

HUERFANO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

WALSENBURG, COLORADO

December 31, 2024

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

August 15, 2025

Board of Directors
Huerfano County Fire Protection District
Walsenburg, Colorado

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Huerfano County Fire Protection District as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, 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 and each major fund of the Huerfano County Fire Protection District as of December 31, 2024, 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. 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 Huerfano County Fire Protection District and to meet our 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 the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Huerfano County Fire Protection 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 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, 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 Huerfano County Fire Protection 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 Huerfano County Fire Protection 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 and budgetary comparison information 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.

Darren Ross & *DeHardo, Inc.*

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Management's Discussion and Analysis
Huerfano County Fire Protection District
December 31, 2024

As management of the Huerfano County Fire Protection District (the District), we offer readers of the District's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the District for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2024. This discussion and analysis are designed to assist the reader in focusing on the significant financial issues and activities and to identify any significant changes in financial position. We encourage readers to consider the information presented here in conjunction with the financial statements as a whole.

Financial Highlights

- The assets of the District exceeded its liabilities at the close of the most recent fiscal year by \$1,176,573 (net position). Of this amount \$712,760 (unrestricted net position) may be used to meet the District's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.
- The District's total net position increased by \$133,227.
- As of the close of the current fiscal year, the District's governmental fund reported ending fund balance of \$754,975, an increase of \$143,794 in comparison with the prior year. This increase is caused by revenues exceeding expenditures in the general fund.
- At the end of the current fiscal year, unassigned fund balance of the general fund is \$738,875 or 65% of total general fund expenditures.
- Total revenues increased by \$99,926 from the previous year. The increase is mostly attributed to an increase in tax revenues. Other financing sources were \$640,042 during 2024.
- Expenditures increased by \$619,361, mainly due to capital outlay of \$644,077 and debt service expenditures increasing.

Overview of the Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis are intended to serve as an introduction to the District's basic financial statements. The District's basic financial statements consist of three components:

- Government-wide financial statements
- Fund Financial Statements
- Notes to the Financial Statements

The basic financial statements present two different views of the District using government-wide statements and fund financial statements. In addition to the basic financial statements, this report contains other supplemental information that will enhance the reader's understanding of the financial condition of the District.

Government-wide Financial Statements. The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the District's finances, in a manner like a private-sector business.

The *statement of net position* presents information on all the District's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as *net position*. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the District is improving or deteriorating.

The *statement of activities* presents information showing how the District's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods (e.g., uncollected taxes).

Management's Discussion and Analysis
Huerfano County Fire Protection District
December 31, 2024

Government-wide Financial Statements (Continued)

Both of the government-wide financial statements distinguish functions of the District that are principally supported by taxes. The governmental activities of the District primarily include community safety services. The government-wide financial statements can be found on pages 3 - 4 of this report.

Fund financial statements. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The District, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements, such as State Statutes. The District has one fund, the General Fund, which is categorized as a Governmental fund.

Governmental Funds. Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflow and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a government's near-term financing requirements. Governmental funds are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting which has a current financial resource focus. As a result, the governmental fund financial statements give the reader a detailed short-term view that helps him or her determine if there are more or less financial resources available to finance the District's programs.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the government's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation, which is a part of the fund financial statements, to facilitate this comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities.

The District maintains one governmental fund. Information is presented separately in the governmental fund balance sheet and in the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balance for the general fund, which is considered to be a major fund.

The District adopts an annual appropriated budget for governmental funds. A budgetary comparison statement has been provided for these funds to demonstrate compliance with these budgets.

The basic governmental fund financial statements can be found on pages 5 - 8 of this report.

Notes to the Financial Statements. The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements can be found on pages 9 - 17 of this report.

Government-Wide Financial Analysis

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of the government's financial position. In the case of the District, assets exceeded liabilities by \$1,176,573 at the close of fiscal year 2024. Increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator as to whether the financial condition of the District is improving or deteriorating over time.

