# SPERRY UTILITY SERVICES AUTHORITY

(A Component Unit of the Town of Sperry, Oklahoma)

Sperry, Oklahoma

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS & INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT

For the Year Ended June 30, 2023

# SPERRY UTILITY SERVICES AUTHORITY (A Component Unit of the Town of Sperry) SPERRY, OKLAHOMA

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## MICHAEL W. GREEN

## Certified Public Accountant

827 W. Locust Street STILWELL, OK. 74960 (918) 696-6298

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Trustees Sperry Utility Services Authority Sperry, Oklahoma

#### **Opinion**

I have audited the accompanying modified cash basis financial statements of the Sperry Utility Services Authority (the Authority), a component unit of the Town of Sperry, Oklahoma, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, as listed in the table of contents.

In my opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective modified cash basis financial position of the Authority, as of June 30, 2023, and the changes in its modified cash basis financial position and cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting described in Note C.

#### **Basis for Opinion**

I conducted my 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. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of my report. I am required to be independent of the Authority, and to meet my other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to my audit. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

#### **Emphasis of Matters**

I draw attention to Note C of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared on the modified cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. My opinions are not modified with respect to this matter.

Also, discussed in Note C, the financial statements present only the Sperry Utility Services Authority and do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of the Town of Sperry, Oklahoma, as of June 30, 2023, the changes in its financial position, or, where applicable, its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting. My opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

#### Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting described in Note C and for determining that the modified cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible 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 Authority's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

My 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 my 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 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, I:

- 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 Authority'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 my judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Authority's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

I am 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 I identified during the audit.

#### Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, I have also issued my report dated February 5, 2024, on my consideration of the Authority's internal control over financial reporting and on my 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 my 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* in considering Authority's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Regards

Michael Green, CPA February 5, 2024

#### SPERRY UTILITY SERVICES AUTHORITY

# (A Component Unit of the Town of Sperry) STATEMENT OF NET POSITION PROPRIETARY FUND JUNE 30, 2023

	Sperry Utility Services Authority Enterprise
Assets	Fund
Current assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 361,193
Investments	114,060
Due from Town	2,545
Total current assets	477,798
Noncurrent assets	
Capital assets:	
Building & land	148,866
Equipment	82,753
Automotive equipment	200,436
Furniture & fixtures	5,791
Gas and water treatment & distribution system	2,507,601
Less accumulated depreciation	(2,284,997)
Total noncurrent assets	660,450
Total assets	1,138,248
Liabilities	
Current liabilities	
Due to Town	363
Current portion of long-term debt	14,577
Total current liabilities	14,940
Noncurrent liabilities	
Refundable deposits	116,487
Notes payable	94,935
Total noncurrent liabilities	211,422
Total liabilities	226,362
Net position	
Net investment in capital assets	550,938
Restricted for debt service	7,694
Unrestricted	353,254
Total net position	\$ 911,886

#### SPERRY UTILITY SERVICES AUTHORITY

#### (A Component Unit of the Town of Sperry)

### STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES

#### IN NET POSITION PROPRIETARY FUND

# YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	Sperry Utility Services Authority Enterprise Fund
Operating revenue	
Charges for services:	
Gas	\$ 458,245
Water	485,311
Sewer	200,240
Trash	132,202
Penalties	13,356
Tap fees	16,650
Other	9,491
Total operating revenue	1,315,495
Operating expenses:	
Gas purchases	205,662
Water purchases	195,719
Trash services	91,060
Sewer services	66,541
Misc Expenses	18,350
Salaries	241,869
Payroll taxes	54,136
Repairs and maintenance	140,495
Contract labor	22,080
Auto expense	9,933
Utilities	18,246
Telephone	14,505
Office expense	18,116
Legal and accounting	10,775
Insurance	37,173
Engineering, licenses and fees	-
Depreciation	65,535
Total operating expenses	1,210,195
Net operating income (loss)	105,300
Nonoperating revenue (expense)	
Investment income	
Interest expense	(4,050)
Total nonoperating revenue (expense)	(4,050)
Net income (loss) before transfers	101,250
Operating transfers: In	26,005
Operating transfers: Out	(45,000)
Total Transfers	(18,995)
Net change in net position	82,255
Net position beginning of year	829,631
Net position end of year	\$ 911,886

The accompanying notes and auditor's report are an integral part of these financial statements.

