FERN CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT AND FERN CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT HOLDING COMPANY, INC.

COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

June 30, 2023

CONTENTS

JNM

Jones, Nale & Mattingly PLC

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Trustees
Fern Creek Fire Protection District and
Fern Creek Fire Protection District
Holding Company, Inc.
Louisville, Kentucky

Report on the Audit of the Combined Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying combined financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Fern Creek Fire Protection District and the Fern Creek Fire Protection District Holding Company, Inc. (the District), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the combined financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements.

In our opinion, the combined financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund as of June 30, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position 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 and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Combined Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the combined 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 combined financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Certified Public Accountants and Advisors
401 West Main Street, Suite 1100 Louisville, Kentucky 40202 tel: 502.583.0248 fax: 502.589.1680 www.jnmcpa.com

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Combined 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 opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

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

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the combined 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 combined 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 District's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the combined financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis on pages 4 through 7, Schedule of District's Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability and Schedule of District Contributions – Pension Portion on page 34 and 35, and Schedule of District's Proportionate Share of Net OPEB Liability and Schedule of District Contributions – OPEB Portion on page 36 and 37, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such 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. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Emphasis of Matters

As discussed in Note 1 to the combined financial statements, an Executive Order was issued by the Louisville Metro Mayor to merge the Buechel Fire Protection District with and into the Fern Creek Fire Protection District effective July 1, 2022. All net position and fund balances of Buechel Fire Protection District were transferred to Fern Creek Fire Protection District on July 1, 2022. Additionally, as discussed in Note 9 to the combined financial statements, an Executive Order was issued by the Louisville Metro Mayor to merge the Highview Fire Protection District with and into the Fern Creek Fire Protection District effective July 1, 2023. Our opinions have not been modified with respect to these matters.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated September 15, 2023, on our consideration of the Fern Creek Fire Protection District and the Fern Creek Fire Protection District Holding Company, Inc.'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 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 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 the Fern Creek Fire Protection District and the Fern Creek Fire Protection District Holding Company, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Jones, Nale & Mattingly PLC

Louisville, Kentucky
September 15, 2023

FERN CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT AND THE FERN CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT HOLDING COMPANY, INC.
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

The purpose of the management's discussion and analysis is to provide an overview of the financial activities of the Fern Creek Fire Protection District and Fern Creek Fire Protection District Holding Company, Inc. (collectively the District) based on currently known facts, decisions, or conditions and should be read in conjunction with the District's combined financial statements, which begin on page 7.

Financial Highlights

The combined financial statements included in this report provide insight into the financial status of the District as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023. Effective July 1, 2014, the District adopted GASB Statement No. 68, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions. The statement requires the liability of employers, such as the District, to employees for defined benefit pensions (net pension liability) to be measured as the portion of the present value of projected benefit payments to be provided through the pension plan to current active and inactive employees that is attributed to those employees' past periods of service (total pension liability), less the amount of the pension plan's fiduciary net position. In addition, the District adopted GASB Statement No. 75, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions effective July 1, 2017. The statement requires the liability of employers, such as the District, to employees for other postemployment benefits (net OPEB liability) to be measured as the portion of the present value of projected benefit payments to be provided through the OPEB plan to current active and inactive employees that is attributed to those employee's past periods of service (total OPEB liability), less the amount of the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position.

The District's operations for the year ended June 30, 2023 resulted in a decrease in the District's net position of $256,805. In accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 34, the District depreciates its capital assets resulting in a calculation of total accumulated depreciation and amortization in the amount of $13,355,917 as of June 30, 2023. Depreciation and amortization expense for the year ended June 30, 2023 was $1,032,033.

Total expenditures for all governmental funds were $16,185,863 that was $2,209,685 more than the total revenues of $18,395,548 for the year ended June 30, 2023. Capital asset additions for the current year were $1,276,572 for the current fiscal year and more details can be found in Note 3 of the combined financial statements.

On July 8, 2022, an executive order was issued by the Mayor of Louisville/Jefferson County Metro Government to merge the Buechel Fire Protection District with and into the Fern Creek Fire Protection District pursuant to KRS 75.020. The order was filed and approved by the Jefferson County Attorney and took effect on July 1, 2022.

In December 2022, the District entered into a debt agreement for $606,436 with Stock Yards Bank & Trust Company for the purchase of a fire apparatus. The rate is fixed at 2.55% and is being financed over 8.75 years with payments due monthly on the 10th. The details for long-term debt can be found in Note 4 of the combined financial statements.

Reporting the District as a Whole

Our analysis below focuses on the Statements of Net Position (Table 1) and the Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position (Table 2) of the District.

Table 1
Summary of Statements of Net Position
(dollars are in thousands)

	2023	2022	Amount of Change
Current and other assets	$ 11,660	$ 5,079	$ 6,581
Capital assets	9,560	6,167	3,393
Total assets	21,220	11,246	9,974
Deferred outflows	17,753	7,615	10,138
Total assets and deferred outflows	$ 38,973	$ 18,861	$ 20,112
Long-term liabilities	$ 34,758	$ 15,478	$ 19,280
Other liabilities	935	917	18
Total liabilities	35,693	16,395	19,298
Deferred inflows	7,061	2,594	4,467
Total liabilities and deferred inflows	42,754	18,989	23,765
Net investment in capital assets	7,365	3,669	3,696
Restricted	379	611	(232)
Unrestricted	(11,525)	(4,408)	(7,117)
Total net position	(3,781)	(128)	(3,653)
Total liabilities and net position	$ 38,973	$ 18,861	$ 20,112

Table 2
Summary of Statements of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position
(dollars are in thousands)

	2023	2022	Amount of Change
Operating revenues	$ 18,396	$ 8,599	$ 9,797
Operating expenses:			
Direct costs	1,731	897	834
Administrative and general	15,890	7,485	8,405
Depreciation	1,032	496	536
Total operating expenses	18,653	8,878	9,775
Operating income	$ (257)	$ (279)	$ 22

There was an increase of $6,056,398 in cash and investments, from $4,711,366 at June 30, 2022 to $10,767,764 at June 30, 2023. The combined statement of net assets and the combined statement of activities report financial information about the District as a whole and about its activities in a concise form. These combined statements include all assets and liabilities using the full accrual basis of accounting. All of the 2023 fiscal year's revenues and expenses are taken into account when revenue is earned or an expense is incurred.

An accounts receivable reserve for uncollectible EMS billings from uninsured patients and related 3rd party providers is reflected in the combined financial statements for year ended June 30, 2023. Management estimates that 65% of EMS billings will not be collected based on the outside billing service noted trends from other EMS departments.

Governmental Activities

The District's basic services are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances left at year-end that are available for spending. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the District's general government operations and the basic services it provides. The analysis of governmental funds begins on page 10 of these statements. The General and Debt Service Fund revenues for the fiscal year were more than the amount budgeted by $234,412 and the total expenditures were $888,113 less than the amounts budgeted. The majority of expenditures were less than the amounts budgeted for the seventeenth consecutive year. This was due to a concerted effort by the Trustees, the Chief and the Board of Directors to reduce expenditures in order to preserve the cash reserves for the current economic period.

During the year ended June 30, 2023, the District responded to 24,863 requests for assistance, of which 7744 of the requests were Fire runs and 17,119 were EMS runs (14,056 attributed to ALS (Advanced Life Support) and 3063 to BLS (Basic Life Support). The safety needs of our growing community continue to be met especially during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

The District set the 2023 property tax rate at eighteen cents ($.18) per hundred dollars ($100) levied on both real and personal property. The District is legally prohibited from assessing a rate, which is higher than twenty ($.20) cents per hundred dollars of valuation. This is the same rate levied for the 2022 property tax rate. The District has four stations that are staffed on a 24-hour basis with both Fire and EMS personnel and one station that is staffed on a 24-hour basis with EMS personnel. The total cost including benefits to staff a station with career firefighters, paramedics, and EMTs is approximately $2,008,500 per year. Staff includes full-time personnel of 59 Fire and 38 EMS, 14 part-time employees, 5 non-emergency employees and 14 volunteers.