Management's Discussion and Analysis
Huerfano County Fire Protection District
December 31, 2024

Government-Wide Financial Analysis (Continued)

A portion of the District's net position reflects its investment in capital assets (i.e., land, buildings, vehicles and equipment); less any related debt used to acquire those assets that is still outstanding. The District uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although the District's investment in its capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources needed to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities.

The following table reflects the condensed Statement of Net Position at December 31, 2024 and 2023:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Assets:		
Current and other assets	\$ 1,276,527	\$ 1,110,728
Capital assets	<u>1,226,503</u>	<u>741,359</u>
Total Assets	<u>2,503,030</u>	<u>1,852,087</u>
Liabilities:		
Current and other liabilities	54,414	8,545
Current maturities of long-term debt	208,260	97,802
Long-term liabilities outstanding	<u>570,530</u>	<u>211,391</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>833,204</u>	<u>317,738</u>
Deferred Inflow of Resources: Unavailable revenue – property tax	<u>493,253</u>	<u>491,001</u>
Net Position:		
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	447,713	432,166
Restricted	16,100	15,900
Unrestricted	<u>712,760</u>	<u>595,280</u>
Total Net Position	<u>\$ 1,176,573</u>	<u>\$ 1,043,346</u>

At the end of the current fiscal year, the Huerfano County Fire Protection District is able to report a positive balance in all categories of net position. The purchase of capital assets and payments on related debt with cash has resulted in a slight increase in the net assets invested in capital assets net of related debt.

Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution, commonly known as the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR) contains the requirements of setting an emergency reserve. This reserve cannot be accessed except for an unexpected disaster. This reserve amounts to \$16,100 as of December 31, 2024.

The Statement of Activities presents information showing how the Districts' net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. Revenues and expenses in this statement are recorded when earned or when a liability is incurred.

Management's Discussion and Analysis
Huerfano County Fire Protection District
December 31, 2024

The following table reflects the condensed Statement of Activities for the year ended December 31, 2024 and 2023:

Government Wide Financial Analysis (Continued)

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Revenues:		
Program revenues:		
Charges for services	\$ 6,000	\$ 7,700
Grants and contributions	790	465
General revenues:		
Property taxes	562,361	474,088
Specific ownership taxes	50,606	49,152
Unrestricted investment earnings	16,276	2,458
Gain (loss) on sale of assets	-	-
Other	4,978	7,192
Total Revenues	<u>641,011</u>	<u>541,085</u>
Expenses:		
Public safety	348,460	516,264
General government	102,264	-
Debt service-interest	57,060	13,647
Total Expenses	<u>507,784</u>	<u>529,911</u>
Change in net position	133,227	11,174
Net position – beginning	1,043,346	1,032,172
Net position – ending	<u>\$ 1,176,573</u>	<u>\$ 1,043,346</u>

Budgetary Highlights

There were no amendments to the original budgets during 2024.

Capital Asset and Debt Administration

Capital assets. The District's investment in capital assets as of December 31, 2024 amounts to \$447,713 (net of accumulated depreciation and related debt). This investment in capital assets includes land, buildings, vehicles, equipment, and improvements. The decrease in the District's investment in capital assets for the current fiscal year was due to current year additions of equipment and real property for \$644,077 less the decrease due to current year net asset disposals of \$0; and depreciation of equipment and real property of \$158,933.

Huerfano County Fire Protection District's Capital Assets

Substations	\$ 336,383
Equipment and furniture	2,546,183
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(1,656,063)
	<u>\$ 1,226,503</u>

Additional information on the District's capital assets can be found in the notes section on page 14 of this report.

Management's Discussion and Analysis
Huerfano County Fire Protection District
December 31, 2024

Long-term debt. During 2024, the District commenced a financed lease for an apparatus truck for \$640,042. The lease of the District was not a general obligation of the District and was paid solely from the District's revenues as appropriated in the annual budget.

Additional information on the District's long-term debt can be found in Note 6 on page 15 of this report.

Final Comments

The District continues to strive to achieve its mission of providing affordable, efficient, and reliable community safety services.

