

**SUWANNEE COUNTY  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
LIVE OAK, FLORIDA**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
AND  
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

**SEPTEMBER 30, 2016**

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## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

To the Governing Board  
Suwannee County Conservation District

### **Report on Financial Statements**

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, and major fund of Suwannee County Conservation District, Florida (the "District") as of and for the year ended September 30, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

### **Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with 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.

### **Auditor's Responsibility**

My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit. I conducted my audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that I plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, I express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinions.

### **Opinion**

In my opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, the aggregate remaining fund information and the fiduciary fund type of the County as of September 30, 2016, and the changes in financial position and the respective budgetary comparison for the major funds for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

## **Other Matters**

### Required Supplementary Information:

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis on pages 3 through 6 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. I have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to my inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge I obtained during my audit of the basic financial statements. I do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide me with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

### Other Information:

My audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements. The Budgetary Comparison Schedule on page 18 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of state financial assistance on page 26 is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by Chapter 10.550, Local Governmental Entity Audits, Rules of the Auditor General, State of Florida, and is not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The Budgetary Comparison Schedule on page 18 and schedule of expenditures of state financial assistance are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In my opinion, the combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements and the schedule of expenditures of state financial assistance are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

### **Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, I have also issued a report dated June 26, 2017 on my consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and my 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 my testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the 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 the District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

*James E. Davis*  
Certified Public Accountant

June 26, 2017

## MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

The management of the Suwannee County Conservation District has prepared the following discussion and analysis to (a) assist the reader in focusing on significant financial issues; (b) provide an overview and analysis of the District's financial activities; (c) identify changes in the District's financial position; (d) identify material deviations from the approved budget; and (e) highlight significant issues in individual funds.

Because the information contained in the Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) is intended to highlight significant transaction, events, and conditions, it should be considered in conjunction with the District's financial statements and notes to financial statements found on pages 7 through 19.

The District has implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 34, *Basic Financial Statements – and Management Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments* as of October 1, 2003. This statement requires governmental entities to report finances in accordance with specific guidelines. Among these guidelines are the components of this section dealing with management's discussion and analysis.

Its intent is to provide a brief, objective and easily readable analysis of the District's financial performance for the year and its financial position at fiscal year-end September 30, 2016.

One of the key changes in financial presentation is the requirement to capitalize fixed assets and record depreciation.

### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Key financial highlights for the 2015-16 fiscal year are as follows:

- The assets of the Authority exceeded its liabilities at the close of the most recent fiscal year by \$218,686.
- The District's total net assets, increased by \$99,735, which represents a 83.8 percent increase from the 2015-16 fiscal year.
- As of the close of the current fiscal year, the District's governmental fund reported a fund balance of \$186,549 an increase of \$110,458 in comparison with the prior year.
- During the current year, General Fund revenues were greater than expenditures by \$99,735.

### OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The basic financial statements consist of three components:

- Government-wide financial statements
- Fund financial statements
- Notes to financial statements

#### *Government-Wide Financial Statements*

The government-wide financial statements provide both short-term and long-term information about the District's overall financial condition in a manner similar to those of a private-sector business. The statements include a statement of net assets and a statement of activities that are designed to provide consolidated financial information about the governmental activities of the District presented on the accrual basis of accounting. The statement of net assets provides information about the government's financial position, its assets and liabilities, using an economic resources measurement focus. The difference between the assets and liabilities, the net assets, is a measure of the financial health of the District. The statement of activities presents information about the change in the District's net assets, the results of operations, during the fiscal year. An increase or decrease in net assets may be an indication of whether the District's financial health is improving or deteriorating.

## MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS - continued

The government-wide statements present the District's activities in one category:

- Governmental activities – This represents the District's conservation services. Support functions such as administration are also included. Support from the State of Florida provides most of the resources that support these activities.

### *Fund Financial Statements*

Fund financial statements are one of the components of the basic 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 uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements and prudent fiscal management. Certain funds are established by law while others are created by legal agreements, such as bond covenants. Fund financial statements provide more detailed information about the District's financial activities, focusing on its most significant or "major" funds rather than fund types. This is in contrast to the entity-wide perspective contained in the government-wide statements. All of the District's funds may be classified within the category discussed below.

Governmental Funds. Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, the governmental funds utilize a spendable financial resources measurement focus rather than the economic resources measurement focus found in the government-wide financial statements. This financial resources measurement focus allows the governmental fund statements to provide information on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year.

