READINGTON-LEBANON SEWERAGE AUTHORITY COUNTY OF HUNTERDON

December 31, 2021



For the Year Ended December 31, 2021

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Roster of Officials Year Ended December 31, 2021

Members of the Authority	Title
Dr. Vincent Schaible	Chairman
Richard Burton	Vice Chairman
Dr. Charles Westfield	Secretary/Treasurer
Edward Cichone	Member
Ronald Monaco	Member
Jonathan Heller	Member
Administration and Professionals of the Authority	Title
Jill A. Plesnarski	Administrator
R3M Engineers	Engineer
Edward Buzak	Attorney



Independent Auditors' Report

Honorable Chairman and Members of Readington-Lebanon Sewerage Authority Whitehouse, Hunterdon County, New Jersey

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the business-type activities of Readington-Lebanon Sewerage Authority, in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, as of and for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020 and the related Notes to the Financial Statements, which collectively comprise Readington-Lebanon Sewerage Authority's Basic Financial Statements as listed in the Table of Contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the business-type activities of the Readington-Lebanon Sewerage Authority, as of December 31, 2021 and December 31, 2020, and the respective changes in financial position thereof and for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

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

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements that are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgement made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

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

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

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

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis, and Schedule of Budgetary Comparison Information, Schedules Related to Accounting and Reporting for Pensions, and Schedules Related to Accounting and Reporting for Other Postemployment Employee Benefits listed in the Table of Contents, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it an essential part of the financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriated operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquires of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquires, the basis financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information included in the annual report. The other information comprises the Roster of Officials and Schedule of Changes in Net Position - Restricted Accounts. Our opinions on the basic financial statements do not cover the other information and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the basic financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with the *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated January 13, 2023, on our consideration of the Readington-Lebanon Sewerage Authority'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 Readington-Lebanon Sewerage Authority's internal controls over financial reporting and compliance.

BKC, CPAs, PC

BHC, CADA, PC

January 13, 2023 Flemington, New Jersey

Readington-Lebanon Sewerage Authority

Old Route 28, PO Box 136 Whitehouse, NJ 08888

Vincent Schaible Chairman Jill A. Plesnarski Administrator

Richard Burton Vice-Chairman 908-534-6171 908-534-5688 Fax

Charles Westfield Secretary-Treasurer

Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A)

This section of the Readington-Lebanon Sewerage Authority (the Authority) annual financial report presents our discussion and analysis of the Authority's financial performance during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2021. Please read it in conjunction with the Authority's condensed financial statements (Exhibits A and B), which follow this section.

Financial Highlights

- 1. The Authority's total current assets increased 1.02% over the course of this year's operations as a result of operating revenues exceeding operating expenditures.
- 2. Deferred outflows of resources increased compared to the prior year. This was attributable to the changes in assumptions and proportion, in addition to the difference between actual and expected experience of the pension plan.
- 3. Current liabilities increased by 29.97% compared to the prior year. This is the result of an increase in the accounts payable.
- 4. During the year, the Authority's operating revenues increased by 0.9%. Operating revenues were realized as budgeted by the Authority.
- 5. Operating expenses decreased by 4.72%. This is attributable to a decrease in pension benefits and sludge disposal expenses.
- 6. Net position increased by 2.16%. Net investment in capital assets decreased by 2.06% as increases in capital expenditures were offset by depreciation expense. Restricted net position increased by 6.76% as a result of an increase in capital reserves. Unrestricted net position increased by 52.92% as a result of operating revenues and exceeding operating expenditures.

Overview of Annual Financial Report

The financial statements report information about the Authority using the accrual accounting method as utilized by similar business activities in the private sector. However, rate-regulated accounting principles applicable to private sector utilities are not used by government utilities. The financial statement includes the Statements of Net Position, Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position, Statements of Cash Flows, and Notes to the Financial Statements.

Overview of Annual Financial Report (continued)

The Statements of Net Position presents information on all of the Authority's assets and liabilities, with the difference reported as net position. Over time, increases and decreases in net position are one indicator of whether the financial position of the Authority is improving or deteriorating.

The Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position presents the results of the Authority's activities over the course of the fiscal year and information as to how the net position changed during the year.

The Statements of Cash Flow presents changes in cash and cash equivalents resulting from operational, financing and investing activities. These statements present cash receipts and cash disbursement information, without consideration of the earnings event, when an obligation arises, or depreciation of capital assets.

The Notes to the Financial Statements provide disclosures and other information that is essential to a full understanding of material data provided in the statements. Supplementary information comparing the budget to actual revenues and expenses as well as changes in restricted accounts is provided.

Financial Analysis

The attached comparative condensed financial statements serve as the key financial data and indicators for management, monitoring and planning.

Availability of Financial Report

This report is prepared in compliance with State mandates and will be made available to residents, taxpayers and any interested person or entity upon request at the Authority's office located at 1A Old Highway 28, Whitehouse, NJ 08888.

Readington-Lebanon Sewerage Authority

Management's Discussion and Analysis Condensed Financial Statements

	Condensed	Statement	of Net Position
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Exhibit A

	December 31,				Increase			
		2021		2020		2020		Decrease)
Assets						·		
Current assets								
Unrestricted assets	\$	3,855,199	\$	3,618,664	\$	236,535		
Restricted assets		2,384,529		2,233,522		151,007		
Capital assets, net		11,880,424		12,130,602		(250,178)		
Total current assets		18,120,152		17,982,788		137,364		
Deferred outflows of resources								
Deferred amount on pension liability		227,129		120,535		106,594		
Deferred amount on other postemployment		,				•		
benefits liability		432,742		486,933		(54,191)		
Total deferred outflows of resources		659,871		607,468		52,403		
Total assets and deferred outflows of resources	\$	18,780,023	\$	18,590,256	\$	189,767		
Liabilities								
Current liabilities	\$	132,309	\$	101,801	\$	30,508		
Non-current liabilities	Ψ	1,961,658	Ψ	2,094,163	Ψ	(132,505)		
Total liabilities		2,093,967		2,195,964		(101,997)		
Deferred inflows of resources								
Deferred amount on pension liability		515,239		478,290		36,949		
Deferred amount on other postemployment		313,237		170,270		30,717		
benefits liability		674,556		746,684		(72,128)		
Total deferred inflows of resources		1,189,795		1,224,974		(35,179)		
Net position								
Net investment in capital assets		11,880,424		12,130,602		(250,178)		
Restricted		2,384,529		2,233,522		151,007		
Unrestricted		1,231,308		805,194		426,114		
Total net position		15,496,261		15,169,318		326,943		
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources								
and net position	\$	18,780,023	\$	18,590,256	\$	189,767		

See independent auditors' report.

