# MUSCONETCONG SEWERAGE AUTHORITY REPORT OF AUDIT FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

#### **MUSCONETCONG SEWERAGE AUTHORITY**

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STEVEN D. WIELKOTZ, CPA, RMA, PSA
MATTHEW B. WIELKOTZ, CPA, PSA
PAUL J. CUVA, CPA, RMA, PSA
JAMES J. CERULLO, CPA, RMA, PSA
KARI FERGUSON, CPA, RMA, CMFO, PSA
ROBERT C. McNINCH, CPA, CFE, PSA
KEVIN REEVES, CPA, PSA

40 | WANAQUE AVENUE POMPTON LAKES, NEW JERSEY 07442

Phone: (973)-835-7900 Fax: (973)-835-7900

EMAIL: OFFICE@W-CPA.COM

WWW.W-CPA.COM

#### **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

Honorable Chairman and Members Musconetcong Sewerage Authority Budd Lake, New Jersey 07828

#### Report on the Financial Statements

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the accompanying statement of net position of the Musconetcong Sewerage Authority, as of December 31, 2022 and 2021 and the related statements of revenues, expenses and changes in net position and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Authority's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Musconetcong Sewerage Authority as of December 31, 2022 and 2021, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States if America.

#### **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards (Government Auditing Standards), issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Musconetcong Sewerage Authority and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.



Honorable Chairperson and Commissioners Musconetcong Sewerage Authority Page 2.

#### Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Musconetcong Sewerage Authority's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

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

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our 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 GAAS 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 GAAS 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 financial statements, whether
  due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks.
   Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and
  disclosures in the financial statements.



Honorable Chairperson and Commissioners Musconetcong Sewerage Authority Page 3.

- 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 Musconetcong Sewerage Authority's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Musconetcong Sewerage Authority'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, schedule of the Authority's proportionate share of the net pension liability, and schedule of Authority contributions as listed in the table of contents be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, 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 the 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.



Honorable Chairperson and Commissioners Musconetcong Sewerage Authority Page 4.

#### Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Authority's basic financial statements. The supplementary information listed in the table of contents and the schedule of expenditures of federal and state awards, as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulation Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance) and N.J. OMB Circular 15-08 are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the supplementary information listed in the table of contents and the schedule of expenditures of federal and state awards, as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulation Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance) and N.J. OMB Circular 15-08 is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Management is responsible for the other information included in the annual report. The other information comprises the letter of comments and recommendations section but does not include the basic financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinions on the basic financial statements do not cover other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the basic financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

#### Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 19, 2023 on our consideration of the Musconetcong Sewerage Authority's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the



Honorable Chairperson and Commissioners Musconetcong Sewerage Authority Page 5.

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 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 Musconetcong Sewerage Authority's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Very truly yours,

Wielkotz & Company, LLC

WIELKOTZ & COMPANY, LLC Certified Public Accountants Pompton Lakes, New Jersey

June 19, 2023



Required Supplementary Information - Part I

Management's Discussion and Analysis

As management of the Musconetcong Sewerage Authority, we offer the Authority's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the Authority's financial performance during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2022 and 2021. Please read this analysis in conjunction with the Authority's financial statements, which follow this section.

#### Financial Highlights

- The Authority's assets and deferred outflows exceeded its liabilities and deferred inflows of resources by \$20,292,953 (net position) for the fiscal year reported. This compares to the previous year when assets and deferred outflows exceeded liabilities and deferred inflows of resources by \$20,577,866.
- Total net position is comprised of the following:
  - (1) Net investment in capital assets of \$19,134,846 includes property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation, and reduced for outstanding debt and unexpended funds related to the purchase or construction of capital assets.
  - (2) Restricted of \$15,226 are restricted by constraints imposed from outside the Authority such as debt covenants, grantors, laws, or regulations.
  - (3) Unrestricted of \$1,142,881 represent the portion available to maintain the Authority's continuing obligations to citizens and creditors.
- Total liabilities of the Authority decreased by \$565,753 to \$8,611,124 during the fiscal year.

#### **Overview of the Financial Statements**

This annual report includes this management discussion, the independent auditor's report and the basic financial statements of the Authority. The financial statements also include notes that explain in more detail some of the information in the financial statements.

#### Required Financial Statements

The financial statements of the Authority report information of the Authority using accounting methods similar to those used by private sector companies. These statements offer short and long-term financial information about its activities. The *Statement of Net Position* includes all of the Authority's assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities and deferred inflows of resources, and provides information about the nature and amounts of investments in resources (assets), the consumption of net assets that is applicable to a future period (deferred outflows of resources), the acquisition of net assets that is applicable to a future reporting period (deferred inflows of resources) and the obligations to Authority creditors (liabilities). It also provides the basis for evaluating the capital structure of the Authority and assessing the liquidity and financial flexibility of the Authority.

All of the current year's revenues and expenses are accounted for in the *Statement of Revenues, Expenses* and Changes in Net Position. This statement measures the results of the Authority's operations over the past year and can be used to determine whether the Authority has recovered all its costs through user fees and other charges, operational stability and credit worthiness.

The final required financial statement is the *Statement of Cash Flows*. This statement reports cash receipts and cash payments, and net changes in cash resulting from operations, investing and financing activities and provides answers to such questions as what operational sources provided cash, what was the cash used for, and what was the change in cash balance during the reporting period.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

The accompanying notes to the financial statements provide information essential to a full understanding of the financial statements. The notes to the financial statements begin immediately following the basic financial statements.

#### Other Information

In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report presents certain required supplementary information. This supplementary information follows the notes to the financial statements.

#### Financial Analysis of the Authority

One of the most important questions asked about the Authorities finances is "Is the Authority as a whole better able to fulfill its mission as a result of this years activities?" The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position report information about the Authority's activities in a way that will help answer this question. These two statements report net position of the Authority and the changes in the position. The reader can think of the Authority's net position – the difference between assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities and deferred inflows of resources – as one way to measure financial health or financial position. Over time, increases or decreases in the Authority's net position are one indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating. However, one will need to consider the non-financial factors such as changes in economic conditions, population growth, development, and new or changed government regulation.

#### **Net Position**

As year-to-year financial information is accumulated on a consistent basis, changes in net position may be observed and used to discuss the changing financial position of the Authority as a whole.

The Authority's net position at fiscal year-end is \$20,292,953. This is a \$284,913 decrease under last year's net position of \$20,577,866. A summary of the Authority's statement of net position is presented in the following table:

#### Condensed Statement of Net Position at December 31, 2022 With Comparative Prior Year Balances

	FY 2022	FY 2021	Dollar <u>Change</u>	Percent <u>Change</u>
Current Assets	3,238,353	4,141,050	(902,697)	(21.80)%
Capital Assets	<u>25,718,508</u>	<u>26,288,090</u>	(569,582)	(2.17)%
Total Assets	<u>28,956,861</u>	30,429,140	(1,472,279)	(4.84)%
Deferred Outflows of Resources	392,443	298,953	93,490	31.27%
Long-term Liabilities	2,202,216	1,913,878	288,338	15.07%
Current Liabilities	<u>6,408,908</u>	<u>7,262,999</u>	(854,091)	(11.76)%
Total Liabilities	<u>8,611,124</u>	<u>9,176,877</u>	(565,753)	(6.17)%
Deferred Inflows of Resources	445,227	973,350	(528,123)	(54.26)%
Net Investment in Capital Assets	19,134,846	19,863,526	(728,680)	(3.67)%
Restricted	15,226	19,934	(4,708)	(23.62)%
Unrestricted	1,142,881	<u>694,406</u>	448,475	64.58%
Total Net Position	20,292,953	<u>20,577,866</u>	(284,913)	(1.38)%

#### **Net Position (Continued)**

A summary of the Authority's prior year statement of net position is presented with comparative figures in the following table:

#### Condensed Statement of Net Position at December 31, 2021 With Comparative Prior Year Balances

	<u>FY 2021</u>	FY 2020	Dollar <u>Change</u>	Percent <u>Change</u>
Current Assets	4,141,050	8,139,422	(3,998,372)	(49.12)%
Capital Assets	26,288,090	23,875,337	2,412,753	10.11%
Total Assets	30,429,140	32,014,759	(1,585,619)	(4.95)%
Deferred Outflows of Resources	298,953	329,952	(30,999)	(9.40)%
Long-term Liabilities	1,913,878	2,935,283	(1,021,405)	(34.80)%
Current Liabilities	<u>7,262,999</u>	7,628,776	(365,777)	(4.79)%
Total Liabilities	<u>9,176,877</u>	10,564,059	(1,387,182)	(13.13)%
Deferred Inflows of Resources	973,350	_1,001,542	(28,192)	(2.81)%
Net Investment in Capital Assets	19,863,526	20,890,085	(1,026,559)	(4.91)%
Restricted	19,934	24,551	(4,617)	(18.81)%
Unrestricted	<u>694,406</u>	(135,526)	829,932	(612.38)%
Total Net Position	20,577,866	20,779,110	<u>(201,244)</u>	(0.97)%

#### **Net Position (Continued)**

#### Condensed Statement of Revenues, Expenses And Changes in Net Position for the Year Ending December 31, 2022 with Comparative Prior Year Balances

	FY 2022	FY 2021	Dollar <u>Change</u>	Percent <u>Change</u>
Operating Revenues Non-operating Revenues Total Revenues	4,564,426 10,357 4,574,783	4,512,952 <u>8,811</u> <u>4,521,763</u>	51,474 <u>1,546</u> <u>53,020</u>	1.14% 17.55% 1.17%
Depreciation Other Operating Expenses Other Non-operating Expense Total Expenses	1,611,651 3,158,270 89,775 4,859,696	1,611,652 2,852,983 <u>258,372</u> 4,723,007	(1) 305,287 (168,597) 136,689	0.00% 10.70% (65.25)% 2.89%
Change in Net Position	(284,913)	(201,244)	(83,669)	41.58%
Beginning Net Position	20,577,866	20,779,110	(201,244)	(0.97)%
Ending Net Position	20,292,953	<u>20,577,866</u>	(284,913)	(1.38)%

#### **Net Position (Continued)**

A summary of the Authority's prior year statement of revenues, expenses and changes in net position is presented with comparative fiscal year figures in the following table:

#### Condensed Statement of Revenues, Expenses And Changes in Net Position for the Year Ending December 31, 2021 with Comparative Prior Year Balances

	FY 2021	FY 2020	Dollar <u>Change</u>	Percent <u>Change</u>
Operating Revenues Non-operating Revenues Total Revenues	4,512,952	4,461,402	51,550 (13,021) 38,529	1.16% (59.64)% 0.86%
Depreciation Other Operating Expenses Other Non-operating Expense Total Expenses	1,611,652 2,852,983 258,372 4,723,007	1,615,315 2,914,281 <u>327,247</u> 4,856,843	(3,663) (61,298) (68,875) (133,836)	(0.23)% (2.10)% (21.05)% (2.76)%
Change in Net Position	(201,244)	(373,609)	172,365	(46.14)%
Beginning Net Position	20,779,110	21,152,719	(373,609)	(1.77)%
<b>Ending Net Position</b>	20,577,866	20,779,110	<u>(201,244)</u>	(0.97)%

#### **Budgetary Highlights**

The State of New Jersey requires local authorities to prepare and adopt annual budgets in accordance with the Local Authorities Fiscal Control Law and regulations adopted by the Local Finance Board pursuant to this statute and codified as N.J.A.C. 5:31-1 et seq. The statutory budget was designed to demonstrate to the Bureau of Authority Regulation of the Division of Local Government Services that the cash flows of the Authority for the coming year will be sufficient to cover operating expenses, interest accruing on bonded indebtedness and cash payments of maturing bond and loan principal.