The District has six (6) stations and is responsible for protecting an area that is larger than the size of the City of Louisville, before the merger of city and county governments. Our average incident response time was 7.33 during the year ended June 30, 2023 (4:15 for Fire, 10:51 for EMS in District and 10:32 Countywide). For response purposes, the suburban fire districts and EMS basically operate as one department so that the closest staffed unit will respond to a call for help even if the call is outside its district boundary. The District also continues to respond to water rescue and medical needs in the Parklands recreational area.

Contacting the District's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide citizens, taxpayers, customers, and creditors with a general overview of the District's financial position and to show the District's accountability for the money it receives. If you have any questions about this report or need additional financial information, please contact the District's Treasurer, Susan Pierce, CPA, Fern Creek Fire Protection District, PO Box 91025, Louisville, KY 40291.

FERN CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT AND FERN CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT HOLDING COMPANY, INC.

COMBINED STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
June 30, 2023

		2023
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash	$ 10,767,764	
Restricted cash	379,292	
Accounts receivable, property taxes, and other	116,575	
Accounts receivable, EMS, net	355,045	
Prepaid expenses	41,111	
Total current assets	11,659,787	
Non-current assets:		
Capital assets, net of depreciation and amortization	9,559,849	
Total non-current assets	9,559,849	
Total assets	21,219,636	
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Deferred outflows related to pensions	12,376,515	
Deferred outflows related to OPEB	5,376,920	
Total deferred outflows of resources	17,753,435	
TOTAL ASSETS AND DEFERRED OUTFLOWS		$ 38,973,071
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities:		
Current portion of lease liabilities	$ 178,811	
Current portion of notes payable	125,725	
Accounts payable	68,530	
Accrued expenses	430,742	
Accrued wages and benefits	125,177	
Accrued interest	5,376	
Total current liabilities	934,361	
Non-current liabilities:		
Lease liabilities, less current portion	1,134,344	
Notes payable, less current portion	755,944	
Compensated absences	853,002	
Net pension liability	25,032,936	
Net OPEB liability	6,981,797	
Total non-current liabilities	34,758,023	
Total liabilities	35,692,384	
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Deferred inflows related to pensions	3,741,148	
Deferred inflows related to OPEB	3,319,908	
Total deferred inflows of resources	7,061,056	
NET POSITION (DEFICIT)		
Net investment in capital assets	7,365,025	
Restricted	379,292	
Unrestricted (deficit)	(11,524,686)	
Total net position (deficit)	(3,780,369)	
TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS AND NET POSITION		$ 38,973,071

The Notes to Combined Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

FERN CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT AND FERN CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT HOLDING COMPANY, INC.

COMBINED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
Year Ended June 30, 2023

	2023
EXPENSES	
Salaries, wages, and benefits	$ 14,717,008
Operating expenses	1,731,720
Bad debt expense	127,513
Repairs and maintenance expense	381,318
Interest expense	74,463
Grant expense	588,297
Depreciation and amortization expense	1,032,033
Total expenses	18,652,352
PROGRAM REVENUES	
Charges for services, EMS income	4,018,527
State aid incentives	346,517
Total program revenues	4,365,044
GENERAL REVENUES	
Property taxes	13,196,432
Other income	619,167
Interest earnings	214,904
Total general revenues	14,030,503
Total revenues	18,395,547
Change in net position	(256,805)
Net position (deficit), beginning of year, as previously reported	(128,434)
Net position (deficit) of Buechel Fire Protection District, beginning of the year (Note 1)	(3,395,130)
Net position (deficit), beginning of year, as adjusted	(3,523,564)
Net position (deficit), end of year	$ (3,780,369)

The Notes to Combined Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

FERN CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT AND FERN CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT HOLDING COMPANY, INC.

COMBINED BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
June 30, 2023

	General Fund	Debt Service Fund	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS			
Cash	$ 10,767,764	$ - -	$ 10,767,764
Restricted cash	12,221	367,071	379,292
Accounts receivable, property taxes, and other	116,575	- -	116,575
Accounts receivable, EMS, net	355,045	- -	355,045
Prepaid expenses	41,111	- -	41,111
Total assets	$ 11,292,716	$ 367,071	$ 11,659,787
LIABILITIES			
Accounts payable	$ 68,530	$ - -	$ 68,530
Accrued expenses	430,742	- -	430,742
Accrued interest	5,376	- -	5,376
Accrued wages and benefits	125,177	- -	125,177
Total liabilities	629,825	- -	629,825
FUND BALANCES			
Nonspendable	41,111	- -	41,111
Restricted for:			
Debt service	- -	367,071	367,071
Assigned for:			
Vehicle replacement	219,334	- -	219,334
Building maintenance	414,303	- -	414,303
Training	52,953	- -	52,953
Equipment	87,086	- -	87,086
Future payroll costs	261,595	- -	261,595
Volunteer fund	24,509	- -	24,509
Unassigned	9,562,000	- -	9,562,000
Total fund balances	10,662,891	367,071	11,029,962
Total liabilities and fund balances	$ 11,292,716	$ 367,071	$ 11,659,787

The Notes to Combined Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

FERN CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT AND FERN CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT HOLDING COMPANY, INC.

RECONCILIATION OF THE COMBINED BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE COMBINED STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
June 30, 2023

Total fund balances for governmental funds	$ 11,029,962
Total net position reported for governmental activities in the combined statement of net position is different because:	
Land and capital assets, net of depreciation, used in governmental activities are not financial resources, and therefore, not reported in governmental funds.	9,559,849
Liabilities such as notes payable, capital leases and compensated absences are applicable to the District's governmental activities are not reported as liabilities in governmental funds. Such non-current liabilties are reported in the combined statement of net position.	(3,047,826)
Liabilities such as net pension and OPEB liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported as liabilities in governmental funds. The District's net pension and OPEB liabilities are reported in the combined statement of net position.	(32,014,733)
Deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pension and OPEB plans are related to future periods and, therefore, are not reported in governmental funds. The District's deferred outflows and inflows are reported in the combined statement of net position.	10,692,379
Total net position (deficit) of governmental activities	$ (3,780,369)

The Notes to Combined Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

FERN CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT AND FERN CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT HOLDING COMPANY, INC.

COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
Year Ended June 30, 2023

	Budget		Actual			
	Original Budget	Final Budget	General Fund	Debt Service Fund	Total Governmental Funds	Over (Under) Budget
REVENUES						
Property taxes	$ 12,380,730	$ 13,174,307	$ 13,196,432	$ - -	$ 13,196,432	$ 22,125
State aid incentives and other	406,999	451,631	406,587	- -	406,587	(45,044)
ARPA grant income	- -	559,098	559,098	- -	559,098	- -
EMS income	3,341,584	3,801,100	4,018,527	- -	4,018,527	217,427
Interest earnings	10,500	175,000	214,904	- -	214,904	39,904
Total revenues	16,139,813	18,161,136	18,395,548	- -	18,395,548	234,412
EXPENDITURES						
Property and equipment additions:						
Land and buildings	50,000	337,821	232,072	- -	232,072	(105,749)
Vehicles and fire fighting equipment	492,500	554,209	804,264	- -	804,264	250,055
Communication and other equipment	90,000	86,000	169,140	- -	169,140	83,140
EMS equipment	110,000	110,000	71,096	- -	71,096	(38,904)
Personnel operating expenses	85,000	84,500	62,817	- -	62,817	(21,683)
Administrative expenses:						
Insurance	191,440	198,432	186,717	- -	186,717	(11,715)
Retirement costs	3,168,851	3,009,356	2,970,267	- -	2,970,267	(39,089)
Legal and accounting	109,000	96,000	62,788	- -	62,788	(33,212)
Fire prevention	37,500	17,065	13,304	- -	13,304	(3,761)
Wages, payroll taxes, and insurance	9,102,080	8,631,039	8,101,079	- -	8,101,079	(529,960)
Health and safety programs	78,000	75,000	58,217	- -	58,217	(16,783)
Other supplies and miscellaneous	65,500	35,500	28,918	- -	28,918	(6,582)
Education	100,000	110,000	92,096	- -	92,096	(17,904)
EMS medical supplies	240,000	240,000	220,836	- -	220,836	(19,164)
EMS fees	302,202	335,000	326,994	- -	326,994	(8,006)
Bad debt expense - EMS	- -	192,000	127,513	- -	127,513	(64,487)
Operating expenses:						
Utilities	185,000	250,000	236,084	- -	236,084	(13,916)
Gasoline and oil	215,000	300,000	263,658	- -	263,658	(36,342)
Fire school, fire fighting, and training supplies	20,000	20,000	20,003	- -	20,003	3
Other supplies and miscellaneous	144,050	225,000	170,711	- -	170,711	(54,289)
Repairs and maintenance expenses:				- -		
Vehicles	(147,500)	(226,209)	122,243		122,243	348,452
Buildings	215,000	217,500	97,550	- -	97,550	(119,950)
Communication equipment	50,000	32,000	3,780	- -	3,780	(28,220)
Fire fighting equipment	412,500	476,709	86,460	- -	86,460	(390,249)
EMS equipment	65,000	50,000	59,862	- -	59,862	9,862
ARPA grant expense	- -	588,297	588,297	- -	588,297	- -
Debt service:						
Principal payments	643,918	953,757	- -	934,634	934,634	(19,123)
Interest payments	75,000	75,000	- -	74,463	74,463	(537)
Total expenditures	16,100,041	17,073,976	15,176,766	1,009,097	16,185,863	(888,113)
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	39,772	1,087,160	3,218,782	(1,009,097)	2,209,685	1,122,525
Other financing sources (uses)						
Transfers from other funds	- -	- -	- -	789,849	789,849	789,849
Transfers to other funds	(39,772)	(1,087,160)	(789,849)	- -	(789,849)	297,311
Total other financing sources	(39,772)	(1,087,160)	(789,849)	789,849	- -	1,087,160
Net change in fund balances	- -	- -	2,428,933	(219,248)	2,209,685	$ 2,209,685
Fund balances, beginning of year, as previously reported	4,675,561	4,675,561	4,089,242	586,319	4,675,561	
Fund balance of Buechel Fire Protection District, beginning of the year	4,144,716	4,144,716	4,144,716	- -	4,144,716	
Fund balances, beginning of year, as adjusted	8,820,277	8,820,277	8,233,958	586,319	8,820,277	
Fund balances, end of year	$ 8,820,277	$ 8,820,277	$ 10,662,891	$ 367,071	$ 11,029,962	

The Notes to Combined Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

FERN CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT AND FERN CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT HOLDING COMPANY, INC.

RECONCILIATION OF THE COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE COMBINED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
June 30, 2023

Net change in fund balances - total government funds	$ 2,209,685
Total net position reported for governmental activities in the combined statement of activities is different because:	
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However in the combined statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which capital outlays ($1,276,572) exceeded depreciation ($1,032,033) in the current period.	244,539
Debt service principal payments are reported as a reduction in liabilites in the combined statement of net position, but are reported as expenditures in the fund financial statements because they use current financial resources.	934,634
Compensated absences are not due and payable in the current period, and therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.	(699,528)
Governmental funds report the District's pension contributions ($2,564,872) as expenditures, however, in the combined statement of activities, the cost of pension benefits earned, net of employer contributions, is reported as pension expense ($4,448,893).	(1,884,021)
Governmental funds report the District's OPEB contributions ($405,396) as expenditures, however, in the combined statement of activities, the cost of OPEB benefits earned, net of employer contributions, is reported as OPEB expense ($1,467,510).	(1,062,114)
Change in net position of governmental activities	$ (256,805)

The Notes to Combined Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

FERN CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT AND FERN CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT HOLDING COMPANY, INC.

NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 1. Nature of Operations and Significant Accounting Policies

Nature of Operations

The Fern Creek Fire Protection District is a Special Taxing District under Commonwealth of Kentucky law and was established for the purpose of providing fire protection and fire prevention services to the citizens and property owners within its geographic coverage area. The District applied and received approval for a certificate of need with the Commonwealth of Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services in order to operate an ambulance service. The ambulance service was initiated in April 2020. The Fern Creek Fire Protection District Holding Company, Inc. is a non-profit corporation which principally finances property and equipment acquisitions.

The combined financial statements include the accounts of the Fern Creek Fire Protection District and the Fern Creek Fire Protection District Holding Company, Inc. (collectively, the District). The District is responsible for its debts and is entitled to surpluses. No separate agency receives a financial benefit nor imposes a financial burden on the District. The District is exempt from income taxes. Any significant intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated in combination.

Merger

On July 8, 2022, an executive order was issued by the Mayor of Louisville/Jefferson County Metro Government to merge the Buechel Fire Protection District with and into the Fern Creek Fire Protection District pursuant to KRS 75.020. The order was filed and approved by the Jefferson County Attorney and became effective on July 1, 2022. In accordance with this order both taxing districts were merged and are known as the Fern Creek Fire Protection District. This combined district will be governed by the combination of five trustees of the Fern Creek Fire Protection District and two trustees of the Buechel Fire Protection District forming the new board of the Fern Creek Fire Protection District. This merger was in the best interest of taxpayers and both Districts to enhance fire and rescue services, provide the needed level and accessibility of emergency medical response resources, reduce administrative costs, ensure financial stability, and avoid duplication of resources such as apparatus and equipment.

In accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) No. 69, *Governmental Combinations and Disposals of Government Operations*, the merger is accounted for at the beginning of the fiscal year. Thus, the effects of this merger have been included as adjustments to the beginning balance of net position in the combined statement of activities and to the beginning fund balance in the combined statement of revenues, expenditures, and the changes in fund balances – governmental funds.

NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 1. Nature of Operations and Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Merger (continued)

The following amounts represent the balances of the Buechel Fire Protection District as of July 1, 2022 that were included in the adjustment to the beginning balances of these combined financial statements:

Adjustment to beginning:	Net position (deficit)	Fund balances
Current assets	$ 4,569,007	$ 4,569,007
Capital assets, net	3,148,664	- -
Deferred outflows of resources	4,115,070	- -
Less: current liabilities	(577,765)	(424,291)
Less: noncurrent liabilities	(12,700,799)	- -
Less: deferred inflows of resources	(1,949,307)	- -
	$ (3,395,130)	$ 4,144,716

Management's Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP) 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 combined financial statements and the reported amount of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Combined Government-Wide Financial Statements

In accordance with GASB, the District has presented a combined statement of net position and a combined statement of activities for the District as a whole. These statements include the primary government and its component units, if applicable. Government-wide accounting is designed to provide a more comprehensive view of the District's operations and financial position as a single economic entity.

Government-wide statements distinguish between governmental-type and business type activities. Governmental-type activities are those financed through intergovernmental revenues, taxes, and other non-exchange revenues and are usually reported in governmental and internal service funds. The District has no business-type activities.

Policies specific to the government-wide statements are as follows:

Capitalizing Assets – Tangible assets used in operations with an initial useful life that extends beyond one year are capitalized. Capital assets are recorded at their historical cost and are depreciated using the straight-line method of depreciation over their estimated useful lives. They are reported net of accumulated depreciation on the combined statements of net position.

NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 1. Nature of Operations Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Combined Fund Financial Statements

The District uses funds to report on its financial position and the result of its operations. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions relating to certain government functions or activities.