Request for Information

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Huerfano County Fire Protection District's finances for all those with an interest in the government's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or request for additional financial information should be addressed to the Huerfano County Fire Protection District, Board of Directors, 310 Main St, Walsenburg, CO 81089.

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
HUERFANO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
December 31, 2024

Assets

Cash and investments	\$	757,849
Taxes receivable		498,338
Prepaid expenses		20,340
Capital assets - net of accumulated depreciation		<u>1,226,503</u>
Total Assets		<u><u>2,503,030</u></u>

Liabilities

Accounts payable		3,176
Accrued interest		46,455
Accrued expenses		4,783
Long-term liabilities:		
Due within on year		208,260
Due in more than one year		<u>570,530</u>
Total Liabilities		<u><u>833,204</u></u>

Deferred Inflow of Resources

Unavailable revenue - property tax		<u>493,253</u>
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Net Position

Invested in capital assets, net of related debt		447,713
Restricted - emergency		16,100
Unrestricted		<u>712,760</u>
Total Net Position	\$	<u><u>1,176,573</u></u>

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
HUERFANO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Expenses		
Public safety	\$	348,460
General government		102,264
Debt service-interest		<u>57,060</u>
	Total Program Expenses	<u>507,784</u>
Program Revenue:		
Charges for services		6,000
Grants and contributions		<u>790</u>
	Total Program Revenues	<u>6,790</u>
	Net Program (Expense) Revenue	<u>(500,994)</u>
General Revenues		
Property taxes		562,361
Specific ownership taxes		50,606
Interest		16,276
Other revenues		<u>4,978</u>
	Total General Revenues	<u>634,221</u>
	Change in Net Position	133,227
Net position at beginning of year		<u>1,043,346</u>
Net position at end of year	\$	<u>1,176,573</u>

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

GOVERNMENTAL FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

BALANCE SHEET- GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
HUERFANO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
December 31, 2024

	General Fund
Assets	
Cash and investments	\$ 757,849
Taxes receivable	498,338
Total Assets	1,256,187
 Liabilities	
Accounts payable	3,176
Accrued expenses	4,783
Total Liabilities	7,959
 Deferred Inflow of Resources	
Unavailable revenue - property tax	493,253
 Fund Balances	
Restricted - emergency	16,100
Unassigned	738,875
Total Fund Balances	\$ 754,975

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
BALANCE SHEET TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
HUERFANO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
December 31, 2024

Total Fund Balances - Total Government Funds	\$ 754,975
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position were different because:	
Capital assets used in governmental activities were not current financial resources, therefore, they were not reported in the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet.	1,226,503
Interest payable on leases did not require current financial resources, therefore, interest payable was not reported as a liability in Governmental Funds Balance Sheet.	(46,455)
Long term debt liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet.	(778,790)
Some expenditures reported in the governmental funds require the use of current financial resources because items are prepaid using the payments method and, therefore, are not reported as expenses in the Statement of Activities.	<u>20,340</u>
Net Position of Governmental Activities	<u>\$ 1,176,573</u>

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE

HUERFANO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

	General Fund
Revenues	
Property taxes	\$ 562,361
Specific ownership tax	50,606
Interest	16,276
Grants and contributions	790
Charges for services	6,000
Miscellaneous	<u>4,978</u>
Total Revenues	<u>641,011</u>
Expenditures	
Current:	
General government	112,952
Public safety	199,179
Capital outlay	644,077
Debt Service:	
Principal retirement	170,446
Interest	<u>10,605</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>1,137,259</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	(496,248)
Other Financing Sources (Uses)	
Proceeds from leases	<u>640,042</u>
Net Change in Fund Balance	143,794
Fund balance - beginning	<u>611,181</u>
Fund balance - ending	<u>\$ 754,975</u>

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**
HUERFANO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
December 31, 2024