# SPERRY UTILITY SERVICES AUTHORITY

# (A Component Unit of the Town of Sperry) STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS PROPRIETARY FUND YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

		Sperry Lity Services Authority Enterprise Fund
Cash flows from operating activities		
Receipts from customers	\$	1,318,992
Payments to suppliers		(848,636)
Payments to employees		(296,005)
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities		174,351
Cash flows from capital and related financing activities		
Purchase of capital assets		(56,070)
Principal paid on capital debt		(14,082)
Interest paid on capital debt		(4,050)
Net cash provided (used) by capital and related		
financing activities		(74,202)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Transfers (net)		(18,995)
Interest income		(10,550)
Net cash provided (used) by investing activities		(18,995)
The cash provided (asea) by investing activities		(10,775)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		81,154
Cash balance beginning of year		280,039
Cash balance end of year	\$	361,193
	<del></del>	
Reconciliation of operating income (loss) to net cash provided (used) by operating activities Operating income (loss) Adjustments to reconcile operating income to net cash provided (used) by operating activities:	\$	105,300
Cash flows reported in other categories:  Depreciation expense Change in assets and liabilities:		65,535
Refundable deposits Net cash provided by operating activities	\$	3,516 174,351

### SPERRY UTILITY SERVICES AUTHORITY (A Component Unit of the Town of Sperry) NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended June 30, 2023

#### NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

As discussed in Note C., the Sperry Utility Services Authority (the "Authority") are presented on a modified cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) established by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). These modified cash basis financial statements generally meet the presentation and disclosure requirements applicable to GAAP, in substance, but are limited to the elements presented in the financial statements and the constraints of the measurement and recognition criteria of the modified cash basis of accounting.

#### A. FINANCIAL REPORTING ENTITY

The Authority is a public trust created under a trust indenture dated October 12, 1970, for the use and benefit of the Town of Sperry, Oklahoma, under authority of and pursuant to the provisions of Title 60, Oklahoma Statutes 2003, Sections 176 to 180.3, inclusive as amended and supplemented, the Oklahoma Trust Act and other applicable statutes of the State of Oklahoma (collectively, the "Acts").

The purpose of the trust is to institute, furnish, provide, distribute, and supply gaseous fuels, water, trash pickup services, garbage pickup services, and sewage treating and disposal services for the area of and around the Town of Sperry, Oklahoma. The trustees of the Authority include the five members of the Town Board and two Trustees appointed by the Town Board. The Town of Sperry is the beneficiary of the Trust.

The Authority is exempt from federal and state income taxes.

The Sperry Utility Services Authority is considered a component unit and major enterprise fund of the Town of Sperry, Oklahoma. In evaluating how to define the Authority, for financial reporting purposes, management has considered all potential component units. The decision to include a potential component unit in the reporting entity was made by applying the criteria established by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). The basic (but not the only) criterion for including a potential component unit within the reporting entity is the governing body's ability to exercise oversight responsibility. The most significant manifestation of this ability is financial interdependency. Other manifestations of the ability to exercise oversight responsibility included, but are not limited to, the selection of governing authority, the designation of management, the ability to significantly influence operations, and accountability for fiscal matters. A second criterion used in evaluating potential component units is the scope of public service. Application of this criterion involves considering whether the activity benefits the Authority and/or its citizens, or whether the activity is conducted within the geographic boundaries of the Authority and is generally available to its patrons. A third criterion used to evaluate potential component units for inclusion or exclusion from the reporting entity is the existence of special financial relationships, regardless of whether the Authority is able to exercise oversight responsibilities.