#### **Budgetary Highlights (Continued)**

The following tables provide a budget comparison for FY 2022 and FY 2021:

# Budget vs. Actual FY 2022

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Revenues:			
Net Position Appropriated	109,821	109,821	0
Operating	4,537,000	4,564,426	27,426
Non-Operating		6,957	<u>6,957</u>
Total Revenues	<u>4,646,821</u>	4,681,204	34,383
Expenses:			
Operating	3,522,098	3,395,220	126,878
Non-Operating	<u>1,124,723</u>	<u>1,112,910</u>	11,813
Total Expenses	4,646,821	4,508,130	138,691
Income before Depreciation	<u>0</u>	<u>173,074</u>	<u>173,074</u>

# Budget vs. Actual FY 2021

	<b>Budget</b>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Revenues:			
Net Position Appropriated	108,611	108,611	0
Operating	4,483,500	4,512,952	29,452
Non-Operating	<u></u>	2,011	2,011
Total Revenues	4,592,111	4,623,574	31,463
Expenses:			
Operating	3,468,598	3,190,414	278,184
Non-Operating	<u>1,123,513</u>	1,108,557	<u>14,956</u>
Total Expenses	4,592,111	<u>4,298,971</u>	<u>293,140</u>
Income before Depreciation		_324,603	<u>324,603</u>

#### CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

#### **Capital Assets**

During fiscal year 2022, the Authority had an increase of \$1,042,069 in capital assets (before depreciation). The Authority's net property, plant and equipment at fiscal year end was \$25,718,508. This is a \$569,582 decrease over last year's net property, plant and equipment of \$26,288,090. A summary of the Authority's capital assets is presented in the following table:

#### CAPITAL ASSETS

	FY <u>2022</u>	FY 2021	Dollar <u>Change</u>
Land	505,700	505,700	0
Buildings and Interceptors	67,073,007	61,302,954	5,770,053
Machinery and Equipment	201,060	201,060	0
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(42,944,351)	(41,332,700)	(1,611,651)
Construction in Progress	883,092	5,611,076	(4,727,984)
	<u>25,718,508</u>	<u>26,288,090</u>	<u>(569,582)</u>

#### **CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION (Continued)**

The Authority's on going capital plan is reviewed each year by the Authority's consulting engineer. Notable future capital improvements are listed below.

#### Sewer

Clarifier Rehabilitation	\$1,000,000
Pump Station(s) Renewals	300,000
Sludge Mixing Drive and Shaft	87,500
Roofs - Plant and Buildings	900,000
CCTV Inspection and Cleaning Collection System	130,000
HVAC System and Boiler	<u>120,000</u>
Total	\$2,537,500

#### **Debt Administration**

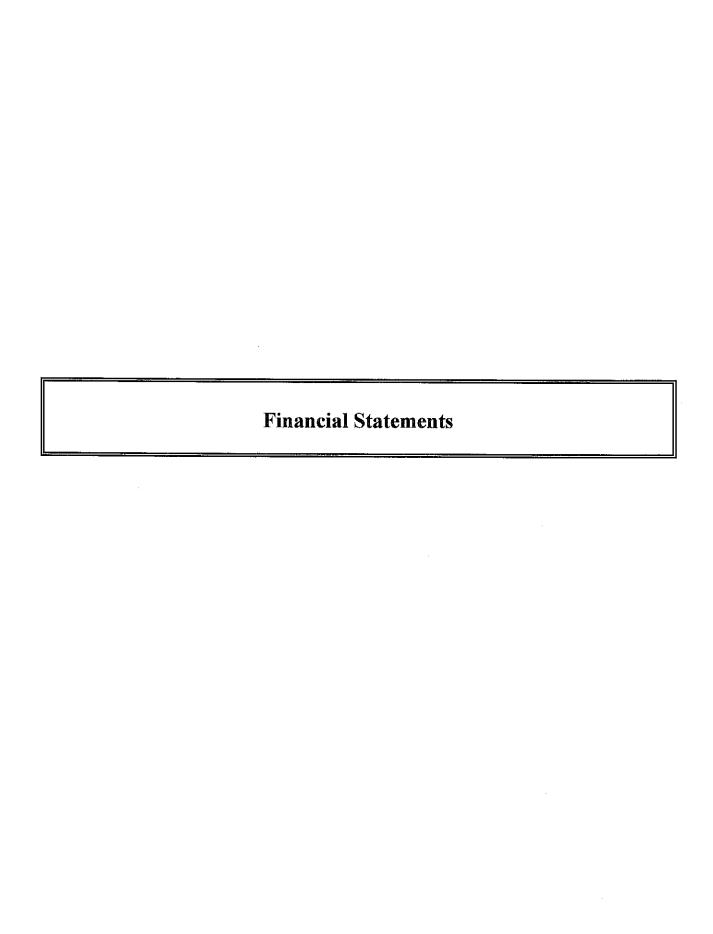
At December 31, 2022, the Authority had outstanding New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Fund bonds of \$792,838 (gross). The debt service schedule has a final maturity in 2030. Full details of the specific bond issues outstanding are found in Note 5 to the financial statements and the supplementary schedules. The Authority also had \$5,940,594 in temporary financing through the New Jersey Infrastructure Bank ("NJIB") at December 31, 2022.

#### Economic Factors, Future Years' Budgets and Rates

The Commissioners and management of the Authority consider many factors when preparing each year's budget and annual charges. Two of the main factors are growth in the Authority's system and new regulations issued by the State and Federal governments. Recently, however, national delays in supply chains and inflationary factors have begun to affect the Authority's cost of providing services. The Authority is therefore anticipating an increase in the cost of providing services in the next fiscal year due to recent increases in energy, fuel, material and chemical costs.

#### Contacting the Authority

This financial report is designed to provide our customers and creditors with a general overview of the Authority's finances and to demonstrate the Authority's accountability for the fees it receives. If you have any questions about this report or need additional information, contact the Executive Director of the Musconetcong Sewerage Authority, 110 Continental Drive, Budd Lake, NJ 07828.



#### MUSCONETCONG SEWERAGE AUTHORITY COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION DECEMBER 31,

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		2022	2021
<u>ASSETS</u>			
Current Assets:			
<u>Unrestricted:</u>			
Cash and Cash equivalents	\$	2,913,348	\$ 2,981,841
Petty Cash		100	150
Accounts Receivable		126,734	-
Prepaid Expenses		180	 180
Total Unrestricted Assets		3,040,362	 2,982,171
Restricted:			
Bond Service Fund:			
Cash and Cash equivalents		23,178	35,749
Escrow Fund:			
Cash and Cash equivalents		10,134	8,062
New Jersey Infrastucture Bank:			
NJIB Receivable	H-1	164,679	 1,115,068
Total Restricted Assets		197,991	 1,158,879
Non-Current Assets:			
Capital Assets:			
Land		505,700	505,700
Infrastructure, Buildings and Equipment		67,073,007	61,302,954
Vehicles		201,060	201,060
Less: Accumulated Depreciation		(42,944,351)	(41,332,700)
Construction in Progress		883,092	 5,611,076
Total Capital Assets		25,718,508	 26,288,090
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	28,956,861	\$ 30,429,140
<u>DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</u> Deferred Outflows:			
Deferred Outflows Related to Pensions	<del>,</del>	392,443	 298,953
TOTAL DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	\$	392,443	\$ 298,953

#### MUSCONETCONG SEWERAGE AUTHORITY COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION DECEMBER 31,

	 2022		2021
<u>LIABILITIES</u>	 -		
Current Liabilities:			
Payable from Unrestricted Assets:			
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	\$ 154,308	\$	164,702
Accounts Payable - Pension Related	121,857		106,500
Payroll Taxes Payable	86		8,534
Due to Municipalities	 63,253		215,992
Total Payable from Unrestricted Assets	 339,504		495,728
Payable from Restricted Assets:			
Accounts Payable - Construction	14,909		116,412
Accrued Interest Payable	7,952		15,815
Escrow Deposits Payable	10,134		8,062
Notes Payable	5,940,594		5,940,594
Loans Payable - Current Portion	 95,815		686,388
Total Payabled from Restricted Assets	 6,069,404		6,767,271
Non-Current Liabilities:			
Compensated Absenses Payable	.46,208		43,318
Net Pension Liability	1,458,985		1,077,722
Loans Payable - Long-Term Portion	 697,023		792,838
Total Non-Current Liabilities	 2,202,216		1,913,878
TOTAL LIABILITIES	 8,611,124	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	9,176,877
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES			
Deferred Inflows:			
Deferred Inflows Related to Pensions	445,227		969,950
Unamortized Gain on Refunded Debt	 -		3,400
TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	445,227		973,350

#### MUSCONETCONG SEWERAGE AUTHORITY COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION DECEMBER 31,

	2022	2021
NET POSITION:		
Net Investment in Capital Assets	19,134,846	19,863,526
Restricted:		
Current Debt Service	15,226	19,934
Unrestricted:		
Designated	1,918,068	1,711,251
Undesignated	(775,187)	(1,016,845)
TOTAL NET POSITION	\$ 20,292,953 \$	20,577,866

# MUSCONETCONG SEWERAGE AUTHORITY COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION DECEMBER 31,

	2022		2021	
Operating Revenue:				
Service Agreements	\$	4,537,000	\$	4,483,500
Miscellaneous	_	27,426	_	29,452
Total Operating Revenue		4,564,426		4,512,952
Operating Expenses:				
Administrative and General		244,696		175,757
Cost of Providing Services		2,913,574		2,677,226
Depreciation Expense		1,611,651		1,611,652
Total Operating Expenses	Philippine (Control of Control of	4,769,921	_	4,464,635
Operating Income		(205,495)		48,317
Non-Operating Revenue (Expenses):				
Interest on Investments		6,957		2,011
Interest Expense		(26,522)		(42,380)
Excess Due to Municipalities		(63,253)		(215,992)
Amortization		3,400		6,800
Non-Operating Income (Loss)	<b></b>	(79,418)	_	(249,561)
Change In Net Position		(284,913)		(201,244)
Net Position - January 1	_	20,577,866	_	20,779,110
Net Position - December 31	\$	20,292,953	\$	20,577,866

#### MUSCONETCONG SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

# COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31,

	2022			2021	
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:					
Cash Received from Customers	\$	4,410,266	\$	4,483,500	
Cash Received from Miscellaneous Sources		27,426		29,452	
Escrow Deposits Received (Paid)		2,072		(1,831)	
Cash Paid to Municipalities		(215,992)		(276,542)	
Cash Paid to Vendors and Employees		(3,395,765)		(3,197,047)	
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities		828,007		1,037,532	
Cash Flow from Investing Activities:					
Interest Received		6,957		2,011	
Net Cash Provided by (used in) Investing Activities		6,957		2,011	
Cash Flow from Financing Activities:					
Principal Payment on Bonds and Notes		(686,388)		(666,177)	
Interest Paid on Bonds and Notes		(34,385)		(50,083)	
NJEIT Received		950,389		4,468,945	
Capital Expenditures		(1,143,572)		(4,321,655)	
Net Cash Used in Financing Activities		(913,956)		(568,970)	
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents		(78,992)		470,573	
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Year	<u>,</u>	3,025,652	,	2,555,079	
Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Year	\$	2,946,660	\$	3,025,652	
Analysis of Balance:					
Unrestricted	\$	2,913,348	\$	2,981,841	
Restricted		33,312		43,811	
	\$	2,946,660	\$	3,025,652	