The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view that may be used to evaluate the District's near-term financing requirements. This short-term view is useful when compared to the long-term view presented as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. To facilitate this comparison, both the governmental funds balance sheet and the governmental funds statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation of governmental funds to governmental activities.

The governmental funds balance sheet and statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide detailed information about the District's only fund, the General Fund.

The District adopts an annual appropriated budget for its governmental fund. A budgetary comparison schedule has been provided for the General Fund.

### *Notes to Financial Statements*

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

## GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

Net assets may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. The following is a summary of the District's net assets as of September 30, 2016.

The District's net assets are primarily in cash and cash equivalents. The District uses these funds to provide services to Suwannee County, Florida.

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS - continued**

**NET ASSETS**

**END OF YEAR**

**GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES**

	<u>9/30/2016</u>	<u>9/30/2015</u>
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 752,598	\$ 674,153
Grants Receivable	-	-
Capital Assets: Equipment, net	<u>32,137</u>	<u>42,860</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u>784,735</u>	<u>717,013</u>
Unearned Grant Revenue	<u>566,049</u>	<u>598,062</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u>566,049</u>	<u>598,062</u>
Invested in Capital Assets	32,137	42,860
Unrestricted	<u>186,549</u>	<u>76,091</u>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<u>\$ 218,686</u>	<u>\$ 118,951</u>

The District's net assets are spread approximately equally in cash and cash equivalents, as well as its investment in capital assets (e.g. equipment). The District uses these capital assets to provide services to Suwannee County, Florida; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending.

The key elements of the changes in the District's net assets for the fiscal years ended September 30, 2015 and 2016 are as follows:

**OPERATING RESULTS**

**GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES**

	<u>9/30/2016</u>	<u>9/30/2015</u>
Program Revenues		
Operating Grants and Contributions	\$ 2,812,012	\$ 1,792,816
General Revenues		
Miscellaneous	2,310	12,067
Investment Earnings	<u>15</u>	<u>20</u>
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<u>2,814,337</u>	<u>1,804,903</u>
Functions/Program Expenses:		
Conservation	<u>2,714,602</u>	<u>1,787,962</u>
<b>Total Functions/Program Expenses</b>	<u>2,714,602</u>	<u>1,787,962</u>
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>	<u>\$ 99,735</u>	<u>\$ 16,941</u>

Governmental activities increased the District's net assets by \$99,735, or approximately 83.8 percent. --

## **MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS - continued**

### FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE DISTRICT'S FUNDS

#### *Major Governmental Funds*

The General Fund is the chief operating fund of the District. At the end of the current fiscal year, restricted fund balance was \$125,067, while the total fund balance was \$186,549. As a measure of the General Fund's liquidity, it may be useful to compare both the restricted fund balance and total fund balance to total General Fund expenditures. Unreserved fund balance represents 6.87 percent of total General Fund expenditures, while total fund balance represents 36.8 percent of that same amount. The assigned total fund balance increased by \$99,735 during the year ended September 30, 2016.

### GENERAL FUND BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS

During the course of the 2015-16 fiscal year, the District did not amend its General Fund budget. At the same time, final expenses were less than of the original budgeted amount by \$287,714.

### CAPITAL ASSETS

The District's investment in capital assets for its governmental activities as of September 30, 2016, amounted to \$32,137 (net of accumulated depreciation). This investment in capital assets consists of a motor vehicle.

Additional information in the District's capital assets can be found in Note 4 to the financial statements.

### REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Suwannee County Conservation District's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to the, Suwannee County Conservation District, Live Oak, Florida 32060.



**SUWANNEE CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2016**

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ 752,598
Capital Assets: Equipment, net	<u>32,137</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u><u>\$ 784,735</u></u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
Unearned Grant Revenue	<u>\$ 566,049</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u>566,049</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	
Investment in Capital Assets	32,137
Restricted	125,067
Unrestricted	<u>61,482</u>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<u>218,686</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<u><u>\$ 784,735</u></u>

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

**SUWANNEE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2016**

Functions/Programs	Expenses	Program Revenues			Net (Expense) Revenue & Changes in Net Assets
		Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities
<b>Governmental Activities:</b>					
Conservation	\$ 2,714,602	\$ -	\$ 2,812,012	\$ -	\$ 97,410
<b>Total Government Activities</b>	<b>\$ 2,714,602</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 2,812,012</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 97,410</b>
General Revenues:					
					15
					2,310
					2,325
					99,735
					118,951
					\$ 218,686