Based upon the application of these criteria, there are no potential component units included in the Authority's reporting entity. However, the Sperry Utility Services Authority is considered a component unit and major enterprise fund of the Town of Sperry.

#### **B. FUNDS**

During fiscal year 2021 the Authority began billing and collecting fees for ambulance services on behalf of the County Corner Fire Department. The Authority evaluated its fiduciary responsibility as prescribed by GASB Statement No. 84 and found this activity meets the requirement for a Fiduciary Fund. However, the exception allowed in GASB Statement No. 84 paragraph 19 applies to these financial statements since the funds are not held for more than 90 days, therefore a separate Fiduciary Fund is not required.

#### C. BASIS OF PRESENTATION

In fiscal year 2022 the Authority changed its policy to prepare its financial statements on the modified cash basis of accounting. The modified cash basis of accounting is based on the recording of cash and cash equivalents and changes therein, and only recognizes revenues, expenses, assets, and liabilities resulting from cash transactions adjusted for certain modifications that have substantial support in generally accepted accounting principles. The Authority has chosen to include adjustments for the following balances arising from cash transactions:

- capital assets and the depreciation of those assets, where applicable
- long-term debt
- cash-based interfund receivables and payables
- other cash-based receivables/payables
- investments
- utility deposit liabilities

As a result of the use of this modified cash basis of accounting, certain assets, and their related revenues (such as accounts receivable and revenue for billed or provided services not yet collected, and accrued revenue and receivables) and certain liabilities and their related expenses (such as accounts payable and expenses for goods or services received but not yet paid, and accrued expenses and liabilities) are not recorded in these financial statements.

As a result of the Authority's use of the modified cash basis of accounting, accrued liabilities related to compensated absences (vacation and sick leave) and compensatory time earned but unpaid at year-end, and any employer-related costs earned and unpaid, are not reflected in the financial statements as liabilities, but are normally reported as a commitment disclosure.

#### D. FIXED ASSETS

All fixed assets are recorded at their original acquisition cost. Depreciation is provided in the financial statements utilizing the following estimated useful lives:

	Years
Buildings & Improvements	20
Gas and Water Plant & Systems	5-24
Furniture and Fixtures	10
Equipment	5-10
Automotive	5-10

A summary of the fixed asset accounts for the year ended June 30, 2023, is as follows:

	Balance			Balance
	6/30/2022	Additions	Deletions	6/30/2023
Business-type activities:				
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Land	\$ 89,531	_	_	\$ 89,531
Total capital assets not being depreciated	89,531	-		89,531
Other capital assets:				
Building & Improvements	59,335	-	_	59,335
Equipment	82,753	_	_	82,753
Automotive	186,186	14,250	_	200,436
Furniture & Fixtures	5,791	-	-	5,791
Gas & Water Treatment	2,465,781	41,820	-	2,507,601
Total other capital assets at historical cost	2,799,846	56,070	-	2,855,916
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Total accumulated depreciation	(2,219,462)	(65,535)	_	(2,284,997)
Other capital assets, net	580,384	(9,465)	_	570,919
Business-type activities capital assets, net	\$ 669,915	(9,465)		\$ 660,450

#### E. DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

Custodial Credit Risk - Custodial credit risk related to deposits exists when the Authority holds deposits that are uninsured and uncollateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution, or by its trust department or agent but not in the Authority's name or collateralized without a written or approved collateral agreement. Exposure to custodial credit risk related to investments exists when the Authority holds investments that are uninsured and unregistered, with securities held by the counterparty or by its trust department or agent but not in the Authority's name.

