

AMITE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

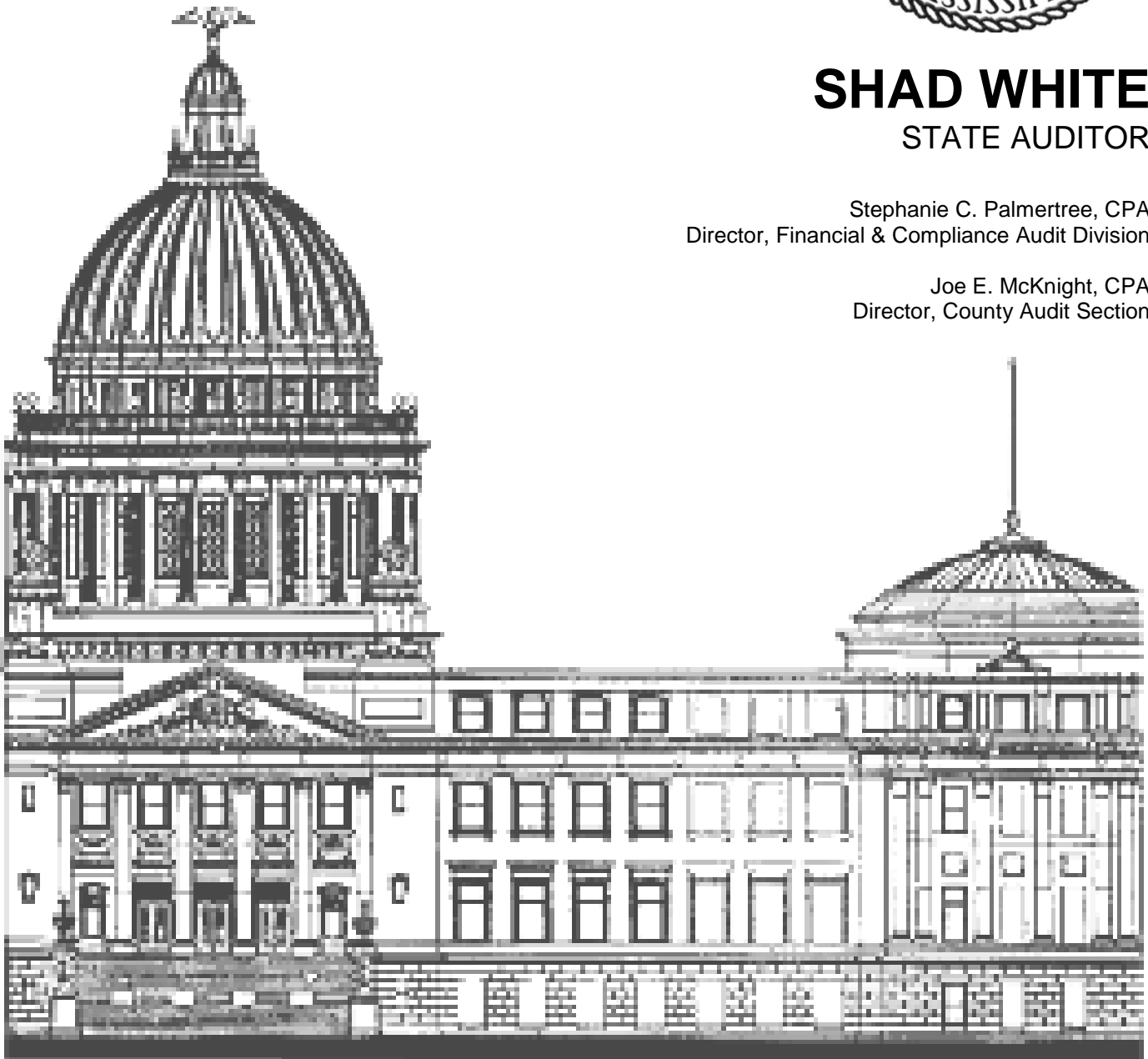
Audited Financial Statements and Special Reports
For the Year Ended September 30, 2021



SHAD WHITE
STATE AUDITOR

Stephanie C. Palmertree, CPA
Director, Financial & Compliance Audit Division

Joe E. McKnight, CPA
Director, County Audit Section



A Report from the County Audit Section

www.osa.state.ms.us



STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR
Shad White
AUDITOR

November 15, 2022

Members of the Board of Supervisors
Amite County, Mississippi

Dear Board Members:

I am pleased to submit to you the 2021 financial and compliance audit report for Amite County. This audit was performed pursuant to Section 7-7-211(e), Mississippi Code Ann. (1972). The audit was performed 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.

I appreciate the cooperation and courtesy extended by the officials and employees of Amite County throughout the audit. Thank you for working to move Mississippi forward by serving as a supervisor for Amite County. If I or this office can be of any further assistance, please contact me or Joe McKnight of my staff at (601) 576-2674.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shad White", is written over a horizontal line.

Shad White

AMITE COUNTY
TABLE OF CONTENTS

FINANCIAL SECTION.....	1
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT.....	3
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.....	5
Statement of Net Position – Cash Basis.....	7
Statement of Activities – Cash Basis.....	8
Statement of Cash Basis Assets and Fund Balances – Governmental Funds.....	9
Statement of Cash Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Cash Basis Fund Balances – Governmental Funds.....	10
Statement of Net Position - Cash Basis - Proprietary Fund.....	11
Statement of Cash Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Net Position - Proprietary Fund.....	12
Statement of Fiduciary Asset and Liabilities – Cash Basis.....	13
Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position – Cash Basis	14
Notes to Financial Statements	15
OTHER INFORMATION	23
Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Basis) – General Fund.....	25
Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Basis) – District Four Road Fund.....	26
Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Basis) – District Five Road Fund.....	27
Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Basis) – American Rescue Plan Act Fund	28
Schedule of Capital Assets	29
Schedule of Changes in Long-term Debt.....	30
Schedule of Surety Bonds for County Officials.....	31
Notes to the Other Information.....	33
SPECIAL REPORTS.....	35
Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of the Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards	37
Independent Accountant's Report on Central Purchasing System, Inventory Control System and Purchase Clerk Schedules (As Required by Section 31-7-155, <i>Mississippi Code of 1972 Annotated</i>)	39
Limited Internal Control and Compliance Review Management Report	45
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES.....	49

AMITE COUNTY

FINANCIAL SECTION

Amite County

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STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR
SHAD WHITE
AUDITOR

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Members of the Board of Supervisors
Amite County, Mississippi

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying cash basis financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Amite County, Mississippi, (the County) as of and for the year ended September 30, 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements 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 statements 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 these financial statements based on our audit. 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. 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.

Unmodified Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective cash basis financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Amite County, Mississippi, as of September 30, 2021, and the respective changes in cash basis financial position thereof for the year then ended, in accordance with the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 of the financial statements which describes that Amite County, Mississippi prepares its financial statements on the basis of cash receipts and disbursements, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinions are not modified with respect to this matter.