Management's Discussion and Analysis Condensed Financial Statements (continued)

Condensed Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position

Exhibit B

	For the Year Ended						
	December 31,]	ncrease	
		2021		2020	2020 (Decrease		
Operating revenues	\$	1,707,644	\$	1,692,399	\$	15,245	
Operating expenses		1,381,172		1,449,549		(68,377)	
Operating income		326,472		242,850		83,622	
Non-operating revenues (expenses)							
Interest income		853		10,023		(9,170)	
Loss on disposal of capital assets		(382)		_		(382)	
Total non-operating revenues (expenses)		471		10,023		(9,552)	
Increase in net position		326,943		252,873		74,070	
Net position - beginning of year		15,169,318		14,916,445		252,873	
Net position - end of year	\$	15,496,261	\$	15,169,318	\$	326,943	



Statements of Net Position December 31,

	2021	2020
Assets		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,855,199	\$ 3,618,664
Total current assets	3,855,199	3,618,664
Non-current restricted assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	2,384,529	2,233,522
Capital assets		
Capital assets not being depreciated	262,767	262,767
Capital assets being depreciated	21,389,641	21,240,303
Less: accumulated depreciation	(9,771,984)	(9,372,468)
Net capital assets	11,880,424	12,130,602
Total assets	18,120,152	17,982,788
Deferred outflows of resources		
Deferred amount on pension liability	227,129	120,535
Deferred amount on other postemployment benefits liability	432,742	486,933
Total deferred outflows of resources	659,871	607,468
Total assets and deferred outflows of resources	\$ 18,780,023	\$ 18,590,256

Statements of Net Position (continued) December 31,

		2021		2020
Liabilities				
Current liabilities				
Accounts payable	\$	90,576	\$	62,164
Payroll taxes and withholdings payable		8,388		5,570
Accrued vacation pay		33,345		34,067
Total current liabilities		132,309		101,801
Non-current liabilities (payable from unrestricted assets)				
Net pension liability		767,913		888,510
Net other postemployment benefits liability		1,193,745		1,205,653
Total non-current liabilities		1,961,658		2,094,163
Total liabilities		2,093,967		2,195,964
Deferred inflows of resources				
Deferred amount on pension liability		515,239		478,290
Deferred amount on other postemployment benefits liability		674,556		746,684
Total deferred inflows of resources		1,189,795		1,224,974
Net position				
Net investment in capital assets	1	1,880,424	1	12,130,602
Restricted		2,384,529		2,233,522
Unrestricted		1,231,308		805,194
Total net position	1	5,496,261		15,169,318
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and net position	\$ 1	8,780,023	\$ 1	18,590,256

READINGTON-LEBANON SEWERAGE AUTHORITY Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position For the Years Ended December 31,

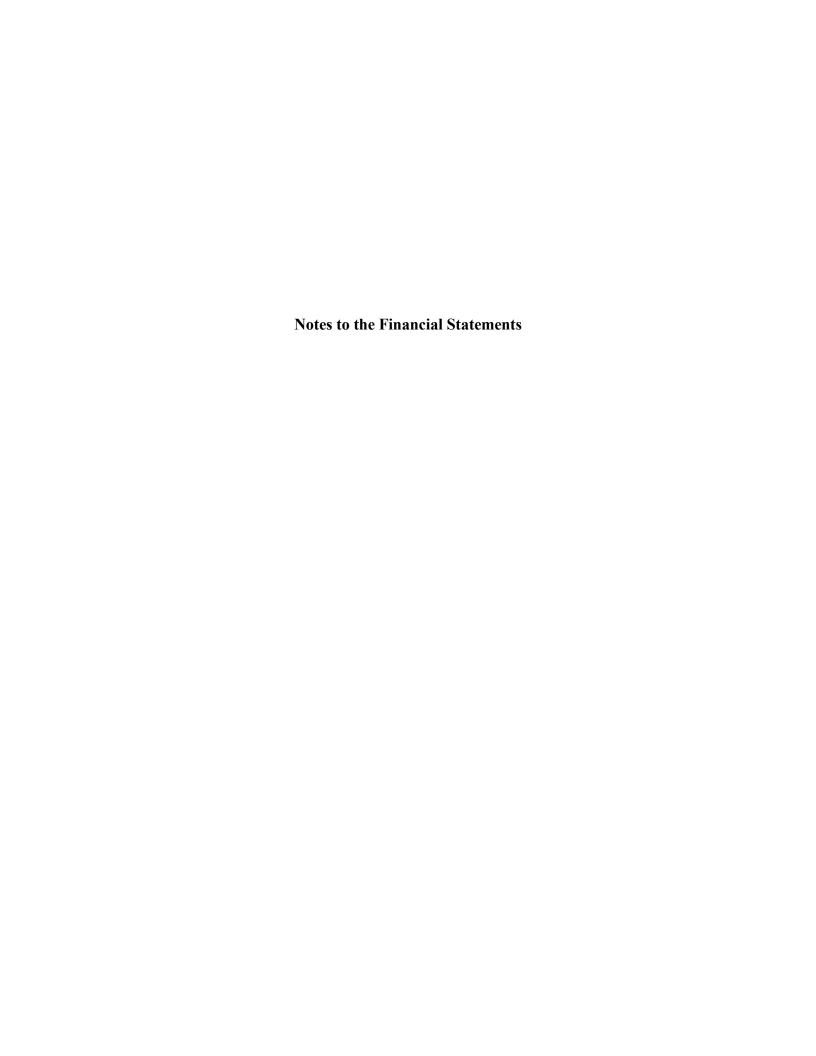
	2021	2020
Operating revenues	 	
User charges	\$ 1,691,700	\$ 1,663,900
Interest income	15,944	28,499
Total operating revenues	 1,707,644	1,692,399
Operating expenses		
Cost of providing services	617,858	649,728
Administrative and general	355,379	395,173
Depreciation	407,935	404,648
Total operating expenses	1,381,172	1,449,549
Operating income	 326,472	 242,850
Non-operating revenues (expenses)		
Interest income	853	10,023
Loss on disposal of capital assets	(382)	-
Total non-operating revenues (expenses)	471	10,023
Change in net position	326,943	252,873
Net position, beginning	 15,169,318	14,916,445
Net position, ending	\$ 15,496,261	\$ 15,169,318

Statements of Cash Flows For the Years Ended December 31,

	2021	2020
Cash flows from operating activities		
Cash received from customers	\$ 1,691,700	\$ 1,671,069
Other operating cash receipts	15,944	28,499
Cash payments to suppliers and employees	(1,162,816)	(1,155,753)
Net cash provided by (used for) operating activities	544,828	543,815
Cash flow from capital and related financing activities		
Purchase of capital assets	(158,139)	(57,637)
Interest income	853	10,023
Net cash provided by (used for) capital		
and related financing activities	(157,286)	(47,614)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	387,542	496,201
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning	5,852,186	5,355,985
Cash and cash equivalents, ending	\$ 6,239,728	\$ 5,852,186
Reconciliation of balance sheet		
Unrestricted cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,855,199	\$ 3,618,664
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	2,384,529	2,233,522
Total cash and cash equivalents	\$ 6,239,728	\$ 5,852,186

Statements of Cash Flows (continued) For the Years Ended December 31,

		2021	2020
Reconciliation of income (loss) from operations to net cash provided by (used for) operating activities Operating income (loss)	\$	326,472	\$ 242,850
Adjustments to reconcile income (loss) from operations to			
net cash provided by (used for) operating activities			
Depreciation		407,935	404,648
Change in assets and liabilities			
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable		28,412	(11,147)
(Increase) decrease in accounts receivable		-	7,169
Increase (decrease) in accrued vacation pay		(722)	6,509
Increase (decrease) in deferred inflow of resources		(35,179)	(81,220)
(Increase) decrease in deferred outflow of resources		(52,403)	(434,776)
Increase (decrease) in net pension liability		(120,597)	(72,742)
Increase (decrease) in net other postemployment benefits liability		(11,908)	478,906
Increase (decrease) in payroll taxes and withholdings payable		2,818	3,618
Net cash provided by (used for) operating activities	\$	544,828	\$ 543,815



Note 1 - <u>Summary of significant accounting policies</u>

The financial statements of the Readington-Lebanon Sewerage Authority (the Authority) have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to Governmental Units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The more significant accounting policies of the Authority's accounting policies are described below.

Reporting entity

The Authority was created to construct and operate a wastewater treatment system to serve Readington Township, Lebanon Borough, and the State of New Jersey for the Round Valley recreational area.

The Authority consists of six appointed officials and is responsible for the fiscal control of the operations of the sewer system. The various funds used by the Authority to control assets are authorized in the Bond Resolution adopted on August 8, 1984. The Bond Resolution restricts various transactions and requires certain transfers be made between funds. The Bond Resolution is on file in the Authority's office.