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

**SUWANNEE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
BALANCE SHEET – GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2016**

	<u>General Fund</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ 752,598
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	\$ 752,598
<b>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</b>	
Liabilities:	\$ -
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	-
Fund Balances:	
Unassigned	61,482
Restricted	691,116
<b>Total Fund Balances</b>	752,598
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</b>	\$ 752,598

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

**EXHIBIT – D  
SUWANNEE CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET  
TO THE STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2016**

<b>Total Fund Balances - Governmental Funds</b>	<b>\$ 752,598</b>
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Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net assets are different because:

Unearned grant revenue recognized as revenue in the year received in governmental funds.	(566,049)
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Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as assets in governmental funds.	<u>32,137</u>
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<b>Total Net Assets - Governmental Activities</b>	<b><u>\$ 218,686</u></b>
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The accompanying notes to financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**SUWANNEE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES  
IN FUND BALANCES – GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2016**

	<u>General Fund</u>
<b>REVENUES</b>	
Intergovernmental - Grants	\$ 2,812,012
Miscellaneous:	
Charges and Fees	2,310
Interest Income	15
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<u>2,814,337</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	
Current:	
Conservation	2,703,879
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<u>2,703,879</u>
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES</b>	110,458
Fund Balances, October 1, 2015	674,153
<b>FUND BALANCES, September 30, 2016</b>	<u>\$ 784,611</u>

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

**SUWANNEE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET  
TO THE STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2016**

<b>Net Change in Fund Balance - Governmental Funds</b>	\$	110,458
<p>Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:</p>		
Unearned grant revenue reported as revenue in governmental funds shown as a liability in the Statement of Net Assets		(2,230)
Capital outlay, reported as expenditures in governmental funds are shown as capital assets in the Statement of Net Assets		-
Depreciation expense on governmental capital assets included in the governmental activities in the Statement of Activities		10,723
		118,951
<b>Change in Net Assets - Governmental Activities</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>118,951</b>

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

**SUWANNEE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2016**

**NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

A summary of the significant accounting policies as applicable to governmental units, which has been consistently, applied in the preparation of the financial statements of the various funds and account groups follows.

- Reporting Entity

The Suwannee County Conservation District was authorized under Chapters 582 of the Laws of Florida to promote conservation in Suwannee County, Florida. District board members are nonpartisan and elected locally.

The District is an independent special district administered by a five member board of supervisors elected by the voters of Suwannee County. The District for financial reporting purposes includes all of the funds relevant to the operation of the District. There are not separately administered organizations, which are controlled by, or dependent on the District. Control or dependence is determined on the basis of budget adoption, taxing authority, funding and appointment of the respective governing board. Therefore, in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, the District has determined that there are no potential component units that it must include within its financial statements.

The purpose of the Suwannee District is to “annually assess the condition of the soils and waters, both above and below ground, in Suwannee County; to educate the public about the state of the soils and waters; and to promote and advocate conservation practices and policies which will benefit the soils and waters of the County.”

- Basis of Presentation

These financial statements are fund financial statements that have been prepared in conformity with the accounting principles and reporting guidelines established by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) and accounting practices prescribed by the State of Florida, Office of the Auditor General.

As permitted by Chapter 10.556(4), Rules of the Auditor General State of Florida, the special-purpose financial statements consist of only the fund level financial statements as defined in GASB Statement No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements – and Management’s Discussion and Analysis – For State and Local Governments*.

The Authority reports the following major governmental fund:

General Fund – The General Fund is the general operating fund of the Authority. It is used to account for all financial resources, which are not properly accounted for in another fund. Activities related to the promotion of economic development flow through the General Fund.

**SUWANNEE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2016**

**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

▪ Basis of Accounting

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures are recognized in the accounts and reported in the fund financial statements and relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the measurement focus applied.

All governmental fund financial statements are reported using a current financial resources measurement focus on a modified accrual basis of accounting. The major modifications to the accrual basis are : (a) revenues are recorded in the accounting period in which they become available and measureable (available means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period, considered to be sixty days for property taxes and ninety days for all other revenue) and (b) expenditures are recorded in the accounting period in which the liability is incurred, if measureable, except for accumulated sick and vacation compensation, which are expensed when paid.

Fiduciary fund (agency fund) statements are prepared using economic resource measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting.