Other Matters

Report on Other Information

The Budgetary Comparison Schedules, Schedule of Capital Assets, Schedule of Changes in Long-term Debt, Schedule of Surety Bonds for County Officials and corresponding notes have not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements, and accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on them.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated November 15, 2022 on our consideration of Amite County, 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 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 Amite County, Mississippi'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 Amite County, Mississippi's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



JOE E. MCKNIGHT, CPA
Director, County Audit Section

November 15, 2022

AMITE COUNTY

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Amite County

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AMITE COUNTY
Statement of Net Position - Cash Basis
September 30, 2021

Exhibit 1

	Primary Government		Total
	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	
ASSETS			
Cash	\$ 9,145,643	1,109,344	10,254,987
Total Assets	<u>9,145,643</u>	<u>1,109,344</u>	<u>10,254,987</u>
NET POSITION			
Restricted:			
Expendable:			
General government	201,472		201,472
Public safety	1,049,773		1,049,773
Public works	4,980,968	1,109,344	6,090,312
Culture and recreation	77,316		77,316
Unemployment compensation	168,354		168,354
Unrestricted	<u>2,667,760</u>		<u>2,667,760</u>
Total Net Position	<u>\$ 9,145,643</u>	<u>1,109,344</u>	<u>10,254,987</u>

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

AMITE COUNTY

Exhibit 2

Statement of Activities - Cash Basis

For the Year Ended September 30, 2021

Functions/Programs	Program Cash Receipts				Net (Disbursements) Receipts and Changes in Net Position		
	Cash Disbursements	Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Primary Government		Total
					Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	
Primary government:							
Governmental activities:							
General government	\$ 2,365,659	277,075	6,873		(2,081,711)		(2,081,711)
Public safety	1,443,919	194,790	307,506	31,785	(909,838)		(909,838)
Public works	3,662,816		2,593,867	184,987	(883,962)		(883,962)
Health and welfare	128,541		12,184		(116,357)		(116,357)
Culture and recreation	94,804				(94,804)		(94,804)
Conservation of natural resources	67,273				(67,273)		(67,273)
Economic development and assistance	108,112				(108,112)		(108,112)
Debt service:							
Principal	7,160				(7,160)		(7,160)
Interest	1,402				(1,402)		(1,402)
Total Governmental Activities	7,879,686	471,865	2,920,430	216,772	(4,270,619)	0	(4,270,619)
Business-type activities:							
Solid Waste	833,461	765,569	18,119			(49,773)	(49,773)
Total Business-type Activities	833,461	765,569	18,119	0		(49,773)	(49,773)
Total Primary Government	\$ 8,713,147	1,237,434	2,938,549	216,772	(4,270,619)	(49,773)	(4,320,392)
General receipts:							
Property taxes					\$ 4,320,432		4,320,432
Road & bridge privilege taxes					210,448		210,448
Grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs					894,239		894,239
Unrestricted interest income					75,328	11,107	86,435
Miscellaneous					151,410	5,885	157,295
Proceeds from debt issuance					93,000		93,000
Transfers					7,043	(7,043)	0
Total General Receipts, Other Cash Sources and Transfers					5,751,900	9,949	5,761,849
Changes in Net Position					1,481,281	(39,824)	1,441,457
Net Position - Beginning, as previously reported					7,654,578	1,149,168	8,803,746
Fund Reclassification					9,784		9,784
Net Position - Beginning, as restated					7,664,362	1,149,168	8,813,530
Net Position - Ending					\$ 9,145,643	1,109,344	10,254,987

AMITE COUNTY
Statement of Cash Basis Assets and Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
September 30, 2021

Exhibit 3

	<u>Major Funds</u>					
	General Fund	District Four Road Fund	District Five Road Fund	American Rescue Plan Act Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS						
Cash	\$ 2,667,760	1,060,120	1,056,171	1,194,640	3,166,952	9,145,643
Total Assets	<u>\$ 2,667,760</u>	<u>1,060,120</u>	<u>1,056,171</u>	<u>1,194,640</u>	<u>3,166,952</u>	<u>9,145,643</u>
FUND BALANCES						
Restricted for:						
General government					201,472	201,472
Public safety					1,049,773	1,049,773
Public works		1,060,120	1,056,171	1,194,640	1,670,037	4,980,968
Culture and recreation					77,316	77,316
Unemployment compensation					168,354	168,354
Unassigned	2,667,760					2,667,760
Total Fund Balances	<u>\$ 2,667,760</u>	<u>1,060,120</u>	<u>1,056,171</u>	<u>1,194,640</u>	<u>3,166,952</u>	<u>9,145,643</u>

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

AMITE COUNTY

Exhibit 4

Statement of Cash Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Cash Basis Fund Balances -
 Governmental Funds
 For the Year Ended September 30, 2021

	Major Funds					
	General	District Four Road Fund	District Five Road Fund	American Rescue Plan Act Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
RECEIPTS						
Property taxes	\$ 2,862,900	325,432	299,163		832,937	4,320,432
Road and bridge privilege taxes		56,252	44,602		109,594	210,448
Licenses, commissions and other receipts	138,943				3,334	142,277
Fines and forfeitures	148,955				6,098	155,053
Intergovernmental receipts	875,674	273,247	251,752	1,194,274	1,436,494	4,031,441
Charges for services	51,920				122,615	174,535
Interest income	27,810	10,319	8,267	366	28,566	75,328
Miscellaneous receipts	84,328	140	107		66,835	151,410
Total Receipts	4,190,530	665,390	603,891	1,194,640	2,606,473	9,260,924
DISBURSEMENTS						
General government	2,262,503				103,156	2,365,659
Public safety	1,261,517				182,402	1,443,919
Public works		770,073	469,933		2,422,810	3,662,816
Health and welfare	128,541					128,541
Culture and recreation	94,804					94,804
Conservation of natural resources	67,273					67,273
Economic development and assistance	108,112					108,112
Debt service:						
Principal					7,160	7,160
Interest					1,402	1,402
Total Disbursements	3,922,750	770,073	469,933	0	2,716,930	7,879,686
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts over (under) Disbursements	267,780	(104,683)	133,958	1,194,640	(110,457)	1,381,238
OTHER CASH SOURCES (USES)						
Proceeds from long-term debt issuance					93,000	93,000
Transfers in	9,043	161,920	161,920		736,909	1,069,792
Transfers out		(47,394)	(54,023)		(961,332)	(1,062,749)
Total Other Cash Sources and Uses	9,043	114,526	107,897	0	(131,423)	100,043
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts and other Cash Sources over (under) Disbursements and other Cash Uses	276,823	9,843	241,855	1,194,640	(241,880)	1,481,281
Cash Basis Fund Balances - Beginning, as previously reported	2,381,153	1,050,277	814,316		3,408,832	7,654,578
Fund Reclassification	9,784					9,784
Cash Basis Fund Balances - Beginning, as restated	2,390,937	1,050,277	814,316	0	3,408,832	7,664,362
Cash Basis Fund Balances - Ending	\$ 2,667,760	1,060,120	1,056,171	1,194,640	3,166,952	9,145,643

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

AMITE COUNTY
Statement of Net Position - Cash Basis - Proprietary Fund
September 30, 2021

Exhibit 5

	Business-type Activities - Enterprise Fund
	<u>Solid Waste Services Fund</u>
ASSETS	
Cash	\$ 1,109,344
Total Assets	<u>1,109,344</u>
NET POSITION	
Restricted for:	
Public works	1,109,344
Total Net Position	<u>\$ 1,109,344</u>

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

AMITE COUNTY

Exhibit 6Statement of Cash Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Net Position - Proprietary Fund
For the Year Ended September 30, 2021