#### MUSCONETCONG SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

# COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31,

	2022		2021	
OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)	\$(205,495)	\$	48,317	
Adjustments to Reconcile Change in Net Assets to				
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities:				
Depreciation Expense	1,611,651		1,611,652	
Escrow Deposits Received (Paid)	2,072		(1,831)	
Cash Paid to Municipalities	(215,992)		(276,542)	
Decrease (Increase) in Accounts Receivable	(126,734)		, , ,	
Increase (Decrease) in Accounts Payable	(3,435)		40,752	
Increase (Decrease) in Compensated Absenses Payable	2,890		(18,363)	
Increase (Decrease) in Pension Adjustment	(236,950)		(366,453)	
Total Adjustments	1,033,502		989,215	
NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	\$828,007	\$	1,037,532	

Notes to Financial Statements

#### **NOTE 1. GENERAL**

The Musconetcong Sewerage Authority was created under the Sewerage Authorities Law of the State of New Jersey (Chapter 138, Laws of 1946 as amended and supplemented) to service the Borough of Stanhope in the County of Sussex and the Borough of Netcong in the County of Morris. Parallel ordinances were adopted by the respective governing bodies as follows: By the Borough of Stanhope on September 27, 1965, and by the Borough of Netcong on August 3, 1965

By agreement between the Authority and the Boroughs of Stanhope and Netcong dated 1967, the Authority constructed a trunk sewer system and a 500,000 G.P.D. sewerage disposal plant. Said construction was financed by a bond issue of \$591,000 dated January 1, 1971 (Series "A" Bonds) and by State and Federal Grants.

The aforementioned agreement also permits the signing of agreements to service additional municipalities as Customers of the Authority. The Authority has entered into an agreement with the Township of Mount Olive and has passed a resolution to treat sewerage from the Township of Roxbury.

A 500,000 G.P.D. addition was placed in service on July 5, 1976. To finance the cost of said improvement the Authority sold bonds in the amount of \$400,000 dated July 1, 1976 (Series "B" Bonds).

The governing body of the Authority consists of twelve members. Three members are appointed by each of the governing bodies of the Boroughs of Netcong and Stanhope, two members are appointed by each of the governing bodies of the Township of Mount Olive and Roxbury and one member is appointed by the governing bodies of the Boroughs of Mount Arlington and Hopatcong.

The Authority has constructed a 2.2 million gallon per day water pollution control plant and made improvements to existing pumping station and force mains. The Authority also constructed a new regional interceptor, pumping stations and force mains. The total cost for the Project was estimated at \$33 Million.

The Project allowed for new sewer unit connections in the Boroughs of Stanhope and Netcong. Service has been expanded to provide more gallonage to areas located in the Township of Mount Olive and the International Trade Zone. Additionally, sewer service is now available to the entire Landing-Shore Hills and Port Morris sections of Roxbury Township.

The Authority was awarded a grant from the United States Department of Environmental Protection to the extent of 55% of eligible costs of the Project. The remainder of the Project costs were raised by the issuance of revenue bonds in the amount of \$17,450,000 and by contributions from the International Trade Center, located within the Service Area of the Authority.

#### NOTE 1. GENERAL, (continued)

In 1993 the Authority initiated design and funding of the Phase IA project to expand the Authority's existing wastewater treatment plant to provide 3.63 MGD treatment capacity within the existing plant site. The additional treatment capacity (1.43 MGD) was constructed to provide sewer service to the densely developed areas around Budd Lake within the Township of Mount Olive and within the Borough of Mount Arlington adjacent to Lake Hopatcong. The treatment plant expansion also includes capacity for future development within the portions of the Township of Roxbury and the New Jersey Foreign Trade Zone. The selected treatment process for the treatment plant expansion is conventional activated sludge with mechanical aeration, the same as the existing treatment process. The treatment process design includes provisions for nitrification, phosphorus removal, microstraining facilities and ultraviolet disinfection. Treated effluent will continue to be discharged to the Musconetcong River through the existing post aeration cascade unit and outfall sewer. In 2002, the Authority was successful in having the plant rerated adding an additional .18 MGD to the overall treatment capacity.

Sewage sludge generated by the expanded wastewater treatment plant will be treated in the existing sludge thickening and handling facility at the plant site. The existing sludge thickening and handling facility has sufficient capacity to accommodate all sludge that will be generated by the 4.31 MGD treatment plant.

Funding for the Phase IA project was financed by the issuance of Sewer Revenue Bonds, Series C, in the amount of \$3,545,000 for the local ineligible share and by New Jersey Wastewater Treatment Trust Financing Program loans from the Trust (\$7,955,000) and from the Fund (\$6,260,617) for the allowable costs of the new project.

In November of 1995, \$2,280,000 of Series C, Revenue Bonds were defeased since the Authority became eligible for additional New Jersey Wastewater Treatment Trust Financing, \$1,190,000 from the Trust and \$1,045,037 from the fund.

On December 15, 2002, \$12,855,000 of Series B, Refunding Bonds were defeased with the issuance of \$12,250,000 of Project I- Series 2002, Refunding Bonds.

In 2002, Authority initiated design and funding for the Phase IIA project to add an additional 500,000 gallon per day expansion to its wastewater treatment plant for the benefit of the Borough of Hopatcong. The Authority financed the cost of the project with grants from the United States Environmental Infrastructure Trust Program. The addition was certified for operation effective July 1, 2005.

As a Public body under existing statute, the Authority is exempt from both Federal and State Taxes.

#### **NOTE 1. GENERAL**, (continued)

#### Component Unit

In evaluating how to define the Authority for financial reporting purposes, management has considered all potential component units. The decision to include any potential component units in the financial reporting entity was made by applying the criteria set forth in GASB Statements No. 14, The Financial Reporting Entity, as amended by GASB Statement No. 39, Determining Whether Certain Organizations are Component Units, and GASB Statement No. 61, The Financial Reporting Entity: Omnibus - an amendment of GASB Statements No. 14 and No. 34. Blended component units, although legally separate entities, are in-substance part of the government's operations. Each discretely presented component unit would be or is reported in a separate column in the financial statements to emphasize that it is legally separate from the government.

The basic-but not the only-criterion for including a potential component unit within the reporting entity is the governing body's ability to exercise oversight responsibility. The most significant manifestation of this ability is financial interdependency. Other manifestations of the ability to exercise oversight responsibility include, but are not limited to, the selection of governing authority, the designation of management, the ability to significantly influence operations, and accountability for fiscal matters. A second criterion used in evaluating potential component units is the scope of public service. Application of this criterion involves considering whether the activity benefits the government and/or its citizens.

A third criterion used to evaluate potential component units for inclusion or exclusion from the reporting entity is the existence of special financing relationships, regardless of whether the government is able to exercise oversight responsibilities. Finally, the nature and significance of a potential component unit to the primary government could warrant its inclusion within the reporting entity.

Based upon the application of these criteria, the Authority has no component units.

#### **NOTE 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The following is a summary of the more significant accounting policies:

#### A. Basis of Presentation

The financial statements of the Musconetcong Sewerage Authority have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) applicable to enterprise funds of state and local governmental units. Enterprise funds are used to account for operations that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises - where the

#### NOTE 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, (continued)

#### A. <u>Basis of Presentation</u>, (continued)

intent of the governing body is that the costs (expenses, including depreciation) of providing services to the general public on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges, or where the governing body has decided that the periodic determination of revenues earned, expenses incurred, and or net income is appropriate for capital maintenance, public policy, accountability or other purposes. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board GASB is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The significant of the Authority's accounting policies are described below.

On January 1, 2012, the Authority adopted the provisions of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 63, Financial Reporting of Deferred Outflows of Resources, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net Position, which amends the net asset reporting requirement of Statement No. 34, Basic Financial Statements - and Management's Discussion and Analysis - for State and Local Governments, and other pronouncements by incorporating deferred outflows from resources and deferred inflows of resources into the definitions of the required components of the residual measure and by renaming that measure as net position, rather than net assets. The classifications of net position are defined as follows:

- Net investment in capital assets This component of net position consists of capital assets, including restricted capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, mortgages, notes, or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets. If there are any significant unspent related debt proceeds at year-end, the portion of the debt attributable to the unspent proceeds are not included in the calculation of invested in capital assets, net of related debt. Rather that portion of the debt is included in the same net position component as the unspent proceeds.
- Restricted This component of net position consists of constraints placed on net position used through external constraints imposed by creditors (such as through debt convents), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments or constraints imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- *Unrestricted* This component of net position consists of net position that do not meet the definition of "restricted" or "net investment in capital assets."

#### NOTE 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, (continued)

#### B. Basis of Accounting

The Musconetcong Sewerage Authority prepares its financial statements on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when they are earned and expenses are recognized when the liability is incurred.

#### C. Reporting Entity

The Authority's financial statements include the accounts of all Authority operations. The primary criterion for including activities within the Authority's reporting entity, is set forth in Section 2100 of the GASB <u>Codification of Governmental Accounting and Financial Reporting Standards</u>. Based on this criteria, the Authority is a legally separate organization and has no component units.

#### D. Risks of Loss

The Authority purchases commercial insurance policies on an annual basis to handle risks of loss associated with property, auto, liability, workers compensation, flood damage, and employee crime coverage. Any potential liability of the Authority with respect to loss claims would be equal to the deductibles associated with the policies and an event, which may exceed policy coverage limits.

#### E. Grants

Contributions received from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and N.J. Department of Environmental Protection are recorded in the period in which they are awarded.

Grants receivable, if any, represent the total grant awards less amounts collected to date. Grants, if any, not internally restricted and utilized to finance operations are identified as non-operating revenue. Grants externally restricted for non-operating purposes are recorded as contributed capital and identified as grants-in-aid.

#### F. <u>Inventories of Materials and Supplies</u>

The cost of inventories, primarily chemicals for the treatment of sewerage and sludge, are recorded as expenditures at the time individual items are purchased, since they are not material to the results of operations and financial position.

#### NOTE 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, (continued)

#### G. Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, Plant and Equipment is stated at cost which includes direct construction costs and other expenditures related to construction. Land is stated at approximate fair market value as of the date it was donated to the Authority or at the purchase price if purchased by the Authority.

System construction costs are charged to construction in progress until such time as given segments of the system are completed and placed into operation.

Depreciation is determined on a straight-line basis for all plant and equipment. Depreciation is provided over the following estimated useful lives:

Building and Improvements	20-50 Years
Sewer Mains and Interceptors	50 Years
Machinery and Equipment	10-20 Years
Furniture and Fixtures	5 Years
Vehicles	3-10 Years

Depreciation on assets acquired with grants-in-aid and contributed capital assets is recorded as a reduction of contributed capital.