*Investment Credit Risk* - The Authority has no investment policy that limits its investments choices other than the limitation of state law as follows:

- a) Direct obligations of the U.S. Government, its agencies, or instrumentalities to which the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government is pledged, or obligations to the payment of which the full faith and credit of the State is pledged.
- b) Certificates of deposit or savings accounts that are either insured or secured with acceptable collateral with in-state financial institutions, and fully insured certificates of deposit or savings accounts in out-of-state financial institutions.
- c) With certain limitations, negotiable certificates of deposit, prime bankers acceptances, prime commercial paper, and repurchase agreements with certain limitations.
- d) County, municipal, or school district tax-supported debt obligation, bond or revenue anticipation notes, money judgments, or bond or revenue anticipation notes of public trusts whose beneficiary is a county, a municipality, or school district.
- e) Notes or bonds secured by mortgage or trust deed insured by the Federal Housing Administrator and debentures issued by the Federal Housing Administrator, and in obligations of the National Mortgage Association.
- f) Money market funds regulated by the Securities and Exchange Commission and in which investments consist of the investments mentioned in the previous paragraphs a, b, c, d, and e.
  - *Investment Interest Rate Risk* 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.
  - Concentration of Credit Risk The Authority places no limit on the amount it may invest in any one issuer. Since the Authority has all investments in certificates of deposit, there is no concentration of investment credit risk exposure. The deposits and investments held on June 30, 2023, are as follows:

Deposits and Investments at June 30, 2023:	Maturity	Credit	N	<b>l</b> arket	
Asset Classification:	(Months)	Rating		Value	Cost
Cash	N/A	N/A	\$	361,193	\$ 361,193
Investments:					
Certificates of Deposit	12	N/A		114,060	114,060
Total Deposits and Investmen	nts:		\$	475,253	\$ 475,253

#### F. COMPENSATED ABSENCES

The Authority's policies regarding vacation time permit employees to accumulate earned but unused vacation and sick leave. Vacation pay vests for full time employees, depending upon length of service, as follows:

1 - 4	years	80 hours
5 - 19	years	120 hours
20 - 30	years	160 hours
> 30	years	200 hours

Sick leave accrues for full time employees at 6 hours per month, although it is not vested. Employees may accrue a maximum of 72 hours per year, beginning upon completion of one full month of employment. When an employee resigns in good standing, one half of the accumulated sick pay is paid upon separation.

As a result of the Authority's use of the modified cash basis of accounting, accrued liabilities related to compensated absences (vacation and sick leave) earned but unpaid at year-end are not reflected in the basic financial statements. The compensated absence commitment on June 30, 2023, is summarized as follows:

	 2023
Accrued compensated absences	\$ 2,009

#### **G. INVESTMENTS**

Investments classified in the financial statements consist entirely of certificates of deposit whose original maturity term exceeds three months. Investments are carried at amortized cost, which approximated fair value.

#### H. USE OF ESTIMATES

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities 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 (such as estimated useful lives in determining depreciation expense.) Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### I. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

For the purpose of financial reporting, "cash and cash equivalents" include all demand and savings accounts subject to withdrawal by check, and cash on hand, as cash and cash equivalents.

#### J. EQUITY CLASSIFICATION

Net position is displayed in three components:

- a. *Invested in capital assets* consists of capital assets including restricted capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, mortgages, notes, or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvements of those assets.
- b. *Restricted fund balance* consists of net assets with constraints placed on the use either by an external group such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws and regulation of other governments, or by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- c. Unrestricted fund balance all other net assets that do not meet the definition of "restricted" or "invested in capital assets."

The Authority applies restricted resources first when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which either restricted or unrestricted (committed, assigned, and unassigned) amounts are available. Similarly, within unrestricted fund balance, committed amounts are reduced first followed by assigned, and then unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

#### K. BUDGETARY DATA

The Authority's annual operating budget is prepared under the provisions of the Municipal Budget Act (the "New Budget Act") as part of the Town of Sperry's budget. The budget is prepared on the accrual basis of accounting.

#### L. INVENTORIES

The Authority does not place a value on any of its inventory for financial statement purposes; consequently, materials, supplies, and replacement parts are not included as assets, and the cost of these items has been charged against income as repairs and maintenance expense at the time of purchase. Expenditures for major renewals and betterments which extend the useful lives of property and equipment are capitalized.