	Business-type Activities - Enterprise Fund
	<u>Solid Waste Services Fund</u>
Operating Receipts	
Charges for services	\$ 765,569
Miscellaneous	5,885
Total Operating Receipts	<u>771,454</u>
Operating Disbursements	
Personal services	486,454
Contractual services	202,848
Materials and supplies	144,159
Total Operating Disbursements	<u>833,461</u>
Operating Income (Loss)	<u>(62,007)</u>
Nonoperating Receipts (Disbursements)	
Interest income	11,107
Intergovernmental grants	18,119
Net Nonoperating Receipts (Disbursements)	<u>29,226</u>
Net Income (Loss) Before Transfers	(32,781)
Transfers out	<u>(7,043)</u>
Changes in Net Position	<u>(39,824)</u>
Net Position - Beginning	<u>1,149,168</u>
Net Position - Ending	<u>\$ 1,109,344</u>

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

AMITE COUNTY
Statement of Fiduciary Net Position - Cash Basis
September 30, 2021

Exhibit 7

	<u>Custodial Funds</u>
ASSETS	
Cash	\$ 44,754
Total Assets	<u>\$ 44,754</u>
Net Position	
Restricted for:	
Individuals, organizations, and other governments	\$ 44,754
Total Net Position	<u>\$ 44,754</u>

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

AMITE COUNTY

Exhibit 8Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position - Cash Basis
For the Year Ended September 30, 2021

	Custodial Funds
	<u> </u>
CASH ADDITIONS	
Tax Collections for other governments	\$ 493,882
Licenses and fees collected for State	<u>191,918</u>
Total Additions	<u>685,800</u>
 CASH DEDUCTIONS	
Payments of tax to other governments	494,587
Payments of licenses and fees to State	<u>192,814</u>
Total Deductions	<u>687,401</u>
 Changes in Net Position	 (1,601)
 Net Position - Beginning, as previously reported	 <u>46,355</u>
 Net Position - Ending	 \$ <u>44,754</u>

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

AMITE COUNTY

Notes to Financial Statements For the Year Ended September 30, 2021

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies.

A. Financial Reporting Entity.

Amite County, Mississippi (the County), is a political subdivision of the State of Mississippi. The County is governed by an elected five-member Board of Supervisors. The financial statements of the County are presented on a cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as established by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. These accounting principles require Amite County to present these financial statements on the primary government and its component units which have significant operational or financial relationships with the County. There are no outside organizations that should be included as component units of the County's reporting entity.

State law pertaining to county government provides for the independent election of county officials. The following elected and appointed officials are all part of the County legal entity and therefore are reported as part of the primary government financial statements.

- Board of Supervisors
- Chancery Clerk
- Circuit Clerk
- Justice Court Clerk
- Purchase Clerk
- Tax Assessor-Collector
- Sheriff

B. Basis of Presentation.

The County's basic financial statements consist of government-wide statements, including a Statement of Net Position – Cash Basis and a Statement of Activities – Cash Basis, fund financial statements and accompanying note disclosures which provide a detailed level of financial information.

Government-wide Financial Statements:

The Statement of Net Position – Cash Basis and Statement of Activities – Cash Basis display information concerning the County as a whole. The statements include all nonfiduciary activities of the primary government. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. Governmental activities are generally financed through taxes, intergovernmental receipts and other nonexchange receipts and are reported separately from business-type activities. Business-type activities rely mainly on fees and charges for support.

The Statement of Net Position – Cash Basis presents the financial condition of the governmental activities and business-type activities of the County at year-end. The Government-wide Statement of Activities – Cash Basis presents a comparison between direct disbursements and program receipts for each function or program of the County's governmental activities and business-type activities. Direct disbursements are those that are specifically associated with a service, program or department and therefore, are clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by the program, grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Taxes and other receipts not classified as program receipts are presented as general receipts of the County, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct disbursements with program receipts identifies the extent to which each business-type activity or governmental function is self-financing or draws from the general receipts of the County.

AMITE COUNTY

Notes to Financial Statements For the Year Ended September 30, 2021

Fund Financial Statements:

Fund financial statements of the County are organized into funds, each of which is considered to be separate accounting entities. Each fund is accounted for by providing a separate set of self-balancing accounts that constitute its assets, fund balances, receipts and disbursements. Funds are organized into governmental, proprietary and fiduciary. Major individual Governmental Funds and major individual Enterprise Funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements. Nonmajor funds are aggregated and presented in a single column as Other Governmental Funds.

C. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting.

The Government-wide, Governmental Funds, Proprietary Funds and Fiduciary Funds financial statements are presented on a cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) as established by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. This basis of accounting involves the reporting of only cash and cash equivalents and the changes therein resulting from cash inflows (cash receipts) and cash outflows (cash disbursements) reported in the period in which they occurred. This cash basis of accounting differs from GAAP primarily because revenues (cash receipts) are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned and susceptible to accrual, and expenditures or expenses (cash disbursements) are recognized when paid rather than when incurred or subject to accrual.

The County reports the following major Governmental Funds:

General Fund - This fund is used to account for and report all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund.

District Four Road Fund - This fund is used to account for monies from specific sources that are restricted for District Four road maintenance.

District Five Road Fund - This fund is used to account for monies from specific sources that are restricted for District Five road maintenance.

American Rescue Plan Act Fund – This fund is used to account for monies received from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) that are restricted in nature.

The County reports the following major Enterprise Fund:

Solid Waste Services Fund - This fund is used to account for the County's activities of disposal of solid waste within the County.

Additionally, the County reports the following fund types:

GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES

Special Revenue Funds - These funds are used to account for and report the proceeds of specific cash sources that are restricted or committed to disbursement for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects.

Debt Service Funds - These funds are used to account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to disbursement for principal and interest.

Capital Projects Funds - These funds are used to account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to disbursement for capital outlays, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets.

AMITE COUNTY

Notes to Financial Statements For the Year Ended September 30, 2021

PROPRIETARY FUND TYPE

Enterprise Funds - These funds are used to account for those operations that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises or where the County has decided that periodic determination of receipts collected, disbursements paid and/or net income is necessary for management accountability.

FIDUCIARY FUND TYPE

Custodial Funds - These funds account for various taxes, deposits and other monies collected or held by the County, acting in the capacity of an agent, for distribution to other governmental units or designated beneficiaries.

D. Account Classifications.

The account classification used in the financial statements conform to the broad classifications recommended in *Governmental Accounting, Auditing and Financial Reporting* as issued in 2012 by the Government Finance Officers Association.

E. Deposits.

State law authorizes the County to invest in interest bearing time certificates of deposit for periods of fourteen days to one year with depositories and in obligations of the U.S. Treasury, State of Mississippi, or any county, municipality or school district of this state. Further, the County may invest in certain repurchase agreements.

Cash includes cash on hand, demand deposits, all certificates of deposit and cash equivalents, which are short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to cash (generally three months or less).

F. Equity Classifications.

Government-wide Financial Statements:

Equity is classified as net position and displayed in two components:

Restricted net position - Consists of net position with constraints placed on the use either by external groups such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws and regulations of other governments; or law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Unrestricted net position - All other net position not meeting the definition of "restricted."

