision making authority. The Trust is to assist the Beneficiary in making the most efficient use of all their economic resources and powers to lessen the burden on government and to stimulate educational growth and development; promote the educational wellbeing of the Beneficiary by improving available resources, increasing meaningful job opportunities, promoting entrepreneurism and capital investment. The Trust is to conduct all business related to providing the necessary educational facilities and/or services; to plan, establish, develop, construct, finance, enlarge, remodel, acquire, improve, make alternations, extend, maintain, equip, operate, lease, furnish and regulate any facilities related to any of the foregoing, and if desired, to lease such facilities and to operate the same in connection therewith, and to do, perform, own, acquire, construct or engage in or finance any other enterprise or activity, project or facility to such extent and in such manner as now is or may be considered a proper and lawful function of public trust entities within the State of Oklahoma. The Authority began operation on April 2, 2012. The Authority is exempt from federal and state income taxes.

On May 1, 2012, the Board of Trustees of the Authority approved the Nowata County Educational Facilities Authority Educational Facilities Lease Revenue Bonds, Series 2012 A and B between the Authority and Bank of Oklahoma (the Trustee), providing for the issuance of Revenue Bonds in the aggregate principal amount of \$8,730,000, less a bond discount of \$87,300.

The accounting policies of the Authority conform to generally accepted accounting principles applicable to governmental units. The Authority complies with generally accepted accounting principles and applies all relevant Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements. In addition, the Authority applies Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) pronouncements and Accounting Principles Board opinions issued on or before November 30, 1989, unless those pronouncements conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements, in which case, GASB prevails. The Authority has elected not to follow FASB pronouncements issued since that date.

#### A. Financial Reporting Entity

The Authority complies with GASB Statement No. 14, "The Financial Reporting Entity." This statement establishes standards for defining and reporting on the financial reporting entity. It defines component units as legally separate organizations for which the elected officials of the primary government are financially accountable and other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with a primary government are such that exclusion would cause the reporting entity's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete.

The Authority considered all potential component units in determining what organizations should be included in the financial statements. Based on these criteria, there are no component units to include in the Authority's financial statements. These financial statements represent only the activities of the Authority. The Authority is a component unit of Nowata County.

### I. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

#### **B.** Basis of Presentation

The Authority's fund is an enterprise fund. Enterprise funds are proprietary funds used to account for business-like activities provided to the general public. These activities are financed primarily by user charges and the measurement of financial activity focuses on net income measurement similar to the private sector.

# C. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) promulgated in the United States of America. The accounting and financial reporting treatment is accounted for on a flow of economic resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, all assets and liabilities associated with the operation are included on the statement of net position. The operating statements present increases (e.g., revenues) and decreases (e.g., expenses) in net total assets.

Financial activity is accounted for on the flow of economic resources measurement focus using the accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred. The district complies with generally accepted accounting principles and applies all relevant Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements.

In addition, the district applies Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) pronouncements and Accounting Principles Board opinions issued on or before November 30, 1989, unless those pronouncements conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements, in which case, GASB prevails. The district has elected not to follow FASB pronouncements issued since that date.

Measurement focus is a term used to describe *which* transactions are recorded within the various financial statements. Basis of accounting refers to *when* transactions are recorded regardless of the measurement focus applied.

The proprietary funds utilize an "economic resources" measurement focus. The accounting objectives of this measurement focus are the determination of operating income, changes in net position (or cost recovery), financial position and cash flows. All assets and liabilities (whether current or noncurrent) associated with their activities are reported. Proprietary fund equity is classified as net position.

All proprietary funds utilize the accrual basis of accounting. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recorded when the liability is incurred, or economic asset used.

Proprietary funds distinguish *operating* revenues and expenses from *nonoperating* items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services in connection with a proprietary fund's principal ongoing operations. The principal operating revenues of the Authority's enterprise fund is rental income from the Nowata Public Schools. Operating expenses for enterprise funds include the cost of issuing the bonds and trustee fees. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as nonoperating revenues and expenses.

# I. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

#### D. Assets, Liabilities, Net Position and Revenues

#### 1. Cash and Cash Equivalents

For purposes of the statement of cash flows, the Trust considers all cash on hand, demand deposits, and highly liquid investments, with an original maturity of three months or less, to be cash and cash equivalents.

#### 2. Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The Authority's financial statements include cash and investments. The Authority's estimates of the fair value of all financial instruments do not differ materially from the aggregate carrying values of its financial instruments recorded in the accompanying balance sheet. The carrying amount of these financial instruments approximates fair value because of the short maturity of these instruments.

#### 3. Rent Receivable

The Authority receives semi-annual rent payments from Nowata Public Schools in the amount of \$1,500 on September 1 and March 1.

#### 4. Accrued Interest Receivable

The Authority receives Federal Direct Payments that subsidize the interest on the Qualified School Construction Bond (Bond Series A). These payments are made when bond interest payments are due. The Federal Direct Payments received in the current year were insufficient to meet the bond interest payments as they came due. Because of this the Nowata Public Schools paid \$7,252.62 to make scheduled interest payments. A portion of the lease payments received from Nowata Public Schools is interest. Lease payments are due on September 1.

#### 5. Accrued Interest Payable

Interest payments on the 2012 Series Bonds are due semi-annually on March 1 and September 1 each year until maturity. Interest payable is accrued from March 1 through June 30 on all bonds.