#### NOTE 2: LONG-TERM DEBT

On December 14, 2009, the District entered into a Clean Water SRF (State Revolving Fund) promissory note, with the Oklahoma Water Resources Board, for \$ 390,000, for wastewater system improvements. The loan is to be repaid in semi-annual installments for twenty years, at 2.58 % interest rate. The note is secured by a security agreement pledging the system's revenue. In accordance with the terms of the loan, \$ 120,432 of the loan was forgiven in a previous year. The total balance outstanding under the loan as of June 30, 2023, was \$ 109,512. The monthly payments are made to a debt service fund maintained by a trustee. Bancfirst serves as the trustee under the loan. The balance in the debt service account at June 30, 2023, was \$7,694.

#### CHANGES IN LONG-TERM DEBT

The following is a summary of changes in long-term debt for the year ended June 30, 2023:

Within
Year
4,577
4,577

#### DEBT SERVICE REQUIREMENTS

The annual debt service requirements to maturity, including principal and interest, for the long-term debt as of June 30, 2023, is as follows:

For the		OWRB			
Year Ended		\$390,000 Loan			
	Prin			Int	
2024	\$	14,577	\$	3,018	
2025		14,958		2,647	
2026		15,348		2,267	
2027		15,749		1,876	
2028		16,160		1,476	
2028-2032		32,720		1,916	
	\$	109,512	\$	13,201	

#### **NOTE 3: LEASE AGREEMENTS**

On October 1, 1974, the Town of Sperry leased to the Authority its then existing and thereafter-acquired water, sewer and solid waste disposal systems for a term ending November 20, 1999, or until such date as all indebtedness incurred by the Authority has been paid or provisions for payment has been made. Also, on February 1, 1994, the Town of Sperry leased to the Authority its then existing and thereafter-acquired gas system for a term ending January 19, 2044, or until such date as all indebtedness payable from the revenues of the gas system has been paid or provision for payment has been made. Lease payments paid to the Town of Sperry for the year ended June 30, 2023, were \$45,000.

#### **NOTE 4: RETIREMENT PLAN**

Employees of the Authority have no retirement plan.

#### NOTE 5: RESTRICTED NET ASSETS

Net assets were restricted for debt service on June 30, 2023, were as follows:

The OWRB Reserve is maintained by the Authority, in a separate interest-bearing account, as discussed in Note 2.

#### **NOTE 6: CONTINGENCIES**

In the normal course of operations, the Authority participates in various federal or state/loan programs from year to year. The grant/loan programs are often subject to additional audits by agents of the granting or loaning agency, the purpose of which is to ensure compliance with the specific conditions of the grant of loan. Any liability of reimbursement that may arise as a result of these audits cannot be reasonably determined at this time, although it is believed that amount, if any, would not be material.

#### **NOTE 7: SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

Subsequent events have been evaluated through February 5, 2024, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

Subsequent to the year ended June 30, 2023 the Authority was served an Order of Consent by the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality. The order is for the Authority's Sewer Treatment Facility. The Authority has engaged an engineer and is complying with the Order. Estimates to correct the issues are not available at the time of this report.

#### MICHAEL W. GREEN

### Certified Public Accountant

827 W. Locust Street STILWELL, OK. 74960 (918) 696-6298

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

To the Board of Trustees Sperry Utility Services Authority Sperry, Oklahoma

I 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 modified cash basis financial statements of the Sperry Utility Services Authority (the Authority), a component unit of the Town of Sperry, Oklahoma, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Authority's basic financial statements and have issued my report thereon dated February 5, 2024. My report included emphasis-of-matter paragraphs describing that the Authority's financial statements do not represent the financial position of the Town of Sperry and the financial statements are presented using the modified cash basis of accounting.

#### **Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing my audit of the financial statements, I considered the Authority'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 my opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control. Accordingly, I do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority'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 Authority'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.

My 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. Given these limitations, during my audit I did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that I consider to be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. However, material weakness may exist that have not been identified.

#### **Report on Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Authority's financial statements are free from material misstatement, I performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of my audit and, accordingly, I do not express such an opinion. The results of my 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 my testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority'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 Authority's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Regards,

Michael Green, CPA February 5, 2024