Net Change in Fund Balances - Total Governmental Funds	\$ 143,794
 Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Position were different because:	
Governmental funds reported capital outlay as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities the cost of those assets are allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which capital outlay (\$644,077) exceeded depreciation expense (\$158,933).	485,144
Capital assets acquired with a finance lease is reported in the governmental funds as a source of financing. The finance lease is not revenue in the statement of activities, but rather constitutes long-term liabilities in the statement of net assets.	(640,042)
Principal retirements - retirements of principal outstanding on the District's debt result in a reduction of accumulated resources on the fund financial statements. The government-wide statements show these reductions against the long-term liabilities.	170,446
Interest payable on outstanding leases is not recorded on the fund financial statements because it is not a current use of cash. Interest is accrued on the government-wide financial statements, and the change in the liability is recognized.	(46,455)
Expenditures for services which benefit a future period are reported as prepaid expenses and included in current assets in the government-wide statements of net position. In the governmental fund financial statements they are treated as expenditures when paid. This is the amount by which prepaid expenditures increased (decreased) from the prior year.	<u>20,340</u>
Change in Net Position - Governmental Activities	<u>\$ 133,227</u>

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
HUERFANO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
December 31, 2024

Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The basic financial statements of Huerfano County Fire Protection District have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to governmental agencies. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The more significant of the District's accounting policies are described below.

Financial Reporting Entity

Huerfano County Fire Protection District (the District) is organized under the laws of the State of Colorado. It operates under the jurisdiction of a Board of Directors elected by voters of the District and provides fire protection services to the public. As required by generally accepted accounting principles, these financial statements present the Huerfano County Fire Protection District (the primary government) and its component units, if any. No additional separate governmental units, agencies, or nonprofit corporations are included in the financial statements of the District, since none were discovered to fall within the oversight responsibility based upon the application of the following criteria: financial accountability, appointment of a voting majority of the organization's governing body, ability to impose its will on the organization, a potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits or burdens and fiscal dependency.

Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements

The District's basic financial statements consist of government-wide financial statements, including a statement of net position and a statement of activities, and fund financial statements which provide a more detailed level of financial information. The government-wide focus is more on the sustainability of the District as an entity and the change in aggregate financial position resulting from activities of the fiscal year.

The government-wide financial statements (the statement of net position and the statement of activities) report information on all of the nonfiduciary activities of the District. Governmental activities, which normally are supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, are reported separately from business-type activities, which rely to a significant extent on fees and charges for support.

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

Reconciliation of Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements

The governmental funds balance sheet includes a reconciliation between fund balances - total governmental funds and net position - governmental activities as reported in the government-wide statement of net position. Additionally, the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances includes a reconciliation between net change in fund balances - total governmental funds and changes in net position of governmental activities as reported in the government-wide statement of activities.

These reconciliations detail items that require adjustment to convert from the current resources measurement and modified accrual basis for governmental fund statements to the economic resources measurement and full accrual basis used for government-wide statements. However, certain items having no effect on measurement and basis were eliminated from the governmental fund statements during the consolidation of governmental activities.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
HUERFANO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
December 31, 2024

Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Financial Statement Presentations

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus. The government-wide financial statements are presented using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting, as are proprietary fund statements. 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 imposed by the provider 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 or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the government considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures are recorded only when payment is due.

Property and specific ownership taxes are reported as receivables and unearned revenue when levied and as revenues when due for collection in the following year and determined to be available.

Grants and entitlement revenues are recognized when compliance with matching requirements are met. A receivable is established when the related expenditures exceed revenue receipts.

Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred with the exception of general obligation and lease debt service which is recognized when due.

General Fund

This fund records financial transactions for the regular operations of the District. All revenues and expenditures not allocated by law or contractual agreement to a special fund are accounted for in this fund.

Cash and Investments

Cash on hand, cash in the bank and all highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less when purchased or subject to withdrawal, are considered to be cash and cash equivalents.

The District's policy is to state investments at their fair value and categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by general accepted accounting principles. The hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the asset. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets. Level 2 inputs are valued using a matrix pricing technique. Matrix pricing is used to value securities based on the securities' relationship to benchmark quoted prices. Level 3 inputs are significant unobservable inputs.

