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TOWN OF SANDERSVILLE

110 East Main Street Post Office 692 Sandersville, Mississippi 39477 601-649-3068 601-649-3622 Fax

February 15, 2017

Office of the State Auditor P.O. Box 956 Jackson, Mississippi 39205

Re: Annual Municipal Audit

Accompanying this letter is a copy of the annual audit of the Town of Sandersville, Mississippi, for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016. A separate management letter was not written to the town in connection with this audit.

Sincerely,

C. Robert White Mayor



Town of Sandersville, Mississippi Audited Financial Statements For the Year Ended September 30, 2016



Town of Sandersville, Mississippi Year Ended September 30, 2016

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W. David Dill, CPA Julie M. Uher, CPA Kari M. Blackledge, CPA

H. I. Holt, CPA Founder (1915-1997)

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Honorable Mayor and Board of Alderpersons Town of Sandersville Sandersville, Mississippi

We have audited the accompanying Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements of the Town of Sandersville, Mississippi as of and for the year ended September 30, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statement, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statement as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of this financial statement in accordance with the cash basis of accounting as described in Note 1, this includes determining that the cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statement in the circumstances. Management is also responsible 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.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on this financial statement based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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 entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

> 2815 HIGHWAY 15 NORTH | LAUREL, MISSISSIPPI 39440 10 BELLEGRASS BLVD. | HATTIESBURG, MISSISSIPPI 39402 PHONE 601-649-3000 | FAX 601-649-3050 WWW.HOLTACCOUNTING.COM

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Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the respective cash balances of the governmental activities, and the business-type activities of the Town of Sandersville, Mississippi as of September 30, 2016, and their respective cash receipts and disbursements for the year then ended in accordance with the basis of accounting as described in Note 1.

Basis of Accounting

We draw attention of Note 1 of the financial statement, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statement is prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinions are not modified with respect to that matter.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Management has omitted the Management's Discussion and Analysis and budgetary comparison that governmental accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. Our opinions on the basic financial statements are not affected by this missing information.

Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statement of the Town of Sandersville, Mississippi. The supplemental schedules on pages 10-12 are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statement of the Town of Sandersville, Mississippi. The supplemental schedule on page 13 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements. Such information has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements, and accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on it.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated January 20, 2017, on our consideration of the Town of Sandersville, Mississippi's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on 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 Town of Sandersville, Mississippi's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Holt & Associates, PLLC

Laurel, MS January 20, 2017

Town of Sandersville, Mississippi Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements Governmental and Business-Type Activities For the Year Ended September 30, 2016

			Business	s-Type	
	Governn	nental Activities	Activi	ities	
	Ma	ajor Funds			
	Ge	neral Fund	Water	Fund	Totals
Receipts					
General property taxes	\$	103,225	\$	-	\$ 103,225
Licenses and permits					
Privilege licenses		1,613		-	1,613
Franchise charges - utilities		40,420		-	40,420
Intergovernmental receipts					
State revenues					
General municipal aid		2,420		-	2,420
Homestead exemption reimbursement		6,885		-	6,885
Capital grants		-		-	-
State shared revenues					
Sales taxes		173,604		-	173,604
Fire insurance premium distribution		4,566		-	4,566
County share revenues					
Rail car taxes		6,839		-	6,839
Charges for services					
Sanitation		-	2	19,381	49,381
Water utiltiy		-	(58,712	68,712
Interest		2,630		275	2,905
Fines and Penalties		41,168		3,477	44,645
Miscellaneous receipts		12,021		11,289	 23,310
Total receipts		395,391	13	33,134	 <u>528,525</u>

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

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Town of Sandersville, Mississippi Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements Governmental and Business-Type Activities For the Year Ended September 30, 2016

			nental Activities ajor Funds	Business-Type			Activities	
		Ger	General Fund		r Fund		<u>Totals</u>	
	rsements							
Gen	eral government	\$	207,412	\$	-	\$	207,412	
	ic safety:							
	lice		300,019		-		300,019	
Fir			2,338		-		2,338	
	th and welfare		145,408		-		145,408	
	ure and recreation		4,044		-		4,044	
	rprise: water and sanitation		-	1	70,658		170,658	
Rede	emption of principal		-		8,702		8,702	
	Total disbursements		659,221	1	79,360		838,581	
	Excess (deficiency) of receipts							
	over disbursements		(263,830)		(46,226)		(310,056)	
Other	· Financing Sources (Uses)							
Tran	sfers		(21,510)	_	21,510			
•	Toal other financing sources (uses)	66. de la constante de la const	(21,510)		21,510	-		
k.	Excess (deficiency) of receipts and							
	other financing sources over							
	disbursements and other financing							
	uses		(285,340)		(24,716)		(310,056)	
Cash	Basis Fund Balance - Beginning							
of Y	ear		1,924,794]	177,374		2,102,168	
Cash	Basis Fund Balance - End of							
Yea	r	\$	1,639,454	<u>\$</u>	152,658	\$	1,792,112	

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

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NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

General Information

The Town operates under the mayor/alderperson form of government and provides services as authorized by law.

