ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
TOGETHER WITH REPORTS OF
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Commissioners
Estero Fire Rescue District
Estero, Florida

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities of the Estero Fire Rescue District, Estero, Florida (the "District") as of and for the year ended September 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District'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 respective financial position of the governmental activities of the District, as of September 30, 2025 and the respective changes in financial position, for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

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

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these 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 misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

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

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

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis, schedules of the District's net proportionate share of net pension liability- pension plan and health insurance subsidy plan, schedules of district contributions- pension plan and health insurance subsidy plan and schedule of changes in the total OPEB liability and related ratios to 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 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.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated May 12, 2026, on our consideration of the District'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 solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Ashley, Brown & Smith, CPAs

Punta Gorda, Florida
May 12, 2026

Management's Discussion and Analysis
(unaudited)

This discussion and analysis of the Estero Fire Rescue District's (the "District") financial statements is designed to introduce the basic financial statements and provide an analytical overview of the District's financial activities for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2025. The basic financial statements are comprised of the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements, and notes. We hope this will assist readers in identifying significant financial issues and changes in the District's financial position.

Estero Fire Rescue Highlights

- At close of fiscal year 2025, the District's assets and deferred outflow of resources exceeded its liabilities and deferred inflow of resources, resulting in a net position of $43,058,275 on a government-wide basis.
- Total net position increased $4,867,750, or 12.75 percent, in comparison to the prior year.
- The increase in net position is due primarily to an increase in revenue from Ad Valorem revenue.
- The unrestricted balance of $26,064,035 can be used to meet ongoing obligations of the District and fund amounts assigned by the Board.
- General and program revenues increased $4,404,113, or 19.1 percent, in comparison to the prior year primarily due to an increase in property values which led to an increase in ad valorem revenue.
- Total program expenses reported an increase of $1,787,447, or 8.6 percent, in comparison to the prior year. This increase is due to an increase in personnel expenses.

Government-wide Financial Statements

Government-wide financial statements (Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities found on pages 11 and 12) are intended to allow a reader to assess a government's operational accountability. Operational accountability is defined as the extent to which the government has met its operation objectives efficiently and effectively, using all resources available for that purpose, and whether it can continue to meet its objectives for the foreseeable future. Government-wide financial statements concentrate on the District as a whole and do not emphasize fund types.

The Statement of Net Position (page 11) presents information on all of the District's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net position. The District's capital assets (land, property, and equipment) are included in this statement and reported net of their accumulated depreciation, when applicable.

The Statement of Activities (page 12) presents revenue and expense information showing how the District's net position changed during the fiscal year. Both statements are measured and reported using the economic resource measurement focus (revenues and expenses) and the accrual basis of accounting (revenue recognized when earned and expenses recognized when a liability is incurred).

Governmental Fund Financial Statements
The accounts of the District are organized on the basis of governmental funds; a fund is considered a separate accounting entity. The operation of funds are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues, and expenditures. Government resources may be allocated to and accounted for in individual funds based upon the purpose for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled. The District reports its financial activity in the General Fund and the Impact Fee Fund for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2025. The General Fund accounts for the District's primary operating activities, while the Impact Fee Fund is used to account for resources that are restricted for capital-related purposes.

Governmental fund financial statements (found on pages 13 and 15) are prepared on the modified accrual basis using the current financial resources measurement focus. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when they become measurable and available as net current assets. Grant revenue, however, is recognized when the grant related expense is incurred.

Fiduciary Fund Financial Statements
Fiduciary funds reflect the net assets available for the District's firefighter retirement plan and the retiree insurance trust fund plan, as well as the related financial activity. These assets are not available to fund the District's operations, but are held strictly to fund the respective retirement benefits.

Notes to the Financial Statements
The notes to the financial statements explain in detail some of the data contained in the preceding statements and begin on page 19. These notes are essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

Government-Wide Financial Analysis
The government-wide financial statements were designed so the user could determine if the District is in a better or worse financial condition from the prior year.

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The following is a condensed summary of net position for the primary government for fiscal years 2025 and 2024:

Summary of Net Position

	2025	2024
Assets:		
Current Assets	$ 30,472,220	$ 26,654,086
Capital Assets	17,752,983	18,357,544
Total Assets	48,225,203	45,011,630
Deferred Outflow of Resources:		
Deferred Amount on OPEB	1,381,748	1,275,377
Deferred Amount on VEBA	174,362	181,791
Deferred Amount on Pension	7,138,424	6,950,502
Total Deferred Outflow of Resources	8,694,534	8,407,670
Total Assets and Deferred Outflow of Resources	$ 56,919,737	$ 53,419,300
Liabilities:		
Current Liabilities	$ 1,859,700	$ 2,024,949
Unearned Revenue	24,879	24,879
Non-current Liabilities	6,632,783	6,345,474
Total Liabilities	8,517,362	8,395,302
Deferred Inflow of Resources:		
Deferred Amount on OPEB	769,080	918,572
Deferred Amount on VEBA	414,553	431,253
Deferred Amount on Pension	4,160,467	5,483,648
Total Deferred Inflow of Resources	5,344,100	6,833,473
Total Liabilities and Deferred Inflow of Resources	13,861,462	15,228,775
Net Position:		
Net Investment in Capital Assets	16,645,365	17,082,464
Restricted	348,874	294,961
Unrestricted	26,064,036	20,813,100
Total Net Position	43,058,275	38,190,525
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflow of Resources, and Net Position	$ 56,919,737	$ 53,419,300

Current assets represent 63.2 percent of total assets. Current assets are comprised of cash and investments of $26,653,038 and other assets of $3,819,182. The investment in capital assets is comprised of land and improvements, buildings, vehicles, and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation and the outstanding related debt used to acquire the assets.

The following schedule reports the revenues, expenses, and changes in net position for the District for the current fiscal years 2025 and 2024:

Summary of Activities

	2025	2024
Revenues:		
General Revenues		
Ad Valorem Taxes	$ 24,208,956	$ 20,164,684
Interest	1,006,906	1,015,250
Gain on Sale of Capital Assets	23,936	57,142
Other Revenues	186,679	120,695
Program Revenues		
Federal, State, and Local Grants	309,800	160,565
Insurance Premium Tax for Firefighters' Pension	654,459	586,783
State Shared	34,699	32,750
Charges for Services	241,670	283,499
Impact Fees	787,075	628,699
Total Revenues	27,454,180	23,050,067
Expenses:		
Public Safety - Fire and Rescue Services	22,586,430	20,798,983
Increase in Net Position	4,867,750	2,251,084
Net Position - Beginning of the Year	38,190,525	35,939,441
Net Position - End of the Year	$ 43,058,275	$ 38,190,525

Total revenues increased $4,404,113, or 19.1 percent, in comparison to prior year. Total expenditures increased by $1,787,447, or 8.6 percent, in comparison to prior year. This is primarily the result of increases in payroll and operating expenses.

Additional Financial Overview

Property values have increased by approximately $3,173,518,071, or 40.7 percent, in the past five years. The taxable property value has been increasing in the last five years and the area noticed an increase of 13.3 percent between fiscal years 2024 and 2025. The District adopted a millage rate of 2.288 for fiscal year 2025. The millage rate increased from the 2.16 millage rate adopted in 2024. Ad Valorem tax revenues increased by $4,044,272, or 20.1 percent, in comparison to the prior year.

The following schedule compares the change in property value and growth in millage rates for the past five years:

Impact fee receipts increased by 25.2%, in comparison to the prior year. Overall impact fees have experienced an average increase of 14.5 percent for the last five years. The five year trend of impact fee receipts compounded with the increase in property values is a positive indicator the economy is maintaining stability. The District will continue to anticipate conservative growth for budget purposes and long term planning.

Budgetary Highlights

Estero Fire Rescue adopts an annual budget as required by Florida Statute. Budget versus actual comparisons are reported as Required Supplementary Information. Budget transfers are made from time to time to manage unanticipated costs as they relate to originally estimated amounts. The General Fund difference between the final budgeted expenditures and actual expenditures represents a favorable variance of $2,913,359, or 11.5 percent.

Debt Administration

At September 30, 2025, the total long-term liabilities of $6,632,783 includes an implicit subsidy for OPEB, compensated absences, deferred compensation, and a note payable. Long term liabilities increased $287,309, or 4.5 percent, in comparison to the prior year. The increase is primarily due to an increase in the OPEB implicit subsidy. The following is a schedule of the District's outstanding notes payable as of September 30, 2025 and 2024:

Outstanding Debt

	2025	2024
Note Payable	$ 1,107,618	$ 1,275,080
Total	$ 1,107,618	$ 1,275,080

The General Fund was responsible for payment of the debt. Impact Fees designated for debt will be used for debt as they become available. The District's debt was collateralized by future impact fee revenue. As such, general dollars that paid the debt will be reimbursed by future impact fee revenue. Additional information on the repayment process can be found in Note K on page 59-60.

Additional information on the District's long-term debt can be found in Note E on page 37.

Capital Assets

Non-depreciable capital assets include land and depreciable assets include buildings and improvements, vehicles, and equipment.

The following is a schedule of the District's capital assets as of September 30, 2025 and 2024:

Capital Assets

	2025	2024
CAPITAL ASSETS		
Land	$ 2,577,755	$ 2,577,755
Construction in Progress	221,393	76,704
Total Capital Assets Not Depreciated	2,799,148	2,654,459
Buildings and Improvements	16,400,329	16,400,329
Vehicles	7,606,255	8,046,340
Equipment	3,149,836	2,889,075
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated	27,156,419	27,335,744
ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION		
Buildings and Improvements	(5,574,125)	(5,096,667)
Vehicles	(4,816,144)	(4,947,891)
Equipment	(1,812,315)	(1,588,101)
Total Accumulated Depreciation	(12,202,584)	(11,632,659)
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated, Net	14,953,835	15,703,085
CAPITAL ASSETS, NET	$ 17,752,983	$ 18,357,544

Noteworthy capital asset activity that took place in fiscal year 2025 is as follows:

- The District replaced some fitness equipment in the stations to help maintain our employees' health and fitness. The capital outlay was approximately $23,798.
- The District did some land improvements to Station 42 to improve some parking lot issues. The capital outlay was approximately $88,244.
- The District purchased 5 new AEDs to replace some outdated ones. The capital outlay was approximately $17,125.
- The District purchased 10 new portable radios to upgrade old ones. The capital outlay was approximately $95,520.
- The District purchased a new staff vehicle and moved the old one to a reserve status. The capital outlay was approximately $91,024.
- The District purchased new equipment to outfit an upcoming purchase of a new engine as a frontline apparatus. The capital outlay was approximately $174,992.
-

Economic Factors and Next Year's Budget Rates

The following were factors considered when next year's budget (2025-2026) was prepared:

- Property values within the District increased approximately $942,835,558 or 8.6 percent, to $11,922,443,303. When property values increase, the rolled-back millage rate decreases so tax revenue may remain unchanged. The District maintained the same millage rate of 2.288 in FY 2026, which resulted in a tax levy increase of $4,044,272. When the millage rate adopted exceeds the calculated rolled-back rate, the government is levying a tax increase, regardless of the change in the millage rate. The rolled-back rate formula essentially provides a rate relative to the current property values, which creates a tax levy equal to the amount in the previous year. The property values used in the rolled-back rate formula excludes, among other things, amounts for new construction and improvements, essentially rolling back a government's operating revenue to that of the prior year.
- The District budgeted for several new capital items to include a replacement fire truck, 4 replacement staff vehicles, replacement portable radios, a replacement station generator, and a replacement cardiac monitor.
- With the anticipated increase to revenue and expenditures, the District is anticipating a net increase to fund balance in an amount of $12,591.

Request for Information

The financial report is designed to provide the reader an overview of Estero Fire Rescue District. Questions regarding any information provided in this report should be directed to:

Estero Fire Rescue District, 21500 Three Oaks Pkwy, Estero, Florida 33928, or by calling (239) 390-8000.

ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
September 30, 2025

	Governmental Activities
ASSETS	
Cash	$ 13,673,997
Investments	12,979,041
Prepaid Items	52,205
Accounts Receivable	23,489
Due from Other Governments	780,085
Pension Asset	2,469,925
OPEB-Retiree Insurance Trust Asset	493,478
Capital Assets:	
Land	2,577,755
Construction in Progress	221,393
Depreciable Buildings, Equipment, and Vehicles, Net of Accumulated Depreciation	14,953,835
TOTAL ASSETS	48,225,203
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	
Deferred Amount on OPEB	1,381,748
Deferred Amount on VEBA	174,362
Deferred Amount on Pensions	7,138,424
TOTAL DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	8,694,534
TOTAL ASSETS AND DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	56,919,737
LIABILITIES	
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	1,859,700
Unearned Revenue	24,879
Noncurrent Liabilities:	
Long-Term Liabilities:	
Due within one year	177,036
Due in more than one year	6,455,747
TOTAL LIABILITIES	8,517,362
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	
Deferred Amount on OPEB	769,080
Deferred Amount on VEBA	414,553
Deferred Amount on Pensions	4,160,467
TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	5,344,100
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	13,861,462
NET POSITION	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	16,645,365
Restricted	348,874
Unrestricted	26,064,036
TOTAL NET POSITION	43,058,275
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET POSITION	$ 56,919,737

ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
Year Ended September 30, 2025

	Governmental Activities
PROGRAM EXPENSES	
Public Safety - Fire and Rescue Services	
Personal Services	$ 17,519,963
Operating	3,799,528
Depreciation	1,197,377
Interest and Fiscal Charges	69,562
TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSES	22,586,430
PROGRAM REVENUES	
Insurance Premium Tax for Firefighters' Pension	654,459
Federal, State, and Local Grants	309,800
State Shared	34,699
Charges for Services	241,670
Impact Fees	787,075
TOTAL PROGRAM REVENUES	2,027,703
NET PROGRAM EXPENSES	20,558,727
GENERAL REVENUES	
Ad Valorem Taxes	24,208,956
Interest	1,006,906
Gain on Sale of Capital Assets	23,936
Other Revenues	186,679
TOTAL GENERAL REVENUES	25,426,477
INCREASE IN NET POSITION	4,867,750
NET POSITION - Beginning of the Year	38,190,525
NET POSITION - End of the Year	$ 43,058,275

ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
BALANCE SHEET – GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
Year Ended September 30, 2025