All investment income, including changes in the fair value of investments are reported as investment income in the District's financial statements. Cash and investments are subject to Colorado State statutes as described in Note 3.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
HUERFANO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
December 31, 2024

Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Receivables

All receivables are reported at their gross value and, where appropriate, are reduced by the estimated portion that is expected to be uncollectible.

Interest Receivable

Interest on investments and certain receivables are recorded as revenue in the year the interest is earned and available to pay liabilities of the current period.

Capital Assets

Capital assets are reported at historical cost. Assets acquired by gift or bequest are recorded at their fair market value at the date of transfer. Property and equipment acquired or constructed for general governmental operations are recorded as expenditures in the fund and capitalized at cost in the Capital Assets. Estimated useful life is management's estimate of how long the asset is expected to meet service demands.

Straight line depreciation is used based on the following estimated useful lives:

Buildings	25 - 50 years
Improvements	10 - 20 years
Equipment	7 - 10 years

Property Taxes

Each county is responsible for assessing, collecting, and distributing property taxes in accordance with enabling state legislation. Property taxes are levied on January 1 based on the assessed value of property as listed on the previous June 30. Levied taxes are payable in two equal installments before the last day of February and the 15th day of June or in one full payment before the last day of April.

Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources

In addition to assets and liabilities, the statement of net position and/or balance sheets will sometimes report separate sections for deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources. A deferred outflow of resources is a consumption of net assets by the District that is applicable to a future reporting period, and a deferred inflow of resources is an acquisition of net assets by the District that is applicable to future reporting periods. Both deferred inflow and deferred outflows are reported in the statement of net position but are not reported as revenue or expenditures until the period(s) to which they relate.

Property tax revenue is considered a deferred inflow of resources in the year the taxes are levied and measurable, and are recognized as an inflow of resources in the period they are collected.

Accounting Principles - Leases

In June 2017, the GASB issued GASB Statement No. 87, *Leases*. This standard requires the recognition of certain lease assets and liabilities for leases that previously were classified as operating leases and as inflows of resources or outflows of resources recognized based on the payment provisions of the contract. It establishes a single model for lease accounting based on the principal that leases are financings of the right to use an underlying asset. Under this standard, a lease is required to recognize a liability and an intangible right-to-use lease asset, and a lessor is required to recognize a lease receivable and a deferred inflow of resources. The District currently has no leases that require application of this standard.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
HUERFANO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
December 31, 2024

Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Accounting Principles - SBITA

In May 2020, the GASB issued GASB Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITA)*. This standard requires the recognition of a right-to-use subscription, an intangible asset, and a corresponding liability. A subscription liability is recognized at the commencement of the subscription term, which is when the subscription asset is placed into service. The subscription liability is initially measured at present value of subscription payments expected to be made during the subscription term. Future payments are discounted using the interest rate that the SBITA vendor charges the government, which may be implicit, or the District's incremental borrowing rate if the interest rate is not readily determinable. Amortization of the discount is recognized as an outflow of resources in subsequent reporting periods. The asset is measured as the sum of the initial liability, payments made to the vendor before commencement of the subscription term, and capitalizable implementation costs, less any incentives received. Amortization of the asset is recognized as an outflow of resources over the subscription term. The District currently has no arrangements that require application of this standard.

Use of Estimates

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

Budgets and Budgetary Data

Formal budgetary accounting is employed as a management control tool for the District. Budgets are prepared on the modified accrual basis of accounting for all government fund types. Annual operating budgets are adopted each fiscal year through passage of an annual budget resolution. The Board of the District may amend the adopted budget during the year by passing a new resolution to reflect current needs, changing conditions, or revised estimates. The budgetary amounts presented in the accompanying financial statements/schedules reflect original and most recent amended amounts which were adopted in accordance with the appropriate provisions of state law. Encumbrance accounting is not employed as part of the budgetary process. Encumbrance accounting allows a governmental entity to account for open purchase orders (purchase orders for which the underlying goods or services have not been received before the end of an accounting period) as expenditures against the budget of that accounting period.