#### 6. Capital Assets

The construction project was completed in fiscal year 2013-2014. At that time Construction in Progress became Improvement to Facilities; the "Capital Lease Asset" will remain on the Authority's books until the Lease obligation is fulfilled. The Authority has no depreciable assets.

# 7. Long-Term Obligations

Bond Series A is reported as a long-term liability on the Authority's balance sheet.

# I. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

# D. Assets, Liabilities, Net Position and Revenues (continued)

#### 8. Deferred Revenue

The Authority entered into a lease agreement with Nowata Public Schools. There is a gain on the sale of the asset, but the gain will not be recognized until the lease obligation is fulfilled and title to the improvements is transferred to the school.

#### 9. Equity Classifications

Equity is classified as net position and displayed in three components:

- A. *Invested in capital assets, net of related debt* --- Consists of capital assets including restricted capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by the outstanding balances of any mortgages, notes, or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets.
- B. Restricted net position --- Consists of net assets with constraints placed on the use either by (1) external groups such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or (2) law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- C. *Unrestricted net position* --- All other net assets that do not meet the definition of "restricted" or "invested in capital assets, net of related debt."

#### 10. Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. 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 reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

# II. Detailed Notes Concerning the Funds

#### A. Cash

<u>Custodial Credit Risk – Deposits</u>. Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the Authority's deposits may not be returned to it. The Authority's cash deposits are maintained in financial institutions. As of June 30, 2024, none of the Authority's deposits were exposed to custodial credit risk.

<u>Interest rate risk</u>: This is the risk that changes in market interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. Generally, the longer the maturity of an investment, the greater the sensitivity of its fair value to changes in market interest rates. The Authority 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.

# II. Detailed Notes Concerning the Funds (continued)

# B. Capital Assets

Capital asset activity for the year was as follows:

	Balance			
	June 30, 2023	Additions	Disposals	June 30, 2024
Nowata Schools	\$ 9,100,352.57	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,100,352.57

# C. Long-Term Debt

The Authority issued bonds in the amount of \$8,730,000.00 on May 1, 2012. Interest on the bonds is payable March 1<sup>st</sup> and September 1<sup>st</sup> at varying rates. The Authority had a total of (11) principal payments, beginning September 1, 2014. Remaining debt service requirements for the 2012 Series Bonds are as follows:

Year Ended June 30,	Principal	Interest	Total Requirements
2025	835,000.00	55,516.50	890,516.50
2026	850,000.00	18,615.00	868,615.00
	\$ 1,685,000.00	\$ 74,131.50	\$ 1,759,131.50

#### **Changes in Long-Term Debt**

Long-term debt consists of bonds payable capital lease obligations. The following is a summary of the changes in long-term debt of the Authority for the fiscal year.

	Balance			Balance	Due within
	June 30, 2023	 Proceeds	 Payments	June 30, 2024	 One Year
Bonds Payable	\$ 2,505,000.00	\$ 	\$ 820,000.00	\$ 1,685,000.00	\$ 835,000.00

# D. Lease Purchase Agreement (Sub Lease)

The Authority has an agreement with the Nowata Public Schools to pay the cost of constructing a new gymnasium, an addition to the middle school, and improvements to the elementary and middle school. Future minimum rental commitments for operating leases as of June 30, 2024, are as follows:

Year Ended June 30,	Rent
2025	3,000.00
2026	1,500.00
Total	\$ 4,500.00

Rent is due in equal semi-annual installments on the 1st of September and March, ending September 1, 2025.

#### II. Detailed Notes Concerning the Funds (continued)

#### E. Capital Lease Agreement (Ground Lease)

The Authority has entered into an agreement to lease the improvement and additions to school facilities. Such agreements are, in substance, purchase (capital leases) and are reported as capital lease obligations.

The following schedule presents future minimum lease payments as of June 30, 2024:

Year Ended June 30,	Total Requires	nents
2025	834,0	76.08
2026	850,0	05.76
Total	\$ 1,684,0	81.84

The Authority leases the facility improvements to the Nowata Public Schools at an interest rate of 0.127%. The terms of this lease commenced on May 1, 2012, and extends to September 1, 2025 under the terms of the indenture and so long thereafter as long as any Bond shall remain outstanding and unpaid. Upon fulfilling the lease obligation, the Authority agrees to execute and deliver to the Nowata Public Schools a deed or bill of sale, as appropriate, to convey legal title to improved facilities.

#### F. QSCB Federal Direct Payments

The Authority receives Federal Direct Payments that subsidize the interest on the Qualified School Construction Bond (QSCB). The payments are received when the bond interest payments are due. The following schedule presents future expected Federal Direct Payments as of June 30, 2024:

	Q	SCB Federal
Year Ended June 30,	Dir	ect Payments
2025		55,516.50
2026		18,615.00
Total	\$	74,131.50
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If the amount of Federal Direct Payments received in any period is less than the amount of interest due, the Nowata Public Schools will pay the difference required to make the full interest payment.

#### III. Other Information

#### A. Economic Dependence

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, the Authority reported lease revenues of \$802,296 pursuant to its lease agreement with the Nowata Public Schools, Nowata, Oklahoma. This amount represents 100% of the Authority's total non-operating revenues.

# **B.** Subsequent Events

Management has evaluated subsequent events through the date of this report, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued and have determined that no additional information needs to be added to the financial statements.