Basis of presentation - fund accounting

The operations of the Authority are recorded in a proprietary fund type. Proprietary funds are used to account for activities that are financed and operated in a manner similar to business enterprises and the intention is that costs (expenses, including depreciation) of providing services to the general public on a continuing basis are to be financed or recovered primarily through user charges.

Basis of accounting

The Authority's financial statements are presented on the accrual basis in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The accrual basis of accounting is used for measuring financial position and operating results of proprietary fund types. Under this method of accounting, revenues are recorded in the accounting period in which they are earned, and expenses are recorded as incurred.

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to the Authority is determined by its measurement focus. The transactions of the Authority are accounted for on a flow of economic resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, all assets, liabilities and deferred inflow or outflow of resources associated with the operations are included on the Statements of Net Position. The net position (i.e., total assets net of total liabilities) is segregated into invested capital assets, restricted and unrestricted components.

Note 1 - Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of American requires management to make certain estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent net assets and liabilities at the date of the Statements of Net Position and reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Estimates are used to determine depreciation expense, among other accounts. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

Budget and budgetary accounting

At least 60 days prior to the Authority's year-end (December 31), the Authority must file its operating budget with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services for approval. Within 45 days after receipt of the Authority's budget, the Director shall either approve or notify the Authority of the reasons for non-approval of the budget and to state the conditions upon which the approval will be granted. After approval, the Authority will formally adopt the budget. The budget is prepared based on the accounting principles and practices as prescribed by the Division of Local Government Services.

Income taxes

The Authority, under existing statute, is exempt from Federal and State income taxes. Accordingly, no provision for income taxes has been made in the financial statements.

Restricted assets

The Authority has restricted the below summarized accounts which may only be utilized for the purposes indicated:

Account	Use for which Restricted
Reserve for capital improvements	Construction and/or reconstruction of assets

Net position

Net position represents the difference between the summation of assets and deferred outflows of resources, and the summation of liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. In the government-wide financial statements, net position is classified into the following three components:

- Net investment in Capital Assets This component represents capital assets, less accumulated depreciation, and net of outstanding balances of borrowings used for the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.
- Restricted Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the Authority or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments.
- *Unrestricted* Net position is reported as unrestricted when it does not meet the criteria of the other two components of net position.

Note 1 - <u>Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)</u>

Capital assets

Capital assets are recorded as expenditures at the time of purchase and the related assets are capitalized at cost, which includes direct construction costs and other expenditures related to construction. Depreciation is recorded using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets as follows:

Building and improvements	25 - 75 years
Sewer mains and interceptors	75 years
Other equipment	5 - 15 years
Pumps and dewatering equipment	75 years
Vehicles	5 years

Deferred outflows/inflows of resources

In addition to assets, the Statements of Net Position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred outflows of resources, represents a consumption of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. The Authority has one item that qualifies for reporting in this category, deferred amount on pension activity. In addition to liabilities, the Statements of Net Position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred inflows of resources, represents an acquisition of net position that applies to future periods and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. The Authority has one item that qualifies for reporting in this category, deferred amount on pension activity.

Note 2 - Deposits, cash equivalents, and investments

Cash and cash equivalents include petty cash, change funds, cash and certificates of deposit in banks, and cash with the New Jersey Cash Management Fund.

New Jersey Governmental Units are required by N.J.S.A. 40A:5-14 to deposit public funds in a bank or trust company having its place of business in the State of New Jersey and organized under the laws of the United States or of the State of New Jersey or in the New Jersey Cash Management Fund. N.J.S.A. 40A:5-15.1 provides a list of investments which may be purchased by New Jersey Governmental Units. In addition, other state statutes permit investments in obligations issued by local authorities and other state agencies. The State of New Jersey does not place any limit on the amount that the Authority may invest with any one issuer.

New Jersey Governmental Units are limited as to the types of investments and types of financial institutions they may invest in. New Jersey Statute 18A:20-37 provides a list of permissible investments that may be purchased by New Jersey Governmental Units.

Note 2 - Deposits, cash equivalents, and investments (continued)

N.J.S.A. 17:9-41 e.t. seq. establishes the requirements for the security of deposits of Governmental Units. The statute requires that no Governmental Unit shall deposit public funds in a public depository unless such funds are secured in accordance with the Act. Public depositories include savings and loan institutions, banks (both state and national banks) and saving banks the deposits of which are federally insured.

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of a bank failure, the Authority's deposits might not be recovered. The Authority does not have a policy for custodial credit risk. New Jersey statutes require cash be deposited only in New Jersey based banking institutions that participate in the New Jersey Governmental Unit Deposit Protection Act (GUDPA) or in qualified investments established in New Jersey Statutes 40A:5-15.1(a) that are treated as cash equivalents. Under the act, the first \$250,000 of governmental deposits in each insured depository is protected by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). Public funds owned by the Authority in excess of FDIC insured amounts are protected by GUDPA.

However, GUDPA does not protect intermingled trust funds, employee salary withholdings, or funds that may pass to the Authority relative to the happening of a future condition.

Deposits with the New Jersey Cash Management Fund are not subject to custodial credit risk as defined above. The New Jersey Cash Management Fund is governed by regulations of the State Investment Council, who prescribe standards designed to ensure the quality of investments in order to minimize risk to the Fund participants.

As of December 31, 2021 and 2020, the Authority's bank balances were exposed to custodial credit risk as follows:

	2021	 2020
Deposits insured by the FDIC	\$ 750,000	\$ 500,000
Deposits insured by the GUDPA	1,704,164	1,816,876
Deposits with New Jersey Cash Management Fund	3,789,344	3,537,896
Total bank balances	\$ 6,243,508	\$ 5,854,772

The Authority's carrying (Statements of Net Position) amounts were \$6,239,728 and \$5,852,186 for December 31, 2021 and 2020, respectively.

Note 3 - <u>Authority revenues</u>

Sewer charges are based on an amount approved annually by the governing body and is based on the prior year sewer flows. The billing for the approved amount is allocated to three entities: Township of Readington, the Borough of Lebanon, and State of New Jersey for a recreation area. Bills are payable in monthly installments.

Note 4 - <u>Pension plans</u>

Public employees' retirement systems (PERS)

Plan description

The State of New Jersey, Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by the State of New Jersey, Division of Pensions and Benefits (the Division). For additional information about PERS, please refer to Division's financial report which can be found at www.state.nj.us/treasury/pensions/annual-reports.shtml.

The vesting and benefit provisions are set by N.J.S.A. 43:15A. PERS provides retirement, death and disability benefits. All benefits vest after ten years of service.

The following represents the membership Tiers for PERS:

Tier	Definition
1	Members enrolled prior to July 1, 2007
2	Members eligible to enroll on or after July 1, 2007 and prior to November 2, 2008
3	Members eligible to enroll on or after November 2, 2008 and prior to May 22, 2010
4	Members eligible to enroll on or after May 22, 2010 and prior to June 28, 2011
5	Members eligible to enroll on or after June 28, 2011

Service retirement benefits of 1/55th of final average salary for each year of service credit is available to Tiers 1 and 2 members upon reaching age 60 and to Tier 3 members upon reaching age 62. Service retirement benefits of 1/60th of final average salary for each year of service credit is available to Tier 4 members upon reaching age 62 and Tier 5 members upon reaching age 65. Early retirement benefits are available to Tiers 1 and 2 members before reaching age 60, Tiers 3 and 4 before age 62 with 25 or more years of service credit and Tier 5 with 30 or more years of service credit before age 65. Benefits are reduced by a fraction of a percent for each month that a member retires prior to the age at which a member can receive full early retirement benefits in accordance with their respective Tier. Tier 1 members can receive an unreduced benefit from age 55 to age 60 if they have at least 25 years of service. Deferred retirement is available to members who have at least 10 years of service credit and have not reached the service retirement age for the respective Tier.