Differences between the budgetary reporting basis and the generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) basis used to reflect actual revenues and expenses are described as follows.

1. Depreciation, amortization, and unrealized gains or losses on investments are not recognized on the budgetary basis and are treated as expenses on the GAAP basis.
2. Debt proceeds are treated as revenue and debt repayments and capital expenditures are treated as expenditures on the budgetary basis. Debt proceeds are not treated as revenue and debt repayments and capital expenditures are not treated as expenses on the GAAP basis.

All unencumbered budget appropriations lapse at the end of the year.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
HUERFANO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
 December 31, 2024

Note 2 - Stewardship, Compliance and Accountability

Expenditures in Excess of Budget Amounts

During the year ended December 31, 2024, the District had expenditures which exceeded budgeted amounts, which may be a violation of Colorado Local Government Budget Law:

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Actual Over Budget</u>
Total Expenditures	\$ 792,254	\$ 1,137,259	\$ (345,005)

Risk Management

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disaster. The District carries commercial insurance for such risks, including workers' compensation and accident insurance. Settled claims resulting from these risks did not exceed commercial coverage during 2024.

Note 3 - Cash Deposits and Investments

Deposits

Colorado State statutes govern the District's deposits of cash. The statutes specify eligible depositories for public cash deposits which must be Colorado institutions and must maintain federal insurance (FDIC or FSLIC) on deposits held. Each eligible depository with deposits in excess of the insured levels must pledge a collateral pool of defined eligible assets maintained by another institution or held in trust for all of its local government depositors as a group with a market value at least equal to the total uninsured deposits held by that institution. The State Regulatory Commissions for banks and savings and loan associations are required by statute to monitor the naming of eligible depositories and reporting of the uninsured deposits and assets maintained in the collateral pool. At December 31, 2024, the District had no deposits over \$250,000. These deposits are required to be collateralized under State Statutes.

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of a bank failure, the District's deposits may not be returned to it. The District's policy for custodial risk parallels Colorado statutes.

A summary of cash and deposits held at year end follows:

	<u>Cash and Deposits</u>	<u>Carrying Amount</u>	<u>Less Than One Year</u>	<u>Less Than Five Years</u>
<u>Deposits</u>				
Cash		\$ 225,628	\$ 225,628	\$ -
<u>Investments</u>				
ColoTrust		532,221	532,221	-
Total Deposits		<u>\$ 757,849</u>	<u>\$ 757,849</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

Investments

Colorado statutes specify investment instruments meeting defined rating and risk criteria in which local government entities may invest. The law outlines the types of securities that public entities in Colorado may acquire and hold as investments. These include U.S. government and agency securities, certain bonds of political subdivisions, banker's acceptances, commercial paper, local government investment pools, repurchase agreements, money market funds and guaranteed insurance contracts. The statute also includes a provision limiting any investment to a five year maturity unless the governing body authorizes a longer period.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
HUERFANO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
December 31, 2024

Note 3 - Cash Deposits and Investments (Continued)

Investments (Continued)

The District has invested \$532,221 in the Colorado Government Liquid Asset Trust (ColoTrust), an investment vehicle established for local government entities in Colorado to pool surplus funds. ColoTrust operates similarly to a money market fund and each share is equal in value to \$1. Investments of ColoTrust consist of U.S. Treasury bills, notes and note strips, and repurchase agreements collateralized by U.S. Treasury securities. A designated custodial bank provides safekeeping and depository services to ColoTrust in connection with the direct investment and withdrawal functions of ColoTrust. Substantially all securities owned by ColoTrust are held by the Federal Reserve Bank in the account maintained for the custodial bank. The custodian's internal records identify the investments owned by ColoTrust.