Financial Reporting Entity

The financial statement of the town consists of all the funds of the town.

Basis of Accounting

The financial statement is prepared on a cash receipts and disbursement basis, as prescribed by the Mississippi State Department of Audit. Consequently, certain revenues are recognized when received rather than when earned and certain expenses are recognized when paid rather than when the obligation is incurred.

Basis of Presentation

Fund financial statements of the Town are organized into funds, each of which is considered to be separate accounting entity. Each fund is accounted for by providing a separate set of self-balancing accounts that constitute its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues and expenditures/expenses. The individual funds account for governmental resources allocated to them for the purpose of carrying on specific activities in accordance with laws, regulations, or other restrictions.

The following Funds are groups of accounts that are used by the Town:

Governmental Funds

The Town reports the following major governmental funds:

<u>General Fund</u> – The general fund is the general operating fund of the Town. It accounts for all financial resources of the Town, except those required to be accounted for in another fund. All general tax revenues and other sources of revenue used to finance the fundamental operations of the Town are included in this fund. The fund is charged with all cost of operating the government for which a separate fund has not been established.

Additionally, the Town reports the following fund types:

<u>Special Revenue Funds</u> - Special Revenue Funds are used to account for and report the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditure for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects.

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NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Proprietary Funds

<u>Enterprise Funds</u> – Enterprise Funds are used to account for operations (a) that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises – where the intent of the governing body is that the costs (expenses, including depreciation) of providing goods or services to the general public on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges; or (b) where the governing body has decided that periodic determination of revenues earned, expenses incurred, and/or net income is appropriate for capital maintenance, public policy, management control accountability, or other purposes.

Account Classifications.

The account classifications used in the financial statements conform to the classifications prescribed in the *Financial Accounting Manual for Mississippi Municipalities* issued by the Office of the State Auditor.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

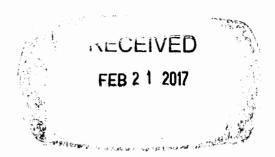
The Town deposits excess funds in the financial institutions selected by the Board of Aldermen. State statutes specify how these depositories are to be selected.

Cash and cash equivalents consists of amounts on deposit in demand accounts and certificates of deposit with maturities of three months or less from the end of the fiscal year. Cash and cash equivalents are valued at cost.

Investments

The Town is allowed, by statute, to invest excess funds in any bonds or other direct obligations of the United States of America or the state of Mississippi, or of any county or municipality of this state, when such county or municipal bonds have been properly approved; or in interest-bearing time certificates of deposit or interest-bearing accounts with any financial institution approved for the deposit of state funds; or in any type of investment permitted by sections 27-105-33(d) and 27-105-33(e), Miss. Code Ann. (1972).

Investments are reported at fair value, which is determined using selected bases. All of the Town's Investments consist of Certificates of Deposits, which mature over three months from the end of the fiscal year and are not considered cash or cash equivalents. These investments are reported at cost, which is the fair value.



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NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Property Taxes

Property taxes attach as an enforceable lien on property as of January 1. Taxes are levied as of January 1 and payable on or before February 1. Automobile ad valorem taxes are collected by Jones County and remitted to the Town. The County retains a collection fee of \$2,850. Lien dates for personal and real property are in August. Delinquent tax payments, received throughout the year, are recognized as revenue in the year received. The millage rate for the Town for January through December was 20.0 mills broken down as follows:

General Fund <u>20.0</u>

Restrictions associated with property tax levies are established by State law which provides that the tax levy for general purposes shall produce no more than 110% of the amount which results from those levies' assessments of the previous year. Uncollected taxes were determined to be properly handled.