Note 4 - <u>Pension plans</u>

Public employees' retirement systems (PERS)

Allocation methodology and reconciliation to financial statements

GASB Statement No. 68, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions, requires participating employers in PERS to recognize their proportionate share of the collective net pension liability, collective deferred outflows of resources, collective deferred inflows of resources and collective pension expense. The employer allocation percentages presented in the Schedule of Employer Allocations and applied to amounts presented in the Schedule of Pension Amounts by Employer, are based on the ratio of the contributions of an individual employer to the total contributions to PERS during the measurement period July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. Employer allocation percentages have been rounded for presentation purposes; therefore, amounts presented in the Schedule of Pension Amounts by Employer may result in immaterial differences. Contributions from employers are recognized when due, based on statutory requirements.

Although the Division administers one cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan, separate (sub) actuarial valuations are prepared to determine the actuarial determined contribution rate by group. Following this method, the disclosure of the collective net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources, deferred inflows of resources, and pension expense are determined separately for each individual employer of the State and local groups of the plan.

To facilitate the separate (sub) actuarial valuations, the Division maintains separate accounts to identify additions, deductions, and fiduciary net position applicable to each group. The allocation percentages presented for each group in the Schedule of Employer Allocations are applied to amounts presented in the Schedules of Pension Amounts by Employer. The allocation percentages for each group as of June 30, 2021, are based on the ratio of each employer's contributions to total employer contributions of the group for the State fiscal year ended June 30, 2021.

Contributions

The contribution policy for PERS is set by N.J.S.A. 43:15A and requires contributions by active members and contributing employers. State legislation has modified the amount that is contributed by the state. The state's pension contribution is based on an actuarially determined amount, which includes the employer portion of the normal cost and an amortization of the unfunded accrued liability. Funding for non-contributory group insurance benefits is based on actual claims paid. For State fiscal year 2021, the state's pension contribution was less than the actuarial determined amount.

Note 4 - <u>Pension plans (continued)</u>

Public employees' retirement systems (PERS) (continued)

Contributions (continued)

The local employers' contribution amounts are based on an actuarially determined rate, which includes the normal cost and unfunded accrued liability. Chapter 19, PL 2009 provided an option for local employers of PERS to contribute 50% of the normal and accrued liability contribution amounts certified for payments due in State fiscal year 2009. Such employers will be credited with the full payment and any such amounts will not be included in their unfunded liability. The Actuaries will determine the unfunded liability of those retirement systems, by employer, for the reduced normal and accrued liability contributions provided under this law. This unfunded liability will be paid by the employer in level annual payments over a period of 15 years beginning with the payments due in the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012 and will be adjusted by the rate of return on the actuarial value of assets.

The contribution rate was 7.50% of base salary effective July 1, 2019.

Two-year trend information for PERS:

	Annual Contribution						
Year Funded	Αι	ıthority	Employee				
2021	\$	59,604	\$	44,730			
2020		51,892		43,326			

Collective net pension liability and actuarial information

The components of the Authority's allocable share of the net pension liability for PERS as of December 31, 2021 and 2020 are as follows:

		2021	2020		
Net pension liability		767,913	\$	888,510	
Proportionate share	0.0064138221%		0.0054060035%		
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the					
total pension liability		70.33%		58.32%	

Note 4 - <u>Pension plans (continued)</u>

Public employees' retirement systems (PERS) (continued)

Collective net pension liability and actuarial information (continued)

Actuarial assumptions

The collective total pension liability for the June 30, 2021 measurement date was determined by an actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2020, which was rolled forward to June 30, 2021. This actuarial valuation used the following actuarial assumptions:

Inflation rate

Price	2.75%
Wage	3.25%

Salary increases (based on years of service)

Through 2026 2.00% - 6.00% Thereafter 3.00% - 7.00%

Investment rate of return 7.00%

Pre-retirement mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 General Below-Median Income Employee mortality table with an 82.2% adjustment for males and 101.4% adjustment for females, and with future improvement from the base year of 2010 on a generational basis. Post-retirement mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 General Below-Median Income Healthy Retiree mortality table with a 91.4% adjustment for males and 99.7% adjustment for females, and with future improvement from the base year of 2010 on a generational basis. Disability retirement rates used to value disabled retirees were based on the Pub-2010 Non-Safety Disabled Retiree mortality table with a 127.7% adjustment for males and 117.2% adjustment for females, and with future improvement from the base year of 2010 on a generational basis. Mortality improvement is based on Scale MP-2021.

The actuarial assumptions used in the July 1, 2020 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2018.

Long-term expected rate of return

In accordance with state statute, the long-term expected rate of return on plan investments (7.00% at June 30, 2021) is determined by the State Treasurer, after consultation with the Directors of the Division of Investment and Division of Pensions and Benefits, the Board of Trustees, and the Actuaries. The long-term expected rate of return was determined using a building block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in PERS's target asset allocation as of June 30, 2021 are summarized in the following table:

Note 4 - <u>Pensions (continued)</u>

Public employee's retirement system (continued)

Collective net pension liability and actuarial information (continued)

Long-term expected rate of return (continued)

	Target	Long-Term Expected
Asset Class	Allocations	Rate of Return
U.S. equity	27.00%	8.09%
Non-U.S. developed markets equity	13.50%	8.71%
Emerging markets equity	5.50%	10.96%
Private equity	13.00%	11.30%
Real estate	8.00%	9.15%
Real assets	3.00%	7.40%
High yield	2.00%	3.75%
Private credit	8.00%	7.60%
Investment grade credit	8.00%	1.68%
Cash equivalents	4.00%	0.50%
U.S. Treasuries	5.00%	0.95%
Risk mitigation strategies	3.00%	3.35%

Discount rate

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.00% as of June 30, 2021. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from plan members will be made at the current member contribution rates and that contributions from employers will be based on 100% of actuarially determined contributions for the local employers. Based on those assumptions, the plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on plan investments was applied to all projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of the collective net pension liability to changes in the discount rate

The following presents the Authority's proportionate share of the collective net pension liability of as of December 31, 2021 and 2020 calculated using the discount rate as disclosed above, as well as what the collective net pension liability would be if it was calculated using a discount rate that is 1% point lower or 1% point higher than the current rate:

Authority's proportionate share of the net pension liability		2021
At current discount rate (7.00%)	\$	767,913
At a 1% lower rate (6.00%)		1,045,742
At a 1% higher rate (8.00%)		532,136
Authority's proportionate share of the net pension liability		2020
At current discount rate (7.00%)	\$	888,510
At a 1% lower rate (6.00%)		1,118,486
At a 1% higher rate (8.00%)		693,369

Note 4 - <u>Pensions (continued)</u>

Public employee's retirement system (continued)

Collective net pension liability and actuarial information (continued)

Collective deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources

At December 31, 2021 and 2020, the Authority reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to PERS from the following sources:

		20	21			2020			
	Ι	Deferred	Γ	Deferred		Deferred	I	Deferred	
	C	outflows]	Inflows	C	outflows		Inflows	
	of l	Resources	of l	Resources	of l	Resources	of	Resources	
Differences between expected									
and actual experience	\$	12,111	\$	5,497	\$	16,178	\$	3,142	
Changes of assumptions		3,999		273,382		28,824		372,028	
Net difference between									
projected and actual earnings									
on pension plan investments		-		202,288		30,370		-	
Changes in proportion and									
differences between Authority									
contributions and proportionate									
share of contributions		211,019		34,072		45,163		103,120	
Total	\$	227,129	\$	515,239	\$	120,535	\$	478,290	