The District categorizes its fair value measurement of its investments based on the hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. The fair value hierarchy, which has three levels, is based on the valuation inputs used to measure an asset's fair value. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets; Level 2 inputs are significant other observable inputs; Level 3 inputs are significant unobservable inputs. The District does not have any investments that are measured using Level 3 inputs.

- Investment in ColoTrust are reported at fair value. However, this investment is not subject to the fair value hierarchy.

Interest rate risk - The District's policy of limiting investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing rates parallels Colorado statutes. Specifically, all securities are limited to a maximum maturity of five years from the date of purchase unless the governing body authorizes a longer period.

Credit risk - The District does not have a policy that would further limit its choices beyond the requirements of Colorado statutes.

Note 4 - Accounts and Other Receivables

Accounts and other receivables consist primarily of taxes which are due but will not be collected until 2025. As of December 31, 2024 these receivables are considered both measurable and available.

Note 5 - Change in Capital Assets

Activity for general fixed assets which are capitalized by the District is summarized below:

	Balances			Balances
	<u>January 1</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deletions</u>	<u>December 31</u>
Non-depreciable assets:				
Land	\$ 50,001	-	\$ -	\$ 50,001
Depreciable assets:				
Substations	282,347	4,035	-	286,382
Equipment	<u>1,906,141</u>	<u>640,042</u>	-	<u>2,546,183</u>
TOTALS	<u>2,238,489</u>	<u>\$ 644,077</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>2,882,566</u>
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(1,497,130)</u>			<u>(1,656,063)</u>
Net Capital Assets	<u>\$ 741,359</u>			<u>\$ 1,226,503</u>

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
HUERFANO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
December 31, 2024

Note 5 - Change in Capital Assets (Continued)

Depreciation expense for the year ended December 31, 2024 was \$158,933. The District reports all capital assets in the Government-wide Statement of Net Position.

Note 6 - Long-Term Obligations

Changes in long-term liabilities for the District were as follows:

	Outstanding January 1	Additions of New Obligations	Retirements and Repayments	Outstanding December 31	Due Within One Year
Long-term obligations	\$ 309,193	\$ 640,042	\$ 170,445	\$ 778,790	\$ 208,260

Long-term obligations as of December 31, 2024, consisted of the following:

Government Capital Corporation:

Pumper Truck, \$28,837 per year for 7 years dated May 25, 2018, with an effective interest rate of 4.65%.	\$ 27,556
Brush Truck, \$29,874 per year for 8 years dated September 16, 2020, with an effective interest rate of 3.29%.	84,034
Brush Truck, \$39,093 per year for 7 years dated August 27, 2021, with an effective interest rate of 3.08%.	110,404
Apparatus Truck, \$79,706 per year for 8 years dated January 31, 2024, with an effective interest rate of 6.387%.	556,796
Total Long Term Obligations	\$ 778,790

The annual requirements to retire long-term obligations as of December 31, 2024 are as follows:

	Principal	Interest	Total
2025	\$ 208,260	\$ 48,956	\$ 257,216
2026	116,465	32,208	148,673
2027	121,821	26,852	148,673
2028	54,485	21,220	75,705
2029	62,221	17,485	79,706
2030 - 2032	215,538	27,581	243,119
Totals	\$ 778,790	\$ 174,302	\$ 953,092

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
HUERFANO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
December 31, 2024

Note 7 - Net Position

Government-wide Net Position

Government-wide net position is classified in the following categories:

- Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt - This amount consists of the historical cost of capital assets net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by outstanding debt that is attributed to the acquisition, construction or improvement of the assets.
- Restricted Net Position - This amount is restricted by external creditors, grantors, contributors or laws or regulations of other governments.
- Unrestricted Net Position - This amount is all net assets that do not meet the definition of “invested in capital assets, net of related debt” or “restricted net position.”

Governmental Fund Balances

The fund financial statements use the following classifications describing the relative strengths of the spending constraints.