▪ Measurement Focus

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to the fixed assets and long-term liabilities associated with a fund are determined by its measurement focus.

All governmental funds are accounted for on a spending or “financial flow” measurement focus. This means that generally, only current assets and current liabilities are included in the balance sheet. Governmental fund operating statements present increases (revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (expenditures and other financing uses) in net current assets. Accordingly, they present a summary of sources and uses of “available spendable resources” during a period.

▪ Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents represent cash on hand as well as demand deposits, and certificates of deposit with original maturities of three months or less.

▪ Inventory and Prepaid Items

The purchase method is used to account for inventory and payments to vendors for costs applicable to future periods (prepaid). Under the purchase method, expenditures are recognized when the available financial resource is expended. Inventory is not deemed significant and therefore no amount has been reported.

▪ Interfund Loans and Transfers

Activity between funds that are representative of lending/borrowing arrangements outstanding at the end of the fiscal year are referred to as either “due to/from other funds” (i.e. the current portion of interfund loans) or “advances to/from other funds” (i.e. the non-current portion of interfund loans). All other outstanding balances between funds are reported as “due to/from other funds.”



**SUWANNEE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2016**

**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

▪ Capital Assets

Expenditures for capital assets acquired or constructed for general District purposes are reported in the governmental fund that financed the acquisition or construction. The capital assets so acquired are reported at cost in the government-wide statement of net assets but are not reported in the governmental fund financial statements. Donated assets are recorded at fair value at the date of donation.

Capital assets are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Estimated Lives</u>
Equipment	5 years

▪ Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures; accordingly, actual results could differ from these estimates.

▪ Governmental Fund Balances

Fund balances are classified either as nonspendable or spendable. Spendable fund balances are further classified in a hierarchy based on the extent to which there are external internal constraints on the spending of these fund balances. These classifications are described as follows:

***Nonspendable fund balances*** included amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. There were no nonspendable fund balances at the Suwannee County Conservation District as of September 30, 2016.

***Spendable fund balances*** are classified based on a hierarchy of the Suwannee County Conservation District's ability to control the spending of these fund balances.

***Restricted*** fund balances are fund balance amounts that are constrained for specific purposes which are externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. As of September 30, 2016, the Suwannee County Conservation District had \$598,062 restricted fund balances, originating from unspent grant funds.

***Committed*** fund balances are fund balances constrained for specific purposes imposed by the Suwannee County Conservation District's formal action of highest level of decision making authority. As of September 30, 2016, the Suwannee County Conservation District had no committed fund balances.

**SUWANNEE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2016**

**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

*Assigned* fund balances are fund balances intended to be used for specific purposes, but which are neither restricted nor committed. As of September 30, 2016, the Suwannee County Conservation District had assigned fund balances as indicated on the Balance Sheet.

*Unassigned* fund balances represent the residual positive fund balance within the general fund, which has not been assigned to other funds and has not been restricted, committed or assigned. In funds other than the general fund, unassigned fund balances are limited to negative residual fund balances. As of September 30, 2016, the Suwannee County Conservation District had unassigned fund balances of \$76,091.

When expenditures are incurred for purposes for which restricted or unrestricted fund classifications could be used, it is the Suwannee County Conservation District's policy to use restricted funds first, then unrestricted.

**NOTE 2 – BUDGETARY COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

The District adopts an annual budget prior to the beginning of the next fiscal year based on historical data plus knowledge of current and future events. As the year progresses, the budget is reviewed and amended if the need occurs.

**NOTE 3 – CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS**

Cash and cash equivalents at September 30, 2016 consisted of \$752,598 maintained in local checking accounts. This depository qualifies as a "public depository", as required by law (Florida Security for Public Deposits Act Chapter 280, Florida Statutes). All the cash deposits of the Suwannee County Conservation District are classified as category one risk, which means they are insured or collateralized.

**NOTE 4 – GRANTS RECEIVABLE AND UNEARNED GRANT REVENUE**

Unearned grant revenue of \$566,049 represents grant funds received during the year ended September 30, 2016 for which costs had not been expended as of September 30, 2016.

**NOTE 5 – CHANGES IN CAPITAL ASSETS**

Changes in capital assets are presented in the table below:

	BALANCE 10/1/2015	ADDITIONS	DELETIONS	BALANCE 6/9/30/2015
<b>GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES</b>				
Equipment	\$ 53,613	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 53,613
Accumulated Depreciation	(21,476)	-	-	(21,476)
Total Capital Assets - net	<u>\$ 32,137</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 32,137</u>

Depreciation expense for the year ended September 30, 2016 was \$10,723.