The following presents a summary of changes in the collective deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources (excluding employer specific amounts) for the year ended December 31, 2021 and 2020:

	Beginning		Net	Net Change in		Ending	
December 31, 2021	Balance		Activity		Balance		
Deferred outflows of resources							
Differences between expected							
and actual experience	\$	16,178	\$	(4,067)	\$	12,111	
Changes of assumptions		28,824		(24,825)		3,999	
Differences between projected							
and actual investment earnings							
on pension plan investments		30,370		(30,370)		-	
Deferred inflows of resources							
Differences between expected							
and actual experience		(3,142)		(2,355)		(5,497)	
Changes of assumptions		(372,028)		98,646		(273,382)	
Differences between projected							
and actual investment earnings							
on pension plan investments				(202,288)		(202,288)	
Net changes in deferred							
outflows (inflows) of resources	\$	(299,798)	\$	(165,259)	\$	(465,057)	

Note 4 - <u>Pension plans (continued)</u>

Public employees' retirement systems (PERS) (continued)

Collective net pension liability and actuarial information (continued)

Collective deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources (continued)

	Beginning		Net Change in		Ending	
December 31, 2020		Balance	Activity		Balance	
Deferred outflows of resources						
Differences between expected						
and actual experience	\$	17,253	\$	(1,075)	\$	16,178
Changes of assumptions		95,985		(67,161)		28,824
Differences between projected						
and actual investment earnings						
on pension plan investments		-		30,370		30,370
Deferred inflows of resources						
Differences between expected						
and actual experience		(4,246)		1,104		(3,142)
Changes of assumptions		(333,648)		(38,380)		(372,028)
Differences between projected						
and actual investment earnings						
on pension plan investments		(15,174)		15,174		
Net changes in deferred						
outflows (inflows) of resources	\$	(239,830)	\$	(59,968)	\$	(299,798)

Deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions (excluding employer specific amounts, deferrals from the Authority's contributions subsequent to the measurement date, and deferrals from change on proportion) will occur in future periods for the year ending December 31, 2021 and 2020 are as follows:

	2021		2020
2022	\$ (181,194)	2021	\$ (111,492)
2023	(129,372)	2022	(101,647)
2024	(88,210)	2023	(58,088)
2025	(66,307)	2024	(23,490)
2026	26	2025	(5,081)
Total	\$ (465,057)	Total	\$ (299,798)

Note 4 - Pension plans (continued)

Public employees' retirement systems (PERS) (continued)

Collective net pension liability and actuarial information (continued)

Collective deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources (continued)

Pension expense

The components of allocable pension expense, which exclude pension expense related to specific liabilities of individual employers, for the Authority for the year ended December 31, 2021 and 2020 are as follows:

	2021	 2020
Service cost	\$ 45,222	\$ 41,974
Interest on total pension liability	177,709	136,763
Benefit changes	-	(938)
Member contributions	(36,792)	(29,835)
Administrative expense	643	714
Expected investment return net of investment expense	(96,951)	(80,510)
Pension expense related to specific liabilities of individual		
employers	(453)	(374)
Recognition of deferred inflows/outflows of resources		
Amortization of expected versus actual experience	4,979	9,642
Amortization of assumption changes or inputs	(134,893)	(71,028)
Amortization of projected versus actual investment		
earnings on pension plan investments (benefit)	(64,330)	 14,822
Pension expense (benefit)	\$ (104,866)	\$ 21,230

Note 5 - <u>Capital assets</u>

A summary of changes in capital assets and accumulated depreciation is as follows:

	Beginning				Ending
December 31, 2021	 Balance	 Additions	Disposals		 Balance
Land	\$ 231,628	\$ -	\$	-	\$ 231,628
Construction in progress	31,139	-		-	31,139
Plant	16,058,931	-		-	16,058,931
Building	3,342,487	-		-	3,342,487
Building improvements	1,043,853	63,101		-	1,106,954
Vehicles	57,890	=		-	57,890
Operating equipment	 737,142	95,038		8,801	 823,379
Total capital assets	21,503,070	158,139		8,801	21,652,408
Accumulated depreciation	 (9,372,468)	(407,935)		(8,419)	 (9,771,984)
Capital assets, net	\$ 12,130,602	\$ (249,796)	\$	382	\$ 11,880,424

Note 5 - <u>Capital assets (continued)</u>

	Beginning					Ending
December 31, 2020	 Balance	A	Additions	D:	isposals	 Balance
Land	\$ 231,628	\$	=	\$	-	\$ 231,628
Construction in progress	31,139		-		-	31,139
Plant	16,026,139		32,792		-	16,058,931
Building	3,342,487		-		-	3,342,487
Building improvements	1,043,853		-		-	1,043,853
Vehicles	57,890		-		-	57,890
Operating equipment	 720,154		24,845		7,857	 737,142
Total capital assets	21,453,290		57,637		7,857	21,503,070
Accumulated depreciation	 (8,975,677)		(404,648)		(7,857)	 (9,372,468
Capital assets, net	\$ 12,477,613	\$	(347,011)	\$		\$ 12,130,602

Note 6 - <u>Long-term liabilities</u>

Long-term liability activity for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020 is as follows:

December 31, 2021	Beginning Balance	A	dditions	Re	eductions		Ending Balance
PERS net pension							
liability	\$ 888,510	\$	-	\$	120,597	\$	767,913
Net OPEB liability	1,205,653		-		11,908		1,193,745
Total liability	\$ 2,094,163	\$	-	\$	132,505	\$	1,961,658
December 31, 2020	Beginning Balance	Δ	dditions	R.	eductions		Ending Balance
PERS net pension	 Datanec		dultions		<u>cauctions</u>		Darance
liability	\$ 961,252	\$	-	\$	72,742	\$	888,510
Net OPEB liability	726,747		478,906				1,205,653
Total liability	 1,687,999	\$	478,906	\$	72,742	\$_	2,094,163

Note 7 - Accrued vacation payable

The Authority has allowed unused vacation time to be accumulated to a maximum of 120 days per employee. Up to one half of accumulated sick days may be paid upon disability or retirement or compensating time-off may be taken. If present employees were eligible for this benefit at December 31, 2021 and 2020, the liability to the Authority would be approximately \$33,345 and \$34,067, respectively.

Note 8 - Postretirement benefits

Plan description - The Authority contributes to the State Health Benefit Local Government Retired Employees Plan (the Plan), a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit other postemployment benefit (OPEB) plan administered by the State of New Jersey Division of Pensions and Benefits. It covers employees of local government employers that have adopted a resolution to participate in the Plan. The plan meets the definition of an equivalent arrangement as defined in paragraph 4 of GASB Statement No. 75, Accounting and Financial Reporting for the Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions (GASB Statement No. 75); therefore, assets are accumulated to pay associated benefits. For additional information, please refer Division) financial to the report. which found at https://www.state.nj.us/treasury/pensions/financial-reports.shtml.

The Plan provides medical and prescription drug to retirees and their covered dependents. Under the provisions of Chapter 88, P.L 1974 and Chapter 48, P.L. 1999, local government employers electing to provide postretirement medical coverage to their employees must file a resolution with the Division. Under Chapter 88, local employers elect to provide benefit coverage based on the eligibility rules and regulations promulgated by the State Health Benefits Commission. Chapter 48 allows local employers to establish their own age and service eligibility for employer paid health benefits coverage for retired employees. Under Chapter 48, the employer may assume the cost of postretirement medical coverage for employees and their dependents who: 1) retired on a disability pension; or 2) retired with 25 or more years of service credit in a locally administered retirement system and a period of service of up to 25 years with the employer at the time of retirement as established by the employer; or 3) retired and reached the age of 65 with 25 or more years of service credit in a locally administered retirement system and a period of service of up to 25 years with the employer at the time of retirement as established by the employer; or 4) retired and reached age 62 with at least 15 years of service with the employer. Further, the law provides that the employer paid obligations for retiree coverage may be determined by means of a collective negotiation's agreement.