A summary of the changes in property, plant and equipment at December 31, 2022 and 2021 are as follows:

	Balance			Balance
	<u>12/31/21</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deletions</u>	<u>12/31/22</u>
Land	\$505,700	\$	\$	\$505,700
Infrastructure, Buildings & Equipment	61,302,954	5,770,053		67,073,007
Vehicles	201,060			201,060
Construction in Progress	5,611,076	1,042,069	5,770,053	<u>883,092</u>
	67,620,790	6,812,122	5,770,053	68,662,859
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(41,332,700)	(1,611,651)		(42,944,351)
Total Capital Assets	\$26,288,090	\$5,200,471	<u>\$5,770,053</u>	<u>\$25,718,508</u>

#### NOTE 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, (continued)

#### G. Property, Plant and Equipment, (continued)

	Balance			Balance
	<u>12/31/20</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deletions</u>	<u>12/31/21</u>
Land	\$505,700	\$	\$	\$505,700
Infrastructure, Buildings & Equipment	61,280,533	22,421		61,302,954
Vehicles	201,060			201,060
Construction in Progress	1,609,092	4,001,984		<u>5,611,076</u>
	63,596,385	4,024,405	0	67,620,790
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(39,721,048)	<u>(1,611,652)</u>		(41,332,700)
Total Capital Assets	<u>\$23,875,337</u>	<u>\$2,412,753</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$26,288,090</u>

#### H. Restricted Accounts

#### **Bond Service Fund**

This fund was established to provide funds for the current debt service reserve requirement.

#### **Escrow Fund**

This account was established for developer escrow deposits and related disbursements.

The Authority has established the following designated unrestricted accounts:

#### **Future Retirement Reserve**

This fund was established to plan for the upcoming retirements of contracted personnel. Payments to employees who retire with unused sick and/or vacation time up to a maximum of \$15,000.

#### Capital Improvement Reserve

This account was established to fund future plant upgrades and other capital improvements.

#### Renewal and Replacement Reserve

This account was established to fund major repairs, renewals or maintenance items of a type not recurring annually.

#### NOTE 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, (continued)

#### H. Restricted Accounts, (continued)

#### **Operations Reserve**

The fund was established to provide a reserve for future operations.

#### I. Unamortized Gain on Refunded Debt

Gains on refunded debt are being amortized over the remaining life of the issues.

#### J. Operating Fund Budget

The budget amounts included in the statement of budget revenues and statement of budget expenditures were approved in accordance with the requirements of the "Local Finance Board" of the State of New Jersey, and were adopted by the Commissioners after legal advertisement and public hearing.

#### K. Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make certain estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the statement of net position, and reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. These estimates and assumptions include depreciation expense, the allowance for doubtful accounts and certain claims and judgment liabilities, among other accounts. Estimates and assumptions are reviewed periodically and the effects of revisions are reflected in the financial statements in the period they are determined to be necessary. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

#### L. Risk of Loss

The Authority purchases commercial insurance policies on an annual basis to handle risks of loss associated with property, auto, liability, workers compensation, flood damage and employee crime coverage. Any potential liability of the Authority with respect to loss claims would be equal to the deductibles associated with policies and an event, which may exceed policy coverage limits.

#### M. Sick and Vacation Leave

The Authority's policies regarding sick time permit employees to accumulate earned but unused sick leave with total payment not to exceed fifteen thousand dollars. The proprietary fund reports the liability as it is incurred.

#### NOTE 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, (continued)

#### N. Net Position

Net position represent the difference between assets and deferred outflows of resources and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. Net assets invested in capital assets, net of related debt consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowings used for the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets. Net position are reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the Authority or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments.

#### O. Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In April 2022, the Government Accounting Standards Board issued <u>GASB Statement No. 99</u>, Omnibus 2022. The Objectives of this Statement are to enhance comparability in accounting and financial reporting and to improve the consistency of authoritative literature by addressing (1) practice issues that have been identified during implementation and application of certain GASB Statements and (2) accounting and financial reporting for financial guarantees. The practice issues addressed by this Statement are as follows:

- Classification and reporting or derivative instruments within the scope of Statement No. 53,
   Accounting and Financial Reporting for Derivative Instruments, that do not meet the definition of either an investment derivative instrument or a hedging derivative instrument.
- Clarification of provisions in Statement No. 87, Leases, as amended, related to the determination of the lease term, classification of a lease as a short-term lease, recognition and measurement of a lease liability and a lease asset, and identification of lease incentives.
- Clarification of provisions in Statement No. 94, Public-Private and Public-Public Partnerships and Availability Payment Arrangements, related to (a) the determination of the public-private and public-public partnership (PPP) term and (b) recognition and measurement of installment payments and the transfer of the underlying PPP asset.
- Clarification of provisions in Statement No. 96, Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements, related to the subscription-based information technology arrangement (SBITA) term, classification of a SBITA as a short-term SBITA, and recognition and measurement of a subscription liability.
- Extension of the period during which the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) is considered an appropriate benchmark interest rate for the qualitative evaluation of the effectiveness of an interest rate swap that hedges the interest rate risk of taxable debt.
- Accounting for the distribution of benefits as part of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

### NOTE 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, (continued)

### O. Recent Accounting Pronouncements, (continued)

- Disclosures related to nonmonetary transactions.
- Pledges of future revenues when resources are not received by the pledging government.
- Clarification of provisions in Statement No. 34, Basic Financial Statements- and Management's Discussion Analysis-for State and Local Governments, as amended, related to the focus of the government-wide financial statements.
- Terminology updates related to certain provisions of Statement No. 63, Financial Reporting of Deferred Outflows of Resources, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net Position.
- Terminology used in Statement 53 to refer to resource flows statements.

The requirements of this Statement that are effective as follows:

- The requirements related to extension of the use of LIBOR, accounting for SNAP distributions, disclosures of nonmentary transactions, pledges of future revenues by pledging governments, clarification of certain provisions in Statement 34, as amended, and terminology updates related to Statement 53 and Statement 63 are effective upon issuance.
- The requirements related to leases, PPPs, and SBITAs are effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2022, and all reporting periods thereafter.
- The requirements related to financial guarantees and the classification and reporting of derivative instruments within the scope of Statement 53 are effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2023, and all reporting periods thereafter.

In June 2022, the Government Accounting Standards Board issued GASB Statement No. 100, Accounting Changes and Error Corrections — An Amendment of GASB Statement No. 62. This Statement defines accounting changes as changes in accounting principles, changes in accounting estimates, and changes to or within the financial reporting entity and describes the transactions or other events that constitute those changes. The requirements of this Statement are effective for accounting changes and error corrections made in fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2023, and all reporting periods thereafter. The Authority is determining what effects, if any, this pronouncement will have on future financial statements.

In June 2022, the Government Accounting Standards Board issued <u>GASB Statement No. 101</u>, Compensated Absences. This Statement requires that liabilities for compensated absences be recognized for (1) leave that has not been used and (2) leave that has been used but not yet paid in cash or settled through noncash means. The requirements of this Statement are effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2023, and all reporting periods thereafter. The Authority is determining what effects, if any, this pronouncement will have on future financial statements.

### NOTE 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, (continued)

### P. Revenues and Expenses

Proprietary funds distinguish *operating* revenues and expenses from *nonoperating* items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with a proprietary fund's principal ongoing operations. The principal operating revenues of the Authority are charges to customers for services. Operating expenses include the cost of operations and services, administrative expenses and depreciation on capital assets. All revenue and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as nonoperating revenues and expenses. State and federal grants for the operation of the Authority are considered operating revenues. Transactions or other events that are both unusual in nature and infrequent in occurrence are reported as extraordinary items.

### **NOTE 3. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in banks and all highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less at the time of purchase and are stated at cost plus accrued interest.

N.J.S.A. 17:9-41 et. seq. establishes the requirements for the security of deposits of governmental units. The statute requires that no governmental unit shall deposit public funds in a public depository unless such funds are secured in accordance with the Act. Public depositories include Savings and Loan institutions, banks (both state and national banks) and savings banks the deposits of which are federally insured. All public depositories must pledge collateral, having a market value at least equal to five percent of the average daily balance of collected public funds, to secure the deposits of Governmental Units. If a public depository fails, the collateral it has pledged, plus the collateral of all other public depositories, is available to pay the full amount of their deposits to the Governmental Units.

In addition to the above collateral requirement, if the public funds deposited exceed 75% of the capital funds of the depository, the depository must provide collateral having a market value at least equal to 100% of the amount exceeding 75%.

All collateral must be deposited with the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, The Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York, or a banking institution that is a member of the Federal Reserve System and has capital funds of not less than \$25,000,000.

As of December 31, 2022 and 2021, the Authority's cash and cash equivalents are summarized as follows:

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Unrestricted Restricted	\$2,913,348 <u>33,312</u>	\$2,981,841 <u>43,811</u>
	\$2,946,660	\$3,025,652

### NOTE 3. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, (continued)

The carrying amount of the Authority's cash and cash equivalents at December 31, 2022 was \$2,946,660 and the bank balance was \$3,132,432. This entire amount was covered by federal depository insurance and the collateral pool maintained by the banks as required by New Jersey Statutes.

### **Custodial Credit Risk - Deposits**

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the government's deposit may not be returned to it. The Authority's policy is based on New Jersey statutes requiring cash be deposited only in New Jersey based on banking institutions that participate in New Jersey Governmental Depository Protection Act (GUDPA) or in a qualified investment established in New Jersey Statutes 40A:5-15.1(a) that are treated as cash equivalents. As of December 31, 2022, \$-0- of the Authority's bank balance of \$3,132,432 was exposed to custodial risk.

### NOTE 4. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

The Authority bills participant customers on a quarterly basis. Credits are issued during the year if the previous year's budgetary revenues exceed expenses, less any net position utilized for budget purposes. The Authority had the following accounts receivable at December 31, 2022 and 2021:

	Balance <u>Jan. 1, 2022</u>	Annual <u>Billings</u>	Municipal <u>Credits</u>	Amounts Received	Balance Dec.31, 2022
Township of Byram	<u>-</u>	\$100,156		\$100,156	\$ -
Borough of Hopatcong	<u>-</u>	1,010,936		1,010,936	
Borough of Mount Arlington	<u>-</u>	312,544		312,544	_
Township of Mount Olive		1,451,909		1,451,909	_
Borough of Netcong		428,090		428,090	_
Township of Roxbury	-	726,428		726,428	-
Borough of Stanhope	<u> </u>	506,937	<u></u>	380,203	126,734
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$4,537,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$4,410,266</u>	<u>\$126,734</u>
	Balance	Annual	Municipal	Amounts	Balance
	<u>Jan. 1, 2021</u>	<b>Billings</b>	<u>Credits</u>	Received	Dec.31, 2021
Township of Byram	-	\$94,875	(\$6,520)	(\$88,355)	\$0
Borough of Hopatcong		1,001,786	(37,275)	(964,511)	-
Borough of Mount Arlington	-	308,613	(21,208)	(287,405)	-
Township of Mount Olive	-	1,433,647	(98,522)	(1,335,125)	-
Borough of Netcong	-	422,706	(29,049)	(393,657)	_
Township of Roxbury	-	717,291	(49,293)	(667,998)	_
Borough of Stanhope		504,582	(34,675)	<u>(469,907)</u>	
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$4,483,500</u>	<u>(\$276,542)</u>	<u>(\$4,206,958)</u>	<u>\$0</u>

