SOUTHEAST BRADLEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT PUBLIC WATER AUTHORITY

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2023 and 2022

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SEARCY & ASSOCIATES, LLC

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

To the Management and Board of Directors of Southeast Bradley County Water District Public Water Authority

We have performed the procedures enumerated below for the Southeast Bradley County Water District Public Water Authority, ("the Authority"), the year ended December 31, 2023. The Authority's management is responsible for accounting records.

The Authority has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of satisfying annual reporting requirements of the Arkansas Division of Legislative Audit. Additionally, the Arkansas Legislative Joint Auditing Committee has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes. This report may not be suitable for any other purpose. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of this report and may not meet the needs of all users of this report and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes.

The procedures and associated findings are as follows:

Cash and Investments

- 1. Perform a proof of cash for the year and reconcile year-end bank balances to book balance.
- 2. Confirm with depository institutions the cash on deposit and investments.
- 3. Agree the proof of cash ending balances to the book balances within 5% or \$500, whichever is greater.

Finding: No findings identified.

Receipts

- 1. Agree the deposits per the proof of cash for the year with the deposits per the journal within 5% or \$500, whichever is greater.
- 2. Agree 10 customer payments on the accounts receivable sub-ledger to deposit and billing documents.
- 3. For one deposit, agree the cash/check composition of the deposit with receipt information.

Findings: No findings identified.

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Accounts Receivable

- 1. Agree 10 customer billings to the accounts receivable sub-ledger.
- 2. Determine that five (5) customer adjustments were properly authorized.

Findings: No findings identified.

Disbursements

- 1. Agree the disbursements per the proof of cash for the year with the disbursements per the journal within 5% or \$ 500, whichever is greater.
- 2. Analyze all property, plant, and equipment disbursements.
- 3. Select all disbursements paid to employees other than payroll and ten other disbursements and determine if they were adequately documented.

Findings: No findings identified.

Property, Plant, and Equipment

1. Determine that additions and disposals were properly accounted for in the records. (Materiality level - 5% of total equipment or \$500, whichever is greater.)

Findings: No findings identified.

Long-Term Debt

- 2. Schedule long-term debt and verify changes in all balances for the year.
- 3. Confirm loans, bonds, notes, and contracts payable with lender/trustee/contractor.
- 4. Determine that the appropriate debt service accounts have been established and maintained.

Findings: No findings identified.

<u>General</u>

1. Determine that any items of financial significance were approved and documented in the minutes of the governing body's meetings.

Findings: No findings identified.

We were engaged by the Authority to perform this agreed-upon procedures engagement and conducted our engagement in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. We were not engaged to and did not conduct an examination or review engagement, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on the accounting records. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

We are required to be independent of the Authority and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to our agreed-upon procedures engagement.

The accompanying 2022 financial statements were previously audited by us and we stated that we were not aware of any material modifications that should be made to those financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America in our report dated August 15, 2023, but we have not performed any procedures in connection with that audit engagement since that date.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Authority, Arkansas Legislative Joint Auditing Committee and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than those specified parties.

Cearing & Associates LLC

Monticello, Arkansas August 28, 2024

To the Management and Board of Directors of Southeast Bradley County Water District Public Water Authority

We have compiled the accompanying Statement of Financial Position of Southeast Bradley County Water District Public Water Authority as of December 31, 2023, and the related statement of activities, cash flows, and functional expenses for the year then ended. We have not audited or reviewed the 2023 financial statements and, accordingly, do not express an opinion or provide any assurance about whether the financial statements are in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Management is responsible for the accompanying financial statements of Southeast Bradley County Water District Public Water Authority, which comprise the statement of financial position as of December 31, 2023, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have performed a compilation engagement in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services promulgated by the Accounting and Review Services Committee of the AICPA. We did not audit or review the financial statements, nor were we required to perform any procedures to verify the accuracy or completeness of the information provided by management. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion, a conclusion, nor provide any assurance on these financial statements.

Our responsibility is to conduct the compilations in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The objective of a compilation is to assist management in presenting financial information in the form of financial statements without undertaking to obtain or provide any assurance that there are no material modifications that should be made to the financial statements.