The Authority has adopted a resolution to participate in the Plan.

Funding policy - Participating employers are contractually required to contribute based on the amount of premiums attributable to their retirees. Postretirement medical benefits under the plan have been funded on a pay-as-you-go basis since 1994. Prior to 1994, medical benefits were funded on an actuarial basis.

Pursuant to Chapter 78, P.L, 2011, future retirees eligible for postretirement medical coverage who have less than 20 years of creditable service on June 28, 2011 will be required to pay a percentage of the cost of their health care coverage in retirement provided they retire with 25 or more years of pension service credit. The percentage of the premium for which the retiree will be responsible will be determined based on the retiree's annual retirement benefit and level of coverage.

Note 8 - <u>Post-retirement benefits (continued)</u>

Contributions to pay for the health premiums of participating retirees in the SHBP are billed to the Authority monthly. Premiums are funded entirely by the Authority and are based on the type of coverage selected by the employee. The Authority's contributions to the SHBP for post-retirement benefits for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020 were \$18,111 and \$20,423, which equaled the required benefit contribution for each year. There were two retired participants eligible at December 31, 2021 and 2020.

Allocation methodology

GASB Statement No. 75 requires participating employers to recognize their proportionate share of the collective net OPEB liability, collective deferred outflows of resources, collective deferred inflows of resources, and collective OPEB expense. For the nonspecial funding situation, the total OPEB liability for the years ended June 30, 2021 and June 30, 2020 was \$1,197,080 and \$1,216,726, respectively. The nonspecial funding situation's net OPEB liability, deferred outflows of resources, deferred inflows of resources, and OPEB expense are allocated to employers based on the ratio of the plan members of an individual employer to the total members of the nonspecial funding situation during the measurement period July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

Components of net OPEB liability

The Authority's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability of the participating employers in the SHBP as of December 31, 2021 and 2020 were as follows:

	 2021	 2020
Net OPEB liability	\$ 1,193,745	\$ 1,205,653
Proportionate share	0.006632%	0.006718%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the		
total OPEB liability	0.28%	0.91%

The net OPEB liability as of December 31, 2021 was determined by an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2020, which was rolled forward to June 30, 2021. The actuarial assumptions vary for each plan member depending on the pension plan the member is enrolled in. Salary increases are based on the defined benefit plan that the member is enrolled in and the member's age. The actuarial valuation used the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods in the measurement:

Inflation rate	2.50%
Salary increases (based on years of service)	
PERS	
Initial fiscal year applied	
Rate through 2026	2.00% to 6.00%
Rate thereafter	3.00% to 7.00%

Note 8 - Post-retirement benefits (continued)

Mortality:

PERS Pub-2010 General classification head count weighted mortality with fully

generational mortality improvement projections from the central year using

Scale MP-2021

Actuarial assumptions used in the July 1, 2020 valuation were based on the results of the PERS experience studies prepared for July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2018 and July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2018, respectively

100% of active members are considered to participate in the plan upon retirement.

Discount rate

The discount rate for June 30, 2021 and 2020 was 2.16% and 2.21%, respectively. This represents the municipal bond return rate as chosen by the state. The source is the Bond Buyer Go 20-Bond Municipal Bond Index, which includes tax-exempt general obligation municipal bonds with an average rating of AA/Aa or higher. As the long-term rate of return is less than the municipal bond rate, it is not considered in the calculation of the discount rate, rather the discount rate is set at the municipal bond rate.

Sensitivity of net OPEB liability to changes in the discount rate

The following presents the collective net OPEB liability of the participating employers as of December 31, 2021 and 2020, calculated using the discount rate as disclosed above as well as what the collective net OPEB liability would be if it was calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage point lower or 1-percentage point higher than the current rate:

		2021	 2020		
At current discount rate (2.16% and 2.21%)	\$	1,193,745	\$ 1,205,653		
At a 1% lower rate (1.16% and 1.21%)		1,404,809	1,425,337		
At a 1% higher rate (3.16% and 3.21%)		1,026,473	1,031,754		

Sensitivity of net OPEB liability to changes in the healthcare trend rate

The following presents the net OPEB liability as of December 31, 2021 and 2020, respectively, calculated using the healthcare trend rate as disclosed above as well as what the net OPEB liability would be if it was calculated using a healthcare trend rate that is 1-percentage point lower or 1-percentage point higher than the current rate:

	 2021	 2020		
Healthcare cost trend rate	\$ 1,193,745	\$ 1,205,653		
At a 1% lower rate (1% decrease)	995,986	997,679		
At a 1% higher rate (1% increase)	1,451,797	1,477,998		

Note 8 - <u>Post-retirement benefits (continued)</u>

Collective deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources

At December 31, 2021 and 2020, the Authority reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

		20)21		2020			
	Ι	Deferred	Deferred		Ι	Deferred		Deferred
	C	Outflows		Inflows	C	Outflows]	Inflows
	of	Resources	of	Resources	of l	Resources	of	Resources
Differences between expected								
and actual experience	\$	26,786	\$	249,749	\$	31,756	\$	224,515
Changes of assumptions		171,724		211,009		180,328		268,119
Net difference between projected	l							
and actual earnings on OPEB								
plan investments		571		-		766		-
Changes in proportion and								
differences between Authority								
contributions and proportionate								
share of contributions		233,661		213,798		274,083		254,050
Total	\$	432,742	\$	674,556	\$	486,933	\$	746,684

The following presents a summary of changes in the collective deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources (excluding employer specific amounts) for the year ended December 31, 2021 and 2020:

	E	Beginning	Ne	t Change	Ending		
December 31, 2021		Balance	in Activity		Balance		
Deferred outflows of resources							
Differences between expected							
and actual experience	\$	31,756	\$	(4,970)	\$	26,786	
Changes of assumptions		180,328		(8,604)		171,724	
Differences between							
projected and actual							
investment earnings on							
OPEB plan investments		766		(195)		571	
Deferred inflows of resources							
Differences between expected							
and actual experience		(224,515)		(25,234)		(249,749)	
Changes of assumptions		(268,119)		57,110		(211,009)	
Net changes in deferred							
outflows (inflows) of resources	\$	(279,784)	\$	18,107	\$	(261,677)	

Note 8 - <u>Postretirement benefits (continued)</u> Sensitivity of net OPER liability to changes in the healthcare trend rate (continued)

Sensitivity of het OPEB hability to changes in the healthcare trend rate (contin	<u>luea)</u>	
Year ended December 31, 2021,		
2022	\$	(71,278)
2023		(71,371)
2024		(71,457)
2025		(51,028)
2026		(8,578)
Thereafter		12,035
Total	\$	(261,677)

December 31, 2020	Beginning Balance		et Change Activity	Ending Balance		
Deferred outflows of resources						
Differences between projected						
and actual investment earnings						
on OPEB plan investments	\$	-	\$ 31,756	\$	31,756	
Changes of assumptions		-	180,328		180,328	
Differences between						
projected and actual						
investment earnings on						
OPEB plan investments		599	167		766	
Deferred inflows of resources						
Differences between expected						
and actual experience		(212,529)	(11,986)		(224,515)	
Changes of assumptions		(257,543)	 (10,576)		(268,119)	
Net changes in deferred						
outflows (inflows) of resources	\$	(469,473)	\$ 189,689	\$	(279,784)	

The amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

Year ended December 31, 2020,	
2021	\$ (64,811)
2022	(64,869)
2023	(64,964)
2024	(65,050)
2025	(44,356)
Thereafter	 24,266
Total	\$ (279,784)

The year of deferral for the differences between projected and actual investment earnings on OPEB plan investments was 2020 and 2021 and the amortization period was 5 years for each year. The year of deferral for the change of assumptions was 2020 and 2021 and the amortization period was 7.87 years and 7.82 years, respectively.