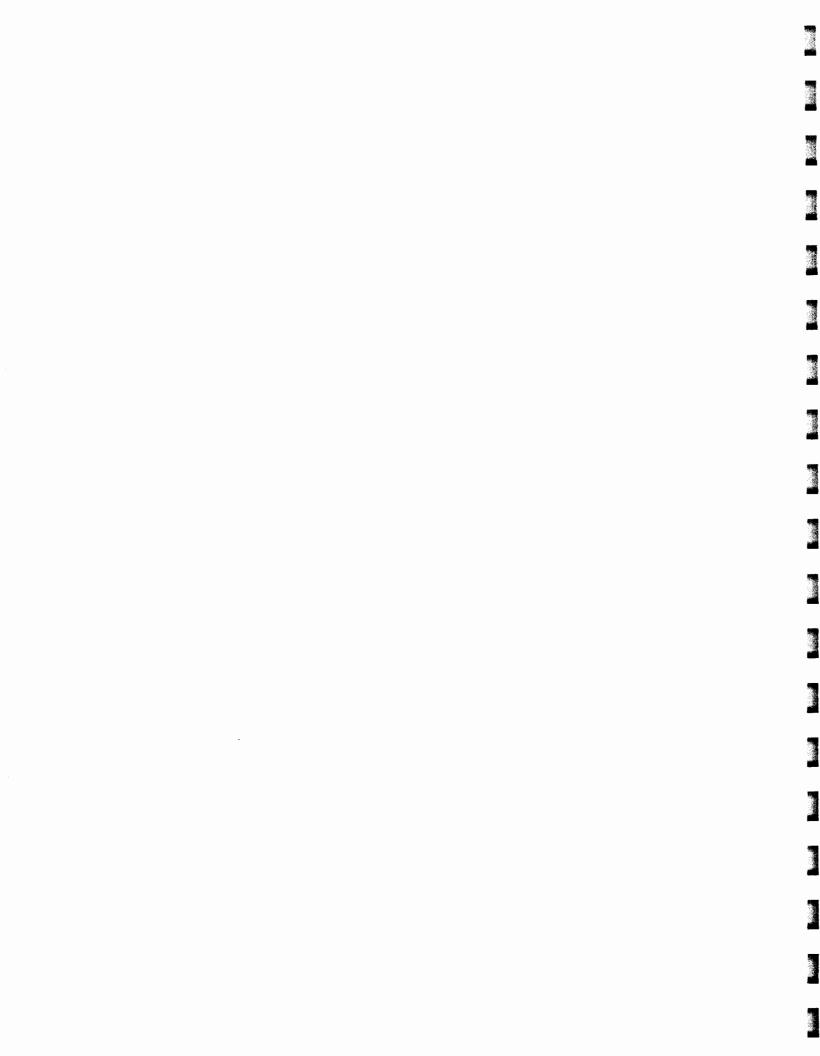
NOTE 2 - CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AND INVESTMENTS

The collateral for public entities' deposits in financial institutions is held in the name of the State Treasurer under a program established by the Mississippi State Legislature and is governed by Section 27-105-5, Miss. Code Ann. (1972). Under this program, the entity's funds are protected through a collateral pool administered by the State Treasurer. Financial institutions holding deposits of public funds must pledge securities as collateral against those deposits. In the event of failure of a financial institution, securities pledged by that institution would be liquidated by the State Treasurer to replace the public deposits not covered by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation. The carrying amount of the Town's deposits with financial institutions was \$1,792,112 (which includes \$739,599 of certificates of deposit with original maturities beyond three months) for 2016, and the bank balance was \$1,814,716 (which includes \$740,164 for investments) for 2016.

Custodial credit risk is defined as the risk that, in the event of the failure of a financial institution, the town will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The town does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk. However, the Mississippi State Treasurer manages that risk on behalf of the district. Deposits above FDIC coverage are collateralized by the pledging financial institutions trust department or agent in the name of the Mississippi State Treasurer on behalf of the town. As of September 30, 2016, the town's bank balance did not have any exposure to custodial credit risk.

Interest Rate Risk. The town does not have a formal investment policy that limits investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates.





NOTE 2 – CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AND INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

Credit Risk. State law limits investments to those prescribed in Section 21-33-323, Miss. Code Ann. (1972). The town does not have a formal investment policy that would further limit its investment choices or one that addresses credit risk.

NOTE 3 – INTERFUND LOANS AND TRANSFERS

Inter-fund transactions and balances during the year were as follows:

Type	<u>To</u>	From	<u>Amount</u>
Transfer	Water Fund	General Fund	\$ 21,510

The interfund transfers were necessary for operating expenses.