The accompanying 2022 financial statements were previously audited by us and we stated that we were not aware of any material modifications that should be made to those financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America in our report dated August 15, 2023, but we have not performed any procedures in connection with that audit engagement since that date.

Cearing & Associates LLC

Monticello, Arkansas August 28, 2024

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SOUTHEAST BRADLEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT PUBLIC WATER AUTHORITY STATEMENT OF NET POSITION

December 31, 2023 and 2022

		2023	2022		
<u>Assets</u>					
Current assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	147,810	\$	237,762	
Accounts receivable (net)	Ψ	51,688	Ψ	60,126	
Short term investments		-		-	
Other assets		150		150	
Total current assets		199,648		298,038	
Restricted cash and investments					
Cash and cash equivalents		289,965		287,270	
Short term investments		-		-	
Total restricted cash and investments		289,965		287,270	
Fixed assets, net of accumulated depreciation		4,531,664		4,559,154	
Total assets	\$	5,021,277	\$	5,144,463	
Liabilities and Net Position					
<u>Current liabilities</u>					
Accounts payable	\$	200,774	\$	200,775	
Accrued interest		-		-	
Accrued payroll		-		-	
Accrued sales tax		4,438		4,438	
Deferred revenue		3,764		4,438	
Other accrued expenses		4,925		4,925	
Current portion of bonds payable		394,479			
Total current liabilities		608,380		214,576	
Long term liabilities					
Bonds payable, net of current amount		2,667,416		3,170,346	
Customer deposits		78,525		75,830	
Total long term liabilities		2,745,941		3,246,176	
Net position					
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt		1,469,769		1,388,808	
Restricted		211,440		211,440	
Unrestricted		(14,253)		83,463	
Total net position		1,666,956		1,683,711	
Total liabilities and net position	\$	5,021,277	\$	5,144,463	

SOUTHEAST BRADLEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT PUBLIC WATER AUTHORITY STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION

For the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

	 2023	2022		
Operating revenues				
Water sales	\$ 606,450	\$	549,841	
Connection charges and fees	15,243		22,650	
Total operating revenue	 621,693		572,491	
Operating expenses				
Plant operations and distribution	242,615		256,985	
General and administrative	59,444		30,956	
Depreciation	 210,647		209,630	
Total operating expenses	512,706		497,571	
Income / (loss) from operations	108,987		74,920	
Other revenue / (expenses)				
Interest income	1,114		971	
Interest expense	 (126,856)		(128,094)	
Total other revenue / (expenses)	 (125,742)		(127,123)	
Excess (deficit) of revenues over expenses	\$ (16,755)	\$	(52,202)	
Net position, beginning of year	\$ 1,683,711	\$	1,735,913	
Change in net invested in capital assets Change in restricted assets	80,961		(98,644)	
Change in unrestricted assets	(97,716)		46,441	
Change in net position	 (16,755)		(52,203)	
Net position, end of year	\$ 1,666,956	\$	1,683,711	

SOUTHEAST BRADLEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT PUBLIC WATER AUTHORITY STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS (Continued)

For the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

		2023		2022
<u>Cash flows from operating activities</u> Cash received from customers Payments for salaries and benefits Payments for operating and administrative expenses Net cash provided by (used for) operating activities	\$	629,458 (132,251) (169,809) 327,398	\$	559,075 (124,851) (158,013) 276,212
<u>Cash flows from investing activities</u> Purchase of property, plant and equipment Proceeds from disposal of property, plant and equipment Interest income Net cash provided by (used for) investing activities		(183,156) - 1,114 (182,042)		(7,069) - 971 (6,098)
<u>Cash flows from financing activities</u> Principal payments on debt Interest payments Change in customer deposits Net cash provided by (used for) financing activities		(108,451) (126,856) <u>2,695</u> (232,612)		(103,916) (128,094) <u>2,580</u> (229,430)
Change in cash and cash equivalents		(87,257)		40,684
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year		525,032		484,348
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$	437,775	\$	525,032
<u>Cash and cash equivalents</u> <u>Restricted cash and cash equivalents</u>	\$	147,810 289,965 437,775	\$	237,762 287,270 525,032
	Ψ	101,110	Ψ	020,002