Net Position Flow Assumption:

When a disbursement is paid for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted (committed, assigned or unassigned) resources are available, it is the County's general policy to use restricted resources first. When disbursements are paid for purposes for which unrestricted (committed, assigned and unassigned) resources are available, and amounts in any of these unrestricted classifications could be used, it is the County's general policy to spend committed resources first, followed by assigned amounts, and then unassigned amounts.

Fund Financial Statements:

Fund balances for governmental funds are reported in classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which the government is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in those funds can be spent.

AMITE COUNTY

Notes to Financial Statements For the Year Ended September 30, 2021

Governmental fund balance is classified as nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned or unassigned. The following are descriptions of fund classifications used by the County:

Restricted fund balance includes amounts that have constraints placed upon the use of the resources either by an external party or imposed by law through a constitutional provision or enabling legislation.

Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the General Fund. This classification represents fund balance that has not been assigned to other funds and that has not been restricted, committed or assigned to specific purposes within the General Fund. The General Fund should be the only fund that reports a positive unassigned fund balance amount. In other governmental funds if disbursements paid for specific purposes exceeded the amounts restricted, committed or assigned to those purposes, it may be necessary to report a negative unassigned fund balance.

Fund Balance Flow Assumption:

When a disbursement is paid for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted (committed, assigned or unassigned) resources are available, it is the County's general policy to use restricted resources first. When disbursements are paid for purposes for which unrestricted (committed, assigned and unassigned) resources are available, and amounts in any of these unrestricted classifications could be used, it is the County's general policy to spend committed resources first, followed by assigned amounts, and then unassigned amounts.

G. Property Tax Receipts.

Numerous statutes exist under which the Board of Supervisors may levy property taxes. The selection of authorities is made based on the objectives and responsibilities of the County. Restrictions associated with property tax levies vary with the statutory authority. The amount of increase in certain property taxes is limited by state law. Generally, this restriction provides that these tax levies shall produce no more than 110% of the amount which resulted from the assessments of the previous year.

The Board of Supervisors, each year at a meeting in September, levies property taxes for the ensuing fiscal year which begins on October 1. Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 of the current year, and personal property taxes become a lien on March 1 of the current year. Taxes on both real and personal property, however, are due on or before February 1 of the next succeeding year. Taxes on motor vehicles and mobile homes become a lien and are due in the month that coincides with the month of original purchase. All property taxes are recognized as receipts when collected.

(2) Fund Reclassification (Accounting Change)

Effective October 1, 2020, and in accordance with the implementation of GASB Statement No. 84, the Payroll Clearing Fund and the Chancery Clerk Payroll Clearing Fund that were previously reported as Fiduciary Funds were reclassified and reported in the General Fund. Therefore, the County has adjusted beginning fund balance/net position for the General Fund and Governmental Activities in the amount of \$9,784.

For the Fiduciary Fund Custodial Activities, the County has treated the beginning of year net position of \$56,136 as having been recognized in the period incurred. The County has adjusted beginning net position for their fiduciary activities from \$0 to \$46,355.

AMITE COUNTY

Notes to Financial Statements For the Year Ended September 30, 2021

(3) Deposits.

The carrying amount of the County's total deposits with financial institutions at September 30, 2021, was \$10,299,741, and the bank balance was \$10,312,624. 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, Mississippi Code of 1972 Annotated*. 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 Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

Custodial Credit Risk - Deposits. Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of the failure of a financial institution, the County will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The County does not have a formal policy for custodial credit risk. 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 Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). Deposits above FDIC coverage are collateralized by the pledging financial institution's trust department or agent in the name of the Mississippi State Treasurer on behalf of the County.

(4) Interfund Transfers.

The following is a summary of interfund transfers at September 30, 2021:

Transfers In/Out:

Transfers In	Transfers Out	Amount
General Fund	Other Governmental Funds	\$ 2,000
General Fund	Solid Waste Services Fund	7,043
District Four Road Fund	Other Governmental Funds	161,920
District Five Road Fund	Other Governmental Funds	161,920
Other Governmental Funds	District Four Road Fund	47,394
Other Governmental Funds	District Five Road Fund	54,023
Other Governmental Funds	Other Governmental Funds	635,492
Total		<u>\$ 1,069,792</u>

The principal purpose of interfund transfers was to provide funds for operating expenses. All interfund transfers were routine and consistent with the activities of the fund making the transfer.

(5) Claims and Judgments.

Risk Financing.

The County finances its exposure to risk of loss related to workers' compensation for injuries to its employees through the Mississippi Public Entity Workers' Compensation Trust, a public entity risk pool. The County pays premiums to the pool for its workers' compensation insurance coverage, and the participation agreement provides that the pool will be self-sustaining through member premiums. The retention for the pool is \$1,000,000 for each accident and completely covers statutory limits set by the Workers' Compensation Commission. Risk of loss is remote for claims exceeding the pool's retention liability. However, the pool also has catastrophic reinsurance coverage for statutory limits above the pool's retention, provided by Safety National Casualty Corporation, effective from January 1, 2021, to January 1, 2022. The pool may make an overall supplemental assessment or declare a refund depending on the loss experience of all the entities it insures.

AMITE COUNTY

Notes to Financial Statements For the Year Ended September 30, 2021

(6) Operating Leases.

As Lessor:

On April 1, 2016, Amite County entered into a non-cancellable operating lease agreement with Air Cruisers Company LLC for the lease of land and a building owned by the County for any purpose the lessor deems appropriate. The operating lease stipulated that the lease would pay approximately \$750 per month in lease payments commencing April 1, 2016 for a term of five (5) years. At the end of the lease term, Air Cruisers Company LLC renewed their lease for an additional five (5) years.

The County receives income from property it leases under a non-cancellable operating lease. Total income from this lease was \$9,000 for the year ended September 30, 2021. The future minimum lease receivables for this lease is as follows:

<u>Year Ending September 30</u>		<u>Amount</u>
2022	\$	9,000
2023		9,000
2024		9,000
2025		9,000
2026		5,250
Total Minimum Payments Required	\$	<u>41,250</u>

(7) Contingencies.

Federal Grants - The County has received federal grants for specific purposes that are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Entitlements to these resources are generally conditional upon compliance with the terms and conditions of grant agreements and applicable federal regulations, including the disbursements of resources for allowable purposes. The County may be responsible for any disallowances.

Litigation - The County is party to legal proceedings, many of which occur in the normal course of governmental operations. It is not possible at the present time to estimate ultimate outcome or liability, if any, of the County with respect to the various proceedings. However, the County's legal counsel believes that ultimate liability resulting from these lawsuits will not have a material adverse effect on the financial condition of the County.

(8) Joint Ventures.

The County participates in the following joint ventures:

Amite County is a participant with the Counties of Pike and Walthall in a joint venture, authorized by *Section 39-3-11, Mississippi Code Annotated (1972)*, to operate the Pike-Amite-Walthall Regional Library System. The joint venture was created to provide library service for the three counties and is governed by five board members. The Counties of Amite and Pike appoint two board members each and Walthall appoints one board member. By contractual agreement, The County's contribution to the joint venture was \$94,804 in fiscal year 2021. Complete financial statements for the Pike-Amite-Walthall Regional Library System can be obtained from 1022 Virginia Avenue, McComb, MS 39648.