### NOTE 5. BONDS AND NOTES PAYABLE

The Authority has issued and outstanding the following bonds as of December 31, 2022 and 2021:

Series 2002 NJ Envir. Trust &	Balance <u>Jan. 1, 2022</u>	Retirements/ Repayments	Balance Dec. 31, 2022	Amounts Due Within One Year
Fund Bonds	\$448,316	\$448,316	\$0	\$
Series 2007 NJ Envir. Trust & Fund Bonds	142,257	142,257	0	
Series 2010 NJ Envir. Trust & Fund Bonds	888,653	95,815	792,838	95,815
	<u>\$1,479,226</u>	<u>\$686,388</u>	<u>\$792,838</u>	<u>\$95,815</u>
Sories 2002 NI Envir Trust &	Balance <u>Jan. 1, 2021</u>	Retirements/ Repayments	Balance Dec. 31, 2021	Amounts Due Within One Year
Series 2002 NJ Envir. Trust & Fund Bonds				Due Within
Fund Bonds Series 2007 NJ Envir. Trust & Fund Bonds	Jan. 1, 2021	Repayments	Dec. 31, 2021	Due Within One Year
Fund Bonds Series 2007 NJ Envir. Trust &	Jan. 1, 2021 \$881,141	Repayments \$432,825	Dec. 31, 2021 \$448,316	Due Within One Year \$448,316

Presented below is a summary of debt service requirements to maturity for all permanently financed bonds:

<u>Year</u>	Principal	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2023	95,815	19,085	114,900
2024	99,815	17,035	116,850
2025	99,815	14,785	114,600
2026	104,815	12,535	117,350
2027	109,815	10,035	119,850
2028-2030	282,763	<u> 15,255</u>	298,018
	<u>\$792,838</u>	<u>\$88,730</u>	<u>\$881,568</u>

### NOTE 5. BONDS AND NOTES PAYABLE

### Series 2010B NJ Environmental Infrastructure Trust Bonds

On December 2, 2010, the Authority issued \$2,281,703 Series 2010B Subordinate Bonds through the New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust Program. These bonds included \$186,838 in fund principal forgiveness.

Principal and interest due on outstanding 2010 bonds to maturity is as follows:

		NJEIT SERIES 2010B			
Year	Trust Po	ortion	Fund Portion	Total	
<b>Ending</b>	Principal	<u>Interest</u>	Principal	Debt Service	
2023	41,000	19,085	54,815	114,900	
2024	45,000	17,035	54,815	116,850	
2025	45,000	14,785	54,815	114,600	
2026	50,000	12,535	54,815	117,350	
2027	55,000	10,035	54,815	119,850	
2028	55,000	7,560	54,815	117,375	
2029	55,000	5,085	54,208	114,293	
2030	<u> 58,000</u>	<u> 2,610</u>	5,740	66,350	
	<u>\$404,000</u>	<u>\$88,730</u>	<u>\$388,838</u>	<u>\$881,568</u>	

### Notes Payable - New Jersey Infrastructure Bank

On June 27, 2019, the Authority adopted a resolution authorizing the issuance of \$6,500,000 subordinate bonds for the influent/effluent facilities project (NJIB Project S340 384-09). On November 21, 2019, the New Jersey Infrastructure Bank granted temporary financing for this project in the amount of \$5,940,594. As of December 31, 2022, the Authority has drawn \$5,775,915 down on this temporary financing.

### **NOTE 6. PENSION PLAN**

### **Description of Plans:**

Authority employees participate in one of the two contributory, defined benefit public employee retirement systems: the State of New Jersey Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) or the Defined Contribution Retirement Program (DCRP), a tax-qualified defined contribution money purchase pension plan under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) 401(a).

Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS)

### NOTE 6. PENSION PLAN, (continued)

### Plan Description

The State of New Jersey Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by the State of New Jersey, Division of Pensions and Benefits (the "Division"). For additional information about the PERS, please refer to the Division's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) which can be found at <a href="https://www.state.nj.us/treasury/pensions/annrpts.shtml">www.state.nj.us/treasury/pensions/annrpts.shtml</a>.

### Benefits Provided

The vesting and benefit provisions are set by N.J.S.A. 43:15A. PERS provides retirement, death and disability benefits. All benefits vest after ten years of service, except for medical benefits, which vest after 25 years of service or under the disability provisions of PERS. The following represents the membership tiers for PERS:

<u>Tier</u>	<u>Definition</u>
1	Members who were enrolled prior to July 1, 2007
2	Members who were eligible to enroll on or after July 1, 2007 and prior to November 2, 2008
3	Members who were eligible to enroll on or after November 2, 2008 and prior to May 22, 2010
4	Members who were eligible to enroll on or after May 22, 2010 and prior to June 28, 2011
5	Members who were eligible to enroll on or after June 28, 2011

### Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS), (continued)

Service retirement benefits of 1/55<sup>th</sup> of final average salary for each year of service credit is available to Tiers 1 and 2 members upon reaching age 60 and to Tier 3 members upon reaching age 62. Service retirement benefits of 1/60<sup>th</sup> of final average salary for each year of service credit is available to Tier 4 members upon reaching age 62 and to Tier 5 members upon reaching age 65. Early retirement benefits are available to Tiers 1 and 2 members before reaching age 60, to Tiers 3 and 4 before age 62 with 25 or more years of service credit and Tier 5 with 30 or more years of service credit before age 65. Benefits are reduced by a fraction of a percent for each month that a member retires prior to the age at which a member can receive full early retirement benefits in accordance with their respective tier. Tier 1 members can receive an unreduced benefit from age 55 to age 60 if they have at least 25 years of service. Deferred retirement is available to members who have at least 10 years of service credit and have not reached the service retirement age for the respective tier.

### **Defined Contribution Retirement Program**

Prudential Financial jointly administers the DCRP investments with the NJ Division of Pensions and Benefits. If an employee is ineligible to enroll in the PERS or PFRS, the employee may be eligible to enroll in the DCRP. DCRP provides eligible members with a tax-sheltered, defined contribution retirement benefit, along with life insurance and disability coverage. Vesting is immediate upon enrollment for members of the DCRP.

### NOTE 6. PENSION PLAN, (continued)

### <u>Defined Contribution Retirement Program</u>, (continued)

The State of New Jersey, Department of the Treasury, Division of Pensions and Benefits, issues publicly available financial reports that include the financial statements and required supplementary information of the DCRP. The financial reports may be obtained by writing to the State of New Jersey, Department of the Treasury, Division of Pensions and Benefits, PO Box 295, Trenton, New Jersey, 08625-0295.

Employers are required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. Employee contributions are based on percentages of 5.50% for DCRP of employees' annual compensation, as defined. The DCRP was established July 1, 2007, under the provisions of Chapter 92, P.L. 2007 and expanded under the provisions of Chapter 89, P.L. 2008. Employee contributions for DCRP are matched by a 3% employer contribution.

### **Contribution Requirements**

The contribution policy is set by laws of the State of New Jersey and, in most retirement systems, contributions are required by active members and contributing employers. Plan member and employer contributions may be amended by State of New Jersey legislation. The pension funds provide for employee contributions based on 7.5% for PERS. Employers are required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate in all Funds. The actuarially determined employer contribution includes funding for cost-of-living adjustments and noncontributory death benefits in the PERS. In the PERS, the employer contribution includes funding for post-retirement medical premiums.

The Authority's contribution to the various plans, equal to the required contributions for each year, were as follows:

Three Y	'ear	Trend	Information	i for PERS

	Annual	Percentage
Year	Pension	of APC
<b>Funding</b>	Cost (APC)	<b>Contributed</b>
12/31/22	\$106,541	100%
12/31/21	96,343	100%
12/31/20	101,018	100%

### ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL REPORTING FOR PENSION IN THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PER - GASB NO. 68

### Public Employees Retirement System (PERS)

At December 31, 2022 and 2021, the Authority reported a liability of \$1,458,985 and \$1,077,722 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.

### NOTE 6. PENSION PLAN, (continued)

### ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL REPORTING FOR PENSION IN THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PER - GASB NO. 68, (continued)

### Public Employees Retirement System (PERS), (continued)

The Authority's proportion of the net pension liability was based on a projection of the Authority's long-term share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating governments, actuarially determined. At June 30, 2022, the Authority's proportion was 0.0096676731 percent, which was an increase of 0.000570284 percent from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2021.

For the year ended December 31, 2022, the Authority recognized pension expense of \$(130,409). At December 31, 2022, the Authority reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to PERS from the following sources:

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Deferred Outflows of Resources:		
Changes of assumptions	\$4,520	\$5,613
Net difference between projected and actual earnings	. ,	, , ,
on pension plan investments	70,916	16,997
Changes in proportion and differences between Authority	70,710	10,777
contributions and proportionate share of contributions	105 151	1.00.942
	195,151	169,843
Authority contributions subsequent to the measurement		
date	<u> 121,856</u>	<u> 106,500</u>
Total Total	<u>\$392,443</u>	<u>\$298,953</u>
	2022	
	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Deferred Inflows of Resources:		
Changes of assumptions	\$218,468	\$383,676
Net difference between projected and actual earnings	. , -	<b>*</b> ,
on pension plan investments	40,014	291,615
Changes in proportion and differences between Authority	70,017	271,013
contributions and proportionate share of contributions	196715	204.650
contributions and proportionate snare of contributions	186,745	<u>294,659</u>
Total	P445 007	ΦΩ.CΩ Ω.CΩ
1 Otal	<u>\$445,227</u>	<u>\$969,950</u>

### NOTE 6. PENSION PLANS, (continued)

### ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL REPORTING FOR PENSION IN THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PER - GASB NO. 68, (continued)

### Public Employees Retirement System (PERS), (continued)

The \$121,856 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from Authority contributions subsequent to the measurement date (i.e. for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2022, the plan measurement date is June 30, 2022) will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the subsequent year. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

· ·	Dec. 31, 2022	Dec. 31, 2021
2022	\$ -	\$ -
2023	(125,150)	(254,295)
2024	(63,760)	(181,566)
2025	(31,094)	(123,797)
2026	67,836	(93,059)
2027	(149)	36

### **Changes in Proportion**

The previous amounts do not include employer specific deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to changes in proportion. These amounts should be recognized (amortized) by each employer over the average of the expected remaining service lives of all plan members, which is 5.04, 5.13, 5.16, 5.21, 5.63, 5.48, 5.57, 5.72 and 6.44 years for 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015 and 2014 amounts, respectively.

### **Additional Information**

Local Group Collective balances net of nonemployer (State of New Jersey) balances at December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021 are as follows:

	Dec. 31, 2022	Dec. 31, 2021
Collective deferred outflows of resources	\$1,660,772,008	\$1,164,738,169
Collective deferred inflows of resources	3,236,303,935	8,339,123,762
Collective net pension liability	15,219,184,920	11,972,782,878
Authority's Proportion	0.0096676731%	0.0090973891%

### NOTE 6. PENSION PLANS, (continued)

### ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL REPORTING FOR PENSION IN THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PER - GASB NO. 68, (continued)

### Public Employees Retirement System (PERS), (continued)

### **Actuarial Assumptions**

The collective total pension liability for the June 30, 2022 measurement date was determined by an actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2021, which rolled forward to June 30, 2022. This actuarial valuation used the following assumptions, applied to all periods in the measurement.