SOUTHEAST BRADLEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT PUBLIC WATER AUTHORITY STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS (Continued)

For the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

	 2023	 2022
Reconciliation of operating income to		
net cash from operating activities:		
Operating income (loss)	\$ 108,987	\$ 74,920
Adjustments to reconcile operating income to		
net cash from operating activities:		
Depreciation	210,647	209,630
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	8,438	(14,223)
Accounts payable	(1)	9,209
Other accrued expenses	(0)	(5,004)
Total adjustments	 218,411	 201,291
Net cash provided by (used for) operating activities	\$ 327,398	\$ 276,212

SOUTHEAST BRADLEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT PUBLIC WATER AUTHORITY NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2023 and 2022

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Financial Reporting Entity

Southeast Bradley County Water District Public Water Authority (the "Authority") has been designated a public water authority by the state of Arkansas. The Authority is operated by an independent board of directors for the purpose of distributing water to customers in the rural areas of Bradley County. The Authority has adopted the provisions of Statement 14 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board ("GASB") regarding the definition of the financial reporting entity. Accordingly, the accompanying financial statements include only the accounts and transactions of the Authority. Under the criteria specified in Statement No. 14, the Authority is not a component unit of another entity. The Authority is not financially accountable for any other organization.

B. Basis of Accounting

The financial statements are presented using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when incurred, regardless of the timing of the related cash flows.

Operating revenues and expenses are distinguished from other revenue (expense) items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services in connection with the principal ongoing operations of the Authority. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as other revenues (expenses) but remain a major component of the overall revenues and expenses of the Authority.

In accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement Number 62, the Authority applies accounting standards in accordance with the Codification of Governmental Accounting and Financial Reporting Standards which incorporates applicable Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) and American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) Pronouncements issued on or before November 30, 1989.

D. Use of Estimate

Management used estimates and assumptions in preparing these financial statements. Those estimates and assumptions affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and reported amounts of revenues and expenditures during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

E. Assets, Liabilities, and Net Position

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Authority considers all highly liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less when purchased to be cash and cash equivalents. For the purpose of financial reporting, all demand accounts, savings accounts, cash on hand, certificates of deposits, and money market accounts are considered to be cash and cash equivalents.

NOTE 1 (continued)

Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable relate to water service billings and are shown net of an allowance for doubtful accounts. The allowance is based upon historical losses and a review of the past-due accounts. Credit extended to customers is generally uncollateralized. Accounts are due ten days after the billing date. Past-due accounts are charged a late fee penalty. Customers are required to make a deposit, and deposits can be offset against the receivable.

Fixed Assets

Fixed assets are recorded at cost, including interest incurred during the construction period. Contributed property is recorded at fair value at the date of contribution. Depreciation is recorded on each class of depreciable property utilizing the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets. The ranges of estimated useful lives are as follows:

Water Plant	20-40 years
Wells & Water Tanks	20-40 years
Buildings & Improvements	20-25 years
Vehicles & Equipment	5-10 years

The Authority's capitalization policy states that capital assets are defined as assets with an estimated useful life of greater than one year and over \$1,000.

Net Position Classifications

- Invested in capital assets, net of related debt consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, notes or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.
- Restricted net position Consists of net assets with constraints placed on their use either by external groups such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws and regulations of other governments.
- Unrestricted net position All other net assets that do not meet the definition of "invested in capital assets, net of related debt" or "restricted."

F. Date of Management's Review

The Authority evaluated its December 31, 2023, financial statements for subsequent events through August 28, 2024, the date the financial statements were available to be issued. The Authority is not aware of any subsequent events which would require recognition or disclosure in the financial statements.

NOTE 2 – LONG-TERM DEBT

Diamond Bank Note Payable

On December 1, 2021, the Authority consolidated and refinanced the long-term debt by obtaining a note payable from Diamond Bank in the amount of \$1,444,299 with an interest rate of 2.25%. The proceeds were used to pay the outstanding principal and accrued interest on the long-term debt to the United States Department of Agriculture and the Arkansas Natural Resource Commission. The note is for a period 15 years with minimum monthly payments of principal and interest of \$9,462. The note is secured by the Authority's assets.