Amite County is a participant with Pike County and the City of McComb in a joint venture, authorized by *Section 41-13-15 Mississippi Code Annotated (1972)*, to operate the Southwest Mississippi Regional Medical Center. The joint venture was created to provide medical services for the residents of the local area and is governed by seven board members. Amite County appoints one board member, while Pike County and the City of McComb appoint two members individually and jointly they appoint two members. The hospital is basically self-supporting. However, the Counties and City have the power to approve or disapprove the hospital's budget and are authorized to levy taxes for the maintenance and operation of the hospital.

AMITE COUNTY

Notes to Financial Statements For the Year Ended September 30, 2021

Complete financial statements for the Southwest Mississippi Regional Medical Center can be obtained from 215 Marion Avenue, McComb, MS 39648.

Amite County is a participant with Wilkinson County in a joint venture, authorized by *Section 41-13-15, Mississippi Code Annotated (1972)*, to operate the Field Memorial Community Hospital. The joint venture was created to provide medical services for the residents of the local area and is governed by five board members. Amite County appoints two board members, while Wilkinson County appoints three members. The hospital is basically self-supporting. However, the Counties have the power to approve or disapprove the hospital's budget and are authorized to levy taxes for the maintenance and operation of the hospital. Complete financial statements for the Field Memorial Community Hospital can be obtained from 270 West Main Street, Centreville, MS 39631.

(9) Jointly Governed Organizations.

The County participates in the following jointly governed organizations:

Southwest Mississippi Planning and Development District operates in a district composed of the Counties of Adams, Amite, Claiborne, Franklin, Jefferson, Lawrence, Lincoln, Pike, Walthall and Wilkinson. The Amite County Board of Supervisors appoints four of the 40 members of the board of directors. The County contributes a small percentage of the district's total revenue. The County contributed \$22,530 for support of the district in fiscal year 2021.

Southwest Mississippi Mental Health Complex operates in a district composed of the Counties of Adams, Amite, Claiborne, Franklin, Jefferson, Lawrence, Lincoln, Pike, Walthall and Wilkinson. The Amite County Board of Supervisors appoints one of the ten members of the board of commissioners. The County contributed \$37,660 for its support in fiscal year 2021.

Southwest Mississippi Community College operates in a district composed of the Counties of Amite, Pike, Walthall and Wilkinson. The Amite County Board of Supervisors appoints three of the 14 members of the college board of trustees. The County contributed \$494,587 for the operation and maintenance of the college in fiscal year 2021.

Southwest Mississippi Partnership Development Corporation operates in a district composed of the Counties of Adams, Amite, Claiborne, Franklin, Jefferson, Lawrence, Lincoln, Pike, Walthall and Wilkinson. The entity is governed by ten members, appointed by each county's lead industrial foundation or chamber of commerce. If no industrial foundation or chamber of commerce is present, the member is appointed by the County's Board of Supervisors. The County made no contributions for its maintenance and support of the Southwest Mississippi Partnership Development Corporation in fiscal year 2021.

Scenic Rivers Development Authority Alliance operates in a District composed of the Counties of Amite, Franklin, Pike, and Walthall, as well as the City of McComb, the Board of Wilkinson County Industrial Development Authority, and Pike County Economic Development District. The Amite County Board of Supervisors appoints 1 of the 16-member board of trustees. The County contributed \$99,952 for its support in fiscal year 2021.

(10) Defined Benefit Pension Plan.

Plan Description. Amite County, Mississippi, 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. Plan provisions and the Board of Trustees' authority to determine contribution rates are established by *Mississippi Code Annotated Section 25-11-1 et seq.*, (1972, as amended) 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 information may be obtained by writing to Public Employees' Retirement System, PERS Building, 429 Mississippi Street, Jackson, MS 39201-1005 or by calling 1-800-444-PERS.

AMITE COUNTY

Notes to Financial Statements For the Year Ended September 30, 2021

Funding Policy. At September 30, 2021, PERS members were required to contribute 9% of their annual covered salary, and the County is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. The rate at September 30, 2021 was 17.40% of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of PERS members are established and may be amended only by the State of Mississippi Legislature. The County's contributions (employer share only) to PERS for the years ending September 30, 2021, 2020 and 2019 were \$437,349, \$401,989 and \$381,027, respectively, equal to the required contributions for each year.

(11) Tax Abatements.

As of September 30, 2021, Amite County provides tax exempt status to two manufacturing companies subject to the requirements of GASB Statement No. 77. These manufacturing companies are exempt from real property taxes and personal property taxes except for levies involving the school, the mandatory mill and the community college tax levies. These exemptions are authorized under *Sections 27-31-101 and 27-31-105 of the Mississippi Code Annotated (1972)*. These exemptions encourage businesses to locate or expand operations in the County and to create jobs. The amount of taxes abated during fiscal year 2021 totaled \$529,807.

AMITE COUNTY

OTHER INFORMATION

AMITE COUNTY

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AMITE COUNTY
 Budgetary Comparison Schedule -
 Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Basis)
 General Fund
 For the Year Ended September 30, 2021
 UNAUDITED

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual (Budgetary Basis)	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
RECEIPTS				
Property taxes	\$ 2,956,767	2,862,900	2,862,900	
Licenses, commissions and other receipts	121,000	138,943	138,943	
Fines and forfeitures	65,000	148,955	148,955	
Intergovernmental receipts	534,744	875,674	875,674	
Charges for services	33,000	51,920	51,920	
Interest income	35,000	27,810	27,810	
Miscellaneous receipts	34,000	84,328	84,328	
Total Receipts	<u>3,779,511</u>	<u>4,190,530</u>	<u>4,190,530</u>	<u>-</u>
DISBURSEMENTS				
Current:				
General government	2,212,000	2,262,503	2,262,503	
Public safety	1,266,000	1,261,517	1,261,517	
Health and welfare	129,990	128,541	128,541	
Culture and recreation	94,504	94,804	94,804	
Conservation of natural resources	79,420	67,273	67,273	
Economic development and assistance	108,112	108,112	108,112	
Total Disbursements	<u>3,890,026</u>	<u>3,922,750</u>	<u>3,922,750</u>	<u>-</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts over (under) Disbursements	<u>(110,515)</u>	<u>267,780</u>	<u>267,780</u>	<u>-</u>
OTHER CASH SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers in		9,043	9,043	
Other financing sources	250,000			
Other financing uses	<u>(250,000)</u>			
Total Other Cash Sources and Uses	<u>-</u>	<u>9,043</u>	<u>9,043</u>	<u>-</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts and other Cash Sources over (under) Disbursements and other Cash Uses	<u>(110,515)</u>	<u>276,823</u>	<u>276,823</u>	
Cash Basis Fund Balances - Beginning	<u>2,321,309</u>	<u>2,390,937</u>	<u>2,390,937</u>	
Cash Basis Fund Balances - Ending	<u>\$ 2,210,794</u>	<u>2,667,760</u>	<u>2,667,760</u>	<u>-</u>

The accompanying notes to the Other Information are an integral part of this schedule.