NOTE 4 -LONG TERM DEBT

The following is a summary of long-term debt transactions for the year ended September 30, 2016:

	Interest Rate	Maturity Date	Balance 9/30/2015		Additions		Reductions			Balance /30/2016	Due withi One Year	
Governmental activities:		2.000	27									
Capital Lease- Truck	2.01%	12/30/2017	\$	21,211	\$	-	\$	7,356	\$	13,855	\$	7,069
Jones County Radio Purchase	0.00%	9/30/2018		-		34,079		11,359		22,720		11,360
Capital Lease- Backhoe	2.01%	12/30/2017		-		88,296		12,353		75,943		10,887
Total governmental activities				21,211		122,375	_	31,068		112,518		29,316
Proprietary activities:												
Water Lagoon-MDEQ	4.00%	10/1/2022	\$	72,668	\$	-	\$	8,702	\$	63,966	\$	9,056
Total proprietary activities				72,668		-		8,702		63,966		9,056
Total Long-Term Debt			<u>\$</u>	93,879	\$	122,375	<u>\$</u>	39,770	<u>\$</u>	176,484	<u>\$</u>	38,372

Governmental activities:

The Town entered into a lease agreement with Hancock Bank on July 1, 2014, for the purchase of a Dodge Ram truck in the amount of \$21,211, paid in annual payments of \$7,356.45. The lease is secured by the vehicle.

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Note 4 -Long Term Debt (continued)

The Town entered into a note payable with the City of Laurel, MS on October 1, 2015 for the purchase of EOC radios in the amount of \$34,079, paid in annual payments are of \$11,360.

The Town entered into a lease agreement with Hancock Bank on October 16, 2015, for the purchase of a Dodge Ram truck in the amount of \$88,296, paid in annual payments of \$12,352.89, with a balloon payment of \$55,000 due at the term of the lease. The lease is secured by the tractor.

Proprietary activities:

The Town received a Water Pollution Control Emergency Loan from the State of Mississippi through the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality in November 18, 2011 in the amount of \$91,9670. The purpose of the loan is to provide funding emergency construction/repair of water and sewer improvements. Beginning May, 2013, payments are made at a monthly amount of \$954.16, including interest of 4%.

Schedule of principal and interest

The following is a schedule of principal payments on long-term debt for the next 5 years and for 5 year increments thereafter:

	Governmer	ntal activities		Proprietary activities			
	Principal	Interest	Total		<u>Principal</u>	Interest	<u>Total</u>
2017	\$ 29,316	\$ 2,246	\$ 31,562	2017	\$ 9,056	\$ 2,394	\$ 11,450
2018	29,489	1,480	30,969	2018	9,425	2,394	11,819
2019	53,713	1,041	54,754	2019	9,809	1,641	11,450
2020	<u>\$ 112,518</u>	<u>\$ 4,767</u>	<u>\$ 117,285</u>	2020	10,209	1,641	11,850
				2021	10,265	825	11,090
				2022-2024	15,202	424	15,626
					\$ 63,966	<u>\$ 9,319</u>	\$ 73,285

The imputed interest on non-interest bearing loans is considered immaterial and not recorded on the financial statements.

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NOTE 5 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN

<u>Plan Description</u>. The Town contributes to the Public Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi (PERS), a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan. PERS provides retirement and disability benefits, annual cost-of-living adjustments, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. Benefit provisions are established by state law and may be amended only by the State of Mississippi Legislature. PERS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. That report may be obtained by writing to Public Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi, PERS Building, 429 Mississippi Street, Jackson, MS 39201 or by calling (601) 359-3589 or 1-800-444-PERS.

<u>Funding Policy</u>. PERS members are required to contribute 9% of their annual covered salary and the Town is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. The rate at September 30, 2016 was 15.75% of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of PERS members and employers are established and may be amended only by the State of Mississippi Legislature. The Town's contributions to PERS for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, were \$56,682, which equaled the required contributions for each year.

NOTE 6 – RISK MANAGEMENT

The Town is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The Town carries commercial insurance for these risks. Settled claims resulting from these insured risks have not exceeded commercial insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

NOTE 7 – SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The Town has evaluated subsequent events through January 20, 2017, the date which the financial statements were available to be issued.