Central Bank Lease Payable

The Authority has entered into a lease agreement for the installation and use of new water meters with Secure Vision of America in which payments will be financed through Central Bank. The minimum annual lease payments are \$78,058 with the first installment due January 2023 and for each year after through the end of the lease term in January 2029. The lease has purchase option agreements starting in January 2026 through the end of the lease term in January 2029. The lease has an imputed interest rate of 2.967%.

Changes in long term debt for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022 are as follows:

	De	Balance December 31, 2021IncreasesDecreases		De	Balance cember 31, 2022	Amounts Due Within One Year				
1998 USDA	\$	962,757	\$	-	\$	(39,982)	\$	922,775	\$	41,823
2004 USDA		1,086,301		-		(29,665)		1,056,636		31,030
2008 USDA		305,894		-		(6,229)		299,665		6,508
2008 USDA		210,133		-		(4,796)		205,337		4,975
2010 USDA		353,678		-		(7,674)		346,004		7,929
First State Bank of Warren		41,807		-		(5,669)		36,138		5,207
Warren Bank & Trust		313,692		-	(9,901)			303,791		10,979
	\$	3,274,262	\$	-	\$	(103,916)	\$	3,170,346	\$	108,451

	De			reases	Decreases		De	Balance December 31, 2023		mounts le Within ne Year
1998 USDA	\$	922,775	\$	-	\$	(41,823)	\$	880,952	\$	43,740
2004 USDA		1,056,636		-		(31,030)		1,025,606		32,451
2008 USDA		299,665		-		(6,508)		293,157		6,798
2008 USDA		205,337		-		(4,975)		200,362		5,158
2010 USDA		346,004		-		(7,929)		338,075		8,190
First State Bank of Warren		36,138		-		(5,207)		30,931		5,330
Warren Bank & Trust		303,791		-		(10,979)		292,812		292,812
	\$	3,170,346	\$		\$	(108,451)	\$	3,061,895	\$	394,479

NOTE 2 (continued)

Year Ending								
December 31,	F	Principal	ipal Interest			Total		
2024	\$	394,479	\$	122,401	\$	516,880		
2025		126,202		110,903		237,105		
2026		105,055		106,253		211,308		
2027		109,708		101,600		211,308		
2028		114,569		96,739		211,308		
2029-2033		653,703		402,837		1,056,540		
2034-2038		777,726		244,521		1,022,247		
2039-2043		536,876		104,706		641,582		
2044-2048		216,095		24,521		240,616		
2049-2053		27,482		703		28,185		
	\$ (3,061,895	\$ [^]	1,315,184	\$ 4	1,377,079		

Annual debt service requirements to maturity based on current interest rates for long-term debt are as follows for the year ending:

NOTE 3 – CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT AND INVESTMENTS

Arkansas Code Annotated 19-1-501 outlines the eligible investments allowed by a municipality along with Certificates of Deposits when secured in compliance with Arkansas Code 19-8-202. Deposits in excess of Federal Deposit Insurance (FDIC) are required to be secured by qualified pledged securities allowed by the Code to mitigate custodial credit risk. Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure a government's deposits may not be returned to it.

The schedule below is designed to disclose the level of custodial credit risk assumed by the Authority based upon how its deposits were insured or secured by pledged securities, or unsecured at December 31, 2023.

Category 1 – Insured FDIC or secured with securities held by the Authority (or public trust) or by its agent in its name.

Category 2 – Uninsured but collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institutions' trust department in the Authority's name.

Category 3 – Unsecured and uncollateralized, or collateralized with securities held by the pledging institution, or by its trust department or agent in the Authority's name or collateralized with no written or approved collateralized agreement.