	General Fund	Impact Fee Fund	Total
ASSETS			
Cash	$13,619,002	$ 54,995	$ 13,673,997
Investments	12,979,041	-	12,979,041
Prepaid Items	52,205	-	52,205
Accounts Receivable	23,489	-	23,489
Due from Other Funds	13,144,236	-	13,144,236
Due from Other Governments	486,206	293,879	780,085
TOTAL ASSETS	$40,304,179	$ 348,874	$ 40,653,053
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE			
LIABILITIES			
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expense	$ 1,859,700	$ -	$ 1,859,700
Due to Other Funds	-	13,144,236	13,144,236
Unearned Revenue	24,879	-	24,879
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,884,579	13,144,236	15,028,815
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES			
Unavailable Revenue	189,736	-	189,736
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	2,074,315	13,144,236	15,218,551
FUND BALANCE			
Restricted			
Impact Fees	-	(12,795,362)	(12,795,362)
Committed			
Capital Improvement Program	8,816,316	-	8,816,316
Nonspendable			
Prepaid Items	52,205	-	52,205
Assigned			
Community Safety Program	32,472	-	32,472
Mobile Radio Fund	24,879	-	24,879
Unassigned	29,303,992	-	29,303,992
TOTAL FUND BALANCE	38,229,864	(12,795,362)	25,434,502
TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES, AND FUND BALANCE	$40,304,179	$ 348,874	$ 40,653,053

ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
RECONCILIATION OF THE BALANCE SHEET –
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
September 30, 2025

		Amounts
Total Fund Balance for Governmental Funds		$ 25,434,502
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position are different because:		
Pension assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.		2,469,925
VEBA assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.		493,478
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.		
Capital assets not being depreciated:		
Land		2,577,755
Construction in Progress		221,393
Capital assets being depreciated:		
Building, Equipment, and Vehicles	$ 27,156,420	
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(12,202,584)	
		14,953,836
Deferred outflows of resources are not recognized in the governmental funds; however, they are recorded in the statement of net position under full accrual accounting.		
OPEB		1,381,748
Pension earnings and experience		7,138,424
VEBA		174,362
Deferred inflows of resources are not recognized in the governmental funds; however, they are recorded in the statement of net position under full accrual accounting.		
Pension assumptions		(4,160,467)
OPEB Assumptions		(769,080)
VEBA		(414,553)
Deferred inflows of resources related to unavailable revenue are recognized in the governmental funds but are recorded as revenue in the statement of net position under full accrual accounting.		189,736
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore, are not reported in the funds.		
Note Payable	(1,107,618)	
Termination Benefit	(88,599)	
Compensated Absences	(1,501,366)	
Implicit Subsidy (OPEB)	(3,935,200)	
		(6,632,783)
Total Net Position of Governmental Activities		$ 43,058,275

ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES – GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
Year Ended September 30, 2025

	General Fund	Impact Fee Fund	Total
Revenues			
Ad Valorem Taxes	$ 24,208,956	$ -	$ 24,208,956
Insurance Premium Tax for Firefighters' Pension	654,459	-	654,459
Intergovernmental:			
State Shared	34,699	-	34,699
Local Grant	249,055	-	249,055
Charges for Services	241,670	-	241,670
Miscellaneous:			
Impact Fees	-	787,075	787,075
Community Safety Program Donations	2,953	-	2,953
Interest	998,754	8,152	1,006,906
Other	183,726	-	183,726
TOTAL REVENUES	26,574,272	795,227	27,369,499
EXPENDITURES			
Public Safety			
Personnel Services	17,705,262	-	17,705,262
Operating Expenditures	3,799,528	-	3,799,528
Capital Outlay	593,881	-	593,881
Debt Service			
Principal Reduction	167,462	-	167,462
Interest and Fiscal Charges	69,562	-	69,562
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	22,335,695	-	22,335,695
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	4,238,577	795,227	5,033,804
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES			
Proceeds from Sale of Capital Assets	25,000	-	25,000
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	25,000	-	25,000
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	4,263,577	795,227	5,058,804
FUND BALANCE - Beginning of the Year	33,966,287	(13,590,589)	20,375,698
FUND BALANCE - End of the Year	$ 38,229,864	$ (12,795,362)	$ 25,434,502

ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES – GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
Year Ended September 30, 2025

		Amounts
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:		
Net change in fund balance		$ 5,058,804
Governmental funds reports capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which depreciation exceeded capital outlays in the current period.		(603,496)
The net effect of various miscellaneous transactions involving capital assets (i.e., sales, trade-ins, and donations) is to decrease net position.		(1,064)
Repayment of principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds but reduces the liability in the statement of net position.		
Repayments:		
Notes payable		167,462
Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do (do not) require the use of current financial resources and therefore, are (are not) reported as expenditures in the governmental funds.		
Increase in compensated absences	$ (15,115)	
Increase in termination benefits	(2,913)	
		(18,028)
The increase in OPEB expense does not affect the use of financial resources and is not reflected as an increase of expenditures in the governmental funds.		(171,770)
The reduction of pension expense does not affect the use of financial resources and is not reflected as a reduction of expenditures in the governmental funds.		375,599
Intergovernmental revenue is recorded as revenue in the statement of net position when measurable and is not recognized as a revenue in the governmental funds in accordance with modified accrual accounting.		60,243
Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities		$ 4,867,750

ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION – FIDUCIARY FUNDS
September 30, 2025

	Fiduciary Funds
ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 871,406
Accounts Receivable	81,853
Investments	57,604,843
Total Assets	$ 58,558,102
NET POSITION	
Held in trust for pension benefits	$ 56,401,624
Held in trust for VEBA retiree health insurance benefits	2,156,478
	$ 58,558,102

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION – FIDUCIARY FUNDS
Year Ended September 30, 2025

	Fiduciary Funds
ADDITIONS	
Contributions	
Employer Contributions	$ 1,748,746
Plan Members	231,938
State of Florida, Insurance Premiums	674,129
Total Contributions	2,654,813
Investment Income (Expense)	
Net Appreciation in Fair Value of Investments	4,645,269
Interest and Dividends	55,466
Less: Investment Expenses	(55,665)
Net Investment Income	4,645,070
TOTAL ADDITIONS	7,299,883
DEDUCTIONS	
Benefits and Refunds	729,187
Administrative Expenses	43,269
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	772,456
NET INCREASE IN PLAN NET POSITION	6,527,427
PLAN NET POSITION - Beginning of Year	52,030,675
PLAN NET POSITION - End of Year	$ 58,558,102

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

NOTE A ORGANIZATION AND NATURE OF ACTIVITIES AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Organization and nature of activities

Estero Fire Rescue District (the "District") is an independent special taxing district located in southern Lee County, Florida. The District was established on June 25, 1976 by Laws of Florida, Chapter 76-408. The District's governing legislation was recreated, reenacted and codified by the Laws of Florida, Chapter 2000-437 on July 5, 2000. The District is governed by a five-member (5) elected Board of Commissioners. Commissioners serve on a staggered four (4) year term basis.

The District provides fire control and rescue services, fire safety inspections, fire prevention education, and EMS services. In providing these services, the District operates and maintains five (5) station houses, an administrative building and the related equipment, and employs 88 professional firefighters and administrative and support personnel.

Summary of significant accounting policies

The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies used in the preparation of these basic financial statements.

Reporting entity

Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement Number 14, "Financial Reporting Entity" (GASB 14), as amended, requires the financial statements of the District (the primary government) to include its component units, if any. A component unit is a legally separate organization for which the elected officials of the primary government are financially accountable. Based on the criteria established in GASB 14, as amended, there are no component units included and/or required to be included in the District's financial statements.

Government-wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) report information on all of the activities of the District and do not emphasize fund types. These governmental activities comprise the primary government. General governmental and intergovernmental revenues support the governmental activities. The purpose of the government-wide financial statements is to allow the user to be able to determine if the District is in a better or worse financial position than the prior year.

Government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting, as are the pension fund financial statements. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets, and liabilities resulting from exchange and exchange-like transactions are recognized when the exchange takes place. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets, and liabilities resulting from non-exchange transactions are recognized in accordance with the requirements of GASB Statement Number 33, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Nonexchange Transactions" (GASB 33).

NOTE A ORGANIZATION AND NATURE OF ACTIVITIES AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Government-wide Financial Statements (Continued)

Amounts paid to acquire capital assets are capitalized as assets in the government-wide financial statements, rather than reported as expenditures. Proceeds of long-term debt are recorded as liabilities in the government-wide financial statements, rather than as other financing sources. Amounts paid to reduce long-term indebtedness of the reporting government are reported as a reduction of the related liability in the government-wide financial statements, rather than as expenditures.

The Statement of Activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program revenues include: 1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use or directly benefit for goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function, such as inspection fees, and 2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital improvements of a particular function. Taxes and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenues.

Fund Financial Statements

The accounts of the District are organized on the basis of funds; a fund is considered a separate accounting entity. The operation of funds are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues, and expenditures or expenses, as appropriate. Government resources may be allocated to and accounted for in individual funds based upon the purpose for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled.

Fund financial statements for the District's governmental and fiduciary funds are presented after the government-wide financial statements. The fiduciary statement includes financial information for the firefighters' pension fund and the retirees' insurance trust fund. The fiduciary fund represents assets held by the District in a trustee capacity for the benefit of other individuals.

Governmental Funds

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collected within the current period or soon thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period.

The District reports the following governmental funds, each of which is considered a major fund:

General Fund: The General Fund is the general operating fund of the District. All financial resources which are not specifically restricted or designated as to use are recorded in the General Fund.

Impact Fee Fund: The Impact Fee Fund is used to account for the collection of impact fees which are collected on the District's behalf by Lee County, Florida and the expenditure of funds for qualified purposes. The most recent uses of impact fee funds have been for the building of a new fire station to cover new construction in the eastern portion of our District.

NOTE A ORGANIZATION AND NATURE OF ACTIVITIES AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Fiduciary Fund

A Fiduciary Fund accounts for assets held by the government in a trustee capacity or as an agent on behalf of others. Specifically, a trust fund accounts for assets held by the government under the terms of a formal trust agreement. The District's fiduciary fund is comprised of the firefighters' pension fund and the Retirees' Insurance Trust Fund (VEBA). The pension trust fund accounts for the activities of the Firefighters' Pension Plan. This plan accumulates resources for pension benefit payments to qualified firefighters. The Retiree Insurance Trust Fund (VEBA) accounts for health insurance for retirees of both the General and Firefighters upon retirement.

The Fiduciary Fund is excluded from the government-wide financial statements because the resources of that fund are not available to support the District's programs.

Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures, or expenses, are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the measurement focus applied.

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Property taxes are recognized as revenues in the year for which they are levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements have been met.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period and soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the District considers tax revenues to be available if they are collected within sixty days of the end of the current fiscal period.

Revenues susceptible to accrual are property taxes, interest on investments, charges for services and intergovernmental revenues. Property taxes are recorded as revenues in the fiscal year in which they are levied, provided they are collected in the current period or within sixty days thereafter. Interest on invested funds is recognized when earned.

Intergovernmental revenues that are reimbursements for specific purposes or projects are recognized when all eligibility requirements are met. In accordance with GASB Statement No. 65, Items Previously Reported as Assets and Liabilities, the District records unavailable revenues (deferred inflow of resources) for amounts for which all eligibility requirements have been met, however funds are not available. Unavailable revenues are also recorded when amounts have been received and all eligibility requirements, except time requirements, have been met.

Expenditures are generally recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related fund liability is incurred. Exceptions to this general rule include: (1) principal and interest on long-term debt, if any, which is recognized when due, and (2) expenditures are generally not divided between years by the recording of prepaid expenditures.

NOTE A ORGANIZATION AND NATURE OF ACTIVITIES AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting (Continued)

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the District's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds and fiduciary funds, even though the latter are excluded from the government-wide financial statements.

Investments

The District adheres to the requirements of GASB Statement Number 31, "*Accounting and Financial Reporting for Certain Investments and for External Investment Pools*", as amended, GASB Statement Number 79, "*Certain External Investment Pools and Pool Participants,"* GASB Statement Number 40, *Deposit and Investment Risk Disclosures—an amendment of GASB Statement Number 3*, and GASB Statement Number 72, *Fair Value Measurement and Application.*

Investments consist of the Florida Municipal Pension Trust Fund.

The District's Firefighters' Retirement Plan is part of a collectively managed single-employer plan, and therefore reports all income (loss) from investments as allocated investment income as it is not feasible to allocate specific components of income to a specific plan.

Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include land, buildings and improvements, equipment, and vehicles, are reported in the government-wide financial statements in the Statement of Net Position.

The District follows a capitalization policy which calls for capitalization of all capital assets that have a cost or donated value of $2,000 or more and have a useful life in excess of one year.

All capital assets are valued at historical cost or estimated historical cost if actual historical cost is not available. Donated capital assets are valued at their acquisition cost on the date donated. No debt-related interest expense is capitalized as part of general capital assets in accordance with GASB 34.

The acquisition of land and construction projects utilizing resources received from federal and state agencies are capitalized when the related expenditure is incurred.

Maintenance, repairs, and minor renovations are not capitalized. Expenditures that materially increase values, change capacities or extend useful lives are capitalized. Upon sale or retirement, the cost and related accumulated depreciation is eliminated from the respective accounts.

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

Asset	Years
Buildings and improvements	3-35
Equipment	3-7
Vehicles	4-15

NOTE A ORGANIZATION AND NATURE OF ACTIVITIES AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources

In addition to assets, the statement of net position reports a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred outflows of resources, represents consumption of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense) until then. The District reports deferred outflows for changes in actuarial assumptions on pension plan investments. A deferred outflow relating to the pension plan will be recognized as increases in pension expense in future years.

In addition to liabilities, the statement of financial position reports a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred inflows of resources, represents an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. The deferred inflows of resources reported in the District's statement of net position represent changes in actuarial assumptions. These amounts will be recognized as reductions in pension expense and post-employment benefits other than pension (OPEB) in future years.

Pensions

The Pension financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). These standards require two basic financial statements: (1) a Statement of Fiduciary Net Position and (2) a Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position. In addition, actuarially determined information about the funded status of the Plan and related funding progress is presented in two additional schedules: (1) a Schedule of Funding Progress and (2) a Schedule of Employer and Employee Contributions. GAAP also establishes certain parameters for the measurement of all actuarially determined information.

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

The District expenses are required pension contributions as a component of personal services expense. The remaining portion of pension expenses, consisting of the actuarially determined amounts related to the amortization of deferred outflows and deferred inflows of resources, is presented as an expense in the statement of activities by function.

NOTE A ORGANIZATION AND NATURE OF ACTIVITIES AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Voluntary Employees' Beneficiary Association (VEBA)

The District participates in a VEBA, a trust administered by a third party to provide postemployment benefits to retirees. VEBA assets are legally restricted for the exclusive benefit of participants and are not available to the District. Contributions are recognized as expenditures in the governmental fund financial statements when due and payable. In the government-wide financial statements, contributions are recognized as expenses.

Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB)

The District expenses OPEB payments to retirees as a component of personal services expense. The remaining portion of OPEB expense, consisting of the actuarially determined amounts related to the amortization of deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources, is presented as an expense in the statement of activities.

Budgets and Budgetary Accounting

The District adopted an annual budget for the General Fund which included budgeted appropriated expenditures equal to budgeted revenue and beginning fund balance.

The District follows these procedures in establishing budgetary data for the General Fund:

1. During the summer of each year, the District's Fire Chief submits to the Board of Commissioners a proposed operating budget for the fiscal year commencing on the upcoming October 1. The operating budget includes proposed expenditures and the means of financing them.
2. Public hearings are conducted to obtain taxpayer comments.
3. The budget is adopted by approval of the Board of Commissioners.
4. Budget amounts, as shown in these financial statements, are as originally adopted and as amended by the Fire Chief and Board of Commissioners.
5. The budget was adopted on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. From time to time there may be activity that differs from a basis consistent with GAAP. For the year ended September 30, 2025, no differences were noted.
6. The level of control for appropriations is exercised at the account level.
7. Appropriations for expenditures lapse at year-end.

The Board of Commissioners approved one (1) separate request to reconcile budget amounts at the program level and/or the account level during the year ended September 30, 2025. The Fire Chief has the authority to reclassify budgeted amounts at the account level up to $100,000, and such reclassifications are performed as needed. During the year ended September 30, 2025, the Fire Chief approved no separate requests to transfer budgeted amounts at the account level. These transfers are reclassification transactions necessary to appropriately manage the budget. Overall expenditure amounts would not change as a result of these types of transfers.

NOTE A ORGANIZATION AND NATURE OF ACTIVITIES AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Compensated Absences

The District's employees accumulate annual personal leave, based on the number of years of continuous service and the bargaining unit contract. Upon termination of employment, employees can receive payment of accumulated annual leave, if certain criteria are met. Annually, the District will purchase banked hours in excess of 200 hours for administrative employees; 500 hours for 40 hour chief officers, executive staff, and bargaining unit employees; and 600 hours for 56 hour chief officers and bargaining unit employees. In accordance with GASB Statement No. 101, Compensated Absences, the cost of personal leave benefits are expended in the General Fund when payments are made to employees. The District recognizes a liability for compensated absences for leave that is attributable to services already rendered, accumulates, and is more likely than not to be used for time off or otherwise paid or settled. Such liability is reported in the government-wide financial statements.

Accounts Receivable

No allowance for losses on uncollectible accounts has been recorded since the District considers all amounts to be fully collectible.

Management Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Fund Balance

In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report fund classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which the District is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in those funds can be spent. Fund balance is reported in five components: nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned.

The components of Fund Balance are:

Nonspendable

The portion of net resources or fund balance that cannot be spent because of their form. These amounts will never convert to cash or not convert soon enough to affect the current period (e.g., long-term receivables or prepaid items).

NOTE A ORGANIZATION AND NATURE OF ACTIVITIES AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Fund Balance (Continued)

Restricted
The restricted fund balance is the portion that reflects resources that are subject to externally enforceable legal restrictions such as debt covenants or county ordinances.

Since the Board has no authority to expend restricted fund balances, the restricted component is typically excluded from discussions in which the Board and management at their discretion may approve to expend, commit or assign. All other components may be generally referred to as "unrestricted" even though constraints imposed by the District may exist.

Committed
The portion of fund balance that represents resources whose use is constrained by a formal action (resolution) of the District's Board of Fire Commissioners, the District's highest level of decision making authority. Constraints made by the Board remain binding unless removed in the same manner. The Board has committed fund balance for the capital improvement program.

Assigned
The portion of fund balance that reflects the District's intended use of resources. Such intent can be established by the Board or delegated to the Fire Chief for unforeseen expenses below $10,000 that were not budgeted for and advance Board approval is deemed unnecessary in order to maintain the normal operation of the District. The Board has assigned the activities of the Community Safety Program to the Fire Chief. Additionally, any amounts appropriated for projected deficits in the subsequent year will be assigned. Assigned funds also include funds donated to purchase mobile repeaters for radio enhancements. These funds were donated in fiscal years 2016, 2017, and 2018 but will not be recognized until the radios can be purchased. A portion of these funds were recognized in fiscal years 2019 and 2020 with the purchase of some mobile repeaters.

Unassigned
The portion of fund balance representing net resources in excess of what can properly be classified in one of the three categories described above and whose use is constrained by limitations set by the Board. Only the Board may, from time to time, as deemed necessary increase or decrease fund balance commitments and assignments. Annually, the Board will evaluate, or assign or commit estimated net resources that are in excess of those amounts already committed and assigned.

The District expends restricted amounts first when both restricted and unrestricted fund balances are available unless there are legal documents that prohibit doing this. Additionally, the District would first use committed fund balance, followed by assigned fund balance, and then unassigned fund balance, when expenditures are incurred for purposes in which amounts are available from any of these unrestricted fund balance classifications.

NOTE B CASH

As of September 30, 2025, the carrying amount of the District's deposits was as follows:

Governmental Funds		
Cash on Hand	$	9,900
Demand Deposits		13,664,097
Total Governmental Funds		13,673,997
Fiduciary Funds		
Cash with Fiscal Agent		871,406
Total Governmental Funds and Fiduciary Funds	$	14,545,403

The bank balance was $14,579,163.

Custodial Credit Risk

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the District's deposits may not be returned to it. In accordance with its policy, all District depositories are banks designated by the Florida Chief Financial Officer as qualified public depositories. Chapter 280 of the Florida Statutes "Florida Security for Public Deposits Act" provides procedures for public depositories to ensure public monies in banks and savings and loans are collateralized with the Florida Chief Financial Officer as agent for the public entities. Chapter 280 defines deposits as the demand deposit accounts, time deposit accounts, and nonnegotiable certificates of deposit.

Financial institutions qualifying as public depositories shall deposit with the Florida Chief Financial Officer, eligible collateral at the pledging level required pursuant to Chapter 280. The Florida Security for Public Deposits Act has procedures for the payment of losses in the event of a default or insolvency. When public deposits are made in accordance with Chapter 280, no public depositor shall be liable for any loss thereof, and therefore, the District is not exposed to custodial credit risk for its deposits.

The Pension Trust Fund cash was held by a financial and investment institution and insured up to certain limits specific to the Trustee/Custodian institution and Retirement Trust Funds.

The Retiree Insurance Trust Fund was held by a financial and investment institution and utilized portfolio diversification in order to control this risk.

NOTE C DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

District Investment

The District's investments are held with Florida Surplus Asset Fund Trust ("FL-SAFE") and Florida Fixed Income Trust ("FL-FIT"). Within FL-FIT, the District portfolio includes FL-FIT Preferred Deposit Pool and FL-FIT Cash Pool.

The FL-FIT Cash Pool is a money market alternative that is managed to a dollar-in/dollar-out strategy. The portfolio management team utilizes a hybrid approach managing current market conditions and portfolio duration, to ensure maximum flexibility in all market conditions. The Cash Pool seeks to preserve principal while seeking to maximize yields, offers same day liquidity and provides an investment option for local governments short term funds.

The FL-FIT Preferred Deposit Pool (PDP) offers a compelling strategy for local governments to generate interest income while maintaining prudent cash management. The PDP provides a resource that strives to maximize yield while protecting principal through FDIC insured bank deposits and qualified depository accounts. The pool provides same day liquidity.

The FL-SAFE Stable Net Asset Value ("NAV") portfolio will invest solely in Permitted Investments in such a manner as to result in an average dollar weighted maturity to reset for the portfolio of no greater than sixty (60) days and an average dollar weighted maturity to final for the portfolio of no greater than ninety (90) days (with certain extensions). The permitted investments in which the Stable NAV portfolio invests consist of money market instruments having a maximum maturity of 397 days except for certain floating government securities.

District Investment – FV Maturity

		Investment Maturities (in years)			
Investment Type	Total Fair Value	Less than 1	1 to 5	6 to 10	More than 10
FL-FIT Cash Pool	$ 5,437,162	$ 5,437,162	$ -	$ -	$ -
FL-FIT Preferred Deposit Pool	5,394,008	5,394,008	-	-	-
FL-SAFE Stable NAV	2,147,871	2,147,871	-	-	-
	$ 12,979,041	$ 12,979,041	$ -	$ -	$ -

District Interest Rate Risk

Interest Rate Risk is the risk that changes in interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment.

The Florida Fixed Income Trust and FL SAFE uses a weighted average days to maturity (WAM). A portfolio's WAM reflects the average maturity in days based on final maturity or rest date, in the case of floating rate instruments. WAM measures the sensitivity of the portfolio to interest rates changes. The WAL extends this measure by considering the final maturity dates of all securities, excluding interest rate reset provisions.

- As of September 30, 2025, the current dollar weighted average days to maturity to reset (WAM) for the FL-FIT Cash Pool is 85 days and for the FL-FIT PDP is 1 day.
- As of September 30, 2025, the current dollar weighted average days to maturity to final (WAL) for the FL-FIT Cash Pool is 310 days and for the FL-FIT Preferred Deposit Pool is 1 day.
- As of September 30, 2025, the FL-SAFE Stable NAV Fund maintains a dollar-weighted average maturity (WAM) of 37 days and a dollar-weighted average life (WAL) of 51 days.

NOTE C DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

District Credit Risk

The District follows Florida Statute 218.415 (17)

AUTHORIZED INVESTMENTS; NO WRITTEN INVESTMENT POLICY.—Those units of local government electing not to adopt a written investment policy in accordance with investment policies developed as provided in subsections (1)-(15) may invest or reinvest any surplus public funds in their control or possession in:

(a) The Local Government Surplus Funds Trust Fund, or any intergovernmental investment pool authorized pursuant to the Florida Interlocal Cooperation Act of 1969, as provided in s. 163.01.

(b) Securities and Exchange Commission registered money market funds with the highest credit quality rating from a nationally recognized rating agency.

(c) Interest-bearing time deposits or savings accounts in qualified public depositories, as defined in s. 280.02.

(d) Direct obligations of the U.S Treasury.

The FL-FIT Cash Pool is currently rated AAAf/S1 by Fitch. The FL-FIT Preferred Deposit Pool consists of overnight and term FDIC insured deposits and qualified public depositories as defined in FL State Statutes, CH 280. Therefore, the pool is currently not rated.

FL-FIT is a Local Government Investment Pool created by Florida Statute 163.01.

The FL-SAFE Stable NAV Fund is a liquid money market-like investment rated AAAm by Standard & Poor's.

District Custodial Credit Risk

Custodial credit risk for investments is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counter-party to a transaction, the District will not be able to recover the value of investments or collateral securities that are in possession of an outside party. Section 218.415(1), Florida Statutes, requires the District to earmark all investments and 1) if registered with the issuer or its agents, the investment must be immediately placed for safekeeping in a location that protects the governing body's interest in the security; 2) if, in book-entry form, the investment must be held for the credit of the governing body by a depository chartered by the Federal Government, the State, or any other state or territory of the United States which has a branch of principal place of business in the State, or by a national association organized and existing under the laws of the United States which is authorized to accept and execute trusts and which is doing business in this State, and must be kept by the depository in an account separate and apart from the assets of the financial institution; or 3) if physically issued to the holder but not registered with the issuer or its agents, must be immediately placed for safekeeping in a secured vault.

The Florida Fixed Income Trust uses Bank of New York as its custodian.

The FL SAFE uses BMO Harris Bank, NA as its custodian.

NOTE C DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

District Concentration of Credit Risk

The investment policies of the Florida Fixed Income Trust (FL FIT) and the FL SAFE Stable NAV Fund are structured to limit concentration of credit risk by diversifying investments across a range of permitted sectors and issuers. The Florida Fixed Income Trust investment policies have established permitted investment sectors to reduce the concentration of credit risk of the District in the various local government investment pools. Similarly, FL SAFE enforces issuer and sector concentration limits, promoting diversification and reducing the potential impact of credit events tied to any one issuer or investment type.

District Foreign Currency Risk

The Florida Fixed Income Trust and the FL SAFE Stable NAV Fund do not allow for investments in foreign currency. Therefore, neither pool is exposed to foreign currency risk.

District Quality Rating of Credit Risk Debt

	FL-FIT Preferred Deposit Pool	
Quality Rating of Credit Risk Debt Securities	Fair Value	Percentage of Portfolio
AAAmmf	$ 326,877	6.06%
F1	5,067,131	93.94%
Total	$ 5,394,008	100.00%

	FL-FIT Cash Pool	
Quality Rating of Credit Risk Debt Securities	Fair Value	Percentage of Portfolio
AAAmmf	$ 95,150.34	1.75%
AAAf	239,235	4.40%
AAA	151,697	2.79%
F1+	422,467	7.77%
F1	1,315,793	24.20%
AA	119,074	2.19%
AA+	1,292,957	23.78%
AA-	963,465	17.72%
A	224,011	4.12%
A-	72,314	1.33%
A+	406,156	7.47%
NR	134,842	2.48%
Total	$ 5,437,162	100%

	FL-SAFE	
Quality Rating of Credit Risk Debt Securities	Fair Value	Percentage of Portfolio
A1	$ 910,697	42.40%
A1+	1,237,174	57.60%
	$ 2,147,871	100.00%

(1) Obligations of the U.S. government or obligations explicitly guaranteed by the U.S. government are not considered to have credit risk and do not have purchase limitations.

NOTE C DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

Fiduciary Investments

Investments were $57,604,843 at September 30, 2025, of which $55,770,239, was held in the Firefighters' Pension Plan and $1,834,604, was held in the Retiree Insurance Trust Fund.

Fair Value Measurements

GASB 72 requires governments to disclose the fair value hierarchy for each type of asset or liability measured at fair value in the notes to the financial statements. The standard also requires governments to disclose a description of the valuation techniques used in the fair value measurement and any significant changes in valuation techniques. GASB 72 establishes a three-tier fair value hierarchy. The hierarchy is based on valuation inputs used to measure the fair value as follows:

Level 1: Inputs are directly observable, quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.

Level 2: Inputs are other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly. These inputs are derived from or corroborated by observable market data through correlation or by other means.

Level 3: Inputs are unobservable inputs used only when relevant Level 1 and Level 2 inputs are unavailable.

The level in which an asset is assigned is not indicative of its quality but an indication of the source of valuation inputs.