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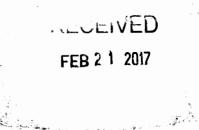
Town of Sandersville, Mississippi Schedule 1 Schedule of Investments – All Funds September 30, 2016

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<u>OWNERSHIP</u>	TYPE OF <u>IVESTMENT</u>	INTEREST <u>RATE</u>	ACQUISITION <u>DATE</u>	MATURITY <u>DATE</u>	OTHER <u>INFORMATION</u>	INVESTMENT <u>COST/VALUE</u>
General Fund	Certificate of Deposit	0.20%	10/17/2016	6 months	Community Bank	\$ 16,015
General Fund	Certificate of Deposit	0.20%	10/17/2016	6 months	Community Bank	16,015
General Fund	Certificate of Deposit	0.20%	10/17/2016	6 months	Community Bank	16,015
General Fund	Certificate of Deposit	0.20%	9/20/2016	6 months	Community Bank	20,666
General Fund	Certificate of Deposit	0.20%	8/11/2016	6 months	Community Bank	44,727
General Fund	Certificate of Deposit	0.20%	5/17/2016	6 months	Community Bank	36,641
General Fund	Certificate of Deposit	0.50%	10/16/2016	6 months	Community Bank	26,902
General Fund	Certificate of Deposit	0.20%	8/11/2016	6 months	Community Bank	43,955
General Fund	Certificate of Deposit	0.20%	9/27/2016	6 months	Community Bank	28,820
General Fund	Certificate of Deposit	0.20%	8/11/2016	6 months	Community Bank	44,727
General Fund	Certificate of Deposit	0.20%	9/27/2016	6 months	Community Bank	28,820
General Fund	Certificate of Deposit	0.20%	8/11/2016	6 months	Community Bank	43,956
General Fund	Certificate of Deposit	0.50%	10/16/2016	12 months	Community Bank	26,902
General Fund	Certificate of Deposit	0.50%	10/16/2016	12 months	Community Bank	19,369
General Fund	Certificate of Deposit	0.40%	10/16/2016	12 months	Community Bank	26,735
General Fund	Certificate of Deposit	0.40%	10/16/2016	12 months	Community Bank	26,735
General Fund	Certificate of Deposit	0.40%	10/16/2016	12 months	Community Bank	26,735
General Fund	Certificate of Deposit	0.40%	10/16/2016	12 months	Community Bank	26,735
General Fund	Certificate of Deposit	0.20%	11/4/2016	12 months	Community Bank	28,153
General Fund	Certificate of Deposit	0.50%	10/16/2016	12 months	Community Bank	26,902
General Fund	Certificate of Deposit	0.50%	11/13/2016	12 months	Community Bank	11,203
General Fund	Certificate of Deposit	0.50%	11/13/2016	12 months	Community Bank	11,203
General Fund	Certificate of Deposit	0.50%	11/13/2016	12 months	Community Bank	11,203
General Fund	Certificate of Deposit	0.50%	11/13/2016	12 months	Community Bank	11,203
TOTAL GENERAL						620,337
Proprietary Fund	Certificate of Deposit	0.20%	9/28/2016		Community Bank	5,001
Proprietary Fund	Certificate of Deposit	0.20%	6/9/2016		Community Bank	106,788
Proprietary Fund	Certificate of Deposit	0.20%	4/17/2016	6 months	Community Bank	7,473
TOTAL PROPRIETARY	Ŷ					119,262
TOTAL INVESTMENTS	5					<u>\$ 739,599</u>



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Town of Sandersville, Mississippi Schedule 2 Schedule of Surety Bonds of Municipal Officials September 30, 2016

<u>Name</u>

Position

Bob White Karen Langley Paula Byrd Darlene Hill William Hill Tony Helton Walter Jack Max Sanders Anthony Hosey Adam Cochran Sylvester Busby Jared Lindsey Robert Little Brian Lilly Joseph Berlin Heath Blancett Jason Gable Curtis Pitts Robert Decuir Michael Flynn Miles Farragut Morris Walters Michael Barlow

Mayor Deputy Clerk/Court Clerk/Water Clerk Town Clerk Alderwoman Alderman Alderman Alderman Alderman Police Chief Police Officer Police Officer

Surety **Bond Amount** \$ St. Paul Travelers 25,000 St. Paul Travelers 50,000 St. Paul Travelers 100,000 St. Paul Travelers 10,000 St. Paul Travelers 50,000 St. Paul Travelers 25,000 St. Paul Travelers 25,000

Town of Sandersville, Mississippi Schedule 3 Schedule of Long-Term Debt September 30, 2016