A fund is a separate entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. Funds of the District are classified as governmental. This category, in turn, is divided into separate fund types. The fund classifications and a description of each existing fund type follow:

Governmental Funds – Governmental funds account for all or most of the District's general activities, including the collection of legally restricted monies, administrative expenses, and the acquisition or construction of capital assets. Governmental funds include:

General Fund – The general operating fund of the District accounts for all financial resources, except those required to be accounted for in other funds.

Debt Service Fund – This fund accounts for the resources accumulated and payments made for principal and interest on general long-term debt associated with capital assets of the District.

Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

The accounting and financial treatment applied to a fund is determined by the type of financial statement presentation.

The combined government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows in the statement of activities. In these combined financial statements, capital assets are reported and depreciated in each fund.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. With this measurement focus, only current assets and current liabilities are generally included on the combined balance sheet. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. Expenditures for capital assets are reported as current expenses, and such assets are not depreciated.

Budgetary Accounting

The budget information reflected in the combined financial statements is the annual budget adopted by the District in accordance with the provisions of the Commonwealth of Kentucky law. The budget is prepared on a basis consistent with U.S. GAAP.

Note 1. Nature of Operations and Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Cash

Cash include cash and highly liquid investments with an original maturity date of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

Restricted Cash

Restricted cash in the general fund will be used to pay base rentals due on the Kentucky Bond Corporation lease from February 1, 2023 to January 1, 2024. Restricted cash in the debt service fund will be used to pay principal, interest and fees on debt from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

Account Receivable

Accounts receivable consist mainly of property taxes and other taxes due to the District as well as receivables related to EMS services provided to the District. An allowance for doubtful accounts related to the EMS receivables balance is based on the estimated uncollectible balance of the revenues earned or accrued based on historical bad debt experience. The allowance for bad debt related to EMS receivables was $659,369 as of June 30, 2023.

Capital Assets and Land

Capital assets and land, including buildings and improvements, and equipment, are reported in the governmental activity column in the combined government-wide financial statements. Such assets are recorded at historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair value at the date of donation. The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend the life of the asset are not capitalized.

All capital assets are depreciated using the straight-line depreciation method over the following estimated useful lives:

Buildings and improvements	50 years
Light duty apparatus	10 to 25 years
Major fire fighting apparatus	25 years
Vehicles	10 years
Equipment	5 to 15 years

NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 1. Nature of Operations and Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Net Position/Fund Balances

In the combined statement of net position, the difference between the District's assets and liabilities is recorded as net position. Three components of net position are as follows:

Net Investment in Capital Assets – This category records capital assets net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by any outstanding balances of bonds, mortgages, notes, or other borrowing attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of capital assets.

Restricted– Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through enabling legislation or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws or regulations of other governments.

Unrestricted – This category represents net position not appropriated for expenditures or legally segregated for a specific future use.

In the combined balance sheet of governmental funds the difference between the assets and liabilities of governmental funds is reported as fund balance. Fund balance is divided into the following classifications, as applicable:

Nonspendable – These resources include amounts that cannot be spent because they are either not spendable in form or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The District's nonspendable funds consisted of prepaid expenses as of June 30, 2023.

Restricted – Amounts constrained for a specific purpose by external parties, constitutional provisions, or enabling legislation. The District had funds restricted for debt service as of June 30, 2023.

Committed – Amounts constrained to specific purposes by the District itself, using its highest level of decision-making authority. To be reported as committed, amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the District takes the same highest level action to remove or change the constraint.

Assigned – Includes amounts that the District intends to use for a specific purpose, but do not meet the definition of restricted or committed fund balance. Amounts may be assigned by the Board of Trustees or the member from the Board of Trustees given authority to assign amounts. The District had assigned funds for vehicle replacement, building maintenance, training, equipment, volunteer fund and future payroll costs as of June 30, 2023.

Unassigned – Includes amounts that have not been assigned to other funds or restricted, committed or assigned to a specific purpose within the General Fund.

It is the policy of the District to spend restricted funds first when both restricted and unrestricted are available. Once restricted funds are spent then committed, assigned and unassigned funds are spent in that order.

Note 1. Nature of Operations and Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Compensated Absences

Compensated absences include unpaid leave benefits. District employees are granted leave benefits in varying amounts in accordance with administrative policy. In the combined government-wide combined statement of net position, all accumulated leave benefits are accrued when incurred. In governmental funds, compensated absences are not payable with available and spendable resources, therefore they are only recorded when an employee resigns or retires, or when an employee has taken vacation or sick time. Earned vacation pay may be paid upon termination of employment.

Deferred Outflows and Inflows of Resources

Deferred outflows of resources represent a consumption of net position that applies to future years and will not be recognized as an expense or expenditure until then. The District has various items that meet this criterion, including contributions made to the pension plan and OPEB plan during the year ended June 30, 2023 as well as other outflows (see Notes 6 and 7). Deferred inflows of resources represent an acquisition of net position that applies to future years and will not be recognized until then.

Pensions and Other Postemployment Benefits

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

Revenue Recognition – Property Taxes

The District determines the property tax rate by September 1 of each year. The Jefferson County Sheriff collects substantially all real estate property tax revenues and remits monthly to the District its portion, less applicable discounts and collection fees.

The Jefferson County Clerk collects substantially all motor vehicle and delinquent real estate taxes and remits them monthly to the District.

Subsequent events

Management has evaluated subsequent events through September 15, 2023, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

Note 2. Deposits

The District maintained deposits of public funds with depository institutions insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) as required by KRS 66.480(1)(d). According to KRS 41.240(4), the depository institution should pledge or provide sufficient collateral which, together with FDIC insurance, equals or exceeds the amount of public funds on deposit at all times.

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the District's deposits may not be returned to it. The District does not have a written deposit policy for custodial credit risk but rather follows the requirements of KRS 41.240(4). As of June 30, 2023, all deposits were covered by FDIC insurance or properly executed security agreement.

Note 3. Capital Assets and Right of Use Leased Assets

Capital asset activity (including right of use leased assets) for the year ended June 30, 2023 was as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Transfer in from Buechel	Additions	Disposals	Transfers	Ending Balance
Total assets not being depreciated:						
Land	$ 191,141	$ 259,704	$ - -	$ - -	$ - -	$ 450,845
Fire truck apparatus in process	1,004,819	119,500	652,591	- -	(1,776,910)	- -
	1,195,960	379,204	652,591	- -	(1,776,910)	450,845
Total assets being depreciated or amortized:						
Buildings	4,474,416	3,061,790	224,863	- -	119,500	7,880,569
Vehicles and fire fighting equipment	2,795,100	3,837,990	285,224	- -	1,657,410	8,575,724
Right of use leased assets	2,569,379	652,591	20,890	- -	- -	3,242,860
EMS equipment	1,616,440	- -	- -	- -	- -	1,616,440
Communications and other equipment	1,056,324	- -	93,004	- -	- -	1,149,328
Total cost	13,707,619	7,931,575	1,276,572	- -	- -	22,915,766
Less accumulated depreciation for:						
Buildings	(2,608,270)	- -	(143,938)	- -	- -	(2,752,208)
Vehicles and fire fighting equipment	(3,421,518)	- -	(117,905)	- -	- -	(3,539,423)
EMS equipment	(200,541)	- -	(108,687)	- -	- -	(309,228)
Communications and other equipment	(891,542)	- -	(78,210)	- -	- -	(969,752)
Buechel assets		(4,782,911)	(399,132)	- -	- -	(5,182,043)
Less accumulated amortization for:						
Right of use leased assets	(419,102)	- -	(184,161)	- -	- -	(603,263)
Total accumulated depreciation and amortization	(7,540,973)	(4,782,911)	(1,032,033)	- -	- -	(13,355,917)
Net book value	$ 6,166,646	$ 3,148,664	$ 244,539	$ - -	$ - -	$ 9,559,849

Note 3. Capital Assets and Right of Use Leased Assets (Continued)

Right of use leased assets

Right-of-use leased assets represent the District's right to utilize a leased asset during the rental period. Right of use assets are valued at the present value of the lease payments less accumulated amortization. Amortization expense is computed using straight-line method over the lease term. The net book value of right of use leased vehicles was $2,639,597 as of June 30, 2023.