NOTE C DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

At September 30, 2025, the Firefighters' Pension Plan and the Retiree Insurance Trust Fund reported the following investments:

Firefighters' Pension Plan	Total Fair Value	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Broad Market HQ Bond Fund	$ 5,639,054	$ -	$ 5,639,054	$ -
Core Plus Fixed Income	5,808,226	-	-	5,808,226
Diversified Large Cap	17,255,504	-	17,255,504	-
Diversified Small to Mid Cap	8,289,409	-	8,289,409	-
International Equity	13,759,291	-	13,759,291	-
Core Real Estate	5,018,755	-	-	5,018,755
Total Firefighters' Pension Plan	55,770,239	-	44,943,258	10,826,981
Retiree Insurance Trust Fund				
Equity Investments				
Domestic Equities	826,388	826,388	-	-
International Equities	374,575	374,575	-	-
Fixed Income Securities				
High Quality US Bonds	327,850	327,850	-	-
Strategic Income	245,695	245,695	-	-
Bank Loans	60,096	60,096	-	-
Total Retiree Insurance Trust Fund	1,834,604	1,834,604	-	-
Total Investments	$ 57,604,843	$ 1,834,604	$ 44,943,258	$ 10,826,981

Credit Risk - Pension Plan

Custodial credit risk is defined as the risk that the Plan may not recover cash and investments held by another party in the event of a financial failure. The Firefighters' Pension Plan investments through the Florida Municipal Pension Trust Fund (“FMPTF”) in the Florida Municipal Investment Trust (“FMIvT”), are a Local Government Investment Pool. Investments in pools should be disclosed, but not categorized because they are not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book-entry form. The public entity’s investment is with the pool, not the securities that make up the pool; therefore, no disclosure is required.

At September 30, 2025, the Plan reported the following investments:

Investment Type	Fair Value	Fitch Rating
FMIvT Broad Market High Quality Bond Fund	$ 5,639,054	Aaf/S4
FMIvT Core Plus Fixed Income Fund	5,808,226	Not Rated
FMIvT Diversified Large Cap Equity Portfolio	17,255,504	Not Rated
FMIvT Diversified Small to Mid Cap Equity Portfolio	8,289,409	Not Rated
FMIvT International Equity Portfolio	13,759,291	Not Rated
FMIvT Core Real Estate Portfolio	5,018,755	Not Rated
Total Investments at Fair Value	$ 55,770,239	

NOTE C DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

Concentration of Credit Risk – Pension Plan

GASB Statement 40, Deposit and Investment Risk Disclosures—an amendment of GASB Statement No. 3, requires disclosure if 5% or more of the total fiduciary net position is invested with one issuer. However, investments issued or explicitly guaranteed by the U.S. Government and investments in mutual funds, external investment pools and other investments are excluded from the concentration of credit risk disclosure requirements. Since 100% of the Pension plan assets are in an investment pool, disclosure is not required.

Interest Rate Risk – Pension Plan

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment in debt securities. Generally, the longer the time to maturity, the greater the exposure to interest rate risk.

FMIvT Interest Rate Risk (Years)

Fixed Income Fund	Modified Duration	WAM*
FMIvT Broad Market High Quality Bond Fund	5.56	7.10
FMIvT Core Plus Fixed Income Fund	5.52	5.76

*weighted average maturity

Investment Authorization – Retiree Insurance Trust Fund

The Retiree Insurance Trust Fund investment policy is determined by its Board of Trustees. The policy has been identified by the Board to conduct the operations of the Retiree Insurance Trust Fund in a manner so that the assets will provide benefits to the participants and preserve capital while maximizing the rate of return. The Trustees are authorized to acquire money market, sweep or other liquid short-term cash instruments, Florida intergovernmental investment pools, debt obligations issued or guaranteed by the United States Government, foreign securities not exceeding 20% of the total assets, commingled index and mutual funds of equities, and commingled real estate investments.

Investments in equity securities shall range between 10% and 50% with a target allocation of 30%. Not more than 5% of the Fund's assets shall be invested in the stock of any one issuing company nor shall the aggregate investment in any one issuing company exceed 5% of the company's outstanding capital stock. No more than 20% of Plan assets shall be invested in foreign securities, no more than 15% shall be invested in bonds, and no more than 35% shall be invested in intermediate term fixed income and short term fixed income.

The following is a summary of the Plan's assets at September 30, 2025:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Actual $	Actual %
US Equities	30%	$ 826,388	45%
Non-US Equities	10%	374,575	20%
Non-Inv. Grade Bonds	10%	245,695	13%
US Agg. Bonds (S-T)	25%	387,946	21%
US Agg. Bonds (L-T)	25%	-	0%
Total	100%	$ 1,834,604	100%

NOTE C DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

Interest Rate Risk – Retiree Insurance Trust Fund

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment in debt securities. Generally, the longer the time to maturity, the greater the exposure to interest rate risk. As a means of limiting its exposure to interest rate risk, the Fund diversifies its investments by security type and institution, and limits holdings in any one type of investment with any one issuer with various durations of maturities.

Information about the sensitivity of the fair values of the Fund's fixed income investments to market interest rate fluctuations is provided by the following table that shows the distribution of the Fund's fixed income investments by maturity at September 30, 2025:

Investment Type - Fixed Income	Symbol	Effective Maturity (Yrs)	Effective Duration (Yrs)	Avg Credit Rating	Fair Value
Guggenheim Ltd Duration	GILHX	3.92	1.89	AA	$327,850
Neuberger Berman Strategic Inc	NSTLX	10.02	4.9	A	123,255
Guggenheim Marco Opptys	GIOIX	8.22	2.28	BBB	122,440
JP Morgan Money Market	PJLXX	-	-	-	124,491
State Street SPDR Bloomberg 1-3 Mth T-Bill	BIL	0.11	0.15	AA	60,096
Total					$758,132

Credit Risk – Retiree Insurance Trust Fund

Custodial credit risk is defined as the risk that the Plan may not recover cash and investments held by another party in the event of a financial failure. The Fund's investment policy utilizes portfolio diversification in order to control this risk. The following table discloses credit rating by fixed income investment type at September 30, 2025, if applicable:

Quality Rating of Credit Risk Debt Securities	Fair Value	% of Portfolio
AAA	$ 215,840	28.5%
AAA	87,261	11.5%
AAA	141,619	18.7%
BBB	141,164	18.6%
BBB	75,283	9.9%
BBB	52,918	7.0%
Below B	11,296	1.5%
Not Rated	32,751	4.3%
	$ 758,132	100.0%

Concentration of Credit Risk – Retiree Insurance Trust Fund

The investment policy of the Plan contains limitations on the maximum portfolio allocation percentage. No type of investment exceeds the target mix.

NOTE C DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

Custodial Credit Risk – Retiree Insurance Trust Fund

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the Fund will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. This risk is generally measured by the assignment of a rating by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization. Consistent with the Fund's investment policy, the investments are held by Fund's custodial bank and registered in the Plan's name.

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NOTE D CAPITAL ASSETS

The following is a summary of changes in capital assets for the year ended September 30, 2025:

	Balance September 30, 2024	Additions	Deletions	Balance September 30, 2025
Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated:				
Land	$ 2,577,755	$ -	$ -	$ 2,577,755
Construction in Progress	76,704	144,689	-	221,393
Total Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated	2,654,459	144,689	-	2,799,148
Capital Assets Being Depreciated:				
Buildings and Improvements	16,400,329	-	-	16,400,329
Vehicles	8,046,340	137,941	(578,026)	7,606,255
Equipment	2,889,075	311,252	(50,490)	3,149,836
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated	27,335,744	449,193	(628,517)	27,156,419
Less Accumulated Depreciation:				
Buildings and Improvements	(5,096,667)	(477,458)	-	(5,574,125)
Vehicles	(4,947,891)	(446,279)	578,026	(4,816,144)
Equipment	(1,588,101)	(273,640)	49,426	(1,812,315)
Total Accumulated Depreciation	(11,632,659)	(1,197,377)	627,452	(12,202,584)
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated, Net	15,703,085	(748,184)	(1,065)	14,953,835
Capital Assets, Net	$ 18,357,544	$ (603,495)	$ (1,065)	$ 17,752,983

NOTE E LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

Summary of Long-Term Obligations

The following is a summary of the long-term obligations at September 30, 2025:

	Amount
Outside of the bargaining unit, the Fire Chief is the only contracted employee of the District. The employment contract includes a deferred compensation benefit equal to one week of salary for every year of service, from November 2, 1998, provided that the severance pay shall not exceed an amount greater than 20 weeks of compensation.	$ 88,599
Implicit subsidy - actuarial annualized funding estimates in the event the District chooses to fund its future obligation to provide optional post-employment healthcare, dental, vision, and life insurance coverage to eligible individuals.	3,935,200
$1,360,980 Promissory note payable to a financial institution for the purchase of a Sutphen SL 100 Ladder Truck. The note is payable over 7 years in biannual payments of $118,512, including principle and interest. It carries a fixed annual interest rate of 5.64% with payments beginning on August 15, 2024, and the final payment due on February 15, 2031.	1,107,618
Non-current portion of compensated absences. Employees of the District are entitled to annual personal leave time, based on length of service and job classification.	1,501,366
	$ 6,632,783

The following is a summary of changes in long-term liabilities for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2025:

	Balance October 1, 2024	Additions	Retirements	Balance September 30, 2025	Amounts Due Within One Year
Note Payable	$ 1,275,080	$ -	$ (167,462)	$ 1,107,618	$ 177,036
Deferred Compensation	85,686	2,913	-	88,599	-
Implicit Subsidy (OPEB)	3,498,457	612,089	(175,346)	3,935,200	-
Compensated Absences	1,486,251	1,600,147	(1,585,032)	1,501,366	-
	$ 6,345,474	$ 2,215,149	$ (1,927,840)	$ 6,632,783	$ 177,036

NOTE F RETIREMENT PLANS

The District has funded retirement costs in two ways:

1. Plan 1 – Florida Municipal Pension Trust – Certified firefighters as qualified under the Plan (F.S. 175) – Retirement Plan and Trust for the Firefighters of the Estero Fire Rescue District.
2. Plan 2 – 401(a) Defined Contribution Retirement Plan – Employees not within Plan 1.

Except for those provisions that are mandated in Note H, the District does not currently provide benefits to its retired employees other than the benefits indicated below:

Plan 1 – Plan Description and Provisions – Firefighters' Retirement Plan

Plan Description - On December 1, 2000, the District resolved to establish a single-employer defined benefit pension plan for its full-time firefighters. The plan is legally administered by the Board of Trustees of the Chapter 175 Municipal Firefighters Pension Trust Fund of Estero Fire Rescue (the "Plan"). All full-time certified firefighters of the District hired after December 1, 2000 are eligible to participate in the Plan and become participants in the Plan immediately upon hire. Those firefighters hired on or before December 1, 2000 could elect to participate as of that date or were given an additional opportunity to participate effective January 1, 2007, but did not receive credit for service prior to 2007 unless they made a contribution equal to the full actuarial cost of their prior service. In addition, the participant may purchase up to five additional years of Credited Service for certain military service or other firefighter service by paying into the Plan the full actuarial cost, thereof, subject to the restrictions on such service purchases as set forth in the legal plan document. The Fire Chief may elect not to participate in the Plan.

NOTE F RETIREMENT PLANS (CONTINUED)

Plan 1 – Plan Description and Provisions – Firefighters' Retirement Plan (Continued)

Contributions - For the year ended September 30, 2025, the District was required to contribute an actuarially determined amount of 23.53% of covered payroll (excluding regular overtime, bonuses, and lump sum payments for accrued annual leave, and sick time) of the qualified and participating employees. Participating employees are required to make regular contributions to the Plan in the amount of 3% of their covered payroll. Employees vest immediately in their own contributions. The employee contribution requirement may be amended by District resolution, but employer contribution requirement is subject to State minimums.

Contributions to the Plan are derived from three sources: employees, 3% of compensation paid by the employee; state funds, (insurance premium tax per Florida Statute Chapter 175); and the employer, remaining amount necessary to meet the actuarial funding requirement. The state contribution is based on property fire insurance premiums collected within the District and may be applied up to an approved "frozen" limit. The District (employer) is required to fund the difference each year between the total contributions from all other sources for the year and the total funding cost for the year pursuant to the most recent actuarial valuation of the Plan.

The District contributed 100% of its required contributions. As such, the District made employer contributions of $1,539,646, $1,169,883, and $921,803, for the years ended September 30, 2025, 2024, and 2023, respectively. Covered payroll for the years ended September 30, 2025, 2024, and 2023, was $6,671,670, $5,990,943, and $5,426,428, respectively.

The employees contributed 100% of their respective required contributions to the Plan during the year ended September 30, 2025. Employee contributions for the years ended September 30, 2025, 2024, and 2023, were $231,938, $224,495, and $199,138, respectively.

Pension Benefits – Employees with 10 or more years of service are entitled to annual pension benefits, beginning at the earlier of age 55 with 10 years of credited service or 25 years credited service and attainment of age 52. The benefit is equal to 2.00% of Average Final Compensation (AFC) multiplied by Credited Service earned prior to December 1, 2000, plus 3.70% of AFC multiplied by Credited Service earned during the period December 1, 2000 through September 30, 2010, plus 3.00% of AFC multiplied by Credited Service earned after September 30, 2010. The average final monthly compensation (AFC) is the average of the five highest years within the last 10 years of service or career average, whichever is higher. Maximum benefit is 100% of AFC, paid during the retiree's lifetime with a minimum of 120 monthly benefit payments. Several other actuarially equivalent payment options are available. A lump sum payment is required if the single sum value of the participant's benefit is less than or equal to $1,000.

In fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, the District adopted what is known as a Stop Start Plan. This essentially simultaneously stopped the Plan and restarted the Plan at its original benefit rates. The benefit multiplier was then increased for a 10 year period of credited service. A supplemental benefit now provided to participants is a Share Account that is to be funded solely and entirely by Chapter 175 premium tax revenues in excess of the frozen amount. Each participant's "share" of this supplemental benefit will be based on credited years of service. The assets in the Share Account at September 30, 2025 totaled $2,699,823.

NOTE F RETIREMENT PLANS (CONTINUED)

Plan 1 – Plan Description and Provisions – Firefighters' Retirement Plan (Continued)

Employees Covered by Benefit Terms – At September 30, 2025, the following employees were covered by the benefit terms:

	September 30, 2025 Current Membership	October 1, 2024 Actuary Valuation Date
Inactive plan members or beneficiaries currently receiving benefits	11	11
Inactive plan members entitled to, but not yet receiving benefits	7	7
Active plan members participating in the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP)	4	4
Active plan members	67	67
Total	89	89

Early Retirement - The Plan permits early retirement with 10 years of credited service. Applicable benefits are reduced by 3% for each year before normal retirement. If employees terminate before rendering 10 years of credited service, they forfeit the right to receive their portion of the accumulated Plan benefits, except for the employee contributed portion.

