MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

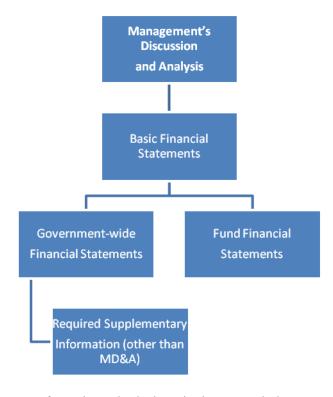
April 30, 2023

The Rend Lake Conservancy District's (the District) discussion and analysis is designed to identify the significant financial issues within the District, provide a summary of the District's financial activity, discuss variances in the District's financial position, and discuss individual fund issues and/or concerns.

This narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the District is for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2023. We encourage readers to consider this information in conjunction with the District's financial statements, which follow.

USING THIS REPORT

The following chart is provided for your review:



The financial statement's focus is on both the District as a whole, government-wide, and on the major individual funds. Both perspectives (government-wide and major fund) allow the reader to address relevant questions and enhance the District's accountability.

OVERVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the District's basic financial statements. The District's basic financial statements are comprised of three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the financial statements. This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS - CONTINUED

April 30, 2023

Government-wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the District's finances. They are comprised of the Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities.

The Statement of Net Position presents information on all of the District's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net position. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the District is improving or deteriorating. This statement combines and consolidates governmental fund's current financial resources with capital assets and long-term obligations.

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

Both of the financial statements have separate sections for two different types of programs or activities. These two types of activities are:

Governmental Activities - The activities in this section are mostly supported by taxes and charges for services. The governmental activities of the District include General Administration.

Enterprise (Business-Type) Activities - These functions normally are intended to recover all or a significant portion of their costs through user fees and charges to external users of goods and services. These business-type activities of the District include Inter-City Water, Recreation, and Sewer Treatment.

Fund Financial Statements

A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The District, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds of the District can be divided into two categories: governmental funds and enterprise funds.

The fund financial statements provide detail information about each of the District's most significant funds, called major funds. The concept of major funds, and the determination of which are major funds, was established by GASB Statement 34 and replaces the concept of combining like funds and presenting them in total. Instead, each major fund is presented individually. All of the District's funds are considered major funds.

Notes to the Financial Statements

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS - CONTINUED

April 30, 2023

Required Supplementary Information

In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain required supplementary information providing a budgetary comparison statement for the general fund.

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION

Condensed Statement of Net Position

	Governmental Activities		Business-Ty	pe Activities	Total Primary Government		
	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	
Current and Other							
Assets	\$ 2,132,102	\$ 2,250,644	\$ 24,734,032	\$ 21,956,617	\$ 26,866,134	\$ 24,207,261	
Noncurrent Assets Deferred Outflows	1,742,000	1,990,623	46,256,392	50,653,940	47,998,392	52,644,563	
of Resources	888,639	146,297	2,979,637	480,709	3,868,276	627,006	
Total Assets	4,762,741	4,387,564	73,970,061	73,091,266	78,732,802	77,478,830	
Current Liabilities	62,315	67,229	895,749	677,797	958,064	745,026	
Noncurrent Liabilities	363,453	219,326	1,279,613	781,424	1,643,066	1,000,750	
Deferred Inflows							
of Resources	948,247	1,143,781	1,891,999	2,812,954	2,840,246	3,956,735	
Total Liabilities and Deferred Inflows of Resources	1,374,015	1,430,336	4,067,361	4,272,175	5,441,376	5,702,511	
Net Position:							
Net Investment in Capital Assets	1,742,000	1,145,283	46,249,904	47,304,752	47,991,984	48,450,035	
Restricted Unrestricted	1,646,726	1,811,945	23,652,716	21,514,339	25,299,442	23,326,284	
Total Net Position	\$ 3,388,726	\$ 2,957,228	\$ 69,902,700	\$ 68,819,091	<u>\$ 73,291,426</u>	\$ 71,776,319	

Normal Impacts

There are four basic transactions that will affect the Statement of Net Assets summary presentation.

Net Results of Activities - This can impact all classifications of the Statement of Net Position, current assets and liabilities, long-term assets and liabilities, and net position. In this fiscal year, the change in net position was \$431,498 for the governmental activities and \$1,083,609 for the business-type activities.