Inflation Rate:

Price Wage

Salary Increases 2.75-6.55% (based on years of service)

2.75%

3.25%

Investment Rate of Return 7.00 Percent

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2021 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2021. It is likely that future experience will not exactly conform to these assumptions. To the extent that actual experience deviates from these assumptions, the emerging liabilities may be higher or lower than anticipated. The more the experience deviates, the larger the impact on future financial statements.

### **Mortality Rates**

Pre-retirement mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 General Below-Median Income Employee mortality table with an 82.2% adjustment for males and 101.4% adjustment for females, and with future improvement from the base year of 2010 on a generational basis. Post-retirement mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 General Below-Median Income Healthy Retiree mortality table with a 91.4% adjustment for males and 99.7% adjustment for females, and with future improvement from the base year of 2010 on a generational basis. Disability retirement rates used to value disabled retirees were based on the Pub-2010 Non- Safety Disabled Retiree mortality table with a 127.7% adjustment for males and 117.2% adjustment for females, and with future improvement from the base year of 2010 on a generational basis. Mortality improvement based on Scale MP-2022.

### NOTE 6. PENSION PLANS, (continued)

### ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL REPORTING FOR PENSION IN THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PER - GASB NO. 68, (continued)

### Public Employees Retirement System (PERS), (continued)

### **Long-Term Rate of Return**

In accordance with State statute, the long-term expected rate of return on plan investments (7.00% at June 30, 2022) is determined by the State Treasurer, after consultation with the Directors of the Division of Investments and Division of Pensions and Benefits, the board of trustees and the actuaries. The long-term expected rate of return was determined using a building block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are 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 by adding expected inflation. Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in PERS's target asset allocation as of June 30, 2022 are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target <u>Allocation</u>	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
U.S. Equity	27.00%	8.12%
Non-U.S. Developed Market Equity	13.50%	8.38%
Emerging Market Equity	5.50%	10.33%
Private Equity	13.00%	11.80%
Real Assets	3.00%	11.19%
Real Estate	8.00%	7.60%
High Yield	4.00%	4.95%
Private Credit	8.00%	8.10%
Investment Grade Credit	7.00%	3.38%
Cash Equivalents	4.00%	1.75%
U.S. Treasuries	4.00%	1.75%
Risk Mitigation Strategies	3.00%	4.91%

### NOTE 6. PENSION PLANS, (continued)

### ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL REPORTING FOR PENSION IN THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PER - GASB NO. 68, (continued)

### Public Employees Retirement System (PERS), (continued)

### **Discount Rate**

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.00% as of June 30, 2022. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from plan members will be made at the current member contribution rates and that contributions from employers and the nonemployer contributing entity will be based on 100% of the actuarially determined contributions for the State employer and 100% of actuarially determined contributions for the local employers. Based on those assumptions, the plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on plan investments was applied to all projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

### Sensitivity of the Collective Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

The following presents the collective net pension liability of the participating employers as of June 30, 2022, calculated using the discount rate as disclosed above as well as what the collective net pension liability would be if it was calculated using a discount rate that is 1 -percentage point lower or 1- percentage-point higher than the current rate:

	<u> </u>	June 30, 2022	
	1%	At Current	1%
	Decrease	Discount Rate	Increase
	<u>6.00%</u>	<u>7.00%</u>	<u>8.00%</u>
Authority's proportionate share of the pension liability	\$1,890,242	\$1,458,985	\$1,114,839
		June 30, 2021	
	1%	At Current	1%
	Decrease	Discount Rate	Increase
	<u>6.00%</u>	<u>7.00%</u>	<u>8.00%</u>
Authority's proportionate share of			
the pension liability	\$1,483,284	\$1,077,722	\$754,784

### NOTE 6. PENSION PLANS, (continued)

### ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL REPORTING FOR PENSION IN THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PER - GASB NO. 68, (continued)

Public Employees Retirement System (PERS), (continued)

### Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position

Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued Financial Report for the State of New Jersey Public Employees Retirement System (PERS).

### NOTE 7. ACCRUED SICK AND VACATION BENEFITS

The Authority permits employees to accrue a limited amount of unused vacations and sick pay, which may be paid upon retirement or death at an agreed-upon rate. It is estimated that the current cost of such unpaid compensation would approximate \$46,208 and \$43,318 at December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively. This amount is reported as a liability and it is expected that the cost of such unpaid compensations would be included in the Authority's budget operating expenditures in the year in which it is used or charged to its reserve for future retirements which has a balance of \$50,000 as of December 31, 2022 and 2021.

### **NOTE 8. RELATED PARTIES**

Mr. John Sylvester, Mr. Elmer Still, Mr. Rich Schindelar, Mr. Andrew Cangiano, Mr. Tom Romano and Mr. Anthony Riccardi, Commissioners of the Authority, are also Councilmen of the Boroughs of Netcong, Netcong, Hopatcong, Mt. Arlington and Stanhope, respectively. The schedule of operating revenues includes \$428,090, \$1,010,936, \$312,544 and \$506,937 of revenue from the Boroughs of Netcong, Hopatcong, Mt. Arlington and Stanhope and the schedule of amount due to/(from) municipalities includes \$6,644, \$8,526, \$4,851 and \$7,931 due to the Boroughs of Netcong, Hopatcong, Mt. Arlington and Stanhope.

### NOTE 9. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Various legal actions, proceedings and claims are pending or may be instituted or asserted against the Authority. They are as follows:

The Authority is involved in litigation regarding the 2011 final New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NJPDES) Permit Action ("Permit") issued by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP"). In 2015 the matter was partially settled except for one unresolved issue, the limit for nitrates. The litigation was put on hold pending issuance of the next renewal permit.

### NOTE 9. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES, (continued)

In July 2020, the Authority applied to renew its Permit and a renewal Permit was issued on December 11, 2020. The nitrate limit in the new Permit, as before, is not currently being met. On January 5, 2021, the Authority filed a Request for a Hearing and a Request for a Stay. A stay was granted on July 7, 2022 and a request for hearing was granted on July 22, 2021. The parties are currently engaged in pre-trial discovery. A motion to compel discovery has been made by the Authority and is pending, as is a summary motion for summary disposition made by the DEP. The Authority has sought to settle the case but the DEP has not been receptive. The Authority's former Engineer estimates that the cost of compliance with the nitrate limit in the permits is somewhere in the range of \$12,000,000 to \$20,000,000.

While the outcome of the above noted proceedings cannot be predicted, the financial impact will become clearer once the final nitrate limit is known.

### **NOTE 10. RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Musconetcong Sewerage Authority is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters.

The Authority is a member of the New Jersey Utility Authorities Joint Insurance Fund (the "Fund"). The Fund is both an insured and self-administered group of utilities established for the purpose of providing certain low-cost property, liability, public official's liability and workers' compensation insurance coverage for member authorities. The Musconetcong Sewerage Authority pays an annual assessment to the Fund and should it be determined that payments received by the Fund for deficient, additional assessments may be levied.

The Authority continues to carry commercial insurance coverage for all other risks of loss, including employee health and life insurance. Settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded commercial insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

### NOTE 11. DESIGNATION OF UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS

The Authority maintains funds that, although may be spent for any lawful purpose by the Authority, have been designated by the Board as follows:

	<u> 2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Designated for Future Retirement Reserve	\$50,000	\$50,000
Designated for Capital Improvement Reserve	1,111,755	1,084,985
Designated for Renewal and Replacement Reserve	706,313	526,266
Designated for Operations Reserve	50,000	50,000
Total Designated - Unrestricted	<u>\$1,918,068</u>	<u>\$1,711,251</u>

### NOTE 11. DESIGNATION OF UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS, (continued)

At December 31, 2022 and 2021, the Authority reported a total amount of \$1,918,068 and \$1,711,251, respectively, of Unrestricted Net Position - Designated for the purposes described above.

The remaining, undesignated portion of the Authority's net position was comprised of the following at December 31, 2022 and 2021:

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Pension Related	(\$1,511,769)	(\$1,748,719)
Available for Use in Future Budgets	736,582	<u>731,874</u>
	<u>(\$775,187)</u>	<u>(\$1,016,845)</u>

### **NOTE 12. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

The Musconetcong Sewerage Authority has evaluated subsequent events through June 19, 2023, the date which the financial statements were available to be issued and no items were noted for disclosure.

**Required Supplementary Information - Part II** 

### SCHEDULE RSI-1

# MUSCONETCONG SEWERAGE AUTHORITY Required Supplementary Information Schedule of the Authority's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) Last Eight Fiscal Years

				Me	Measurement Date Ending June 30,	nding June 30,			į
	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Authority's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	0.0096676731%	0.0090973891%	0.008550577%	0.0103295403%	0.009655997%	0.01041221%	0.00993499%	0.00981364%	0.00940980%
Authority's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$1,458,985	\$1,077,722	\$1,394,376	\$1,861,226	\$1,901,218	\$2,423,796	\$2.942,458	\$2,202,966	\$1,761,771
Authority's Covered-Employee Payroll	\$669,432	\$688,930	\$646,722	\$645,204	\$733,281	\$708,332	\$713,958	\$683,452	\$680,200
Authority's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of it's Covered-Employee Payroll	217.94%	156.43%	215.61%	288.47%	259.28%	342.18%	412.13%	322.33%	259.01%

-45-

However, until a full 10-year trend is compiled, this presentation will only include information for those years for which information is available. This schedule is presented to illustrate the requirement to show information for 10 years. Note:

### MUSCONETCONG SEWERAGE AUTHORITY Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) Schedule of the Authority's Contributions Required Supplementary Information Last Eight Fiscal Years

				F	'iscal Year En	Fiscal Year Ended December 31,	31,		
	2022	2021	$\overline{2020}$	2019	2018	<u>2017</u>	2016	<u>2015</u>	2014
L Contractually Required Contribution	\$106,541	\$96,343	\$101,018	\$96,512	\$96,046	\$96,458	\$84,371	\$77,573	\$65,069
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	(106,541)	(96,343)	(101,018)	(96,512)	(96,046)	(96,458)	(84.371)	(77,573)	(690'59)
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	<b>€</b>	ا د	, S	<u>د</u>	59	- -	5	€ <b>&gt;</b>	<del>59</del>
Authority's Covered-Employee Payroll	\$669,432	\$688,930	\$646,722	\$645,204	\$733,281	\$708,332	\$713,958	\$683,452	\$680,200
Contributions as a Percentage of Authority's Covered- Employee Payroll	15.92%	13.98%	15.62%	14.96%	13.10%	13.62%	11.82%	11.35%	9.57%

However, until a full 10-year trend is compiled, this presentation will only include information This schedule is presented to illustrate the requirement to show information for 10 years. for those years for which information is available.