Death and disability benefits – Upon the death of any vested member, whether or not still in active employment, a survivor benefit is payable to a beneficiary or joint pensioner starting when the member would have reached early or normal retirement age. The benefit is equal to the vested pension benefit and is payable for 10 years. The beneficiary may also elect to receive an immediate benefit payable for 10 years which is actuarially reduced to reflect the commencement of benefits prior to retirement date.

Active employees who become totally and permanently disabled directly from the performance of their duty as a firefighter shall receive a Normal Retirement Benefit with the minimum benefit equal to 42% of AFC for service-connected disabilities and a minimum benefit equal to 25% of AFC for non-service connected disabilities if the participant has earned at least 10 years of service. Disability benefits are offset as necessary to preclude the total of the disability benefit, worker's compensation, and other District-provided disability compensation from exceeding average earnings.

Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) – DROP is available to those participants who have attained their normal retirement age and individuals may participate in the DROP for up to 96 months; at the elections of the participant (which election can be changed one time). DROP accounts are credited with interest based on the actual investment return on plan assets or at a flat rate of 6.50% per annum.

Payments of benefits – Benefit payments to participants are recorded upon distribution.

The Plan is a single-employer defined benefit retirement plan and trust. The Plan is totally administered by the Florida Municipal Pension Trust Fund/Florida League of Cities, Inc. The Florida Municipal Pension Trust Fund acts as the trustee of the Plan.

A copy of the Plan's annual report for September 30, 2025 and a complete detail of the Plan can be obtained by writing the Florida League of Cities, Inc., P.O. Box 1757, Tallahassee, Florida, 32302-1757 or by calling (850) 222-9684.

NOTE F RETIREMENT PLANS (CONTINUED)

Plan 1 – Plan Description and Provisions – Firefighters' Retirement Plan (Continued)

In addition, the Plan issued a stand-alone report that includes audited financial statements and required supplementary information. The report may be obtained from the Plan Board of Trustees.

Plan 1 - Information Used to Determine the Net Pension Liability/(Asset)

The District's net pension asset was measured as of September 30, 2025, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension asset was determined by an actuarial valuation as of October 1, 2024.

Actuarial assumptions. The total pension liability in the October 1, 2024 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Discount Rate	6.80% net of investment expenses and commissions, (2.75% per annum is attributable to long-term inflation); this rate was used to discount all future benefit payments.
Salary increase	4.50%
Cost of living increases	None assumed
Non-Investment Expenses	Liabilities have been loaded by 1.75% to account for non-investment expenses.
Mortality Basis	For non-retired participants, sex-distinct rates set forth in the PUB-2010 Headcount-Weighted Employee Mortality Table for public safety employees with full generational improvements in mortality Scale MP-2018 and with ages set forward one year. For non-disabled retirees, sex-distinct rates set forth in the PUB-2010 Headcount-Weighted Healthy Retiree Mortality Table for public safety employees with full generational improvements in mortality Scale MP-2018 and with ages set forward one year. For disabled retirees, sex-distinct rates set forth in the PUB-2010 Headcount-Weighted Disable Retiree Mortality Table with full generational improvements in mortality scale MP-2018.
Retirement	For those participants whose normal retirement age is 53 or earlier, retirement is assumed to occur at the rate of 15% at age 50, 10% at each age of ages 51 and 52, and 100% at the earlier age of 53 or normal retirement age. For those participants whose normal retirement age is 54 or later, retirement is assumed to occur at the rate of 15% at each of ages 50 through 54 and 100% at age 55, except that 40% retirement is assumed to occur at a normal retrement age of 54.
Future Contributions	Contributions from the employer and employees are assumed to be made as legally required.
Other Decrements	Assumed employment termination is based on gender, age, and service; for participants with less than ten years of service, termination rates range from 15.00% for males and 10.01% for females with less than two years of service to 4.30% for males and 4.75% for females with between eight and 10 years of service; for participants with at least 10 years of service, termination rates range from 4.28% for males and 5.41% for females at age 25 to 0.00% at age 55. Assumed disability is based on gender and age and ranges from 0.067% for males and 0.040% for females at age 25 to 1.00% for males and 0.84% for females at age 55.
Changes	Since the prior measurement date, the discount rate was decreased from 7.00% per annum ro 6.80% per annum.

NOTE F RETIREMENT PLANS (CONTINUED)

Plan 1 - Determination of the Long-Term Expected Rate of Return on Plan Assets

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments 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. The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return*
Core Bonds	15.00%	1.60%
Multi-sector	15.00%	2.10%
U.S. Large Cap Equity	25.00%	4.60%
U.S. Small Cap Equity	14.00%	5.50%
Non-U.S. Equity	21.00%	6.70%
Core real estate	10.00%	5.00%
Total/Weighted Arithmetic Average	100.00%	4.38%

*per annum

Plan 1 - Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 6.80%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that employee contributions will be made at the current contribution rate and that District contributions will be made at rates equal to the difference between actuarially determined contribution rates and the employee rate. Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current active and inactive employees. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

Plan 1 - Changes in the Net Pension Liability

	Increase (Decrease)		
	Total Pension Liability	Plan Fiduciary Net Position	Net Pension Liability
Balance - September 30, 2024	$44,554,074	$(48,159,503)	$(3,605,429)
Changes Due To:			
Service Cost	761,189	-	761,189
Expected Interest Growth	3,037,330	(3,317,515)	(280,185)
Unexpected Investment Income	-	(948,840)	(948,840)
Demographic Experience	2,345,718	-	2,345,718
Employer Contributions	-	(1,807,457)	(1,807,457)
Employee Contributions	-	(231,938)	(231,938)
Benefit Payments & Refunds	(674,433)	674,433	-
Administrative Expenses	-	89,018	89,018
Assumption Changes	1,207,999	-	1,207,999
Balance - September 30, 2025	$ 51,231,877	$ (53,701,802)	$ (2,469,925)

NOTE F RETIREMENT PLANS (CONTINUED)

Plan 1 - Sensitivity of the net pension asset to changes in the discount rate

The following table presents the net pension asset of the District, calculated using the discount rate of 6.80%, as well as what the District's net pension asset would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (5.80%) or one percentage point higher (7.80%) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease 5.80%	Discount Rate 6.80%	1% Increase 7.80%
Total Pension Liability	$ 58,052,307	$ 51,231,877	$ 45,630,192
Less Fiduciary Net Position	(53,701,802)	(53,701,802)	(53,701,802)
	$ 4,350,505	$ (2,469,925)	$ (8,071,610)

Plan 1 - Pension Expense and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions

For the year ended September 30, 2025, the District recognized a pension expense of $1,431,858. At September 30, 2025, the District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

Description	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Balance as of September 30, 2024	$ 6,950,502	$ 5,483,648
Change due to:		
Amortization Payments	(3,365,795)	(2,272,021)
Investment Gain/Loss	-	948,840
Demographic Gain/Loss	2,345,718	-
Assumption Changes	1,207,999	-
TOTAL CHANGE	187,922	(1,323,181)
Balance as of September 30, 2025	$ 7,138,424	$ 4,160,467

Amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year Ended September 30,	
2026	$ 1,678,778
2027	$ (29,385)
2028	$ (121,511)
2029	$ 805,442
2030	$ 638,716
Thereafter	$ 5,917

NOTE F RETIREMENT PLANS (CONTINUED)

Plan 1 - Income recognition

Allocated investment income is recorded on the accrual basis. Investments are reported at market value. Short-term investments are reported at cost, which approximates market value. Since the Plan is collectively managed with other government's plans, investment income is allocated to each plan as a net amount, as it is not feasible to specifically allocate income (loss) by individual component of income (loss).

Plan 1 - Funding

The State of Florida makes contributions from taxes on casualty insurance premiums to the Firefighters' Retirement Plan – Plan 1. The state contributions of $674,129 for the year ended September 30, 2025, are recognized by the District as on behalf payments and are reported as revenues and expenditures in the general fund statements.

The District funds the Plan based on a funding method recommended by the Florida Department of Revenue. A contribution surplus reserve in the amount of $312,030 is available at September 30, 2025. The contribution surplus reserve is restricted to funding the Plan and it will be utilized in future years.

The Plan assets are legally reserved for the payment of the respective Plan member benefits within the Plan. There are no assets legally restricted for Plan benefits other than those assets within the Plan. The Firefighters' Pension Trust Fund held certain investments at year-end. There are no long-term contracts for contributions.

The share account is the defined contribution component of the pension plan. The assets are not included in the actuarial value of assets available to fund accumulated Plan benefits.

Plan 1 - Defined Contribution Component, "Share Plan"

Description of Share Plan – During the year ended September 30, 2011, the District adopted what is known as the Share Plan. The Share Plan is not included in the actuarial value of assets available to fund accumulated Plan benefits. For plans participating in Chapter 175 or 185, Florida Statutes, in accordance with sections 175.351(6) and 185.36(6), Florida Statutes, there is an established defined contributions plan component ("Share Plan") to provide special benefits to Firefighters who are Members of the defined benefit plan. The Share Plan is funded solely and entirely by Chapter 175 and 185 premium tax monies that are allocated to the Share Plan, by mutual consent of the District and the plan members' collective bargaining representative.

Eligible Share Plan Participants – Eligible Share Plan participants shall be determined through collective bargaining between the Employer and the plan members' collective bargaining representative.

Individual Share Accounts – An individual share account is created for each eligible Share Plan participant as of the date that premium tax monies are first allocated to the Share Plan. Thereafter, the plan administrator maintains appropriate records showing the share account balance of each participant.

NOTE F RETIREMENT PLANS (CONTINUED)

Plan 1 - Defined Contribution Component, "Share Plan" (Continued)

Share Account Funding – Individual share accounts were established as of December 31, 2015 for all eligible Share Plan participants, or at a later date when premium tax monies were first allocated to the Share Plan. Individual share accounts were credited with a portion of any premium tax monies allocated to the Share Plan for the plan year beginning October 1, 2015, and each plan year thereafter in which premium tax monies are allocated to the Share Plan.

Allocation of Investment Gains and Losses – As of October 1 each year in which premium tax monies have been or are credited to participant share accounts, each individual share account is adjusted to reflect the net investment earnings or losses for the Trust for the immediately preceding plan year. The net investment earnings or losses for the Trust is the percentage earned or lost by the total Trust investments, including realized and unrealized gains or losses, net of brokerage commissions, transaction costs and management fees, as determined by the Plan's investment advisor.

Forfeitures – A Share Plan participant who terminates employment with less than the minimum number of years of credited service specified in the Adoption Agreement for vesting shall forfeit his/her share account. Forfeited amounts shall be reallocated to the other participant share accounts at the end of the plan year in which a forfeiture occurs, unless a different allocation is required by law. A participant whose share account is forfeited shall not thereafter be entitled to any portion of the amount forfeited, and if subsequently reemployed in an eligible position shall participate in the Share Plan as a new participant.

Distribution of Share Account – A participant's share account balance shall be distributed to the participant or his/her designated beneficiary within 180 days following the participant's retirement, death, or termination of employment after obtaining the minimum number of years of credited service specified in the Adoption Agreement for vesting and reaching the normal retirement date. The share account distribution shall reflect one hundred percent of the participant's share account balance as of October 1 preceding the participant's retirement, death, or termination of employment and meeting the conditions specified herein, and shall be paid in one lump sum payment. No optional forms of payments shall be permitted.

Contributions to the Share Plan – For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2025, the State premium tax monies contributed to the plan were $406,318. There were no District or employee contributions.

Plan 2 – Defined Contributions Retirement Plan – Employees Not Within the Bargaining Unit

The District established a Governmental Money Purchase Plan (401(a)), a defined contribution plan, on October 5, 2001, for the District's full time general employees who are not participants in the firefighters' pension trust. Participants are eligible to participate upon their hire date. The Plan is completely administered by the Plan custodian, the Florida Municipal Pension Trust Fund. Employees are immediately vested 100% in their own contributions. Participants vest in the employer's Plan contributions 100% after completion of five years of credited service. Vesting begins at 40% after completion of two years of credited service and increases at 20% per year. Normal retirement age is 52 years of age.

NOTE F RETIREMENT PLANS (CONTINUED)

Plan 2 – Defined Contributions Retirement Plan – Employees Not Within the Bargaining Unit (Continued)

The Plan requires the District to make contributions equal to 12% of the qualified employee's compensation, excluding bonuses and lump sum payments. The Plan also allows the employee participants to make contributions. Employee contributions are deposited into the respective employee's deferred compensation plan (Section 457 Plan) account. Therefore, the employee's contributions are maintained separately from those of the employer (District) contributions. The Plan also requires the employer to match the employee's voluntary contributions dollar for dollar up to 5% of the employee's eligible compensation. Total District contributions to the Plan, including the employer 12% contributions, and the employer match amount, for the years ended September 30, 2025, 2024, and 2023 were $132,942, $131,143, and $155,872, respectively.

The District contributed 100% of its required contributions for the year ended September 30, 2025. Employee contributions to the Plan were $801,198, $695,488, and $609,464, for the years ended September 30, 2025, 2024 and 2023, respectively. The employee contributions are deposited to a Section 457 account which is a deferred compensation plan that is available to all employees of the District, as such, employee contribution amounts provided are made by participants of both District provided retirement plans.

NOTE G OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

Other Post-Employment Benefits

Plan Description:

The District's Retiree Health Care Plan (Plan) is a single-employer defined benefit postemployment health care plan that covers eligible retired employees of the District. The Plan, which is administered by the District, allows employees who retire and meet retirement eligibility requirements under one of the District's retirement plans to continue medical, dental and/or vision insurance coverage as a participant in the District's plan. For purposes of applying Paragraph 4 under Statement No. 75, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions, the Plan does not meet the requirements for an OPEB plan administered through a trust, as no assets are accumulated. The contributions made to the program are assumed to be the benefits paid to retirees and administrative expenses.

Employees Covered by Benefit Terms. At September 30, 2023, the following employees were covered by the benefit terms:

Inactive Plan Members, or Beneficiaries Currently Receiving Benefits	2
Inactive Plan Members Entitled to But Not Yet Receiving Benefits	-
Active Plan Members	75
	77

NOTE G OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

Other Post-Employment Benefits (Continued)

Benefits Provided:

A retired employee and his or her spouse and eligible dependents are eligible to continue health insurance identical to active employees if they meet the eligibility for retirement under the applicable retirement plan. The retiree is responsible for paying the entire monthly premium for health coverage and that of any covered spouse or eligible dependents. Medicare is assumed to become primary upon attainment of age 65.