Spending Borrowed Proceeds or Current Assets on New Capital Assets - Spending borrowed proceeds will increase capital assets and liabilities and will have no impact on net assets. Spending current assets (cash and investments) will increase capital assets and decrease current assets. In addition, it will increase net assets invested in capital assets, net of related debt, and decrease unrestricted net assets. Capital assets were purchased this fiscal year utilizing current assets.

Reduction of Capital Assets through Depreciation - Depreciation will reduce capital assets and invested in capital assets, net of debt. Depreciation expense in this fiscal year was \$2,574,680.

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April 30, 2023

Principal Payment on Debt Secured by Capital Assets - Debt payments will (a) reduce current assets and liabilities and (b) reduce unrestricted net assets and increase investment in capital assets, net of debt. Principal paid on notes payable in this fiscal year was \$66,486.

Statement of Activities

The following condensed Statement of Activities for the fiscal years ended April 30, 2023 and April 30, 2022 displays the revenues and expenses for the fiscal years.

	Governmental Activities		Business-Ty	pe Activities	Total Primary Government		
	2023 2022		2023 2022		2023 2022		
REVENUES Program Revenues:							
Charges for Services Operating Grants and	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,093,590	\$ 13,328,585	\$ 14,093,590	\$ 13,328,585	
Contributions Capital Grants and	5,247	6,388	-	-	5,247	6,388	
Contributions General Revenues:	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Property Taxes Other Taxes	376,099 272,667	343,474 212,282	97,958	95,853	474,057 272,667	439,327 212,282	
Investment income Miscellaneous	235,090 3,282	70,892 3,392	62,573 12,073	85,655 252,456	297,663 15,355	156,547 255,848	
Total Revenues	892,385	636,428	14,266,194	13,762,549	15,158,579	14,398,977	
EXPENSES							
General Government	1,366,970	1,240,186	_	-	1,366,970	1,240,186	
Water	-	-	9,844,359	9,193,532	9,844,359	9,193,532	
Recreation	-	-	2,083,282	1,805,751	2,083,282	1,805,751	
Sewage			348,861	376,661	348,861	376,661	
Total Expenses	1,366,970	1,240,186	12,276,502	11,375,944	13,643,472	12,616,130	
Change in Net Position							
Before Transfers	(474,585)	(603,758)	1,989,692	2,386,605	1,515,107	1,782,847	
Transfers	906,083	906,083	(906,083)	(906,083)			
CI NA							
Change in Net Position	431,498	302,325	1,083,609	1,480,522	1,515,107	1,782,847	
Net Position, Beginning of the Year	2,957,228	2,654,903	68,819,091	67,338,569	71,776,319	69,993,472	
Net Position, End of the Year	\$ 3,388,726	\$ 2,957,228	\$ 69,902,700	<u>\$ 68,819,091</u>	<u>\$ 73,291,426</u>	<u>\$ 71,776,319</u>	

MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS - CONTINUED

April 30, 2023

OVERALL FINANCIAL POSITION

Results of Operations

The net position increase of \$1,515,107 in this fiscal year compared to the net position increase of \$1,782,847 in the prior fiscal year was somewhat smaller than the annual improvement in the financial position of the District that occurred prior to COVID-19. Cash, cash equivalents, and investments increased by \$2,530,802. Investment income increased from \$156,547 last year to \$297,663. The increase can be attributed to much higher interest rates all year.

In the enterprise funds, operating revenues increased by \$765,005 from the prior year in continuing to recover from COVID-19. Operating expenses increased by \$900,558, resulting in a decrease in net operating revenue of \$138,553 compared to the past year. Total non-operating revenue decreased by \$261,360 in large part because of a lawsuit settlement received in the prior fiscal year. The District received no grant and contribution revenue this year. As a result, the change in net position in the enterprise funds, before interfund transfers, was \$399,913 less than it was last year.

Property Taxes

The District's property tax revenue in the fiscal year was \$474,057, just over 3% of the District's total revenue. On the most recent levy, the District tax for a property with a fair market value of \$100,000 amounted to only \$18 a year. The District levied a tax rate of .1226 (per \$100) for 2004. The rate for 2022 will be .05316, a reduction of over 56%. The District's success in reducing property taxes is even more impressive when compared to other taxing bodies.

