

Town of Buckner, Arkansas

Financial and Compliance Report

December 31, 2024 and 2023

LEGISLATIVE JOINT AUDITING COMMITTEE



TOWN OF BUCKNER, ARKANSAS
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FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024 AND 2023

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Arkansas

Jim Petty
Senate Chair
Sen. Jim Dotson
Senate Vice Chair



Rep. Robin Lundstrum
House Chair
Rep. RJ Hawk
House Vice Chair

Kevin William White, CPA, JD
Legislative Auditor

LEGISLATIVE JOINT AUDITING COMMITTEE ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE AUDIT

Financial and Compliance Report

Town of Buckner, Arkansas Officials and Council Members
Legislative Joint Auditing Committee

A priority of Arkansas Legislative Audit is to assist local government officials by promoting sound financial management and accountability of government resources. The Legislative Auditor reports on the fiscal affairs of local governments, as well as compliance with relevant state laws and observance of good business practices to provide accountability for tax dollars expended to support government operations.

We have performed certain limited procedures with respect to cash basis financial information and compliance with certain state laws and accepted accounting practices for the Town of Buckner, Arkansas, as of and for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated September 18, 2026. These procedures were not performed for the Water and Sewer Fund. Management of the Town is responsible for maintaining the financial records and complying with state laws and accepted accounting practices.

The findings contained in this section relate to the following officials who held office during 2024 and 2023:

Mayor: Terry Collum
Recorder/Treasurer: Laura Gwin

We evaluated the Town's compliance with certain state laws concerning general and district court accounting, budgeting, purchasing, and investing and depositing of public funds.

Noncompliance with state law and accepted accounting practices was noted in the offices of **Mayor** and **Recorder/Treasurer**.

Mayor

The minutes of the governing body did not document the review of the prior report or findings as required by Ark. Code Ann. § 10-4-418.

Recorder / Treasurer

The 2024 and 2023 federal and state payroll withholdings were not remitted in a timely manner. A similar finding was noted in the previous report.

We noted an employee was paid \$1,617 and \$1,554 in 2024 and 2023, respectively, for unused leave. Although it appears the Town council was made aware when payments for leave were made, the Town does not have a policy regarding the payment of unused leave. Additionally, leave records were not provided, so we were unable to determine the validity of the payments.

Mayor and Recorder/Treasurer

The Town ended with a negative cash balance in the Street Fund checking account at December 31, 2023, of \$662. Additionally, the Street and Health and Sanitation Funds incurred bank fees of \$448 and \$576, in 2024 and 2023, respectively, due to the accounts being overdrawn at various times.

In 2024 and 2023, restricted Street Fund monies were improperly used for non-street related payments totaling \$2,057 and \$4,853, respectively, in noncompliance with Ark. Code Ann. §§ 26-79-104, 27-70-207. As of the report date, the council has not passed an ordinance or resolution to pay back the amounts due.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee, local Town government, state executive and oversight management, and other parties as required by Arkansas Code, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. However, pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 10-4-417, all reports presented to the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee are matters of public record and distribution is not limited.

ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE AUDIT

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin White", written over a light blue rectangular background.

Kevin William White, CPA, JD
Legislative Auditor

Little Rock, Arkansas
September 18, 2026
LOM319124

TOWN OF BUCKNER, ARKANSAS
SCHEDULE OF FINANCIAL INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024
(UNAUDITED)

Schedule 1

	General Fund	Special Revenue Funds
Cash Balance, January 1, 2024	\$ 10,934	\$ 177,374
Receipts:		
State aid	16,246	13,568
Federal aid		200,425
Property taxes	8,796	2,641
Franchise fees	2,191	6,192
Sales taxes		19,527
Interest	1,435	2,000
Local permits and fees		5,440
Other		89
Contribution from water		1,000
Transfers in		5,500
Total Receipts	<u>28,668</u>	<u>256,382</u>
Disbursements:		
General government	16,404	16,489
Highways and streets		18,842
Sanitation		34,625
Recreation and culture		38,304
Water		165,765
Transfers out	5,500	
Unclassified		47
Total Disbursements	<u>21,904</u>	<u>274,072</u>
Cash Balance, December 31, 2024	<u>\$ 17,698</u>	<u>\$ 159,684</u>