Effective October 1, 2019, for eligible managers, the full cost of medical coverage is paid for by the District for the first two years following retirement.

TOTAL OPEB LIABILITY

The measurement date is September 30, 2024.
The measurement period for the OPEB expense was October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024.
The actuarial valuation date is September 30, 2024.
The reporting period is October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025.

Actuarial Assumptions:

The Total OPEB Liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of September 30, 2023, updated to September 30, 2024, using the following actuarial assumptions:

Inflation Rate	2.50%
Salary Increase Rate(s)	3.00%
Discount Rate	4.06%
Initial Trend Rate	7.00%
Ultimate Trend Rate	4.00%
Years to Ultimate	51

Discount Rate: Given the District's decision not to fund the program, all future benefit payments were discounted using a high quality municipal bond rate of 4.06%. The high quality municipal bond rate was based on the S&P Municipal Bond 20-year High Grade Index as published by S&P Dow Jones Indices nearest the measurement date. The S&P Municipal 20 Year High Grade Rate Index consists of bonds in the S&P Municipal Bond Index with a maturity of 20 years. Eligible bonds must be rated at least AA by Standard and Poor's Ratings Services, Aa2 by Moody's or AA by Fitch. If there are multiple rates, the lowest rating is used.

NOTE G OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

Other Post-Employment Benefits (Continued)

Actuarial Assumption, (Continued):

Mortality: All mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 mortality tables with fully generational improvement using Scale MP-2021. Rates are based on those outlined in the July 1, 2023 Florida Retirement System FRS actuarial valuation report. For female active lives, the headcount-weighted PubG-2010 female employee table was used. For male active lives, the headcount-weighted PubG-2010 male below-median income employee table, set back one year was used. For special risk female lives, the headcount-weighted PubS-2010 female employee table, set forward one year, was used. For special risk male lives, the headcount-weighted PubS-2010 male below-median income employee table, set forward one year, was used. For female inactive healthy lives, the headcount-weighted PubG-2010 female below-median income healthy retiree table was used. For male inactive healthy lives, the headcount-weighted PubG-2010 below-median income healthy retiree table, set back one year, was used.

Retirement Rates: Retirement is assumed to occur at a rate of 15% per year from ages 50 through 53, 40% per year at age 54, and 100% at age 55.

Funding Method- Entry Age Cost Method (Level Percentage of Pay).

Termination Rates were updated to align with those used in the July 1, 2023 actuarial valuation of the Florida Retirement System (FRS).

Marital Status: 100% of employees are assumed to be married, with male spouses 3 years older than female spouses.

Health Coverage Participation: 50% of employees are assumed to elect medical coverage until age 65 upon retirement or disability. Of those electing coverage for themselves, 40% of males and 30% of females are also assumed to elect coverage for their spouse. For managers eligible for the full retiree health care subsidy, they are assumed to participate at a rate of 100% for the first two years following retirement, and 50% thereafter.

NOTE G OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

Other Post-Employment Benefits (Continued)

Actuarial Assumptions, Continued:

Health Care Inflation: Increases in healthcare costs are assumed to be an initial rate of 7.00% in fiscal 2024, then 6.75% in fiscal 2025, grading down to the ultimate trend rate of 4.00% in fiscal 2075.

Fiscal Year	Rate
2024	7.00%
2025	6.75%
2026	6.50%
2027	6.25%
2028	6.00%
2029	5.75%
2030	5.50%
2031-2052	5.25%
2053-2060	5.00%
2061-2067	4.75%
2068-2071	4.50%
2072-2074	4.25%
2075+	4.00%

The above rates reflect recent healthcare trend rate surveys, blended with the long-term rates from the Getzen model published by the Society of Actuaries.

NOTE G OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

Other Post-Employment Benefits (Continued)

Change in Total OPEB Liability

	Increases and (Decreases) in Total OPEB Liability
Reporting Period Ending September 30, 2024	$ 3,498,457
Changes for the Year:	
Service Cost	144,823
Interest	173,209
Changes of Assumptions	294,057
Benefit Payments	(175,346)
Net Changes	436,743
Reporting Period Ending September 30, 2025	$ 3,935,200

Changes of Assumptions reflect a change in the discount rate from 4.87% for the reporting period ended September 30, 2024, to 4.06% for the reporting period ended September 30, 2025.

Sensitivity of the Total OPEB Liability to changes in the Discount Rate:

The following presents the Total OPEB Liability of the District, as well as what the District's Total OPEB Liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage-point lower or one percentage-point higher than the current discount rate:

	1% Decrease 3.06%	Current Discount Rate 4.06%	1% Increase 5.06%
Total OPEB Liability (Asset)	$ 4,340,768	$ 3,935,200	$ 3,576,286

Sensitivity of the Total OPEB Liability to changes in the Healthcare Cost Trend Rates:

The following presents the Total OPEB Liability of the District, as well as what the District's Total OPEB Liability would be if it were calculated using healthcare cost trend rates that are one percentage-point lower or one percentage-point higher than the current healthcare cost trend rates:

	1% Decrease 3.00%-6.00%	Healthcare Cost Trend Rates 4.00%-7.00%	1% Increase 5.00%-8.00%
Total OPEB Liability (Asset)	$ 3,447,068	$ 3,935,200	$ 4,515,565

NOTE G OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

Other Post-Employment Benefits (Continued)

OPEB Expense and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources related to OPEB

For the year ended September 30, 2025, the District will recognize OPEB Expense of $370,500. On September 30, 2025, the District reported Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	$ 399,117	$ 6,823
Changes of Assumptions	793,011	762,257
Employer Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date	189,620	-
Total	$ 1,381,748	$ 769,080

Amounts reported as Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB Expense as follows:

Year Ended September 30,	
2026	$ 47,678
2027	$ 44,944
2028	$ 68,694
2029	$ 68,697
2030	$ 42,743
Thereafter	$ 150,292

NOTE G OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

Other Post-Employment Benefits- Retiree Insurance Trust Fund

Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions (OPEB)

For purposes of measuring the net OPEB Liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB, and OPEB expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the District's Retiree Health Care Plan (Plan) and additions to/ deductions from the Plan's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by The Plan. For this purpose, the Plan recognizes benefit payments when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value, except for money market investments and participating interest-earning investment contracts that have a maturity at the time of purchase of one year or less, which are reported at cost.

Plan Description:

The Estero Fire Rescue District's Retiree Insurance Trust Fund (Plan) is a single employer defined benefit postemployment health care plan that covers eligible retired employees of the District. The Plan, which is administered by the District, allows employees who retire and meet retirement eligibility requirements under one of the District's retirement plans to receive a monthly benefit to be used towards health care premiums. For purposes of applying Paragraph 4 under Statement No. 75, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions, the Plan does not meet the requirements for an OPEB plan administered through a trust.

Employees Covered by Benefit Terms:

At September 30, 2023, the following employees were covered by the benefit terms:

Inactive Plan Members, or Beneficiaries Currently Receiving Benefits	6
Inactive Plan Members Entitled to But Not Yet Receiving Benefits	-
Active Plan Members	75
	81

Benefits Provided:

An eligible retired employee is entitled to a benefit of $200/month, up to 100% of the premium cost for health insurance provided by the District, beginning after retirement but not sooner than January 1, 2024. The benefit continues for the life of the member. Upon the death of the member, there is one additional year of benefits payable to an eligible beneficiary.

Contributions:

There is no formal funding policy in place. Currently the District will contribute 3% of the current annual Regular Salaries and Wages to the Retirees Insurance Trust on an annual basis. This amount will be adjusted at the District's discretion based on budgetary restraints.

NOTE G OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

Other Post-Employment Benefits- Retiree Insurance Trust Fund (Continued)

NET OPEB LIABILITY

The measurement date is September 30, 2025.
The measurement period for the OPEB expense was October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2025.
The reporting period is October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025.
The District's Total and Net OPEB Liability was measured as of September 30, 2025.

Actuarial Assumptions:

The Total OPEB Liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of September 30, 2023, updated to September 30, 2025 using the following actuarial assumptions:

Inflation Rate	2.50%
Salary Increase Rate(s)	3.00%
Discount Rate	5.24%
Investment Rate of Return	5.24%

Discount Rate: The projection of cash flows used to determine the Discount Rate assumed that current District contributions will be made at a rate of 3.00% of covered payroll as of the valuation date. The expected rate of return on investments is 5.24%. Based on this assumption, the OPEB Plan's Fiduciary Net Position was projected to provide all future benefit payments. Therefore, the single equivalent discount rate was set equal to the investment rate of return assumption, 5.24%.

Mortality: All mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 mortality tables with fully generational improvement using Scale MP-2021. Rates are based on those outlined in the July 1, 2023 Florida Retirement System (FRS) actuarial valuation report. For female active lives, the headcount-weighted PubG-2010 female employee table was used. For male active lives, the headcount-weighted PubG-2010 male below-median income employee table, set back one year, was used. For female inactive lives, the headcount-weighted PubG-2010 female below-median healthy retiree table was used. For inactive male lives, the headcount-weighted PubG-2010 male below-median income healthy retiree table, set back one year, was used.

Retirement Rates: Retirement is assumed to occur at a rate of 15% per year from ages 50 through 53, 40% per year at age 54, and 100% at age 55.

Termination Rates were updated to align with those used in the July 1, 2023 actuarial valuation of the Florida Retirement System (FRS).

Funding Method: Entry Age Cost Method (Level Percentage of Pay).

NOTE G OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

Other Post-Employment Benefits- Retiree Insurance Trust Fund (Continued)

Long-Term Expected Rate of Return:
The Long-Term Expected Rate of Return on OPEB Plan investments was determined using the Expected Returns of correlated funds published as part of BlackRock's Long-Term Capital Market Assumption report dated November 2025. These returns are combined to produce the Long-Term Expected Rate of Return by weighting the expected future rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage. The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic rates of return for each asset class are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long Term Expected Rate of Return
U.S. Large Cap Equities	30%	7.08%
U.S. Credit	25%	3.47%
U.S. Aggregate Bonds	25%	3.99%
Emerging Large-Cap Equities	10%	7.08%
U.S. High Yield Bonds	10%	5.44%
Total	100%	

Asset Class allocations above were provided as of September 30, 2024 by Wealth Planning Group on behalf of the District

Change in Net OPEB Liability

	Increase (Decrease)		
	Total OPEB Liability (a)	Plan Fiduciary Net Position (b)	Net OPEB Liability (a)-(b)
Reporting Period Ending September 30, 2024	$ 1,152,054	$ 1,645,693	-$ 493,639
Changes for the Year:			
Service Cost	32,424	-	32,424
Interest	63,287	-	63,287
Differences Between Expected and Actual			
Changes of Assumptions	37,596	-	37,596
Changes of Benefit Terms	314,459		314,459
Explicit Contributions - Employer	-	277,542	(277,542)
Net Investment Income	-	170,063	(170,063)
Explicit Benefit Payments	(7,584)	(7,584)	-
Net Changes	440,182	440,021	161
Reporting Period Ending September 30, 2025	$ 1,592,236	$ 2,085,714	$ (493,478)

NOTE G OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

Other Post-Employment Benefits- Retiree Insurance Trust Fund (Continued)

Sensitivity of the Net OPEB Liability to changes in the Discount Rate:

The following presents the Net OPEB Liability of the District, as well as what the District's Net OPEB Liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage-point lower or one percentage-point higher than the current discount rate:

	1% Decrease 4.24%	Current Discount Rate 5.24%	1% Increase 6.24%
Net OPEB Liability (asset)	$ (275,629)	$ (493,478)	($ 672,242)

Sensitivity of the Net OPEB Liability to changes in the Healthcare Cost Trend Rates:

There is no Healthcare Cost Trend Rate assumed for this benefit since the benefit is a flat dollar amount and is not assumed to increase with trend.

OPEB Plan Fiduciary Net Position:

Detailed information about the OPEB Plan's Fiduciary Net Position is available in a separately issued Plan financial report.

OPEB Expense and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB

For the year ended September 30, 2025, the District will recognize OPEB Expense/(Revenue) of $268,432.

On September 30, 2025, the District reported Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	$ 33,352	$ -
Changes of Assumptions	141,010	249,880
Net difference between Projected and Actual Earnings on OPEB Plan investments	-	164,673
Total	$ 174,362	$ 414,553

NOTE G OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

Other Post-Employment Benefits- Retiree Insurance Trust Fund (Continued)

OPEB Expense and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB (Continued)

Amounts reported as Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB Expense as follows:

Year ended September 30:		
2026	$	(48,072)
2027	$	(86,852)
2028	$	(66,726)
2029	$	(64,351)
2030	$	13,469
Thereafter	$	12,341

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NOTE H PROPERTY TAXES

Property taxes are levied after formal adoption of the District's budget and become due and payable on November 1 of each year and are delinquent on April 1 of the following year. Discounts on property taxes are allowed for payments made prior to the April 1 delinquent date. Tax certificates are sold to the public for the full amount of any unpaid taxes and must be sold not later than June 1 of each year. The billing, collection, and related recordkeeping of all property taxes are performed for the District by the Lee County Tax Collector. No accrual for the property tax levy becoming due in November 2025 is included in the accompanying financial statements, since such taxes are collected to finance expenditures of the subsequent period.

Procedures for collecting delinquent taxes, including applicable tax certificate sales and tax deed sales, are provided for by Florida Statutes. The enforceable lien date is approximately two years after taxes become delinquent and occurs only upon request of a holder of a delinquent tax certificate.

Important dates in the property tax cycle are as follows:

Assessment roll certified	July 1
Millage resolution approved	No later than 93 days following certification of assessment roll
Taxes due and payable (levy date)	November/with various discount provisions through March 31
Property taxes payable-maximum discount (4 percent)	30 days after levy date
Beginning of fiscal year for which taxes have been levied	October 1
Due date	March 31
Taxes become delinquent (lien date)	April 1
Tax certificates are sold by the Lee County Tax Collector	Prior to June 1

The Board of Commissioners of the District levied ad valorem taxes at a millage rate of $2.288 per $1,000 (2.288 mils) of the 2025 net taxable value of real property located within the District.

NOTE I COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

The District is involved from time to time in certain routine litigation, the substance of which either as liabilities or recoveries would not materially affect the financial position of the District. Although the final outcome of the lawsuits, assertions and claims or the exact amount of costs and/or potential recovery is not presently determinable, in the opinion of the District's legal counsel, the resolution of these matters will not have a materially adverse effect on the financial condition of the District. As a general policy, the District plans to contest any such matters.