Note:

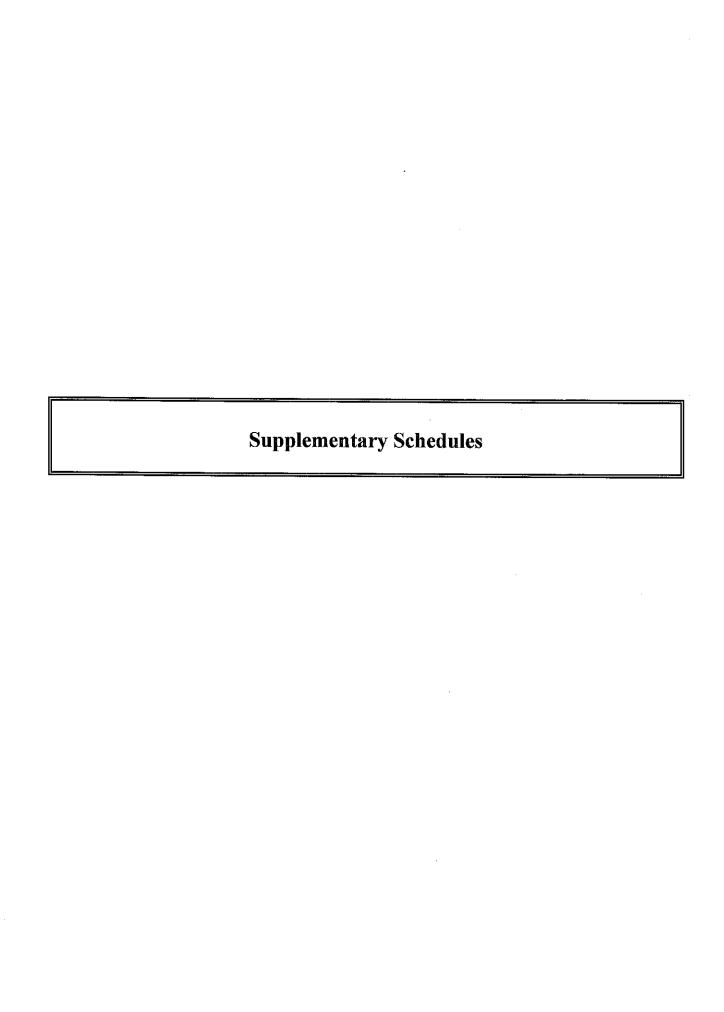
### **SCHEDULE RSI-3**

### MUSCONETCONG SEWERAGE AUTHORITY Notes to Required Supplementary Information For the Year ended December 31, 2021

### Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS)

Changes in Benefit Terms - None

Changes in Assumptions - The discount rate did not change from 7.00% as of June 30, 2021 to as of June 30, 2022, in accordance with Paragraph 44 of GASB Statement No. 67.



MUSCONETCONG SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

# SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022

		Restricted			Unrestricted	ricted			
					Designated				
	Net Investment in Capital	Current Debt Service	Future Retirement	Capital Improvement	Renewal and Replacement	Operations			
	Assets	Reserve	Reserve	Reserve	Reserve	Reserve	Total	Undesignated	Total
Operating Revenue: Service Agreements Miscellaneous							•	4,537,000 27,426	4,537,000 27,426
Total Operating Revenue	•							4,564,426	4,564,426
Operating Expense: Administrative and Ceneral Cost of Providing Services Depreciation	1,611,651							2,913,574	2,913,574 1,611,651
Total Operating Expense	1,611,651	•		1	•	,	•	3,158,270	4,769,921
Operating Income	(1,611,651)	,	,	,				1,406,156	(205,495)
Non-Operating Revenue (Expense): interest Income interest Expense Excess Due to Municipalities Amortization	3,400						; 1 1 t	6,957 (26,522) (63,253)	6,957 (26,522) (63,253) 3,400
	3,400	•					•	(82,818)	(79,418)
Net Income (Loss) Before Transfers	(1,608,251)	•	•		I	1	1	1,323,338	(284,913)
Transfers: Capital Expenditures NJIB Receivable Budget Appropriations Bond Payments Other Transfers	1,143,572 (950,389) 686,388	(4,708)		(1,123,619) 950,389 200,000	(19,953)		(1,143,572) 950,389 400,000	- (400,000) (686,388) 4,708	1 1 1 1 1
Increase/(Decrease) in Net Position	(728,680)	(4,708)	•	26,770	180,047	1	206,817	241,658	(284,913)
Net Position - January 1, 2022	19,863,526	19,934	50,000	1,084,985	526,266	20,000	1,711,251	(1,016,845)	20,577,866
Net Position - December 31, 2022	19,134,846	15,226	50,000	1,111,755	706,313	50,000	1,918,068	(775,187)	20,292,953

### SCHEDULE OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN CASH AND INVESTMENTS UNRESTRICTED AND RESTRICTED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022

	Operating Account	Payroll Account	Capital Improvement Account	Renewal and Replacement Account
Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments - January 1, 2022	1,206,313	13,716	1,271,305	526,256
oundary 1, 2022	1,200,313	13,710	1,271,303	320,230
Cash Receipts;				
Interest on Investments	6,957			
Service Charges	4,410,266			
NJIB Receipts			950,389	
Miscellaneous	26,048	1,328	-	
Escrow Deposits				
Transfers		1,017,500	100,000	200,000
Total Cash Receipts	4,443,271	1,018,828	1,050,389	200,000
Cash and Investments Available	5,649,584	1,032,544	2,321,694	726,256
Cash Disbursements:				
Operations	2,442,569	1,024,296		
Bond Principal Payments	686,388			
Interest Payments	34,385			
Capital and Other Expenses	23,857		1,189,666	74,891
Escrow Payments				
Transfers	1,117,500		200,000	
Total Cash Disbursements	4,304,699	1,024,296	1,389,666	74,891
Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments -				
December 31, 2022	1,344,885	8,248	932,028	651,365
Analysis of Balance:				
Cash and Cash Equivalents	1,344,885	8,248	932,028	651,365
	1,344,885	8,248	932,028	651,365
Unrestricted Restricted	1,321,707 23,178	8,248	932,028	651,365
	1,344,885	8,248	932,028	651,365

### SCHEDULE OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN CASH AND INVESTMENTS UNRESTRICTED AND RESTRICTED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022

	Escrow	
	Account	Total
Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments -		
January 1, 2022	8,062	3,025,652
Cash Receipts:		
Interest on Investments		6,957
Service Charges		4,410,266
NJIB Receipts		950,389
Miscellaneous		27,376
Escrow Deposits	7,740	7,740
Transfers		1,317,500
Total Cash Receipts	7,740	6,720,228
Cash and Investments Available	15,802	9,745,880
Cash Disbursements:		
Operations		3,466,865
Bond Principal Payments		686,388
Interest Payments		34,385
Capital and Other Expenses		1,288,414
Escrow Payments	5,668	5,668
Transfers		1,317,500
Total Cash Disbursements	5,668	6,799,220
Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments -		
December 31, 2022	10,134	2,946,660
Analysis of Balance:		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	10,134	2,946,660
	10,134	2,946,660
Unrestricted	-	2,913,348
Restricted	10,134	33,312
	10,134	2,946,660

MUSCONETCONG SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
SCHEDULE OF OPERATING REVENUE AND COSTS FUNDED
BY OPERATING REVENUE COMPARED TO BUDGET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022

	FY 2022 Adopted	FY 2022 Budget as	Current Year	Excess /	Prior Year
	Buaget	Amennen	Actual	(Dencie)	Actual
Revenues:					
Net Position Appropriated	109,821	109,821	109,821	•	108,611
Operating Revenues:					
Service Charges:					
Township of Byram	100,156	100,156	100,156	1	94,875
Borough of Hopatcong	1,010,936	1,010,936	1,010,936	ı	1,001,786
Borough of Mount Arlington	312,544	312,544	312,544	•	308,613
Township of Mount Olive	1,451,909	1,451,909	1,451,909	,	1,433,647
Borough of Netcong	428,090	428,090	428,090	•	422,706
Township of Roxbury	726,428	726,428	726,428	•	717,291
Borough of Stanhope	506,937	506,937	506,937	1	504,582
Miscellaneous			27,426	27,426	29,452
Non-Operating Revenues:					
Interest on Investments			6,957	6,957	2,011
Total Revenues	4,646,821	4.646.821	4.681,204	34.383	4,623,574

MUSCONETCONG SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
SCHEDULE OF OPERATING REVENUE AND COSTS FUNDED
BY OPERATING REVENUE COMPARED TO BUDGET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022

	FY 2022 Adopted Budget	FY 2022 Budget as Amended	Current Year Actual	Excess / (Deficit)	Prior Year Actual
Expenses: Operating Expenses: Administrative:					
Salaries and Wages	171,640	176,640	177,780	(1,140)	159,398
Pension (PERS)	22,050	23,730	26,860	(3,130)	20,232
Social Security Tax	13,956	13,956	13,302	654	12,269
Hospitalization	42,000	42,000	40,207	1,793	35,929
Disability Insurance	2,100	2,100	1,209	891	1,874
Unemployment Insurance	1,470	1,470	1,388	82	1,234
Other Expenses:					
Office Supplies	40,000	40,000	33,710	6,290	15,682
Total Administrative	293,216	299,896	294,456	5,440	246,618
Cost of Providing Services:					
Salaries and Wages	000899	675,000	675,394	(394)	607,820
Fringe Benefits:					
Pension (PERS)	82,950	89,270	101,046	(11,776)	76,111
Social Security Tax	52,502	52,502	50,040	2,462	46,155
Hospitalization	158,000	158,000	151,255	6,745	135,162
Disability Insurance	7,900	7,900	4,549	3,351	7,050
Unemployment Insurance	5,530	5,530	5,222	308	4,640
Other Expenses:					
Legal	35,000	35,000	21,890	13,110	35,018
Audit	20,000	20,000	16,125	3,875	16,479
Engineer	35,000	35,000	27,650	7,350	45,385
Telephone	25,000	25,000	10,530	14,470	13,176
Electric	460,000	460,000	450,380	9,620	325,671
Propane/Fuel Oil	30,000	30,000	29,786	214	31,989
Supplies and Chemicals	200,000	200,000	172,415	27,585	228,997
Laboratory Supplies	8,000	8,000	5,951	2,049	5,138

MUSCONETCONG SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
SCHEDULE OF OPERATING REVENUE AND COSTS FUNDED
BY OPERATING REVENUE COMPARED TO BUDGET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022

	FY 2022 Adopted	FY 2022 Budget as	Current Year	Excess /	Prior Year
Operating Expenses (continued): Cost of Providing Services:	Budget	Amended	Actual	(Deficit)	Actual
Other Expenses (continued):			000		
Office Expense	30,000	30,000	28,498	705,1	25,225
External Services	75,000	75,000	69,944	3,036	41,380
Taining and boucation  Taboratory Fees	20,000	20 000	16.589	3 411	13,607
Maintenance and Repairs	204,000	204,000	173,556	30,444	167,318
Insurance	120,000	120,000	130,852	(10,852)	109,640
NJDEP Fees	25,000	25,000	19,178	5,822	20,189
Trustee Fees	25,000	25,000	15,030	9,970	15,100
Permit/Compliance	25,000	25,000	31,782	(6,782)	23,996
Equipment (non-capital)	70,000	70,000	47,503	22,497	59,722
Sludge Removal	810,000	810,000	833,654	(23,654)	881,075
Contingency	25,000	5,000	•	5,000	1
Total Cost of Providing Services	3,228,882	3,222,202	3,100,764	121,438	2,943,796
Total Operating Expenses	3,522,098	3,522,098	3,395,220	126,878	3,190,414
Other Costs Funded by Operating Revenues: Debt Service:					
Interest Expense	38,335	38,335	26,522	11,813	42,380
Loan Principal	686,388	686,388	686,388	1	666,177
Reserves:					
Capital Improvements	200,000	200,000	200,000	t	200,000
Renewal and Replacement	200,000	200,000	200,000		200,000
Sub-total Other Costs	1,124,723	1,124,723	1,112,910	11,813	1,108,557
Total Costs Funded by Operating Revenues	4,646,821	4,646,821	4,508,130	138,691	4,298,971
Add: Excess / (Deficit)	,	;	173,074	173,074	324,603
	4,646,821	4,646,821	4,681,204	(34,383)	4,623,574