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	Tra	insactions Dui	Outstanding						
Definition and Purpose	<u>Ocotob</u>	<u>er 1, 2015</u>		Issued		edeemed	September 30, 2016		
Other Long-term Debt:									
Governmental activities:									
Capital Lease- Truck	\$	21,211	\$	-	\$	7,356	\$	13,855	
Jones County Radio Purchase		-		34,079		11,359		22,720	
Capital Lease- Backhoe		-		88,296		12,353		75,943	
Total governmental activities		21,211		122,375		31,068	<u> </u>	112,518	
Proprietary activities:									
Water Lagoon-MDEQ	\$	72,668	\$	-	\$	8,702	\$	63,966	
Total proprietary activities		72,668		-		8,702		63,966	
Total Long-Term Debt	<u>\$</u>	93,879	\$	122,375	<u>\$</u>	39,770	<u>\$</u>	176,484	

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Town of Sandersville, Mississippi Schedule 4 Schedule of Capital Assets- All Funds- UNAUDITED September 30, 2016

	Beginning <u>Balance</u>			Increases		Decreases		Ending <u>Balance</u>
Governmental activities:								
Buildings	\$	107,808	\$	-	\$	-	\$	107,808
Improvements other than buildings		25,000		-		-		25,000
Machinery and Equipment		358,301		88,296				446,597
Total Governmental activities capital assets	<u>\$</u>	491,109	<u>\$</u>	88,296	<u>\$</u>	-	<u>\$</u>	579,405
Business-type activities								
Plant and buildings	\$	488,976	\$	-	\$	-	\$	488,976
Machinery and Equipment		7,903						7,903
Total Business-type activities capital assets	<u>\$</u>	496,879	<u>\$</u>		<u>\$</u>	-	<u>\$</u>	496,879



Town of Sandersville, Mississippi Reports on Compliance and Internal Control

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W. David Dill, CPA Julie M. Uher, CPA Kari M. Blackledge, CPA H. I. Holt, CPA Founder (1915-1997)

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Honorable Mayor, Members of the Board of Alderpersons and Town Clerk Town of Sandersville, Mississippi

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, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Town of Sandersville, Mississippi, as of and for the year ended September 30, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Town of Sandersville, Mississippi's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated January 20, 2017.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

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

2815 HIGHWAY 15 NORTH | LAUREL, MISSISSIPPI 39440 10 BELLEGRASS BLVD. | HATTIESBURG, MISSISSIPPI 39402 PHONE 601-649-3000 | FAX 601-649-3050 WWW.HOLTACCOUNTING.COM And a second 3 Honorable Mayor, Members of the Board of Alderpersons and Town Clerk Town of Sandersville, Mississippi Page Two

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 and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. 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. We did identify a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses that we consider to be a significant deficiency. Finding 2016-01

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Town of Sandersville, Mississippi'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.

Holt & Associates, PLLC

Laurel, MS January 20, 2017

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W. David Dill, CPA Julie M. Uher, CPA Kari M. Blackledge, CPA H. I. Holt, CPA Founder (1915-1997)

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH STATE LAWS AND REGULATIONS

Honorable Mayor, Members of the Board of Alderpersons and Town Clerk Town of Sandersville, Mississippi

We have audited the financial statement of the governmental activities, business-type activities and each major fund of the Town of Sandersville, Mississippi as of and for the year ended September 30, 2016, and have issued our report thereon dated January 20, 2017. We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

As required by the state legal compliance audit program prescribed by the Office of the State Auditor, we have also performed procedures to test compliance with certain state laws and regulations. However, providing an opinion on compliance with state laws and regulations was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

We have read the Municipal Compliance Questionnaire completed by the municipality. The completed survey indicated no instances of noncompliance with state requirements.

The results of those procedures performed to test compliance with certain other state laws and regulations and our audit of the financial statements did not disclose material instances of noncompliance with state laws and regulations.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the management, town officials and federal awarding agencies and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Holt & Associates. PLLC

Laurel, MS January 20, 2017

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Name of

Town of Sandersville, Mississippi Schedule of Findings and Responses For Year Ended September 30, 2016

Finding 2016-01

Finding:

There is a limited accounting staff to properly segregate the duties normally required for an efficient internal control structure. However, due to the limited number of personnel, an adequate segregation of duties is not possible without additional costs.

Recommendation:

The cost of hiring additional personnel versus the benefit of a proper segregation of duties must be weighed.

Response:

Since the cost to hire additional personnel is cost prohibitive, this will continue to be a deficiency in future audits. Management considers sufficient internal controls are present.

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