On April 8, 2003, the District entered into an agreement with Lee County in which the County paid the District $118,836 for the right to use space at the Three Oaks Fire Station for Lee County owned emergency vehicles and assigned Lee County personnel. This agreement is for a term of 25 years and can be terminated by either party upon giving the other party a written 365 day notice. Should the right to use be terminated by the District, the sums paid to the District by the County shall be repaid to the County on a pro-rata basis for the years that the space was made available over the term of this agreement. At September 30, 2025, the amortized balance of the liability owed by the District if the agreement was terminated is approximately $7,236. Currently, there has been no interest by either party to terminate the agreement.

The District entered into a Traffic Signal Agreement in 2007 with a local developer or its assigns to share the cost of the construction of an emergency flashing traffic signal. Under this agreement, the financial obligation to the District for this improvement is 50% of the total design/permit/construction costs up to $150,000. At September 30, 2025, the District had contributed $106,581. Upon the emergency flashing traffic signal converting to a fully operational traffic signal, the District is entitled to a reimbursement of their contributed cost share less their pro rata share of the total cost of the fully operating traffic signal based on the District’s traffic impact to the signal. Currently there is no anticipated date as to when or if the emergency flashing signal will convert to a fully operational traffic signal.

The District's Fire Chief is the only employee with an employment contract, outside of the bargaining unit. The contract contains various commitments associated with the potential termination of the Fire Chief, including, but not limited to, deferred compensation benefit. The estimated liability for the deferred compensation benefit at September 30, 2025 was $88,599. This liability is considered a long-term liability and is recorded in the Statement of Net Position as deferred compensation benefits expected to be paid after one year. There is currently no expected termination of the Fire Chief.

NOTE J RISK MANAGEMENT

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; thefts of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters.

Insurance for workers’ compensation, general/management liability, automobile, and property is provided by a commercial insurance carrier. Workers’ compensation risk of loss is transferred to the insurance carrier with limits of liability of $1,000,000 per accident or disease.

NOTE J RISK MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

The District retains the risk of loss up to a deductible amount (ranging from $500 to $2,500) with the risk of loss in excess of this amount transferred to the insurance carrier with limits of liability amounts (ranging from $2,000 to $1,000,000 per occurrence) for general/management liability, automobile and property; except for those essential assets that have a guaranteed replacement value. An umbrella policy minimizes the District's exposure with an additional amount of coverage (up to $8,000,000 per occurrence) for general/management claims. The District pays annual premiums for this insurance coverage. There were no significant reductions in insurance coverage as compared to the prior year. Settled claims have not exceeded insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

The District's dental insurance program is self-funded and is administered by a third party administrator. At September 30, 2025, the District's dental plan had liabilities equal to the amounts reflected as reserved and unasserted claims. These amounts were calculated by the third-party self-insurance program's underwriters and actuaries, based on industry standards. These liabilities are subject to adjustments in future years, which would be recorded as claim expenses when they are estimated. However, the amounts are insignificant to the financial statements as a whole and do not exceed more than the average monthly dental claims, and therefore are not reported.

NOTE K FUTURE FIRE IMPACT FEES

In 2002, the District pledged future fire impact fee revenues to secure two bank loans. The loan proceeds were used for financing the construction of fire department facilities and related equipment that was necessary due to population growth in the District.

Impact fee revenue has not been sufficient to pay the District's debt since FY 2008. As such, the District's general ad valorem dollars have been paying the debt service on the loans. It is permissible to pay the debt service with the general ad valorem dollars, but the District is not permitted to secure the long term debt with the ad valorem dollars. Ad valorem revenue is intended for the operation of the District and the impact fee revenue is intended to finance costs associated with growth, such as additional stations and additional equipment. The District has received Lee County's consent to devise a plan and policy to support the reimbursement of its general ad valorem dollars with future impact fees as they become available. The District paid off the remaining debt balance in FY2023 with general ad valorem dollars. As of September 30, 2025, the impact fee fund owes the general fund $3,764,709 for this amount.

The District purchased land in FY2019. The District also built a new fire station due to the growth in the District in FY2023. The Ad Valorem dollars paid for the new land, the construction of the new station, and the apparatus that it required. This growth should have been paid for by impact fee funds but since there were not sufficient impact fees available, the ad valorem dollars funded the growth. The additional amount of impact fees owed to the District's general fund due to the purchase of the land is $411,778. The additional amount of impact fees owed to the District's general fund due to the growth of Station 45 is $8,967,749.

NOTE K FUTURE FIRE IMPACT FEES (CONTINUED)

The following is a summary of the use and repayment of ad valorem dollars paying the debt service that is secured with impact fees as well as the new growth of Station 45 paid for with ad valorem dollars.

Financial Statement Fiscal Year	Capital Improvements Due to District Growth	Pricipal retirement-unrestricted	Interest/fiscal charges-unrestricted	Impact Fee Reimbursement*	Accumulated Outstanding Balance
2025	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 741,314	$ 13,144,236
2024	-	-	-	492,021	13,885,550
2023	8,967,749	85,900	32,611	701,588	14,377,571
2022	-	148,421	34,860	534,538	5,992,899
2021	-	148,421	40,953	378,503	6,344,156
2020	-	148,421	47,338	522,446	6,533,285
2019	411,778	148,421	53,474	351,741	6,859,972
2018	-	148,421	59,556	508,119	6,598,040
2017	-	462,753	69,543	654,417	6,898,182
2016	-	671,934	94,568	73,769	7,020,303
2015	-	653,423	118,759	-	6,327,570
2014	-	635,487	142,957	-	5,555,388
2013	-	463,644	118,062	-	4,776,944
2012	-	749,645	190,890	-	4,195,238
2011	-	918,212	225,945	-	3,254,703
2010	-	892,102	257,451	-	2,110,546
2009	-	721,967	239,026	-	960,993

*In the year of reimbursement, impact fee revenue will be reported as "Unrestricted", and the cash will be moved into the District's operating account.

REQUIRED
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE – BUDGET AND ACTUAL – GENERAL FUND
Year Ended September 30, 2025

	General Fund			
REVENUES	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
Taxes				
Ad Valorem Taxes	$ 23,813,756	$ 23,813,756	$ 24,208,956	$ 395,200
Insurance Premium Tax for Pension	350,000	654,459	654,459	-
Subtotal - Taxes	24,163,756	24,468,215	24,863,415	395,200
Intergovernmental:				
State Shared (Degree Incentive)	33,360	33,360	34,699	1,339
State and local grants	5,000	5,000	249,055	244,055
Subtotal - Intergovernmental	38,360	38,360	283,754	245,394
Charges for services				
EMS Standby	55,000	55,000	71,842	16,842
Public Safety Classes	5,000	5,000	2,914	(2,086)
False Alarm Fees	500	500	1,000	500
Permit & Plan Review Fees	19,000	19,000	67,045	48,045
Inspection Fees	31,000	31,000	98,869	67,869
Subtotal - Charges for Services	110,500	110,500	241,670	131,170
Miscellaneous:				
Community Safety Program	1,500	1,500	2,953	1,453
Interest				
Operating Interest	200,000	200,000	431,911	231,911
Other Interest	150,500	150,500	566,843	416,343
Other				
Ambulance Bay Rent	54,868	54,868	55,373	505
Miscellaneous	600	97,266	128,353	31,087
Subtotal - Miscellaneous	407,468	504,134	1,185,433	681,299
TOTAL REVENUES	24,720,084	25,121,209	26,574,272	1,453,063
EXPENDITURES				
Current				
Public Safety				
Personal Services:				
Regular Salaries/Wages/Unemployment	9,667,841	9,431,206	9,406,396	24,810
Other Salaries and Wages	203,800	168,358	168,358	-
Overtime	443,200	840,395	835,401	4,994
Special Pay	1,444,594	1,378,093	1,370,883	7,210
FICA Taxes	899,602	899,602	869,058	30,544
Retirement Contributions	2,183,184	2,487,643	2,327,880	159,763
Life, Health Insurance	2,599,715	2,284,764	2,166,686	118,078
Workers' Compensation Insurance	317,000	317,000	280,697	36,303
Other Postemployment Benefits	286,444	286,444	279,903	6,541
Subtotal - Personnel Services	18,045,380	18,093,505	17,705,262	388,243

(continued on next page)

ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE – BUDGET AND ACTUAL – GENERAL FUND
Year Ended September 30, 2025

	General Fund			
	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
Operating Expenditures:				
Property Appraiser Fees	133,693	133,693	115,598	18,095
Tax Collector Fees	487,342	487,342	484,561	2,781
Professional Services	230,122	230,097	104,341	125,756
Accounting and Auditing	50,680	50,705	50,705	-
Other Services (Janitorial)	7,980	7,980	7,980	-
Travel	153,454	153,454	76,873	76,581
Communications and Freight Services	212,121	212,121	200,185	11,936
Utility Services	131,560	131,560	112,108	19,452
Insurance	318,655	318,655	308,474	10,181
Repair and Maintenance Services	1,363,376	1,716,376	1,561,506	154,870
Printing and Binding	665	665	391	274
Promotional Activities	16,300	21,329	19,915	1,414
Other Current Charges and Obligations	51,794	51,794	37,218	14,576
Office Supplies	12,000	12,200	12,065	135
Operating Supplies	618,065	613,336	515,548	97,788
Training, Subscriptions, Memberships	312,280	311,780	192,060	119,720
Subtotal - Operating Expenditures	4,100,087	4,453,087	3,799,528	653,559
Capital Outlay:				
Buildings	180,000	175,800	-	175,800
Land	-	4,200	92,444	(88,244)
Vehicles	1,680,000	1,512,500	190,186	1,322,314
Equipment	725,600	725,600	308,504	417,096
Information Technology	47,300	47,300	2,747	44,553
Subtotal - Capital Outlay	2,632,900	2,465,400	593,881	1,871,519
Debt Service:				
Principal Retirement - Unrestricted	-	167,500	167,462	38
Interest and Fiscal Charges - Unrestricted	69,562	69,562	69,562	-
Subtotal - Debt Service	69,562	237,062	237,024	38
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	24,847,929	25,249,054	22,335,695	2,913,359
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	(127,845)	(127,845)	4,238,577	4,366,422
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES				
Proceeds from Sale of Capital Assets	-	-	25,000	25,000
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING	-	-	25,000	25,000
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	(127,845)	(127,845)	4,263,577	4,391,422
Beginning Fund Balance	33,966,287	33,966,287	33,966,287	-
FUND BALANCE - Beginning of the Year	33,966,287	33,966,287	33,966,287	-
Ending Fund Balance	33,838,442	33,838,442	38,229,864	4,391,422
FUND BALANCE - End of the Year	$ 33,838,442	$ 33,838,442	$ 38,229,864	$ 4,391,422

ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE – BUDGET AND ACTUAL – IMPACT FEE FUND
Year Ended September 30, 2025

	Impact Fee Fund			
	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
REVENUES				
Miscellaneous:				
Impact Fees	$ 155,000	$ 155,000	$ 787,075	$ 632,075
Interest	3,000	3,000	8,152	5,152
Subtotal - Miscellaneous	158,000	158,000	795,227	637,227
TOTAL REVENUES	158,000	158,000	795,227	637,227
EXPENDITURES				
Current				
Public Safety				
Personal Services	-	-	-	-
Operating Expenditures	-	-	-	-
Capital Outlay	-	-	-	-
Debt Service	-	-	-	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	-	-	-	-
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	158,000	158,000	795,227	637,227
FUND BALANCE - Beginning of the Year	(13,590,589)	(13,590,589)	(13,590,589)	-
FUND BALANCE - End of the Year	$ (13,432,589)	$ (13,432,589)	$ (12,795,362)	$ 637,227

ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN NET PENSION LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS
FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT PLAN
September 30, 2025

Last Ten Fiscal Years

September 30,	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Total Pension Liability:					
Service cost	$ 761,189	$ 617,549	$ 504,157	$ 493,041	$ 493,246
Expected interest growth	3,037,330	2,769,523	2,537,282	2,300,691	2,104,209
Demographic experience	2,345,718	2,079,466	649,413	1,106,794	1,293,941
Benefit payments, including refunds	(674,433)	(450,509)	(465,839)	(446,324)	(476,278)
Changes of assumptions	1,207,999	-	-	-	(495,759)
Net change in Total Pension Liability	6,677,803	5,016,029	3,225,013	3,454,202	2,919,359
Total Pension Liability - Beginning of Year	44,554,074	39,538,045	36,313,032	32,858,830	29,939,471
Total Pension Liability - End of Year (a)	$ 51,231,877	$ 44,554,074	$ 39,538,045	$ 36,313,032	$ 32,858,830
Plan Fiduciary Net Position					
Contributions - employer	$ 1,539,646	$ 902,072	$ 653,992	$ 528,508	$ 1,297,198
Contributions - state	267,811	267,811	267,811	267,811	267,811
Contributions - employee	231,938	224,495	199,138	178,846	178,501
Expected interest growth	3,317,515	2,788,149	2,523,289	2,867,679	2,357,630
Unexpected investment income	948,840	5,100,427	538,411	(8,306,321)	4,103,646
Benefit payments & refunds	(674,433)	(450,509)	(465,839)	(446,324)	(495,759)
Administrative expenses	(89,018)	(78,046)	(72,137)	(72,087)	(66,481)
Net change in Plan Fiduciary Net Position	5,542,299	8,754,399	3,644,665	(4,981,888)	7,642,546
Plan Fiduciary Net Position - Beginning of Year	48,159,503	39,405,104	35,760,439	40,742,327	33,099,781
Plan Fiduciary Net Position - End of Year (b)	$ 53,701,802	$ 48,159,503	$ 39,405,104	$ 35,760,439	$ 40,742,327
Net Pension Asset - End of Year (a) - (b)	$ (2,469,925)	$ (3,605,429)	$ 132,941	$ 552,593	$ (7,883,497)
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	104.82%	108.09%	99.66%	98.48%	123.99%
Covered Employee Payroll	$ 6,671,670	$ 5,990,943	$ 5,426,428	$ 5,135,978	$ 5,116,997

ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN NET PENSION LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS
FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT PLAN
September 30, 2025