Note 4. Long-Term Debt

A summary of the District's long-term debt activity is as follows:

	June 30, 2022	Transfer from Buechel	Increases	Decreases	June 30, 2023	Current
Commonwealth Bank & Trust (A)	$ 421,976	$ - -	$ - -	$ (421,976)	$ - -	$ - -
Park Community Credit Union (B)	367,010	- -	- -	(60,668)	306,342	62,370
Stock Yards Bank & Trust Co. (C)	- -	632,127	- -	(56,800)	575,327	63,355
	$ 788,986	$ 632,127	$ - -	$ (539,444)	$ 881,669	$ 125,725

(A) The District entered into a debt agreement with Commonwealth Bank & Trust for $1,250,000 on October 25, 2019 to finance certain equipment, vehicles and ambulances related to its ambulance service. The note was due in monthly installments of $19,387 at a fixed interest rate of 3.65% with a maturity date of October 26, 2026. This note was paid off during the year.

(B) The District entered into a debt agreement with Park Community Credit Union for $445,460 on February 17, 2021 to finance two ambulances related to its ambulance service. The note is due in monthly installments of $5,835 at a fixed interest rate of 2.75% with a maturity date of February 17, 2028.

(C) The Buechel Fire Protection District entered into a debt agreement with Stock Yards Bank & Trust Company for $655,000 on August 11, 2021 to finance a new fire apparatus. The note was due in monthly installments of $6,486 at a fixed interest rate of 2.55%. This note was refinanced into Fern Creek Fire Protection District's name on December 10, 2022 for $606,436 with Stock Yards Bank & Trust Company. This note is due in monthly installments of $6,460 at a fixed interest rate of 2.55% with a maturity date of September 10, 2031.

NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 4. Long-Term Debt (Continued)

The following is the summary of the District's notes payable payments (principal and interest) as of June 30, 2023:

Year ending June 30:

	Principal	Interest	Payments
2024	$ 125,725	$ 21,821	$ 147,546
2025	129,178	18,368	147,546
2026	132,656	14,890	147,546
2027	136,238	11,308	147,546
2028	116,475	7,730	124,205
2029-2032	241,397	10,550	251,947
	$ 881,669	$ 84,667	$ 966,336

Note 5. Leases

The District finances certain buildings and firefighting equipment acquisitions under lease agreements expiring through 2031. The District recognized a lease liability, measured at the present value by using the rate provided in the lease agreement. Each lessee contract was discounted at rates ranging from 2.25% to 3.77% based on the length of term of the contract.

The following is a summary of lease liabilities as of June 30, 2023:

	June 30, 2022	Increases	Decreases	June 30, 2023	Current
Kentucky Bond Corporation (2012)	$ 52,084	$ - -	$ (40,417)	$ 11,667	$ 11,667
U.S. Bancorp (2017)	175,583	- -	(175,583)	- -	- -
U.S. Bancorp (2018)	526,324	- -	(67,019)	459,305	69,574
Santander Bank (2021)	954,354	- -	(112,171)	842,183	97,570
	$ 1,708,345	$ - -	$ (395,190)	$ 1,313,155	$ 178,811

Future principal and interest payments on lease obligations (principal and interest) as of June 30, 2023 are as follows:

Year ending June 30:

	Principal	Interest	Payments
2024	$ 178,811	$ 40,715	$ 219,526
2025	172,461	34,843	207,304
2026	177,951	29,353	207,304
2027	183,621	23,683	207,304
2028	189,476	17,828	207,304
2029-2031	410,835	21,345	432,180
Total	$ 1,313,155	$ 167,767	$ 1,480,922

Note 5. Leases (Continued)

Total lease expense for the year ended June 30, 2023 consists of the following:

Amortization expense	
Vehicles	184,161
Total amortization expense	184,161
Interest on lease liabilities	56,334
Total lease expense	$ 240,495

Note 6. Retirement Plans

Pension Plan

Plan Description: The District has elected to participate in the County Employees Retirement System (CERS), pursuant to Kentucky Revised Statute 78.530 administered by the Board of Trustees of the Kentucky Retirement Systems (KRS). This is a cost sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan, which covers all eligible full-time employees and provides for retirement, disability, and death benefits to plan members. Benefit contributions and provisions are established by statute. Historical trend information showing CERS' progress in accumulating sufficient assets to pay benefits when due is presented in the Kentucky Retirement Systems' annual financial report. This report may be obtained by writing the Kentucky Retirement Systems, 1260 Louisville Road, Frankfort, KY 40601-6124, or by telephone at 502-696-8800.

Benefits Provided: Benefits fully vest on reaching five years of service for nonhazardous employees. Aspects of benefits for nonhazardous employees include retirement after 27 years of service or age 65. Nonhazardous employees who begin participation on or after September 1, 2008 must meet the rule of 87 (members age plus years of service credit must equal 87, and the member must be a minimum of 57 years of age) or the member is age 65, with a minimum of 60 months service credit, or at least 10 years of service and 60 years old. Nonhazardous employees who begin participation after December 31, 2013 must meet the rule of 87 (members age plus years of service credit must equal 87, and member must be a minimum of 57 years of age) or the member is age 65, with a minimum of 60 months of service credit.

Aspects of benefits for hazardous employees include retirement after 20 years of service or age 55. Hazardous employees who begin participation on or after September 1, 2008 receive benefits when they have 25 years of service or the member is age 60, with a minimum of 60 months of service credit. Hazardous employees who begin participation after December 31, 2013 must have 25 years of service or age 60 with at least 60 months of service credit.

Note 6. Retirement Plans (Continued)

Pension Plan (continued)

Contributions: Nonhazardous covered employees are required to contribute 5.00% of their salary to the plan. Nonhazardous covered employees who begin participation on or after September 1, 2008 are required to contribute 6.00% of their salary to the plan. The District's pension contribution rate for nonhazardous employees was 23.40%, 21.17%, and 19.30% for the years ended June 30, 2023, 2022 and 2021, respectively.

Hazardous covered employees are required to contribute 8.00% of their salary to the plan. Hazardous covered employees who begin participation on or after September 1, 2008 are required to contribute 9.00% of their salary to be allocated as follows: 8.00% will go to the member's account and 1.00% will go to the Kentucky Retirement Systems insurance fund. The District's pension contribution rate for hazardous employees was 42.81%, 33.86%, and 30.06% for the years ended June 30, 2023, 2022 and 2021, respectively.

Contributions to the KRS Pension Fund from the District were \$2,564,871, \$971,462, and \$726,782 for the years ended June 30, 2023, 2022 and 2021, respectively.

Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions: As of June 30, 2023, the District reported a liability of \$25,032,936 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2022, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on a projection of the District's long-term share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating employers, actuarially determined. At June 30, 2022, the District's proportion was 0.804369% for hazardous covered employees and 0.006750% for nonhazardous covered employees.

Pension expense totaled \$4,448,893 for the year ended June 30, 2023. As of June 30, 2023, the District had deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to its pension plan from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Net differences between projected and actual earnings on investments	\$ 2,804,369	\$ 2,224,939
Differences between actual and expected experience	704,270	4,345
Changes in proportion and differences between District's contributions and proportionate share of contributions	6,303,004	1,511,864
District contributions subsequent to the measurement date	2,564,872	- -
	\$ 12,376,515	\$ 3,741,148

Note 6. Retirement Plans (Continued)

Pension Plan (continued)

The District's deferred outflows of resources of $2,564,872 related to contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability during the year ending June 30, 2024. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources as of June 30, 2023 will be recognized into pension expense as follows:

Year Ending June 30:		
2024	$	2,466,304
2025		1,962,097
2026		880,064
2027		762,030
	$	6,070,495

Actuarial assumptions: The total pension liability in the June 30, 2022 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to years included in the measurement:

Inflation:	2.30%
Payroll growth rate:	2.00%
Salary increases:	3.30% to 10.30%, varies by service for nonhazardous; 3.55% to 19.05% varies by service for hazardous
Investment rate of return:	6.25%

The total pension liability, net pension liability, and sensitivity information as of June 30, 2022 were based on an actuarial valuation date of June 30, 2021. The total pension liability was rolled forward from the valuation date to the measurement date at June 30, 2022, using generally accepted actuarial principles.