MUSCONETCONG SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
SCHEDULE OF OPERATING REVENUE AND COSTS FUNDED
BY OPERATING REVENUE COMPARED TO BUDGET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022

Excess of Revenues Over Expenses:	FY 2022 Adopted Budget	FY 2022 Budget as Amended	Current Year Actual 173,074	Excess / (Deficit)	Prior Year Actual 324,603
Reconciliation of Budgetary Basis to GAAP:					
Depreciation Expense			(1,611,651)		(1,611,652)
Amortization			3,400		008'9
Excess Due to Municipalities			(63,253)		(215,992)
Net Position Utilized			(109,821)		(108,611)
Bond Principal			686,388		666,177
Capital Improvements			200,000		200,000
Renewal and Replacement			200,000		200,000
Pension Adjustment			236,950		337,431
• :			1		Í.
Total Adjustments			(457,987)		(525,847)
Change in Net Position			(284,913)		(201,244)

### SCHEDULE OF CAPITAL BUDGET PROGRAM FUNDED BY FINANCING SOURCES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022

	FY 2022 Adopted Budget	FY 2022 Budget as Amended	Paid or Charged	Excess / (Deficit)
Financing Sources:				
Unrestricted Net Position Utilized	305,000	210,000	38,318	171,682
Debt Authorization	<del>-</del>	1,000,000	983,798	16,202
Renewal and Replacement Reserve	<del>-</del>	-	19,953	(19,953)
	305,000	1,210,000	1,042,069	167,931
Capital Outlays:			<u> </u>	
Pump Station(s) Renewals	50,000	50,000	13,555	36,445
Aerator Study	40,000	40,000		40,000
Roofs - Plant and Buildings	150,000	150,000	140,752	9,248
CCTV	65,000	65,000		65,000
NJIB Application (Contract 305)	-		705	(705)
Influent Screening (Contract 300)	-	225,000	219,955	5,045
Tertiary Treatment (Contract 295)	-	625,000	623,091	1,909
Modems		30,000		30,000
Air Sampling Project	-	25,000	24,058	942
Other Non-Budgeted Ren. & Replacement			19,953	(19,953)
Total Capital Outlays	305,000	1,210,000	1,042,069	167,931
Total Costs Funded by Capital Revenue	305,000	1,210,000	1,042,069	167,931
Add: Excess			<u></u>	
	305,000	1,210,000	1,042,069	167,931

MUSCONETCONG SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

## SCHEDULE OF REYENUE AND REVENUE REFUNDING BONDS

	, ,	,	Outstandir	Outstanding Maturities	F			7
Description	Date of Issue	Interest Rate	Date	December 31, 2022 tte Amount	Jan. 1, 2022	Issued	Redeemed	Dec. 31, 2022
NJEIT Bonds (Series 2002) Trust Portion	10/15/2002				266,695		266,695	
NJEIT Bonds (Series 2002) Fund Portion	10/15/2002							
					181,621		181,621	
NJEIT Bonds (Series 2007) Trust Portion	11/8/2007				78,000		78,000	
NJEIT Bonds (Series 2007) Fund Portion	11/8/2007				64.257		64.257	

MUSCONETCONG SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

SCHEDULE OF REVENUE AND REVENUE REFUNDING BONDS

	Date of	Interest	Outstandi Decemb	Outstanding Maturities December 31, 2022	Balance			Balance
Description	Issue	Rate	Date	Amount	Jan. 1, 2022	Issued	Redeemed	Dec. 31, 2022
NJEIT Bonds (Series 2010) Trust Portion	12/2/2010							
		4.00%	2023	41,000				
		2.00%	2024	45,000				
		2.00%	2025	45,000				
		425%	2026	20,000				
		4.50%	2027	55,000				
		4.50%	2028	55,000				
		4.50%	2029	55,000				
		4.25%	2030	58,000				
					445,000		41,000	404,000
NJEIT Bonds (Series 2010)	12/2/2010							
Fund Portion								
		n/a	2023	54,815				
		n/a	2024	54,815				
		n/a	2025	54,815				
		n/a	2026	54,815				
		n/a	2027	54,815				
		n/a	2028	54,815				
		п/а	2029	54,208				
		n/a	2030	5,740				
				•	443,653		54,815	388,838
				"	1,479,226		686,388	792,838
Current Portion					686,388			95,815
HOTTO I TOTAL				•	172,030			031,163
				•	1,479,226			792,838

# SCHEDULE OF AMOUNT DUE TO (FROM) MUNICIPALITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022

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173,074	(109,821)	63,253
Excess of Revenues Over Expenses (Schedule 3)	Less: Net Position Utilized for Budget	Amount Due To (From) Municipalities

### Apportionment of Operations:

FY 2022 Budget
Operati
6
52
30
1,39
41
69
48
3,922,09

<sup>(1)</sup> Based on 2022 Annual Average Flow or Guaranteed Minimum Flow Per Service Contracts.

NOTE:

This schedule is being generated for management purposes only.

### ROSTER OF OFFICIALS AND REPORT ON SURETY BONDS

The following officials were in office at December 31, 2022:

<u>Name</u> <u>Expires</u>	Office	<u>Position</u>	<u>Term</u>
Steven Rattner	Mount Olive	Chairman	1/31/2024
John Sylvester	Netcong	Vice Chairman/Councilman	1/31/2023
Joseph Schwab	Roxbury	Secretary-Treasurer	1/31/2023
Thomas Romano	Stanhope	Asst. Secretary-Treasurer/	
	-	Councilman	1/31/2023
James Benson	Stanhope	Commissioner	1/31/2025
Michael Grogan	Netcong	Commissioner	1/31/2025
Brian McNeilly	Stanhope	Commissioner	1/31/2024
Melanie Michetti	Roxbury	Commissioner	1/31/2024
Andrew Cangiano	Mt. Arlington	Commissioner/Councilman	1/31/2025
Michael Pucilowski	Mount Olive	Commissioner	1/31/2023
Rich Schindelar	Hopatcong	Commissioner/Councilman	1/31/2025
Elmer Still	Netcong	Commissioner/Councilman	1/31/2024
Joseph Sabatini	Byram	Non-voting Member	
Michael Orgera	Byram	Non-voting Member	
Patrick Dwyer		Attorney	
James Schilling		Director	
Thomas Carroll	•	Qualified Purchasing Agent	
Frank Covelli		Risk Manager	• •
John Napolitano		Labor Attorney	
PS&S		Engineer	

All members and employees are covered by insurance policies provided through the New Jersey Utility Authorities Joint Insurance Fund.

Government Auditing Standards Report



STEVEN D. WIELKOTZ, CPA, RMA, PSA MATTHEW B. WIELKOTZ, CPA, PSA PAUL J. CUVA, CPA, RMA, PSA JAMES J. CERULLO, CPA, RMA, PSA KARI FERGUSON, CPA, RMA, CMFO, PSA ROBERT C. McNinch, CPA, CFE, PSA KEVIN REEVES, CPA, PSA

40 I WANAQUE AVENUE POMPTON LAKES, NEW JERSEY 07442

PHONE: (973)-835-7900 FAX: (973)-835-7900 EMAIL: OFFICE@W-CPA.COM WWW.W-CPA.COM

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

Honorable Chairman and Members Musconetcong Sewerage Authority Budd Lake, New Jersey 07828

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; audit requirements as prescribed by the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey; and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the Musconetcong Sewerage Authority, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated June 19, 2023.

### Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit on the financial statements, we considered the Musconetcong Sewerage Authority's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the 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 Musconetcong Sewerage Authority's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Musconetcong Sewerage Authority's internal control.

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 may exist that have not been identified.

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. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be a material weakness, as defined above.

Honorable Chairman and Members of the Musconetcong Sewerage Authority Page 2.

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.

### Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Musconetcong Sewerage Authority's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

### Management's Response to Findings

Musconetcong Sewerage Authority's response to the findings identified in our audit are described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses. Management's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

### 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.

Wielkotz & Company, LLC

WIELKOTZ & COMPANY, LLC Certified Public Accountants Pompton Lakes, New Jersey

June 19, 2023



### SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022

### **Status of Prior Year Findings**

A review was performed on all prior year recommendations and corrective action was taken on all items.

General Comments and Recommendations

### **GENERAL COMMENTS**

### Contracts and Agreements Required to be Advertised Per N.J.S. 40A:11-3

N.J.S.A. 40A:11-2 contains definitions for terms used throughout N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq. and was amended under P.L. 1999, c.440. It includes as subsection (23) the term 'competitive contracting', which is defined as "the method described in sections 1 through 5 of P.L. 1999, c.440 (C.40:11-4.1 through C.40A:11-4.5) of contracting for specialized goods and services in which formal proposals are solicited from vendors, formal proposals are evaluated by the purchasing agent or counsel; and the governing body awards a contract to a vendor or vendors from among the formal proposals received."

N.J.S.A. 40A:11-3 was amended with P.L. 1999, c.440 to raise the bid threshold and require award by governing body resolution. "When the cost or price of any contract awarded by the purchasing agent in the aggregate does not exceed in a contract year the sum of \$44,000, the contract may be awarded by a purchasing agent when so authorized by ordinance or resolution as appropriate to the contracting unit, of the governing body of the contracting unit without public advertising for bids and bidding therefore, except that the governing body may adopt an ordinance or resolution to set a lower threshold for the receipt of public bids or the solicitation of competitive quotations."

N.J.S.A. 40A:11-15 was amended with P.L. 1999, c.440 to extend the base contract period. "Any contract made pursuant to this section may be awarded for a period of 24 consecutive months, except that contracts for professional services pursuant to paragraph (1) of subsection (a) of N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5 may be awarded for a period not exceeding 12 consecutive months.

The governing body of the Authority has the responsibility of determining whether the expenditures in any category will exceed the statutory threshold within the contract year. Where question arises as to whether any contract or agreement might result in violation of the statute, the opinion of the Authority's attorney should be sought before a commitment is made.

Inasmuch as the system of records did not provide for an accumulation of payments for categories for the performance of any work or the furnishing or hiring of any materials or supplies, the results of such an accumulation could not reasonably be ascertained. Disbursements were reviewed, however, to determine whether any clear-cut violations existed.

The results of our examination indicated that no individual payments, contracts, or agreements were made "for the performance of any work or the furnishing or hiring of any materials or supplies," in excess of the statutory thresholds where there had been no advertising for bids in accordance with the provision of N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.

Resolutions were adopted authorizing the awarding of contract or agreements for "Professional Services" per N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5.

A review was performed on all prior year recommendations and corrective action was taken on all items, except those noted with an asterisk "\*".

Problems and weaknesses noted in our review were not of such magnitude that they would affect our ability to express an opinion on the financial statements taken as a whole.

We wish to thank Musconetcong Sewerage Authority for their cooperation during the performance of our audit.

Respectfully submitted,

Wielkotz & Company, LLC

WIELKOTZ & COMPANY, LLC Certified Public Accountants