TOWN OF BUCKNER, ARKANSAS
 COMBINING SCHEDULE OF FINANCIAL INFORMATION - SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024
 (UNAUDITED)

Schedule 2

	Street	Health and Sanitation	Fun Park	American Rescue Plan Act	Total
Cash Balance, January 1, 2024	\$ 59,661	\$ 58,873	\$ 42,351	\$ 16,489	\$ 177,374
Receipts:					
State aid	13,568				13,568
Federal aid				200,425	200,425
Property taxes	2,641				2,641
Franchise fees	4,128	2,064			6,192
Sales taxes		19,527			19,527
Interest	331	744	925		2,000
Local permits and fees		5,440			5,440
Other	27	62			89
Contribution from water		1,000			1,000
Transfers in		5,500			5,500
Total Receipts	20,695	34,337	925	200,425	256,382
Disbursements:					
General government				16,489	16,489
Highways and streets	18,842				18,842
Sanitation		34,625			34,625
Recreation and culture			38,304		38,304
Water				165,765	165,765
Unclassified		47			47
Total Disbursements	18,842	34,672	38,304	182,254	274,072
Cash Balance, December 31, 2024	\$ 61,514	\$ 58,538	\$ 4,972	\$ 34,660	\$ 159,684

TOWN OF BUCKNER, ARKANSAS
SCHEDULE OF FINANCIAL INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023
(UNAUDITED)

Schedule 3

	General Fund	Special Revenue Funds
Cash Balance, January 1, 2023	\$ 27,773	\$ 168,606
Receipts:		
State aid	2,509	113,916
Property taxes	5,345	1,605
Franchise fees	7,746	
Sales taxes		19,000
Interest	2,543	1,581
Local permits and fees		7,130
Other		58
Transfers in		1,000
Unclassified	35	
Total Receipts	<u>18,178</u>	<u>144,290</u>
Disbursements:		
General government	29,017	19,969
Highways and streets		19,693
Sanitation		34,468
Recreation and culture		61,392
Contribution to water	5,000	
Transfers out	1,000	
Total Disbursements	<u>35,017</u>	<u>135,522</u>
Cash Balance, December 31, 2023	<u>\$ 10,934</u>	<u>\$ 177,374</u>

TOWN OF BUCKNER, ARKANSAS
 COMBINING SCHEDULE OF FINANCIAL INFORMATION - SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023
 (UNAUDITED)

Schedule 4

	Street	Health and Sanitation	Fun Park	American Rescue Plan Act	Total
Cash Balance, January 1, 2023	\$ 62,428	\$ 66,459	\$ 3,261	\$ 36,458	\$ 168,606
Receipts:					
State aid	13,919		99,997		113,916
Property taxes	1,605				1,605
Sales taxes		19,000			19,000
Interest	344	752	485		1,581
Local permits and fees		7,130			7,130
Other	58				58
Transfers in	1,000				1,000
Total Receipts	16,926	26,882	100,482		144,290
Disbursements:					
General government				19,969	19,969
Highways and streets	19,693				19,693
Sanitation		34,468			34,468
Recreation and culture			61,392		61,392
Total Disbursements	19,693	34,468	61,392	19,969	135,522
Cash Balance, December 31, 2023	\$ 59,661	\$ 58,873	\$ 42,351	\$ 16,489	\$ 177,374

TOWN OF BUCKNER, ARKANSAS
OTHER INFORMATION
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024 AND 2023
(UNAUDITED)

Schedule 5

1. Cash balances on the Financial Schedules include demand and savings accounts and certificates of deposit.
2. Cash balances at year-end in the custodial fund are as follows:

	<u>December 31, 2024</u>	<u>December 31, 2023</u>
Tax Account	\$ 1,156	\$ 819

These balances represent payroll taxes that have not been transferred to the appropriate entities.

3. The Municipality's capital assets records are summarized below:

	<u>December 31, 2024</u>	<u>December 31, 2023</u>
Land	\$ 14,750	\$ 14,750
Buildings	14,580	14,580
Equipment	<u>205,423</u>	<u>185,150</u>
Totals	<u><u>\$ 234,753</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 214,480</u></u>

4. The Town received federal funding in the following amount related to COVID-19 relief:

	<u>December 31, 2024</u>
American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) - Water Projects	<u><u>\$ 200,425</u></u>