The mortality table used for active members was Pub-2010 General Mortality table, for the Nonhazardous Plans, and the Pub-2010 Public Safety Mortality table for the Hazardous Plans, projected with the ultimate rates from the MP-2014 mortality improvement scale using a base year of 2010. The mortality table used for non-disabled retired members was a system-specific mortality table based on mortality experience from 2013-2018, projected with the ultimate rates from MP-2014 mortality improvement scale using a base year of 2019. The mortality table used for the disabled members was PUB-2010. Disabled Mortality table, with a 4-year set-forward for both male and female rates, projected with the ultimate rates from the MP-2014 mortality improvement scale using a base year of 2010.

Note 6. Retirement Plans (Continued)

Pension Plan (continued)

The long-term expected return on plan assets is reviewed as part of the regular experience studies prepared every five years for KRS. Several factors are considered in evaluating the long-term rate of return assumption including long-term historical data, estimates inherent in current market data, and a log-normal distribution analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected return, net of investment expense, and inflation) were developed by the investment consultant for each major asset class. These ranges were combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and then adding expected inflation. The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Public Equity	50.00%	4.45%
Private Equity	10.00%	10.15%
Core Bonds	10.00%	0.28%
Specialty Credit/High Yield	10.00%	2.28%
Cash	0.00%	-0.91%
Real Estate	7.00%	3.67%
Real Return	13.00%	4.07%
	100.00%	

Discount rate: The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 6.25%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that local employers would contribute the actuarially determined contribution rate of projected compensation over the remaining 24 years (closed) amortization period of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability. The target asset allocation and best estimates of arithmetic nominal rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR).

Sensitivity of the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability to changes in the discount rate: The following presents the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 6.25%, as well as what the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (5.25%) or 1-percentage-point higher (7.25%) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease - 5.25%	Current Discount Rate - 6.25%	1% Increase - 7.25%
Net Pension Liability - Hazardous	$ 30,574,786	$ 24,544,977	$ 19,634,070
Net Pension Liability - Nonhazardous	609,887	487,959	387,113
Total Net Pension Liability	$ 31,184,673	$ 25,032,936	$ 20,021,183

Note 6. Retirement Plans (Continued)

Pension Plan (continued)

Pension plan fiduciary net position: Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued KRS financial report.

Deferred Compensation Plans

The District's employees may elect to participate in two deferred compensation plans offered by the Kentucky Public Employees Deferred Compensation Authority under sections 401(k) and 457 of the Internal Revenue Code. Under these plans, employees may defer up to 100% of their compensation after deducting required contributions to the CERS plan. The District does not make matching contributions to these plans.

Note 7. Other Postemployment Benefits Plan

Plan description: County Employees Retirement System consists of two plans, Non-Hazardous and Hazardous. Each plan is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit other postemployment benefit (OPEB) plan administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems (KRS) under the provision of Kentucky Revised Statute 61.645. The plan covers all regular full-time members employed in non-hazardous and hazardous duty positions of each participating county, city, and any additional eligible local agencies electing to participate in CERS. The District participates in both the nonhazardous and hazardous plan.

Benefits provided: The KRS' Insurance Fund was established to provide hospital and medical insurance for eligible members receiving benefits from CERS. The eligible non-Medicare retirees are covered by the Department of Employee Insurance (DEI) plans. KRS submits the premium payments to DEI. The Board contracts with Humana to provide health care benefits to the eligible Medicare retirees through a Medicare Advantage Plan. The Insurance Fund pays a prescribed contribution for whole or partial payment of required premiums to purchase hospital and medical insurance.

The amount of contribution paid by the Insurance Fund is based on years of service. For members participating prior to July 1, 2003, years of service and respective percentages of the maximum contribution are as follows:

Portion Paid by Insurance Fund	
Years of Service	Paid by Insurance Fund (%)
20 + Years	100.00%
15 - 19 Years	75.00%
10 - 14 Years	50.00%
4 - 9 Years	25.00%
< 4 Years	0.00%

Note 7. Other Postemployment Benefits Plan (Continued)

As a result of House Bill 290 (2004 Kentucky General Assembly), medical insurance benefits are calculated differently for members who began participating on, or after July 1, 2003. Once members reach a minimum vesting period of 10 years, non-hazardous employees whose participation began on, or after July 1, 2003, earn $10 per month for insurance benefits at retirement for every year of earned service without regard to a maximum dollar amount. Hazardous employees whose participation began on, or after July 1, 2003 earn $15 per month for insurance benefits at retirement for every year of earned service without regard to a maximum dollar amount. Upon death of a hazardous employee, the employee's spouse receives $10 per month for insurance benefits for each year of the deceased employee's earned hazardous service. This dollar amount is subject to adjustment annually, which is currently 1.5% based upon Kentucky Revised Statutes. This benefit is not protected under the inviolable contract provisions of KRS 61.692. The Kentucky General Assembly reserves the right to suspend or reduce this benefit if, in its judgment, the welfare of the Commonwealth so demands. There was no legislation enacted during the 2019 legislative session that had a material change in benefit provisions for either system.

Contributions: Nonhazardous covered employees are required to contribute 5.00% of their salary to the plan. Nonhazardous covered employees who begin participation on or after September 1, 2008 are required to contribute 6.00% of their salary to the plan. The District's contribution rate to the KRS Insurance Fund for nonhazardous employees was 3.39%, 5.78%, and 4.76% for the years ended June 30, 2023, 2022 and 2021, respectively.

Hazardous covered employees are required to contribute 8.00% of their salary to the plan. Hazardous covered employees who begin participation on or after September 1, 2008 are required to contribute 9.00% of their salary. The District's pension contribution rate for hazardous employees was 6.78%, 10.47%, and 9.52% for the years ended June 30, 2023, 2022 and 2021, respectively. The actuarially determined rates set by the Board for the fiscal years was a percentage of each employee's creditable compensation.

Contributions to the KRS Insurance Fund from the District were $405,395, $299,446, and $228,769 for the years ended June 30, 2023, 2022 and 2021, respectively.

OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB: At June 30, 2023, the District reported a liability of $6,981,797 for its proportionate share of the net OPEB liability. The net OPEB liability was measured as of June 30, 2022, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2021. The total OPEB liability was rolled-forward from the valuation date to the plan's fiscal year end, June 30, 2022, using generally accepted actuarial principles. The District's proportion of the net OPEB liability was based on the District's share of contributions to the OPEB plan relative to the contributions of all participating employers. At June 30, 2022, the District's proportion was 0.804029% for hazardous covered employees and 0.006749% for nonhazardous covered employees.