Note 8 - <u>Postretirement benefits (continued)</u>

Sensitivity of net OPEB liability to changes in the healthcare trend rate (continued)

Changes in proportion

The previous amounts do not include employer specific deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflow of resources related to the changes in proportion. These amounts should be recognized (amortized) by each employer over the average remaining service lives of all plan members, which is 7.87 years for the 2020 amounts and 7.82 years for 2021.

OPEB (benefit) expense

The components of allocable OPEB (benefit) expense, which exclude OPEB (benefit) expense related to specific liabilities of individual employers, for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020 are as follows:

	2021		2020	
Service cost	\$	56,110	\$	40,708
Interest on total OPEB liability		27,446		33,418
Expected investment return		(158)		(513)
Administrative expense		752		666
Changes in benefit terms		135		69
Current period recognition (amortization) of deferred				
inflows/outflows of resources		(46,660)		(36,989)
Changes of assumptions		(24,889)		(28,125)
Differences between projected and actual				
investment earnings on OPEB plan investments		330		305
Total OPEB (benefit) expense	\$	13,066	\$	9,539

Note 9 - Risk management

The Authority 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.

Property and Liability Insurance - Risks of losses from worker's compensation, property, automobile, liability, and public official's liability are covered by insurance with New Jersey Utilities Authorities Joint Insurance Fund, plus separate policies for employee bonds and official's liability. Significant losses are covered by commercial insurance and there have been no significant reductions in insurance coverage. Settlement amounts have not exceeded insurance coverage for the current or the three prior years.

Note 10 - Deferred compensation plan

The Authority has a deferred compensation plan available to all full-time employees who wish to participate. The Plan is fully funded by employee contributions and is administered by Lincoln National Insurance Company.

READINGTON-LEBANON SEWERAGE AUTHORITY Notes to the Financial Statements

Note 11 - Recent accounting pronouncements not yet effective

The following is of recent accounting pronouncements which are not yet effective as of the year-end date of this report.

In June 2022, GASB issued Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences*. This statement is effective for reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2023. The Authority is evaluating the effect of the pronouncement on financial reporting.

In May 2020, GASB issued Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements*. This statement is effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2022. The Authority is evaluating the effect of the pronouncement on financial reporting.

In June 2017, GASB issued Statement No. 87, *Leases*. This statement is effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2021 as amended by GASB Statement No. 95. The Authority is evaluating the effect of the pronouncement on financial reporting.

Note 12 - Risks and uncertainties

On January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) announced a global health emergency because of a new strain of coronavirus originating in Wuhan, China (The COVID-19 outbreak) and the risks to the international community as a virus spreads globally beyond its point of origin. In March 2020, the WHO classified the COVID-19 outbreak as a pandemic, based on the rapid increase in exposure globally.

The full impact of the COVID-19 outbreak continues to evolve as of the date of this report. As such, it is uncertain as to the full magnitude that the pandemic will have on the Authority's financial condition, liquidity, and future results of operations.

Note 13 - Subsequent events

The Authority's Management has evaluated subsequent events through January 13, 2023, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued and no additional items were noted for disclosure.



Schedules Related To Accounting And Reporting For Pensions (GASB 68) (Unaudited)

Schedule of the Authority's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability

Public Employee's Retirement System Last Nine Years

Unaudited

Years Ending December 31,

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Authority's proportion of the net pension liability	0.0064138221%	0.0054060035%	0.0052979547%	0.0051907300%	0.0052108543%	0.0069261582%	0.0067088364%	0.0064723355%	0.0033779620%
Authority's proportion of the net pension liability	\$ 767,913	\$ 888,510	\$ 961,252	\$ 961,252	\$ 1,022,029	\$ 1,213,004	\$ 1,505,999	\$ 1,211,798	\$ 1,211,799
Authority's covered employee payroll	486,919	473,792	399,270	379,100	364,010	359,684	452,810	460,866	445,872
Authority's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered employee payroll	157.71%	187.53%	240.75%	253.56%	280.77%	337.24%	332.59%	262.94%	271.78%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	70.33%	58.32%	56.27%	53.60%	48.10%	40.14%	47.93%	52.08%	48.72%

Schedule of the Authority Contributions Public Employee's Retirement System Last Nine Years Unaudited

Years Ending December 31, 2021 2020 2019 2018 2017 2016 2015 2014 2013 Contractually required contributions 75,914 \$ 59,604 \$ 51,892 \$ 48,273 \$ 61,531 57,678 \$ 47,754 \$ 51,631 \$ \$ 53,357 \$ Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution 75,914 51,892 51,631 48,273 61,531 59,604 57,678 53,357 47,754 Contribution deficiency (excess) Authority's covered employee payroll 486,919 473,792 399,270 \$ 379,100 364,010 \$ 359,684 452,810 460,866 \$ 445,872 Contributions as a percentage of covered employee payroll 15.59% 12.58% 13.00% 13.62% 13.26% 17.11% 12.74% 11.58% 10.71% Schedules Related to Accounting and Reporting For Other Post Employment Employee Benefits (GASB 75) (Unaudited)

Schedule of the Authority's Proportionate Share of the Other Postemployment Employee Benefits Liability Last Six Years

	Years Ending December 31,						
	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	
Authority's proportionate share of the other postemployment employee benefits liability (asset) - percentage	0.006632%	0.006718%	0.005365%	0.005794%	0.005719%	0.007373%	
Authority's proportionate share of the other postemployment employee benefits liability (asset) - value	\$1,193,745	\$1,205,653	\$ 726,747	\$ 907,724	\$1,167,579	\$1,601,229	
State's proportionate share of the other postemployment							
employee benefits liability (asset) associated with the Authority	3,335	11,076	14,655	18,221	12,196	11,088	
Total	\$1,197,080	\$1,216,729	\$ 741,402	\$ 925,945	\$1,179,775	\$1,612,317	
Authority's covered employee payroll other postemployment	\$ 486,919	\$ 473,792	\$ 399,270	\$ 379,100	\$ 364,010	\$ 359,684	
Authority's proportionate share of the employee liability (asset) as a percentage of its covered employee payroll	40.79%	39.30%	54.94%	41.76%	31.18%	22.46%	
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total other post employment employee benefits liability	0.28%	0.91%	1.98%	1.97%	1.03%	0.69%	

Note: Information prior to 2016 is not available.

Schedule of Authority's Contributions for Other Postemployment Benefits Last Six Years Unaudited

	Years Ending December 31,										
		2021		2020		2018	2017		2016		2016
Contractually required contributions	\$	18,111	\$	20,423	\$	22,101	\$ 37,743	\$	42,027	\$	56,205
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution		18,111		20,423	_	22,101	 37,743	_	42,027		56,205
Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$		\$	<u>-</u>	\$	-	 	\$	<u>-</u>	\$	<u>-</u>
Authority's covered employee payroll	\$	486,919	\$	473,792	\$	399,270	\$ 379,100	\$	364,010	\$	359,684
Contributions as a percentage of covered employee payroll		3.72%		4.31%		5.54%	9.96%		11.55%		15.63%

Note: Information prior to 2016 is not available.

READINGTON-LEBANON SEWERAGE AUTHORITY Notes to the Required Supplementary Information (Unaudited) December 31, 2021

Note 1 - <u>Changes in benefit term assumptions - pension</u> There were no changes in benefit terms.