AMITE COUNTY
 Budgetary Comparison Schedule -
 Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Basis)
 District Four Road Fund
 For the Year Ended September 30, 2021
 UNAUDITED

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual (Budgetary Basis)	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
RECEIPTS				
Property taxes	\$ 324,845	325,432	325,432	
Road and bridge privilege taxes	43,000	56,252	56,252	
Intergovernmental receipts	249,100	273,247	273,247	
Interest income	18,000	10,319	10,319	
Miscellaneous receipts		140	140	
Total Receipts	<u>634,945</u>	<u>665,390</u>	<u>665,390</u>	<u>-</u>
DISBURSEMENTS				
Current:				
Public works	<u>561,000</u>	<u>770,073</u>	<u>770,073</u>	
Total Disbursements	<u>561,000</u>	<u>770,073</u>	<u>770,073</u>	<u>-</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts over (under) Disbursements	<u>73,945</u>	<u>(104,683)</u>	<u>(104,683)</u>	<u>-</u>
OTHER CASH SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers in		161,920	161,920	
Transfers out		(47,394)	(47,394)	
Other financing uses	<u>(90,000)</u>			
Total Other Cash Sources and Uses	<u>(90,000)</u>	<u>114,526</u>	<u>114,526</u>	<u>-</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts and other Cash Sources over (under) Disbursements and other Cash Uses	<u>(16,055)</u>	<u>9,843</u>	<u>9,843</u>	
Cash Basis Fund Balances - Beginning	<u>1,034,843</u>	<u>1,050,277</u>	<u>1,050,277</u>	
Cash Basis Fund Balances - Ending	<u>\$ 1,018,788</u>	<u>1,060,120</u>	<u>1,060,120</u>	<u>-</u>

The accompanying notes to the Other Information are an integral part of this schedule.

AMITE COUNTY
 Budgetary Comparison Schedule -
 Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Basis)
 District Five Road Fund
 For the Year Ended September 30, 2021
 UNAUDITED

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual (Budgetary Basis)	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
RECEIPTS				
Property taxes	\$ 298,857	299,163	299,163	
Road and bridge privilege taxes	39,000	44,602	44,602	
Intergovernmental receipts	223,300	251,752	251,752	
Interest income	10,500	8,267	8,267	
Miscellaneous receipts		107	107	
Total Receipts	<u>571,657</u>	<u>603,891</u>	<u>603,891</u>	<u>0</u>
DISBURSEMENTS				
Current:				
Public works	<u>566,400</u>	<u>469,933</u>	<u>469,933</u>	
Total Disbursements	<u>566,400</u>	<u>469,933</u>	<u>469,933</u>	<u>0</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts over (under) Disbursements	<u>5,257</u>	<u>133,958</u>	<u>133,958</u>	<u>0</u>
OTHER CASH SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers in		161,920	161,920	
Transfers out		(54,023)	(54,023)	
Other financing uses	<u>(90,000)</u>			
Total Other Cash Sources and Uses	<u>(90,000)</u>	<u>107,897</u>	<u>107,897</u>	<u>0</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts and other Cash Sources over (under) Disbursements and other Cash Uses	<u>(84,743)</u>	<u>241,855</u>	<u>241,855</u>	
Cash Basis Fund Balances - Beginning	<u>802,032</u>	<u>814,316</u>	<u>814,316</u>	
Cash Basis Fund Balances - Ending	<u>\$ 717,289</u>	<u>1,056,171</u>	<u>1,056,171</u>	<u>0</u>

The accompanying notes to the Other Information are an integral part of this schedule.

AMITE COUNTY
 Budgetary Comparison Schedule -
 Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Basis)
 American Rescue Plan Act Fund
 For the Year Ended September 30, 2021
 UNAUDITED

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual (Budgetary Basis)	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
RECEIPTS				
Intergovernmental receipts	\$		1,194,274	1,194,274
Interest Income			366	366
Total Receipts	-	-	1,194,640	1,194,640
DISBURSEMENTS				
Total Disbursements	-	-	-	-
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts over (under) Disbursements	-	-	1,194,640	1,194,640
OTHER CASH SOURCES (USES)				
Total Other Cash Sources and Uses	-	-	-	-
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts and other Cash Sources over (under) Disbursements and other Cash Uses	-	-	1,194,640	1,194,640
Cash Basis Fund Balances - Beginning				-
Cash Basis Fund Balances - Ending	\$ -	-	1,194,640	1,194,640

The accompanying notes to the Other Information are an integral part of this schedule.

AMITE COUNTY
Schedule of Capital Assets
For the Year Ended September 30, 2021
UNAUDITED

Governmental activities:

	Balance Oct. 1, 2020	Additions	Deletions	Adjustments	Balance Sept. 30, 2021
Land	\$ 114,552				114,552
Construction in Progress	72,543	1,272,366		(961,907)	383,002
Infrastructure	6,084,449			961,907	7,046,356
Buildings	3,149,941				3,149,941
Mobile equipment	6,113,716	89,140	148,514		6,054,342
Furniture and equipment	787,696	21,976			809,672
Lease property under capital lease		93,000			93,000
Total capital assets	<u>\$ 16,322,897</u>	<u>1,476,482</u>	<u>148,514</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,650,865</u>

Business-type activities:

	Balance Oct. 1, 2020	Additions	Deletions	Adjustments	Balance Sept. 30, 2021
Land	\$ 47,838				47,838
Buildings	149,317				149,317
Mobile equipment	1,239,647				1,239,647
Furniture and equipment	109,439				109,439
Total capital assets	<u>\$ 1,546,241</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,546,241</u>

AMITE COUNTY
Schedule of Changes in Long-term Debt
For the Year Ended September 30, 2021
UNAUDITED

The following is a summary of changes in long-term liabilities and obligations for the year ended September 30, 2021:

<u>Description and Purpose</u>	<u>Issue Date</u>	<u>Maturity Date</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>	<u>Balance Oct. 1, 2020</u>	<u>Issued</u>	<u>Principal Payments</u>	<u>Balance Sept. 30, 2021</u>
Governmental Activities:							
E. Capital Leases:							
John Deere Backhoe Loader	1/12/2021	2/12/2024	2.34%	\$ <u> </u>	<u>93,000</u>	<u>7,160</u>	<u>85,840</u>

The accompanying notes to the Other Information are an integral part of this schedule.

AMITE COUNTY
Schedule of Surety Bonds for County Officials
For the Year Ended September 30, 2021
UNAUDITED