Last Ten Fiscal Years

September 30,	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Total Pension Liability:					
Service cost	$ 435,707	$ 444,623	$ 485,455	$ 455,634	$ 462,980
Expected interest growth	1,950,281	1,792,095	1,614,497	1,374,646	911,490
Demographic experience	65,142	828,505	715,572	681,912	727,005
Benefit payments, including refunds	(266,240)	(307,120)	(165,996)	(187,513)	(163,056)
Changes of assumptions	-	(443,827)	-	1,087,356	4,790,497
Net change in Total Pension Liability	2,184,890	2,314,276	2,649,528	3,412,035	6,728,916
Total Pension Liability - Beginning of Year	27,754,581	25,440,305	22,790,777	19,378,742	12,649,826
Total Pension Liability - End of Year (a)	$ 29,939,471	$ 27,754,581	$ 25,440,305	$ 22,790,777	$ 19,378,742
Plan Fiduciary Net Position					
Contributions - employer	$ 1,437,653	$ 1,313,297	$ 1,380,648	$ 1,032,000	$ 754,447
Contributions - state	267,811	267,811	267,811	267,811	267,811
Contributions - employee	172,685	157,741	158,408	156,888	148,229
Expected interest growth	2,119,360	1,512,964	1,782,592	2,679,023	1,428,448
Unexpected investment income	(82,723)	-	-	-	-
Benefit payments & refunds	(266,240)	(307,120)	(165,996)	(187,513)	(163,056)
Administrative expenses	(64,931)	(62,631)	(76,484)	(52,390)	(64,972)
Net change in Plan Fiduciary Net Position	3,583,615	2,882,062	3,346,979	3,895,819	2,370,907
Plan Fiduciary Net Position - Beginning of Year	29,516,166	26,634,104	23,287,125	19,391,306	17,020,399
Plan Fiduciary Net Position - End of Year (b)	$ 33,099,781	$ 29,516,166	$ 26,634,104	$ 23,287,125	$ 19,391,306
Net Pension Asset - End of Year (a) - (b)	$ (3,160,310)	$ (1,761,585)	$ (1,193,799)	$ (496,348)	$ (12,564)
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	110.56%	106.35%	104.69%	102.18%	100.06%
Covered Employee Payroll	$ 4,648,570	$ 4,680,262	$ 4,782,434	$ 4,674,731	$ 4,718,212

ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS
FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT PLAN
September 30, 2025

Last Ten Fiscal Years

September 30,	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Actuarially determined contributions	$ 1,819,165	$ 1,255,687	$ 979,199	$ 808,391	$ 1,601,781
Contributions in relation to the actuarially determined contributions	1,807,457	1,169,883	921,803	796,319	1,565,009
Contribution deficiency (excess)	$ 11,708	$ 85,804	$ 57,396	$ 12,072	$ 36,772
Covered Employee Payroll	$ 6,671,670	$ 5,990,943	$ 5,426,428	$ 5,135,978	$ 5,116,997
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll	27.09%	19.53%	16.99%	15.50%	30.58%
Notes to Schedule					
Valuation date	10/1/2024	10/1/2023	10/1/2022	10/1/2021	10/1/2020

September 30,	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Actuarially determined contributions	$ 1,700,404	$ 1,663,637	$ 1,648,462	$ 1,300,081	$ 1,092,921
Contributions in relation to the actuarially determined contributions	1,705,464	1,581,108	1,648,459	1,299,811	1,022,258
Contribution deficiency (excess)	$ (5,060)	$ 82,529	$ 3	$ 270	$ 70,663
Covered Employee Payroll	$ 4,648,570	$ 4,680,262	$ 4,782,434	$ 4,674,731	$ 4,718,212
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll	36.69%	33.78%	34.47%	27.81%	21.67%
Notes to Schedule					
Valuation date	10/1/2019	10/1/2018	10/1/2017	10/01/2016	10/01/2015

Actuarially determined contribution rates are calculated as of October 1, two years prior to the end of the fiscal year in which contributions are reported.

ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENT RETURNS (EXCLUDES SHARE PLAN)
FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT PLAN
September 30, 2025

The Table below summarizes the annual money-weighted rate of return, net of investment expenses.

Last Ten Fiscal Years

September 30,	Rate of Return
2025	13.94%
2024	19.80%
2023	21.62%
2022	-15.47%
2021	15.99%
2020	6.08%
2019	5.56%
2018	7.45%
2017	13.45%
2016	8.06%

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ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN THE TOTAL OPEB LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS
OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS
September 30, 2025

Reporting Period Ending	9/30/2025	9/30/2024	9/30/2023	9/30/2022
Measurement Date	9/30/2024	9/30/2023	9/30/2022	9/30/2021
TOTAL OPEB LIABILITY				
Service Cost	$ 144,823	$ 111,454	$ 178,534	$ 210,636
Interest	173,209	135,350	85,701	77,234
Changes of Benefit Terms	-	-	-	-
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	-	258,353	-	212,615
Changes of Assumptions	294,057	345,571	(737,338)	(418,954)
Benefit Payments	(175,346)	(154,919)	(144,111)	(119,535)
Net Change in Total OPEB Lability	436,743	695,809	(617,214)	(38,004)
Total OPEB Liability - Beginning	3,498,457	2,802,648	3,419,862	3,457,866
Total OPEB Liability - Ending	$ 3,935,200	$ 3,498,457	$ 2,802,648	$ 3,419,862
Covered Employee Payroll	$ 8,016,451	$ 7,782,962	$ 6,746,546	$ 6,550,045
Total Liability as a percentage of Covered Employee Payroll	49.09%	44.95%	41.54%	52.21%

Reporting Period Ending	9/30/2021	9/30/2020	9/30/2019
Measurement Date	9/30/2020	9/30/2019	9/30/2018
TOTAL OPEB LIABILITY			
Service Cost	$ 153,642	$ 143,030	$ 138,864
Interest	104,921	82,737	81,824
Changes of Benefit Terms	-	221,179	-
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	-	200,141	(29,237)
Changes of Assumptions	478,267	59,292	(162,641)
Benefit Payments	(111,195)	(8,178)	(7,572)
Net Change in Total OPEB Lability	625,635	698,201	21,238
Total OPEB Liability - Beginning	2,832,231	2,134,030	2,112,792
Total OPEB Liability - Ending	$ 3,457,866	$ 2,832,231	$ 2,134,030
Covered Employee Payroll	$ 6,084,234	$ 5,907,023	$ 5,641,789
Total Liability as a percentage of Covered Employee Payroll	56.83%	47.95%	37.83%

Notes to Schedule:

Covered payroll is projected to the measurement date based on actual covered payroll as of the valuation date using applicable salary increase assumptions.

ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN THE TOTAL OPEB LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS
OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS
September 30, 2025

Notes to Schedule (Continued):

Changes of assumptions and other inputs reflect the effects of changes in the discount rate each period. The following are the discount rates used in each period:

Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2025:	4.06%
Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2024:	4.87%
Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2023:	4.77%
Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2022:	2.43%
Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2021:	2.14%
Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2020:	3.58%
Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2019:	3.64%
Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2018:	3.35%

Benefit Payments: The District did not provide actual net benefits paid by the Plan for the fiscal year ending on September 30, 2025. Expected net benefit payments produced by the valuation model for the same period are shown in the table above.

ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN THE DISTRICT'S NET OPEB LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS
RETIREE HEALTH CARE PLAN
September 30, 2025

Reporting Period Ending	9/30/2025	9/30/2024	9/30/2023	9/30/2022	9/30/2021	9/30/2020
Measurement Date	9/30/2025	9/30/2024	9/30/2022	9/30/2021	9/30/2020	9/30/2019
TOTAL OPEB LIABILITY						
Service Cost	$ 32,424	$ 30,806	$ 29,529	$ 31,385	$ 75,779	$ 51,197
Interest	63,287	58,962	53,883	48,809	29,095	34,557
Changes of Benefit Terms	314,459					
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	-	10,371	-	46,033	-	-
Changes of Assumptions	37,596	13,147	-	6,477	(562,225)	283,962
Explicit Benefit Payments	(7,584)	(3,792)	-	-	-	-
Net Change in Total OPEB Lability	440,182	109,494	83,412	132,704	(457,351)	369,716
Total OPEB Liability - Beginning	1,152,054	1,042,560	959,148	826,444	1,283,795	914,079
Total OPEB Liability - Ending (a)	$ 1,592,236	$ 1,152,054	$ 1,042,560	$ 959,148	$ 826,444	$ 1,283,795
Plan Fiduciary Net Position						
Explicit Contributions - Employer	$ 277,542	$ 247,517	$ 169,767	$ 195,785	$ 776,251	$ -
Net Investment Income	170,063	239,665	151,198	(145,169)	22,721	-
Explicit Benefit Payments	(7,584)	(3,792)	-	-	-	-
Administrative Expense	-	-	(4,179)	(2,700)	(1,371)	-
Net Change in Plan Fiduciary Net Position	440,021	483,390	316,786	47,916	797,601	-
Plan Fiduciary Net Position - Beginning	1,645,693	1,162,303	845,517	797,601	-	-
Plan Fiduciary Net Position - Ending (b)	$ 2,085,714	$ 1,645,693	$ 1,162,303	$ 845,517	$ 797,601	$ -
District's Net OPEB Liability - Ending (a) - (b)	$ (493,478)	$ (493,639)	$ (119,743)	$ 113,631	$ 28,843	$ 1,283,795
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a percentage of the Total OPEB Liability	130.99%	142.85%	111.49%	88.15%	96.51%	N/A
Covered Employee Payroll (Projected)	$ 8,256,944	$ 8,016,451	$ 6,948,943	$ 6,746,546	$ 6,266,761	$ 6,084,234
District's Net OPEB Liability as a percentage of Covered Employee Payroll	-5.98%	-6.16%	-1.72%	1.68%	0.46%	21.10%

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' 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*

Board of Commissioners
Estero Fire Rescue District
Estero, Florida

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities of the Estero Fire Rescue District, Estero, Florida (the "District"), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2025 and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated May 12, 2026.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the District'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 District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control.

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

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

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the District's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the 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.*

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.

Ashley, Brown & Smith, CPAs

Punta Gorda, Florida
May 12, 2026

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S MANAGEMENT LETTER

Board of Commissioners
Estero Fire Rescue District
Estero, Florida

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of the Estero Fire Rescue District (the "District"), as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2025, and have issued our report thereon dated May 12, 2026.

Auditor's Responsibility

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General.

Other Reporting Requirements

We have issued our Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of the Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and Independent Accountant's Report on an examination conducted in accordance with *AICPA Professional Standards*, AT-C Section 315, regarding compliance requirements in accordance with Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General. Disclosures in those reports and schedule, which are dated May 12, 2026, should be considered in conjunction with this management letter.

Prior Audit Findings

Section 10.554(1)(i)1., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we determine whether or not corrective actions have been taken to address findings and recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report. There were no recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report.

Official Title and Legal Authority

Section 10.554(1)(i)4., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that the name or official title and legal authority for the primary government and each component unit of the reporting entity be disclosed in this management letter, unless disclosed in the notes to the financial statements. The District discloses this information in the notes to the financial statements.

Financial Condition and Management

Section 10.554(1)(i)5.a. and 10.556(7), Rules of the Auditor General, require us apply appropriate procedures and communicate the results of our determination as to whether or not the District has met one or more of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes, and identification of the specific condition(s) met. In connection with our audit, we determined that the District did not meet any of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes.

Pursuant to Sections 10.554(1)(i)5.b. and 10.556(8), Rules of the Auditor General, we applied financial condition assessment procedures for the District. It is management's responsibility to monitor the District's financial condition, and our financial condition assessment was based in part on representations made by management and the review of financial information provided by same.

Section 10.554(1)(i)2., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we communicate any recommendation to improve financial management. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such recommendations.

Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Programs

As required by Section 10.554(1)(i)6.a., Rules of the Auditor General, the District a statement as to whether a PACE program authorized pursuant to Section 163.081 or Section163.082, Florida Statutes, did not operate within the District's geographical boundaries during the fiscal year under audit.

Special District Component Units

Section 10.554(1)(i)5.d., Rules of the Auditor General, requires, if appropriate, that we communicate the failure of a special district that is a component unit of a county, municipality, or special district, to provide the financial information necessary for proper reporting of the component unit within the audited financial statements of the county, municipality, or special district in accordance with Section 219.39(3)(b), Florida Statues. In connection with our audit, we determined that there are no special district component units required to report to the District.

As required by Section 218.39(3)(c), Florida Statutes, and Section 10.554(1)(i)6, Rules of the Auditor General, the District reported:

A. The total number of District employees compensated in the last pay period of the fiscal year is 94.

B. The total number of independent contractors to whom nonemployee compensation was paid in September 2025 is 7.

C. All compensation earned by or awarded to employees in the last pay period of the fiscal year, whether paid or accrued, regardless of contingency as of September 30, 2025 is $188,987.

D. All compensation earned by or awarded to nonemployee independent contractors in September 2025, whether paid or accrued, regardless of contingency is $36,752.

E. The District did not have any construction projects with a total of at least $65,000 approved by the District that is scheduled to begin on or after October 1 of the fiscal year being reported.

F. A budget variance based on the budget adopted under Section 189.016(4), Florida Statutes, before the beginning of the fiscal year being reported if the district amends a final adopted budget under Section 189.016(6), Florida Statutes, as can be found on pages 61-63 of the financial statements.

As required by Section 218.39(3)(c), Florida Statutes, and Section 10.554(1)(i)7, Rules of the Auditor General, the District reported:

A. The fiscal year 2025 millage rate is 2.288.

B. The total amount of ad valorem taxes collected by or on behalf of the District as of September 30, 2025 is $24,208,956.

C. The total amount of outstanding bonds issued by the District is zero.

Additional Matters

Section 10.554(1)(i)3., Rules of the Auditor General, requires us to communicate noncompliance with provisions of contracts or grant agreements, or abuse, that have occurred, or are likely to have occurred, that have an effect on the financial statements that is less than material but warrants the attention of those charged with governance. In connection with our audit, we did not note any such findings

Purpose of this Letter

Our management letter is intended solely for the information and use of the Legislative Auditing Committee, members of the Florida Senate and the Florida House of Representatives, the Florida Auditor General, Federal and other granting agencies, the District Board of Commissioners, and applicable management, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Ashley, Brown & Smith, CPAs

Punta Gorda, Florida
May 12, 2026

ASHLEY & BROWN & SMITH
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S EXAMINATION REPORT

Board of Commissioners
Estero Fire Rescue District
Estero, Florida

We have examined the Estero Fire Rescue District's (the "District") compliance with Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, in regards to investments for the year ended September 30, 2025.

Management is responsible for the District's compliance with those requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the District's compliance based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the District complied, in all material respects, with the specified requirements referenced above. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether the District complied with the specified requirements. The nature, timing and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgement, including an assessment of the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

We are required to be independent and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to the engagement.

Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the District's compliance with the specified requirements.

In our opinion, the District complied, in all material respects, with the aforementioned requirements during the year ended September 30, 2025.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Florida Auditor General, the Board of Commissioners of the District, and applicable management and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Ashley, Brown & Smith, CPAs

Punta Gorda, Florida
May 12, 2026