Note 7. Other Postemployment Benefits Plan (Continued)

For the year ended June 30, 2023, the District recognized OPEB expense of $1,467,510. As of June 30, 2023, the District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Change in assumptions	$ 1,164,298	$ 1,195,756
Net differences between projected and actual earnings on investments	1,456,536	1,201,160
Differences between actual and expected experiences	164,732	436,157
Changes in proportion and differences between District's contributions and proportionate share of contributions	2,185,958	486,835
District contributions subsequent to the measurement date	405,396	- -
	$ 5,376,920	$ 3,319,908

The District's deferred outflows of resources of $405,396 related to contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability during the year ending June 30, 2024. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows and inflows of resources as of June 30, 2023 will be recognized into OPEB expense (benefit) as follows:

Year Ending June 30:	
2024	$ 559,231
2025	463,073
2026	301,946
2027	444,858
2028	(117,492)
	$ 1,651,616

Actuarial assumptions: The total OPEB liability in the June 30, 2022 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial methods and assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Valuation Date	June 30, 2020
Experience Study	July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2018
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal
Amortization Method	Level Percent of Pay
Amortization Period	30 Years, Closed
Asset Valuation Method	20% of the difference between the market value of assets and the expected actuarial value of assets is recognized

Note 7. Other Postemployment Benefits Plan (Continued)

Payroll Growth Rate	2.00%
Inflation	2.30%
Salary Increase	3.30% to 10.30%, varies by service for nonhazardous; 3.55% to 19.05% varies by service for hazardous
Investment Rate of Return	6.25%
Healthcare Trend Rates (Pre-65)	Initial trend starting at 6.20% at 1/1/2024 and gradually decreasing to an ultimate trend rate of 4.05% over 13 years.
Healthcare Trend Rates (Post-65)	Initial trend starting at 9.00% at 1/1/2024 and gradually decreasing to an ultimate trend rate of 4.05% over 13 years.
Mortality (Pre-retirement)	PUB-2010 General Mortality table, for the Nonhazardous Plans, and the PUB-2010 Public Safety Mortality table for the Hazardous Plans, projected with the ultimate rates from the MP-2014 mortality improvement scale using a base year of 2010.
Mortality (Post-retirement)	Non-disabled – System-specific mortality table based on mortality experience from 2013-2018, projected with the ultimate rates from MP-2014 mortality improvement scale using a base year of 2019. Disabled – PUB 2010 Disabled Mortality table, with a 4-year set-forward for both male and female rates, projected with the ultimate rates from the MP-2014 mortality improvement scale using a base year of 2010.

The long-term expected return on plan assets was determined by using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real returns are developed for each asset class. The ranges are combined by weighting the expected future real rate of return by the target asset allocation percentage. The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rate of return for each major asset class is summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Public Equity	50.00%	4.45%
Private Equity	10.00%	10.15%
Core Bonds	10.00%	0.28%
Specialty Credit/High Yield	10.00%	2.28%
Cash	0.00%	-0.91%
Real Estate	7.00%	3.67%
Real Return	13.00%	4.07%
	100.00%	

Note 7. Other Postemployment Benefits Plan (Continued)

Discount rate: The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 5.70% for nonhazardous and 5.61% for hazardous. The discount rates are based on the expected rate of return on OPEB plan investments of 6.25%, and a municipal bond rate of 3.69%, as reported in Fidelity Index's "20-Year Municipal GO AA Index" as of June 30, 2022. Based on the stated assumptions and the projection of cash flows as of each fiscal year ending, each plan's fiduciary net position and future contributions were projected separately and were sufficient to finance the future benefit payments of the current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on insurance plan investments was applied to all periods of the projected benefit payments paid from the plan. However, the cost associated with the implicit employer subsidy was not included in the calculation of the plans actuarially determined contributions, and any cost associated with the implicit subsidy will not be paid out of the plan trusts. Therefore, the municipal bond rate was applied to future expected benefit payments associated with the implicit subsidy. The target asset allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR).

The projection of cash flows used to determine the single discount rate must include an assumption regarding future employer contributions made each year. Future contributions are projected assuming that each participating employer in each insurance plan contributes the actuarially determined employer contribution each future year calculated in accordance with the current funding policy.

Sensitivity of the District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability to changes in the discount rate: The following presents the District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability calculated using the discount rate of 5.70% for nonhazardous and 5.61% for hazardous, as well as what the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (4.70% for nonhazardous and 4.61% for hazardous) or 1-percentage-point higher (6.70% for nonhazardous and 6.61% for hazardous) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease - 4.70% Nonhazardous, 4.61% Hazardous	Current Discount Rate - 5.70% Nonhazardous, 5.61% Hazardous	1% Increase - 6.70% Nonhazardous, 6.61% Hazardous
Net OPEB Liability - Hazardous	$ 9,515,931	$ 6,848,605	$ 4,682,237
Net OPEB Liability - Nonhazardous	178,057	133,192	96,104
Total Net OPEB Liability	$ 9,693,988	$ 6,981,797	$ 4,778,341

Note 7. Other Postemployment Benefits Plan (Continued)

Sensitivity of the District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability to changes in the healthcare cost trend rates: The following presents the District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability, as well as what the District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using healthcare cost trend rates that are 1-percentage-point lower or 1-percentage-point higher than the current healthcare cost trend rates:

	1% Decrease	Current Healthcare Cost Trend Rate	1% Increase
Net OPEB Liability - Hazardous	$ 4,782,295	$ 6,848,605	$ 9,367,326
Net OPEB Liability - Nonhazardous	99,026	133,192	174,220
Total Net OPEB Liability	$ 4,881,321	$ 6,981,797	$ 9,541,546

Pension plan fiduciary net position: Detailed information about the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued Kentucky Retirement Systems Comprehensive Annual Financial Report on the KRS website at www.kyret.ky.gov.

NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 8. District Revenue Profile

An eight year summary of the District's assessed property and revenue collected is as follows:

Fiscal Year	Tax Rate	Real Estate Assessed Valuation	Motor Vehicle Assessed Valuation	Boat Assessed Valuation	Tax Revenue Budgeted	Tax Revenue Collected	Tax Collection Percentage
2015-2016	0.10	2,499,414,920	241,371,693	4,861,541	2,748,000	2,766,126	1.01
2016-2017	0.10	2,640,643,010	250,428,599	4,942,639	2,810,000	2,897,116	1.03
2017-2018	0.10	2,822,920,830	256,125,031	4,956,196	3,079,000	3,121,742	1.01
2018-2019	0.10	2,928,574,700	272,987,658	5,045,526	3,228,000	3,247,689	1.01
2019-2020	0.10	3,026,151,250	286,054,972	5,328,056	3,268,013	3,307,884	1.01
2020-2021	0.17	3,123,909,895	290,907,920	6,850,505	5,700,300	5,755,222	1.01
2021-2022	0.17	3,373,120,615	307,399,465	7,146,044	6,192,000	6,374,524	1.03
2022-2023	0.18	6,139,312,694	572,735,690	9,587,728	13,174,307	13,196,432	1.00

Fiscal Year	Real Estate Assessed Valuation	Number of Taxpayer Accounts	Average Assessment
2015-2016	2,499,414,920	14,136	176,812
2016-2017	2,640,643,010	14,267	185,087
2017-2018	2,822,920,830	14,510	194,550
2018-2019	2,928,574,700	14,744	198,628
2019-2020	3,026,151,250	14,818	204,221
2020-2021	3,123,909,895	15,029	207,859
2021-2022	3,373,120,615	15,262	221,014
2022-2023	6,139,312,694	24,217	253,513

Note 9. Subsequent Event

On July 1, 2023, an executive order was issued by the Mayor of Louisville/Jefferson County Metro Government to merge the Highview Fire Department with and into the Fern Creek Protection District pursuant to KRS 75.020. The order was filed and approved by the Jefferson County Attorney and took effect on July 1, 2023.