**SUWANNEE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2016**

**NOTE 6 – RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Suwannee County Conservation District is exposed to various risk of loss related to torts; thefts of, damage to property of others. The Suwannee County Conservation District purchases insurance to protect itself against these risks.

**NOTE 7 – SIGNIFICANT FUNDING SOURCE**

During the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016, the District received a substantial amount of its funding from the State of Florida. Significant reductions in the level of this funding, if this were to occur, could have an adverse effect on the District's programs and activities.

**NOTE 8 – SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

The District has evaluated events and transactions for potential recognition or disclosure in the financial statements through June 26, 2017, the date which the financial statements were available to be issued. No subsequent events have been recognized or disclosed.

**NOTE 9 – POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSION**

No post-employment benefits were provided by the District.

**NOTE 10 – CONTINGENCIES**

Amounts received from grantor agencies are subject to audit and adjustment by grantor agencies, principally the State of Florida. Any disallowed claims, including amounts already collected, may constitute a liability of the applicable funds. The amount, if any, of expenditures which may be disallowed by the grantor cannot be determined at this time although the District expects such amounts, if any, to be immaterial.

**SUWANNEE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION – BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE  
GENERAL AND MAJOR SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2016**

	General Fund			
	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget - Positive (Negative)
<b>REVENUES</b>				
Intergovernmental	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 2,812,012	\$ (187,988)
Miscellaneous:				
Miscellaneous:	-	-	2,310	2,310
Investment Earnings	-	-	15	15
	-	-	2,325	2,325
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	3,000,000	3,000,000	2,814,337	(185,663)
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
Meeting Costs	-	-	8,407	(8,407)
Dues and Fees	-	-	55	(55)
Supplies	-	-	527	(527)
Grant Expense	3,000,000	3,000,000	2,688,528	311,472
Plat Book	-	-	40	(40)
Telephone	-	-	60	(60)
Office Expense	-	-	5,000	(5,000)
Awards/Land Judging	-	-	5,656	(5,656)
Audit Fee	-	-	2,750	(2,750)
Vehicle Expense	-	-	1,263	(1,263)
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	3,000,000	3,000,000	2,703,879	287,714
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES</b>	-	-	110,458	110,458
Fund Balances, October 1, 2015	-	-	674,153	674,153
<b>FUND BALANCES, SEPT. 30, 2016</b>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 784,611	\$ 784,611

See Independent Auditor's Report

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**REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING BASED  
ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT  
AUDITING STANDARDS**

Board of Directors  
Suwannee County Conservation District  
Live Oak, Florida

I have audited the financial statements of Suwannee County Conservation District, Florida (the District), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2016, and have issued my report thereon dated June 20, 2017. I conducted my audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing my audit of the financial statements, I considered the District's internal control over financial reporting to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing my opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, I do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control.

My consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph 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 described in the accompanying management letter, I identified certain deficiencies in internal control that I consider to be material weaknesses.

*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 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. I consider deficiency 2012-01 described in the accompanying management letter to be a material weakness.

*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. During my audit I did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that I consider to be a significant deficiency. However, significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified.

### Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the District's financial statements are free of material misstatement, I performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of my audit and, accordingly, I do not express such an opinion. The results of my tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

I noted certain other matters that were reported to the District in a separate letter June 26, 2017.

### District's Response to Findings

The District's responses to the findings identified in my audit are included in the accompanying management letter. The District's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, I express no opinion on them.

### Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of my testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

*James E. Davis*  
Certified Public Accountant

June 26, 2017

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**INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON AN EXAMINATION CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH AICPA PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS, SECTION 601, REGARDING COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 10.550, RULES OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL**

Suwannee County Conservation District  
Live Oak, Florida

I have examined the Suwannee County Conservation District's (the District) compliance with the requirements of Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, Local Government Investment Policies, during the year ended September 30, 2016. Management is responsible for the District's compliance with those requirements. My responsibility is to express an opinion on the District's compliance based on my examination.

My examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and, accordingly, included examining, on a test basis, evidence about the District's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as I considered necessary in the circumstances. I believe that my examination provides a reasonable basis for my opinion. My examination does not provide a legal determination on the District's compliance with specified requirements.