Name	Position	Company	Bond
Warren Leake	District 1 Supervisor	Western Surety Company	100,000
Earl Guy McNab	District 2 Supervisor	Brierfield Insurance Company	100,000
Jackie Whittington	District 3 Supervisor	Western Surety Company	100,000
Melvin (Butch) Graves	District 4 Supervisor	Western Surety Company	100,000
Tony Patterson	District 5 Supervisor	Brierfield Insurance Company	100,000
Jana Causey	Chancery Clerk	Western Surety Company	100,000
Sheila Hampton	Deputy Chancery Clerk	Western Surety Company	100,000
Danielle Stevenson	Deputy Chancery Clerk	Western Surety Company	100,000
Tiffany Pierce	Deputy Chancery Clerk	Western Surety Company	100,000
Cindy Wilkinson	Comptroller	Western Surety Company	100,000
Brittani L. Dixon	Purchase Clerk	Brierfield Insurance Company	75,000
Lisa Sullivan	Assistant Purchase Clerk	Brierfield Insurance Company	50,000
Lisa Sullivan	Solid Waste Clerk	Brierfield Insurance Company	75,000
Carylin Patterson	Receiving Clerk	Brierfield Insurance Company	75,000
Lisa Sullivan	Assistant Receiving Clerk	Brierfield Insurance Company	50,000
Jana Causey	Invenotry Control Clerk	Western Surety Company	75,000
Murry Toney	Constable	Brierfield Insurance Company	50,000
Jerry Bates	Constable	Brierfield Insurance Company	50,000
Celeste McIntyre	Circuit Clerk	State Farm Fire and Casualty	100,000
Tammy Taylor	Deputy Circuit Clerk	Western Surety Company	50,000
Julie Deloach	Deputy Circuit Clerk	Brierfield Insurance Company	50,000
Tim Wroten	Sheriff	Brierfield Insurance Company	100,000
Roger Arnold	Justice Court Judge	Brierfield Insurance Company	50,000
Gloria D. Perry	Justice Court Judge	Western Surety Company	50,000
Melanie Netterville	Justice Court Clerk	Brierfield Insurance Company	50,000
Jessica Cook	Deputy Justice Court Clerk	Western Surety Company	50,000
Eunice Blake	Tax Assessor/Collector	Brierfield Insurance Company	100,000
Traci Dykes	Deputy Tax Collector	Brierfield Insurance Company	50,000
Patricia Robinson	Deputy Tax Collector	Western Surety Company	50,000
Bobbie Cindy Edwards	Deputy Tax Collector	Western Surety Company	50,000
Pamela Wilkinson	Deputy Tax Collector	Western Surety Company	50,000
Connie Whittington	Deputy Tax Collector	Western Surety Company	50,000
Amanda D. Cothorn	Deputy Tax Collector	Brierfield Insurance Company	50,000

AMITE COUNTY

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AMITE COUNTY

Notes to Other Information For the Year Ended September 30, 2021 UNAUDITED

(1) Budgetary Comparison Information.

A. Budgetary Information.

Statutory requirements dictate how and when the County's budget is to be prepared. Generally, in the month of August, prior to the ensuing fiscal year beginning each October 1, the Board of Supervisors of the County, using historical and anticipated fiscal data and proposed budgets submitted by the Sheriff and the Tax Assessor-Collector for his or her respective department, prepares an original budget for each of the Governmental Funds for said fiscal year. The completed budget for the fiscal year includes for each fund every source of receipt, each general item of disbursement, and the unencumbered cash and investment balances. When during the fiscal year it appears to the Board of Supervisors that budgetary estimates will not be met, it may make revisions to the budget.

The County's budget is prepared principally on the cash basis of accounting. All appropriations lapse at year end, and there are no encumbrances to budget because state law does not require that funds be available when goods or services are ordered, only when payment is made.

B. Basis of Presentation.

The Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Budget and Actual presents the original legally adopted budget, the final legally adopted budget, actual amounts on a budgetary basis and variances between the final budget and the actual amounts. The schedule is presented for the General Fund and each major Special Revenue Fund.

(2) Long-term Debt Information:

- A. Legal Debt Margin - The amount of debt, excluding specific exempted debt that can be incurred by the County is limited by state statute. Total outstanding debt during a year can be no greater than 15% of assessed value of the taxable property within the County, according to the then last completed assessment for taxation. However, the limitation is increased to 20 percent whenever a county issues bonds to repair or replace washed out or collapsed bridges on the public roads of the county. As of September 30, 2021, the amount of outstanding debt was equal to 0 percent of the latest property assessments.

AMITE COUNTY

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AMITE COUNTY

SPECIAL REPORTS

AMITE COUNTY

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STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR
SHAD WHITE
AUDITOR

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

Members of the Board of Supervisors
Amite County, Mississippi

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the cash basis financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Amite County, Mississippi (the County), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated November 15, 2022.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Amite County, 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*.

We noted certain matters that we reported to the management of Amite County, Mississippi, in the Independent Accountant's Report on Central Purchasing System, Inventory Control System and Purchase Clerk Schedules and the Limited Internal Control and Compliance Review Management Report dated November 15, 2022, included within this document.

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 result 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. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Joe E. McKnight". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Joe" and last name "McKnight" clearly legible.

JOE E. MCKNIGHT, CPA
Director, County Audit Section

November 15, 2022



STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR
SHAD WHITE
AUDITOR

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON CENTRAL PURCHASING SYSTEM, INVENTORY CONTROL
SYSTEM AND PURCHASE CLERK SCHEDULES
(AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 31-7-115, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972 ANNOTATED)

Members of the Board of Supervisors
Amite County, Mississippi

We have examined Amite County, Mississippi's (the County) compliance with establishing and maintaining a central purchasing system and inventory control system in accordance with *Sections 31-7-101 through 31-7-127, Mississippi Code of 1972 Annotated* and compliance with the purchasing requirements in accordance with the bid requirements of *Section 31-7-13, Mississippi Code of 1972 Annotated* during the year ended September 30, 2021. The Board of Supervisors of Amite County, Mississippi is responsible for the County's compliance with those requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the County's compliance based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and, accordingly, included examining, on a test basis, evidence about the County's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe our examination provides a reasonable basis for our opinion. Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the County's compliance with specified requirements. The Board of Supervisors of Amite County, Mississippi, has established centralized purchasing for all funds of the County and has established an inventory control system. The objective of the central purchasing system is to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that purchases are executed in accordance with state law.

Because of inherent limitations in any central purchasing system and inventory system, errors or irregularities may occur and not be detected. Also, projection of any current evaluation of the system to future periods is subject to the risk that procedures may become inadequate because of changes in conditions or that the degree of compliance with the procedures may deteriorate.

The results of our audit procedures disclosed certain instances of noncompliance with the aforementioned code sections. This instance of noncompliance was considered in forming our opinion on compliance. Our finding and recommendation and your response is disclosed below.

Board of Supervisors and Receiving Clerk

1. The Receiving Clerk should be bonded as required by state statute.

Repeat Finding No

Criteria *Section 31-7-124, Mississippi Code Annotated (1972)*, requires the Receiving Clerk to execute a bond in a penalty not less than \$75,000, to be payable, conditioned and approved as provided by law.

Condition The Receiving Clerk was not bonded for \$75,000, as required by law.

Cause The County did not comply with state laws.

Effect Failure to comply with state law could limit the amount of recovery in case of errors or fraud.

Recommendation The County should ensure that the Receiving Clerk is bonded in accordance with state law.

Views of Responsible Official(s) This was an oversight on our part. She is now bonded.

2. The Purchase Clerk should be bonded as required by state statute.

Repeat Finding No.

Criteria *Section 31-7-124, Mississippi Code Annotated (1972)*, requires the Purchase Clerk to execute a bond in a penalty not less than \$100,000, to be payable, conditioned and approved as provided by law.

Condition The Purchase Clerk was not bonded for \$100,000 as required by law.

Cause The County did not comply with state laws.

Effect Failure to comply with state law could limit the amount of recovery in case of errors or fraud.

Recommendation The County should ensure that the Purchase Clerk is bonded in accordance with state law.

Views of Responsible Official(s) We have corrected the finding.

In our opinion, except for the noncompliance referred to in the preceding paragraph, Amite County, Mississippi, complied, in all material respects, with state laws governing central purchasing, inventory and bid requirements for the year ended September 30, 2021.