NOTE 3 – (continued)

The level of Security for the Authority's bank deposits are as follows:

	2023									
			C	Category	C	Category		Category		
Depository		Total		1		2		3		
Bank A	\$	284,226	\$	250,000	\$	34,226	\$	-		
Bank B	_	303,124	_	250,000	_	53,124		-		
Total	\$	587,350	\$	500,000	\$	87,350	\$	-		
				20	22					
			C	Category	C	Category		Category		
Depository		Total		1		2		3		
Bank A	\$	144,094	\$	144,094	\$	-	\$	-		
Bank B		384,800		250,000		100,000		34,800		
Total	\$	528,894	\$	394,094	\$	100,000	\$	34,800		

The amounts shown are bank ledger balances of the referenced bank's deposits and may differ from the Authority's general ledger balances.

The Authority has certain amounts of its cash accounts restricted at December 31, 2023 as follows:

	 2023	 2022
Meter deposits	\$ 78,525	\$ 75,830
Debt Service Reserve - 1998 USDA	82,440	82,440
Debt Service Reserve - 2004 USDA	78,000	78,000
Debt Service Reserve - 2008 USDA	19,560	19,560
Debt Service Reserve - 2008 USDA	12,360	12,360
Debt Service Reserve - 2010 USDA	19,080	19,080
Total restricted cash & investments	\$ 289,965	\$ 287,270

Customers' meter deposits are restricted for the use of refunding a departing customers' refund upon leaving the Authority or for offsetting any amounts owed by the customer upon departure.

NOTE 4 – CHANGES IN FIXED ASSETS

Changes in fixed assets for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022 are as follows:

	De	Balance ecember 31, 2021	Tra	ansfers		Additions	Di	sposals	De	Balance ecember 31, 2022
Land	\$	17,200	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	17,200
Buildings & improvements		489,827		-		-		-		489,827
Machinery & equipment		62,310		-		-		(16,853)		45,457
Water system		7,666,983		-		-		-		7,666,983
		8,236,319		-		-		(16,853)		8,219,466
Accumulated depreciation	(3,474,605			-	(209,630)		23,922			(3,660,313)
	\$	4,761,715	\$	-	\$	(209,630)	\$	7,069	\$	4,559,154
	Balance December 31, 2022		Tra	ansfers		Additions	Di	sposals	De	Balance ecember 31, 2023
Land	\$	17,200	\$	_	\$	_	\$	_	\$	17,200
Buildings & improvements	Ŧ	489,827	Ŧ	-	Ŧ	-	Ŧ	-	Ŧ	489,827
Machinery & equipment		45,457		-		-		-		45,457
Water system		7,666,983		-		183,157		-		7,850,140
-		8,219,466		-		183,157		-		8,402,623
Accumulated depreciation		(3,660,313)		-		(210,647)				(3,870,960)
	\$	4,559,154	\$	-	\$	(27,490)	\$	-	\$	4,531,664

NOTE 5 – RISK MANAGEMENT

The Authority is exposed to various risks of loss related to theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets, errors and omissions, and natural disasters. These risks are covered by commercial insurance purchased from independent third parties. Settled claims have not exceeded this commercial coverage in any of the three preceding years.

NOTE 6 – DEPARTURE FROM GENERALLY ACCEPTED ACCOUNTING PROCEDURES

Management has elected to omit the Budget to Actual Comparison and the Management Discussion and Analysis of the Authority from the financial statements which are required by GAAP.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SOUTHEAST BRADLEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT PUBLIC WATER AUTHORITY SCHEDULE OF OPERATING EXPENSES

For the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

	2023		2022	
Plant operations and distributions				
Salaries and wages	\$	100,156	\$	93,864
Payroll taxes		5,645		6,017
Repairs and maintenance		17,227		80,681
Utilities		25,750		37,426
Insurance		10,896		10,806
License, permits, fees		10,228		9,900
Contract labor		14,030		18,290
Operating supplies		58,106		-
Water purchases		577		-
Total plant operations and distributions		242,615		256,985
General and administrative				
Salaries and wages		25,039		23,466
Payroll taxes		1,411		1,504
Office supplies		12,966		-
Professional fees		6,210		5,815
Communication		3,892		-
Travel expenses		8,335		133
Other expenses		1,591		38
Total general and administrative		59,444		30,956
Depreciation		210,647		209,630
Total operating expenses	\$	512,706	\$	497,571

See Independent Accountant's Compilation Report.