In my opinion, the District complied, in all material respects, with the aforementioned requirements for the year ended September 30, 2016.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management and the State of Florida Auditor General and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

*James E. Davis*  
Certified Public Accountant

June 26, 2017

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S MANAGEMENT LETTER**

Suwannee County Conservation District  
Live Oak, Florida

**Report on the Financial Statements**

I have audited the financial statements of Suwannee County Conservation District as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016 and have issued my report thereon dated June 26, 2017.

**Auditor's Responsibility**

I conducted my audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; OMB Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*; and Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General.

**Other Reports and Schedules**

I have issued my Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of the Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*; Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program and State Project and Report on Internal Control over Compliance; Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs; and Independent Accountant's Report on an examination conducted in accordance with *AICPA Professional Standards*, Section 601, regarding compliance requirements in accordance with Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General. Disclosures in those reports and schedule, which are dated, June 20, 2017, should be considered in conjunction with this management letter.

**Prior Audit Findings**

Section 10.554(1)(i)1., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that I determine whether or not corrective actions have been taken to address findings and recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report. I reported the following finding and recommendation, which Suwannee County Conservation District has been unable to address due to financial constraints, in the preceding annual financial report:

12-01 Financial Statement Preparation Knowledge –

Criteria – Management is responsible for the preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

Condition – The Auditing Standards Board in Statement No. 115 requires auditors to disclose for reports substantially drafted by external auditors whether or not the entity's institutional experience, background and knowledge of Governmental Accounting and Financial Accounting Standards prohibits the entity from preparing the financial statements internally including full note disclosures as required by those standards.



Cause and Effect – Personnel’s lack of knowledge and familiarity with Governmental Accounting and Financial Accounting Standards Prohibits the District from being able to prepare financial statements with adequate and proper disclosures and free of material misstatements.

Recommendation – I would encourage Suwannee County Conservation District personnel to increase their knowledge of these standards sufficiently to allow them to prepare financial statements including the notes in accordance with GAAP.

Management Response – This requirement is a burden to small districts and funding does not allow us to employ personnel with accounting background described above. The Board is more engaged in the review of financial reports and transactions.

Note: As a small entity with limited funding, the Suwannee County Conservation will continue to have this funding.

### **Official Title and Legal Authority**

Section 10.554(1)(i)4., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that the name or official title and legal authority for the primary government and each component unit of the reporting entity be disclosed in this management letter, unless disclosed in the notes to the financial statements. This information is contained in the footnotes.

### **Financial Condition**

Section 10.554(1)(i)5.a., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that I report the results of my determination as to whether or not Suwannee County Conservation District has met one or more of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes, and identification of the specific condition(s) met. In connection with my audit, I determined Suwannee County Conservation District did not meet any of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes.

Pursuant to Sections 10.554(1)(i)5.c. ad 10.556(8), Rules of the Auditor General, I applied financial condition assessment procedures. It is management’s responsibility to monitor Suwannee County Conservation District’s financial condition, and my financial condition assessment was based in part on representations made by management and the review of financial information provided by the same.

### **Annual Financial Report**

Section 10.554(1)(i)5.b., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that I report the results of my determination as to whether the annual financial report, as amended, for Suwannee County Conservation District for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016, filed with the Florida Department of Financial Services pursuant to Section 218.32(1)(1), Florida Statutes, is in agreement with the annual financial audit report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016. In connection with my audit, I determined that these two reports were in agreement.

### **Other Matters**

Section 10.554(1)(i)2., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that I address in the management letter any recommendations to improve financial management. In connection with my audit, I did not have any such recommendations.

Section 10.554(1)(i)3., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that I address noncompliance with provisions of contracts or grant agreements, or abuse, that have occurred, or are likely to have occurred, that have an effect on the financial statements that is less than material but which warrants the attention of those charged with governance. In connection with my audit, I did not have any such findings.

**Purpose of this Letter**

My management letter is intended solely for the information and use of the Legislative Auditing Committee, members of the Florida Senate and the Florida House of Representatives, the Florida Auditor General, Federal and other granting agencies, Suwannee County Conservation District, and applicable management and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

June 26, 2017

*James E. Davis*  
Certified Public Accountant

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON DISTRICT'S COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 218.415  
FLORIDA STATUTES, REGARDING THE INVESTMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS**

Suwannee County Conservation District  
Live Oak, Florida

I have examined Suwannee County Conservation District's (the District) compliance with Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, regarding the investment of public funds during the year ended September 30, 2016. Management is responsible for the District's compliance with those requirements. My responsibility is to express an opinion on the District's compliance based on my examination.

My examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and, accordingly, included examining, on a test basis, evidence about the District's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as I considered necessary under the circumstances. I believe that my examination provides a reasonable basis for my opinion. My examination does not provide a legal determination on District's compliance with specified requirements.

In my opinion, the District complied, in all.

*James E. Davis*

Certified Public Accountant  
June 26, 2017

**ADDITIONAL REPORTS PREPARED IN ACCORDANCE  
WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT  
AND BUDGET (OMB) CIRCULAR A-133 AND  
THE RULES OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL  
OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA**

**SUWANNEE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
SCHEDULE OF STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDS SEPTEMBER 30, 2016**

STATE AGENCY/PASS THROUGH ENTITY/PROJECT	CFDA/CFSA NUMBER	CONTRACT/GRANT NUMBER	EXPENDITURES
<u>Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services</u>			
Agricultural Nonprofit Source Best Management Practices Implementation			
BMP Tool	42.071	22707	\$ 441,493
Suwannee Basin Best Management Practices Demonstration of Sod-Based Rotation Program	42.071	20883	8,400
Conservation Technician Services	42.071	22262	118,437
Farm/Business Energy Evaluation and Cost-Share Program for the Implementation of Energy Efficient Measures	42.022	21934	2,127,014
			<u>\$ 2,695,344</u>

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS- STATE PROJECTS  
FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2016**

**A. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS**

1. The auditor's report expresses an unqualified opinion on the general purpose financial statements of Suwannee County Conservation District.
2. No significant deficiencies were reported in the Independent Auditor's report on Compliance and on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting Based on an Audit of the General Purpose Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards.
3. No instances of noncompliance material to the financial statements of Suwannee County Conservation District were disclosed during the audit.
4. The audit disclosed no significant deficiencies in internal control over any major federal program and state project.
5. The report on compliance with requirements applicable to the major state projects expressed an unqualified opinion.
6. The audit disclosed no findings related to the major state projects.
7. The District had one major state program with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.
8. The threshold for distinguishing Type A and Type B project was \$300,000 for major state projects.

**B. FINDINGS – FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

See Management Letter for discussion of recommendations resulting from audit of financial statement,

Management response is included in the Management Letter.

**C. FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS – MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM AND STATE PROJECTS**

None

**D. OTHER ISSUES**

1. No Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings is required as there were no prior audit findings related to Federal programs or State projects.
2. No Corrective Action Plan is required because there were no findings required to be reported under the Federal or Florida Single Audit Acts.

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND INTERNAL CONTROL OVER  
COMPLIANCE APPLICABLE TO EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM AND STATE PROJECT**

Suwannee County Conservation District  
Live Oak, Florida

My consideration of the internal control over compliance would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that non-compliance with applicable requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants that would be material in relation to a major federal program or state project being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. I noted no matters involving the internal control over compliance and its operation that I considered to be material weaknesses.

**COMPLIANCE**

I have audited the compliance of Suwannee County Conservation District with the types of compliance requirements described in the U.S. Office of Management and budget (OMB) Circular A-133 Compliance Supplement, and the requirements described in the Florida Departmental Financial Services State Projects Compliance Supplement, that are applicable to each of its major state project for the year ended September 30, 2016. Suwannee County Conservation District had no major federal programs and one major state project as identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs. Compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants applicable to its major state project is the responsibility of Suwannee County Conservation District's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on Suwannee County Conservation District's compliance based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with United States Generally Accepted Auditing Standards; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; OMB Circular A-133, Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-profit Organizations; and Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General. Those standards, OMB A-133, and Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General, require that I plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether non-compliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program or state project occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about Suwannee County Conservation District's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as I considered necessary in the circumstances. I believe that my audit provides a reasonable basis for my opinion. My audit does not provide a legal determination on Suwannee County Conservation District's compliance with those requirements.

**INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE**

The management of Suwannee County Conservation District is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants applicable to federal programs and state projects. In planning and performing my audit, I considered Suwannee County Conservation District's internal control over compliance with requirements that could

have a direct and material effect on a major federal program and state project to determine my auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing my opinion on compliance and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with OMB Circular A-133 and Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management, and specific legislative or regulatory bodies and is not intended to be and should not used by anyone other than these specified parties.

*James E. Davis*  
Certified Public Accountant

June 26, 2017