The accompanying schedules of (1) Purchases Not Made from the Lowest Bidder, (2) Emergency Purchases and (3) Purchases Made Noncompetitively from a Sole Source are presented in accordance with Section 31-7-115, *Mississippi Code of 1972 Annotated*. The information contained on these schedules has been subjected to procedures performed in connection with our aforementioned examination of the purchasing system and, in our opinion, is fairly presented when considered in relation to that examination.

Amite County's response to the finding included in this report was not audited, and accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

This report is intended for use in evaluating the central purchasing system and inventory control system of Amite County, Mississippi, and is not intended to be and should not be relied upon for any other purpose. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.



JOE E. MCKNIGHT, CPA
Director, County Audit Section

November 15, 2022

AMITE COUNTY

Schedule 1

Schedule of Purchases From Other Than the Lowest Bidder
For the Year Ended September 30, 2021

Our tests did not identify any purchases from other than the lowest bidder.

AMITE COUNTY
Schedule of Emergency Purchases
For the Year Ended September 30, 2021

Schedule 2

<u>Date</u>	<u>Item Purchased</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Reason for Emergency Purchase</u>
12/28/20	Emergency Bridge Repair	113,939	Oddee Smith Construction	Hebron Bridge in hazardous condition
12/28/20	20- 10 x 42 x 40 Steel Pilings	15,240	Nucor Saturn Holding	Hebron Bridge in hazardous condition
12/28/20	2- 96 x 45 Aluminized Steel Culverts/2- Set/Lifting Lugs	18,792	Dial Inc.	Hebron Bridge in hazardous condition

AMITE COUNTY

Schedule 3

Schedule of Purchases Made Noncompetitively From a Sole Source
For the Year Ended September 30, 2021

Our tests did not identify any purchases made noncompetitively from a sole source.

AMITE COUNTY

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STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR
SHAD WHITE
AUDITOR

LIMITED INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE REVIEW MANAGEMENT REPORT

Members of the Board of Supervisors
Amite County, Mississippi

In planning and performing our audit of the cash basis financial statements of Amite County, Mississippi (the County) for the year ended September 30, 2021, we considered Amite County, Mississippi's internal control to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on internal control.

In addition, for areas not considered material to Amite County, Mississippi's financial reporting, we have performed some additional limited internal control and state legal compliance review procedures as identified in the state legal compliance audit program issued by the Office of the State Auditor. Our procedures were substantially less in scope than an audit, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion on the County's compliance with these requirements. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. This report does not affect our report dated November 15, 2022, on the financial statements of Amite County, Mississippi.

Due to the reduced scope, these review procedures and compliance tests cannot and do not provide absolute assurance that all state legal requirements have been complied with. Also, our consideration of internal control would not necessarily disclose all matters within the internal control that might be weaknesses. In accordance with Section 7-7-211, *Mississippi Code of 1972 Annotated*, the Office of the State Auditor, when deemed necessary, may conduct additional procedures and tests of transactions for this or other fiscal years to ensure compliance with legal requirements.

The results of our review procedures and compliance tests identified certain areas that are opportunities for strengthening internal controls and operating efficiency. Our findings, recommendations, and your responses are disclosed below:

Board of Supervisors and Deputy Justice Court Clerk

1. All Deputy Justice Court Clerks should be bonded as required by state statute.

Repeat Finding No.

Criteria *Section 9-11-29(2), Mississippi Code Annotated (1972)*, requires each Deputy Justice Court Clerk be bonded for a minimum of \$50,000. Furthermore, *Section 25-1-15(2), Mississippi Code Annotated (1972)*, requires a new bond every four years concurrent with the normal election cycle of the County for all public employees required to give individual bond.

Condition Deputy Justice Court Clerk was bonded for an indefinite time period under an individual bond for \$50,000.

Cause The County did not comply with state laws.

Effect	Failure to comply with state law could limit the amount of recovery in case of errors or fraud.
Recommendation	The County should ensure that all Deputy Justice Court Clerks are bonded in accordance with state law.
Views of Responsible Official(s)	This was also an oversight. We did not look closely at the bond to see that it was indefinite.
Board of Supervisors	
2.	<u>All funds of the final amended budget were not prepared and approved in the minutes of the Board of Supervisors.</u>
Repeat Finding	No
Criteria	<i>Section 19-11-11, Mississippi Code Annotated (1972)</i> , requires the County to prepare a budget of revenues, expenses and working cash balances in such form as may be necessary. Furthermore, the final amended budget of all funds for the fiscal year, which may be amended up to the end of the fiscal year, must be approved and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors no later than October 31 st , following the close of the fiscal year.
Condition	The County prepared a final amended budget for fiscal year 2021, but did not include the American Rescue Plan Act fund. As a result, approval and detail of the complete final amended budget were not included in the minutes of the Board of Supervisors.
Cause	The County did not have the necessary controls in place to ensure compliance with state laws.
Effect	Failure to prepare and submit each year a complete budget of revenues, expenses and working cash balances for all funds could result in the misappropriation of public funds if accounts are not properly budgeted and monitored.
Recommendation	The Board of Supervisors should prepare and submit each year a complete budget of revenues, expenses and working cash balances for all funds as required by law.
Views of Responsible Official(s)	I was really not sure if I was to include this or not. We definitely were not planning to spend the money during 2021. I will include it on the new budget for 2022.
3.	<u>The privilege tax on was improperly settled to the County school district.</u>
Repeat Finding	No.
Criteria	<i>Section 27-19-11, Mississippi Code of 1972 Annotated</i> , states that counties receiving the annual highway privilege tax on vehicles with a gross weight exceeding ten thousand(10,000) pounds and the additional privilege tax on vehicles with a licensed weight exceeding eighty-four thousand (84,000) pounds shall distribute these proceeds as they would if these collections were ad valorem taxes.
Condition	The County did not settle all of the required portion of the privilege tax on heavy trucks to the County school district. During the fiscal year 2021 and 2020, the County collected \$203,137 and \$199,058 in additional privilege tax respectively, and the County owes \$81,254.80 and \$79,623.20 in additional privilege tax to the County school district for the 2021 and 2020 fiscal years respectively.

Cause	The County did not settle the correct amount of the privilege tax to the school district.
Effect	Failure to settle all of the required funds deprives the County school district of entitled funds.
Recommendation	The County should settle the privilege tax on heavy trucks to the County school district as if they were ad valorem taxes.
Views of Responsible Official(s)	Amite County will mail out the monies owed for the fiscal years 2020, 2021 and through August 2022 to the County school district and will begin to settle money monthly to the County school district from this point forward.

Amite County's responses to the findings included in this report was were not audited, and accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Board of Supervisors, and others within the entity and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these parties. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.



JOE E. MCKNIGHT, CPA
Director, County Audit Section

November 15, 2022

AMITE COUNTY

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AMITE COUNTY

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES

AMITE COUNTY

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AMITE COUNTY

Schedule of Findings and Responses For the Year Ended September 30, 2021

Section 1: Summary of Auditor's Results

Financial Statements:

- | | | |
|----|--|---------------|
| 1. | Type of auditor's report issued on the financial statements: | Unmodified |
| 2. | Internal control over financial reporting: | |
| | a. Material weakness identified? | No |
| | b. Significant deficiency identified? | None Reported |
| 3. | Noncompliance material to the financial statements noted? | No |

Section 2: Financial Statement Findings

The results of our tests did not disclose any findings related to the financial statements that are required to be reported by *Government Auditing Standards*.