THE DISTRICT'S FUNDS

Governmental Fund

The District has only one governmental fund. It is the administrative fund. In the fiscal year ended April 30, 2023, receipts for the fund came from Property Taxes (\$376,099), Personal Property Replacement Tax (\$272,667), Interest and Miscellaneous Income (\$243,619) and Administration Fees (\$906,083) from the other funds. The fund balance increased during the fiscal year by \$431,498. Revenues were 119% of the budgeted number. Expenditures were 101% of budgeted expenses.

Proprietary Funds Inter-City Water

Inter-City Water is comprised of a water plant and water distribution system. During the year, 37 wholesale customers purchased 4,638,675,153 gallons at an average price of \$2.27 per thousand gallons. Approximately 1,200 retail customers purchased 167,359,461 gallons at an average price of \$5.22 per thousand gallons. Total sales in the year were up from the prior year by 27 million gallons and up by \$422,656.

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Wholesale sales increased by more than 17 million gallons. Retail sales were up over 10 million gallons. Among retail customers, residential sales were up 2 million gallons, retail commercial sales were up 8 million gallons, and miscellaneous other sales remained the same. Weather can affect future prospects. A wet year could cause sales volume to decrease, while a drought year could increase sales volume.

Net position, before interfund transfers out, increased during the fiscal year by \$1,588,017 compared to an increase of \$2,017,817 in the prior fiscal year. The District received no grant and contribution revenue in the current year and in the prior year.

Recreation

The Recreation Fund is comprised of three departments, including the Golf Course and the Lodge/Condo complex, which provide recreation opportunities and promote tourism in the area, and Recreation Central/Leasing, which provides income and recreation opportunities through the leasing of the restaurant, shooting complex, farm land, apartment land, and oil royalties.

Net position increased by \$246,777, after an increase last year of \$262,904. Cash flow was positive during the year by \$70,083, even after paying down principal on the long-term debt of \$68,760 and purchasing capital assets during the year of \$283,335.

Golf course revenue increased almost 16% this year over the prior year. Seasons Lodge revenue increased 12% in the current year. Golf course revenue and Seasons Lodge revenue have made excellent rebounds from the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. Lease revenue increased 9% in the current year, due almost entirely to increases in farm rent. Oil royalty revenue fluctuates with the price of crude and was up about 14% during the year.

The Recreation Department is an engine for tourism in Southern Illinois, providing an exceptional recreation destination for thousands of golfers, fishermen, and hunters from throughout the Midwest and beyond. Tourism is an important part of the local economy. The golf resort is an important component of that tourism.

Sewage Treatment System

Net position increased by \$151,898 compared to an increase of \$102,884 last year. Two small communities and seven commercial customers in the vicinity of Rend Lake are served by the fund. Departments of the State of Illinois represent 78% of the billing. Those departments are paying late and are currently not paying interest and maintenance charges. Maintenance charges assessed and unpaid are for damages to the sewage system by materials improperly put into the system per District ordinances. An increase in rates for the next year should have a positive impact on the sewage treatment system.

MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS - CONTINUED

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CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

As of year-end, the District had \$113,512,200 invested in a variety of capital assets and \$741,036 invested in projects uncompleted, as reflected in the following schedule.

	Governmental Activities		Business-type Activities		Total <u>Activities</u>	
Property, Plant and Equipment	\$	2,935,701	\$	109,089,103	\$	112,024,804
Land		925,323		562,073		1,487,396
Construction in Progress		9,373		731,663		741,036
Accumulated Depreciation		(2,128,397)	_	(64,132,855)	<u> </u>	(66,261,252)
Total	\$	1,742,000	\$	46,249,984	\$	47,991,984

Debt Outstanding

As of year end, the District had outstanding notes and bonds as follows:

ILEPA	\$ 498,648
Interfund loans	1,482,810

Net principal payments of \$66,486 were made during the fiscal year. More detailed information regarding long-term debt is in Note G of the financial statements.

FINANCIAL CONTACT

The District's financial statements are designed to present users (citizens, taxpayers, customers, and creditors) with a general overview of the District's finances and to demonstrate the District's accountability. If you have questions about this report or need additional information, please contact the District's Comptroller, P.O. Box 907, Benton, Illinois 62812.