Note 2 - <u>Changes in assumptions - pension</u>

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.00% as of the June 30, 2021 plan measurement date and 7.00% as of the June 30, 2020 plan measurement date. The single blended discount rate was based on the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.00% and 7.00% and municipal bond rates of 3.50% and 3.50% for the respective plan measurement dates of June 30, 2021 and June 30, 2020.

- Note 3 Changes in assumptions other postretirement employee benefits

 The other postretirement employee benefits discount rate decreased from 2.21% in State fiscal year 2020 to 2.16% in State fiscal year 2021. The inflation rate was 2.50% for State fiscal year 2020 and 2021.
- Note 4 Changes in healthcare trend assumptions other postretirement employee benefits

 For pre-Medicare Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) and Health Maintenance
 Organization (HMO) medical benefits, the trend rate is initially 5.65% and decreases to a
 4.5% long-term trend rate after seven years. For post-65 PPO benefits, the trend rate is
 initially 13.08% and decreases to a 4.5% long-term trend rate. For HMO medical benefits,
 the trend rate is 13.76% and decreases to a 4.5% long-term trend rate. For prescription drug
 benefits, the initial trend rate is 6.75% decreasing to a 4.5% long-term trend rate after seven
 years.
- Note 5 <u>Changes in benefit term assumptions other postretirement employee benefits</u>
 There was a decrease in liability from June 30, 2020 to June 30, 2021 due to updates to the Chapter 48 provision.
- Note 6 <u>Change in plan members covered other postretirement employee benefits</u>
 There were 7 plan members covered in 2020 and in 2021 there were 7 plan members covered.



READINGTON-LEBANON SEWERAGE AUTHORITY Schedule of Changes in Net Position - Restricted Accounts For the Year Ended December 31, 2021

	Net Position					
		Capital		Total		
	Im	provement		Net		
		Fund		Position		
Balance at beginning of year	\$	2,233,522	\$	2,233,522		
Additions						
Budget transfer		250,000		250,000		
Interest income		853	853			
Total additions	250,853			250,853		
Deductions						
Capital expenditures		99,846		99,846		
Balance at end of year	\$	2,384,529	\$	2,384,529		

Schedule of Budgetary Comparison Information For the Years Ended

	Decembe	r 31, 2021	December 31, 2020			
	Unaudited		Unaudited	_		
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual		
Revenues						
Net position appropriated	\$ 125,000	\$ 125,000	\$ 125,000	\$ 125,000		
Operating revenues						
User charges and fees						
Readington Township	1,198,400	1,198,400	1,167,392	1,167,392		
Lebanon Borough	454,222	454,222	462,897	462,897		
Round Valley - State of NJ	39,078	39,078	33,611	33,611		
Interest income	37,076	15,944	55,011	28,499		
Total operating revenues	1,691,700	1,707,644	1,663,900	1,692,399		
Total operating revenues	1,071,700	1,707,044	1,005,700	1,072,377		
Non-operating revenues						
Interest income	-	853	-	10,023		
Total non-operating revenues	-	853		10,023		
Total revenues	\$ 1,816,700	\$ 1,833,497	\$ 1,788,900	\$ 1,827,422		
Expenses						
Administrative and general						
Salaries and wages	\$ 226,800	\$ 244,503	\$ 220,000	\$ 238,539		
PERS and other employee benefits	114,129	135,970	113,500	136,206		
Pension expense (benefit) - GASB 68	114,129	(95,529)	113,500	(40,761)		
Other postemployment		(55,525)		(10,701)		
benefits - GASB 75	_	(28,353)	_	(27,428)		
Legal fees	7,000	6,420	7,000	2,567		
Engineering fees	20,000	12,400	10,000	12,196		
Auditing and accounting fees	16,700	16,700	16,000	16,100		
Medical services	1,000		1,000	-		
Trustee fees	1,000	-	1,000	_		
Insurance	37,000	33,548	30,600	29,436		
Workers compensation insurance		•	•	•		
±	8,000	3,717	13,600	3,237		
Education, seminars, conferences	8,000 5,000	3,717 980	5,000	5,237 335		

READINGTON-LEBANON SEWERAGE AUTHORITY Schedule of Budgetary Comparison Information (continued) For the Years Ended

	December	r 31, 2021	December 31, 2020			
	Budget Actual		Budget	Actual		
Expenses (continued)						
Administrative and general (continued)						
Dues and memberships	\$ 5,000	\$ 3,937	\$ 5,000	\$ 3,800		
Office supplies and expenses	12,000	11,958	14,000	10,380		
Public advertisements	1,500	265	1,500	605		
Permits and licenses	15,000	8,529	15,000	7,961		
Total administrative and general	477,129	355,379	460,200	395,173		
Cost of providing services						
Salaries and wages	313,200	262,969	310,000	259,808		
PERS and other employee benefits	157,871	45,619	157,000	45,701		
Pension expense (benefit) - GASB 68	-	(94,713)	-	(40,199)		
Other postemployment						
benefits - GASB 75	-	(1,492)	-	(1,444)		
Communications	18,500	17,793	18,000	12,334		
Utilities	157,000	106,115	157,000	91,900		
Chemicals	56,000	33,179	55,000	34,972		
Sludge disposal	162,500	112,578	161,500	130,861		
Fuel	5,000	825	5,000	1,429		
Uniforms	1,500	464	1,000	720		
Laboratory	6,000	5,495	6,000	5,904		
Outside lab service	26,000	25,824	25,500	22,755		
Safety equipment	6,000	1,144	6,000	2,179		
Maintenance outside services	40,000	31,087	40,000	21,628		
Plant maintenance	35,000	20,738	34,000	28,779		
Lawn care	19,000	14,601	17,000	15,798		
Janitorial service	3,000	2,160	3,000	2,160		
Instrument and meter calibration	2,500	1,310	2,500	779		
Vehicle maintenance	5,000	557	5,000	1,332		
Equipment replacement	50,000	26,271	50,000	7,801		
Contingencies	20,000	1,150	20,000	100		
Plant security	5,500	4,184	5,200	4,431		
Total cost of providing services	1,089,571	617,858	1,078,700	649,728		
Reserves and capital outlay						
Capital acquisition	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000		
Total expenses	\$ 1,816,700	\$ 1,223,237	\$ 1,788,900	\$ 1,294,901		

See independent auditors' report.



Independent Auditors' Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards

Honorable Chairman and Members of the Readington-Lebanon Sewerage Authority Whitehouse, New Jersey

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to the financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities of the Readington-Lebanon Sewerage Authority, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2021 and 2020, and the related Notes to the Financial Statements, which collectively comprise Readington-Lebanon Sewerage Authority's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated January 13, 2023.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Readington-Lebanon Sewerage Authority's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Readington-Lebanon Sewerage Authority's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Readington-Lebanon Sewerage Authority's internal control.

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. However, as discussed below, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

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. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses.

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. We consider the deficiencies in internal control presented in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Responses to be significant deficiencies.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Readington-Lebanon Sewerage Authority's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, and contracts, 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 that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Management's Response to Findings

Readington-Lebanon Sewerage Authority's response to findings identified in our audit is described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Responses. Readington-Lebanon Sewerage Authority's response was not subject to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

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 compliance. The report is an integral part of any 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.

BHC, CAON, AC BKC, CPAS, PC

January 13, 2023 Flemington, New Jersey

READINGTON-LEBANON SEWERAGE AUTHORITY Schedule of Findings and Responses

General Comments and Recommendations

No findings or recommendations have been developed as a result of this audit.

Status of Prior Year's Audit Findings/Recommendations

There were no prior year recommendations.

We would be pleased to confer on questions that might arise with respect to any matters in this report.

We wish to express our appreciation for the assistance and courtesies rendered by the Authority officials and employees during the course of the examination.

BHC, CAUS, PC BKC, CPAS, PC