FERN CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT AND FERN CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT HOLDING COMPANY, INC.
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SCHEDULE OF DISTRICT'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF NET PENSION LIABILITY

	June 30,								
	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
NON-HAZARDOUS									
District's proportion of the net pension liability	0.006750%	0.004095%	0.002796%	0.002533%	0.002420%	0.002364%	0.002363%	0.002304%	0.002300%
District's proportionate share of net pension liability	$ 487,959	$ 261,088	$ 214,451	$ 178,147	$ 147,385	$ 138,372	$ 116,344	$ 99,069	$ 73,000
District's covered-employee payroll in year of measurement	$ 123,235	$ 103,718	$ 71,614	$ 63,894	$ 59,988	$ 57,548	$ 56,369	$ 53,760	$ 51,805
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its employee-covered payroll	395.96%	251.73%	299.45%	278.82%	245.69%	240.45%	206.40%	184.28%	140.91%
Plan Fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	52.42%	57.33%	47.81%	50.45%	53.54%	53.30%	55.50%	59.97%	66.80%
HAZARDOUS									
District's proportion of the net pension liability	0.804369%	0.379028%	0.240785%	0.216519%	0.191107%	0.171812%	0.169330%	0.167054%	0.170000%
District's proportionate share of net pension liability	24,544,977	$ 10,090,329	$ 7,259,736	$ 5,980,894	$ 4,621,840	$ 3,843,913	$ 2,905,610	$ 2,564,450	$ 1,984,000
District's covered-employee payroll in year of measurement	2,792,007	$ 2,351,179	$ 1,484,093	$ 1,233,111	$ 1,087,229	$ 943,151	$ 916,514	$ 892,260	$ 871,354
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its employee-covered payroll	879.12%	429.16%	489.17%	485.02%	425.10%	407.56%	317.03%	287.41%	227.69%
Plan Fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	47.11%	52.26%	44.11%	46.63%	49.26%	49.80%	53.95%	57.52%	63.50%

* June 30, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015 and 2014 reflect dates of the actuarial valuation.

* * Prior to June 30, 2022, reflects net pension liability for only Fern Creek Fire Protection District as Buechel merged with and into Fern Creek Fire Protection after this period.

FERN CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT AND FERN CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT HOLDING COMPANY, INC.
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SCHEDULE OF DISTRICT CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (CERS) PENSION

	June 30,									
	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
NON-HAZARDOUS										
Contractually required contribution	$ 60,263	$ 26,089	$ 20,018	$ 13,822	$ 10,364	$ 8,686	$ 8,028	$ 7,001	$ 6,854	$ 7,118
Actual contributions	(60,263)	(26,089)	(20,018)	(13,822)	(10,364)	(8,686)	(8,028)	(7,001)	(6,854)	(7,118)
Contribution deficiency (excess)	$ - -	$ - -	$ - -	$ - -	$ - -	$ - -	$ - -	$ - -	$ - -	$ - -
District's covered employee-payroll	$ 257,536	$ 123,235	$ 103,718	$ 71,614	$ 63,894	$ 59,988	$ 57,548	$ 56,369	$ 53,760	$ 51,805
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	23.40%	21.17%	19.30%	19.30%	16.22%	14.48%	13.95%	12.42%	12.75%	13.74%
HAZARDOUS										
Contractually required contribution	$ 2,504,608	$ 945,373	$ 706,764	$ 446,118	$ 306,551	$ 241,365	$ 204,758	$ 185,686	$ 184,966	$ 189,694
Actual contributions	(2,504,608)	(945,373)	(706,764)	(446,118)	(306,551)	(241,365)	(204,758)	(185,686)	(184,966)	(189,694)
Contribution deficiency (excess)	$ - -	$ - -	$ - -	$ - -	$ - -	$ - -	$ - -	$ - -	$ - -	$ - -
District's covered employee-payroll	$ 5,850,521	$ 2,792,007	$ 2,351,179	$ 1,484,093	$ 1,233,111	$ 1,087,229	$ 943,151	$ 916,514	$ 892,260	$ 871,354
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	42.81%	33.86%	30.06%	30.06%	24.86%	22.20%	21.71%	20.26%	20.73%	21.77%

* June 30, 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015 and 2014 reflect financial reporting dates.

* * Prior to June 30, 2023, reflects contributions by only Fern Creek Fire Protection District as Buechel merged with and into Fern Creek Fire Protection District after this period.

FERN CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT AND FERN CREEK
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT HOLDING COMPANY, INC.

SCHEDULE OF DISTRICT'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF NET OPEB LIABILITY

	June 30,					
	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
NON-HAZARDOUS						
District's proportion of the OPEB liability	0.006749%	0.004094%	0.002795%	0.002532%	0.002420%	0.002364%
District's proportionate share of net OPEB liability	$ 133,192	$ 78,378	$ 67,491	$ 42,587	$ 42,967	$ 47,524
District's covered-employee payroll in year of measurement	$ 123,235	$ 103,718	$ 71,614	$ 63,894	$ 59,988	$ 57,548
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability as a percentage of its employee-covered payroll	108.08%	75.57%	94.24%	66.65%	71.63%	82.58%
Plan Fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability	60.95%	62.91%	51.67%	60.44%	57.62%	52.40%
HAZARDOUS						
District's proportion of the OPEB liability	0.804029%	0.379027%	0.240709%	0.216519%	0.191117%	0.171812%
District's proportionate share of OPEB liability	$ 6,848,605	$ 3,064,658	$ 2,224,405	$ 1,601,626	$ 1,362,587	$ 1,420,321
District's covered-employee payroll in year of measurement	$ 2,792,007	$ 2,351,179	$ 1,484,093	$ 1,233,111	$ 1,087,229	$ 943,151
District's proportionate share of the OPEB liability as a percentage of its employee-covered payroll	245.29%	130.35%	149.88%	129.88%	125.33%	150.59%
Plan Fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability	64.13%	66.81%	58.84%	64.44%	64.24%	59.00%

* June 30, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018 and 2017 reflect the date of the actuarial valuation.

* * Prior to June 30, 2022, reflects net pension liability for only Fern Creek Fire Protection District as Buechel merged with and into Fern Creek Fire Protection after this period.

FERN CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT AND FERN CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT HOLDING COMPANY, INC.
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SCHEDULE OF DISTRICT CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (CERS) OPEB

	June 30,						
	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
NON-HAZARDOUS							
Contractually required contribution	$ 8,730	$ 7,123	$ 4,937	$ 3,409	$ 3,361	$ 2,819	$ 2,722
Actual contributions	(8,730)	(7,123)	(4,937)	(3,409)	(3,361)	(2,819)	(2,722)
Contribution deficiency (excess)	$ - -	$ - -	$ - -	$ - -	$ - -	$ - -	$ - -
District's covered employee-payroll	$ 257,536	$ 123,235	$ 103,718	$ 71,614	$ 63,894	$ 59,988	$ 57,548
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	3.39%	5.78%	4.76%	4.76%	5.26%	4.70%	4.73%
HAZARDOUS							
Contractually required contribution	$ 396,665	$ 292,323	$ 223,832	$ 141,285	$ 129,230	$ 101,656	$ 88,185
Actual contributions	(396,665)	(292,323)	(223,832)	(141,285)	(129,230)	(101,656)	(88,185)
Contribution deficiency (excess)	$ - -	$ - -	$ - -	$ - -	$ - -	$ - -	$ - -
District's covered employee-payroll	$ 5,850,521	$ 2,792,007	$ 2,351,179	$ 1,484,093	$ 1,233,111	$ 1,087,229	$ 943,151
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	6.78%	10.47%	9.52%	9.52%	10.48%	9.35%	9.35%

* June 30, 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018 and 2017 reflect financial reporting dates.

* * Prior to June 30, 2023, reflects contributions by only Fern Creek Fire Protection District as Buechel merged with and into Fern Creek Fire Protection District after this period.

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
Fern Creek Fire Protection District and
Fern Creek Fire Protection District
Holding Company, Inc.
Louisville, Kentucky

We have audited, 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, the combined financial statements of Fern Creek Fire Protection District and Fern Creek Fire Protection District Holding Company, Inc. (the District), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the combined financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated September 15, 2023.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

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

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or, significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

Certified Public Accountants and Advisors
401 West Main Street, Suite 1100 Louisville, Kentucky 40202 tel: 502.583.0248 fax: 502.589.1680 www.jnmcpa.com

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the District's combined 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 financial statements. 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.

Jones, Nale & Mattingly PLC

Louisville, Kentucky
September 15, 2023