- Non-spendable fund balance - The portion of fund balance that cannot be spent because it is either not in spendable form (such as inventory) or is legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.
- Restricted fund balance - The portion of fund balance constrained to being used for a specific purpose by external parties (such as grantors or bondholders), constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. The portion of net position restricted for emergency is the TABOR reserve requirement which is 3% of the fiscal year’s spending excluding bonded debt service.
- Committed fund balance - The portion of fund balance constrained for specific purposes, according to limitations imposed by the District’s highest level of decision making authority, the Board of Directors, prior to the end of the current fiscal year. The constraint may be removed or changed only through formal action of the Board of Directors.
- Assigned fund balance - The portion of fund balance set aside for planned or intended purposes. The intended use may be expressed by the Board of Directors or other individuals authorized to assign funds to be used for a specific purpose. Assigned fund balance in special revenue funds will also include any remaining fund balance that is not restricted or committed. This classification is necessary to indicate that those funds are, at a minimum intended to be used for the purpose of that particular fund.
- Unassigned fund balance - The residual portion of fund balance that does not meet any of the above criteria. The District will only report a positive unassigned fund balance in the General Fund.

If both restricted and unrestricted amounts of fund balance are available for use when an expenditure is incurred, it is District policy to use restricted amounts first. Unrestricted fund balance will be used in the following order; committed, assigned and unassigned.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
HUERFANO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
December 31, 2024

Note 8 - Commitments and Contingencies

Tax, Revenue, Spending and Debt Limitation

In November, 1992 Colorado voters amended Article X of the Colorado Constitution by adding Section 20, commonly known as the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR). TABOR imposes tax raising, revenue, spending and debt limitations on local government entities within the State of Colorado. These limitations became effective for the first fiscal year beginning after December 31, 1992. The amendment is complex and subject to judicial interpretation. The District has made certain interpretations of the amendment's language in order to determine its compliance and believes it is in compliance with the tax raising, revenue, spending, debt and other limitations.

In addition to the tax raising, revenue, spending and debt limitation provisions of TABOR, there is also a requirement that every entity to which TABOR applies establish an "emergency reserve". To be used for declared emergencies only, each entity must reserve 3% or more of its fiscal year spending excluding bonded debt service. For the year ended December 31, 2024, the District's reserve requirement was approximately \$16,100 which represents 3% of fiscal year spending.

Federal and State Grants

Federal and State grants are subject to audit by the grantor agencies and any adjustments may become a liability of the appropriate fund. Management believes these adjustments, if any, will not materially affect the District's results of operations or financial position.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE

BUDGET TO ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND

HUERFANO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance With Final Budget
Revenues				
General property taxes	\$ 492,501	\$ 492,501	\$ 562,361	\$ 69,860
Specific ownership taxes	52,000	52,000	50,606	(1,394)
Interest income	800	800	16,276	15,476
Charges for services	11,500	11,500	6,000	(5,500)
Donations and other grants	66,000	66,000	790	(65,210)
Gain on sale of assets	-	-	-	-
Other revenues	8,650	8,650	4,978	(3,672)
Total Revenues	<u>631,451</u>	<u>631,451</u>	<u>641,011</u>	<u>9,560</u>
Expenditures				
General government	241,250	241,250	112,952	128,298
Public safety	250,200	250,200	199,179	51,021
Capital outlay	53,000	53,000	644,077	(591,077)
Debt service				
Principal retirement	247,804	247,804	170,446	77,358
Interest	-	-	10,605	(10,605)
Total Expenditures	<u>792,254</u>	<u>792,254</u>	<u>1,137,259</u>	<u>(345,005)</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	(160,803)	(160,803)	(496,248)	(335,445)
Other Finance Sources (Uses)				
Proceeds from leases	-	-	640,042	640,042
Net Change in Fund Balance	(160,803)	(160,803)	143,794	304,597
Fund Balance - Beginning	<u>178,994</u>	<u>178,994</u>	<u>611,181</u>	<u>432,187</u>
Fund Balance - Ending	<u>\$ 18,191</u>	<u>\$ 18,191</u>	<u>\$ 754,975</u>	<u>\$ 736,784</u>

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.