

**REFUGIO GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2023**

**REFUGIO GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
For the Year Ended September 30, 2023**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

	<b><u>Page Number</u></b>
<b>Independent Auditor's Report</b>	1 - 2
<b>Management's Discussion and Analysis</b>	3 - 6
<b>Basic Financial Statements</b>	
Statement of Net Position and Balance Sheet – Governmental Funds	7
Reconciliation of the Statement of Net Position and Balance Sheet – Governmental Funds to the Statement of Net Position	8
Statement of Activities and Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance/Net Position – Governmental Funds	9
Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance/Net Position – Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities	10
<b>Notes to the Financial Statements</b>	11 - 17
<b>Required Supplementary Information</b>	
Budgetary Comparison Schedule – General Fund	18
Note to Required Supplementary Information	19
<b>Supplementary Information</b>	
Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>	20 - 21

# Goldman, Hunt & Notz, L.L.P.

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### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To Management and Board of Directors  
Refugio Groundwater Conservation District  
Refugio, Texas

#### Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

##### *Opinions*

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of Refugio Groundwater Conservation District, (the District), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District'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 governmental activities and each major fund of the District, as of September 30, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position, for the year 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 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. 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 District 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 the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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 District'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.

##### *Auditor's 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 are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment 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 judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the 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 District'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 judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

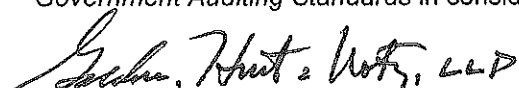
We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

#### ***Required Supplementary Information***

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and budgetary comparison information on pages 3-6 and 18-19 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 to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We 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 our inquiries, the basic 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 Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated July 15, 2024, on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

  
Goldman, Hunt & Notz, L.L.P.  
July 15, 2024

**REFUGIO GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
For the Year Ended September 30, 2023**

As management of Refugio Groundwater Conservation District (District), we offer readers of the District's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the District for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023. This discussion and analysis is intended to be an easily readable analysis of the District's financial activities based on currently known facts, decisions, or conditions. This analysis focuses on current year activities and should be read in conjunction with the financial statements that follow.

**Report Layout**

In addition to the Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A), the report consists of basic financial statements, notes to the financial statements and supplementary information. The basic financial statements are highly condensed and present a government-wide view of the District's finances. These government-wide statements are designed to be more corporate-like in that all activities are consolidated into a total for the District. The notes to the financial statements provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide basic financial statements.

**Basic Financial Statements**

- The Statement of Net Position and Balance Sheet – Governmental Funds is the first of two governmental fund and government-wide financial statements which focus on resources available for future operations. In simple terms, this statement presents a snapshot view of the assets the District owns, the liabilities it owes and the net difference. The net difference is further separated into amounts restricted for specific purposes and unrestricted amounts. The presentation is similar to a private-sector business.
- The second governmental fund and government-wide financial statement is called the Statement of Activities and Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance/Net Position – Governmental Funds. This statement summarizes the District's income and expenditures for the year. Once again, the presentation is similar to a private-sector business.
- The notes to the financial statements provide additional disclosure required by governmental accounting standards and provide information to assist the reader in understanding the District's financial condition.

The discussion and analysis of the District's financial performance provides an overall review of its financial activities for the year ended September 30, 2023. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the District's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the basic financial statements to enhance their understanding of the District's financial performance.

**REFUGIO GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
For the Year Ended September 30, 2023**

**Financial Highlights**

- The assets of Refugio Groundwater Conservation District exceeded its liabilities at the close of the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023 by \$1,516,061. Of this amount, \$1,516,028 of unrestricted net assets is available to meet the District's ongoing obligations.
- At September 30, 2023, unassigned fund balance for the General Fund was \$266,255 or 213% of total General Fund expenditures.
- The total cost of all District activities was \$124,799 for the fiscal year.

**Government-Wide Overall Financial Analysis**

**Refugio Groundwater Conservation District  
Components of Net Position  
September 30, 2023  
With Comparative Totals for September 30, 2022  
(in thousands)**

	<b>Governmental Activities</b>		<b>Total Government</b>		<b>Amount Change</b>	<b>% Change</b>
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>		
Current and other assets	\$ 1,537	\$ 1,464	\$ 1,537	\$ 1,464	\$ 73	5%
Capital assets	-	1	-	1	(1)	-100%
Total assets	<u>1,537</u>	<u>1,465</u>	<u>1,537</u>	<u>1,465</u>	<u>72</u>	5%
Total assets	<u>1,537</u>	<u>1,465</u>	<u>1,537</u>	<u>1,465</u>	<u>72</u>	5%
Other liabilities	21	11	21	11	10	91%
Total liabilities	<u>21</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>10</u>	91%
Net position:						
Net investment in capital assets	-	1	-	1	(1)	-100%
Unrestricted	1,516	1,453	1,516	1,453	63	4%
Total net position	<u>\$ 1,516</u>	<u>\$ 1,454</u>	<u>\$ 1,516</u>	<u>\$ 1,454</u>	<u>\$ 62</u>	4%

The total net position increased by approximately \$62,000 due to a \$72,000 increase in cash and other assets from operations, and an increase in other liabilities of \$10,000.

**REFUGIO GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
For the Year Ended September 30, 2023**

**Government-Wide Overall Financial Analysis (Concluded)**

**Refugio Groundwater Conservation District  
Condensed Statement of Activities  
For the Year Ended September 30, 2023  
With Comparative Totals for the Year Ended September 30, 2022  
(in thousands)**

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>		<u>Total Government</u>		<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>		
Revenues						
General revenues						
Taxes	\$ 181	\$ 182	\$ 181	\$ 182	\$ (1)	-1%
Interest	6	3	6	3	3	100%
Total revenues	<u>187</u>	<u>185</u>	<u>187</u>	<u>185</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1%</u>
Expenditures/expenses						
Personnel	5	4	5	4	1	25%
Professional fees	29	10	29	10	19	190%
Contracted services	74	77	74	77	(3)	-4%
Administrative	17	16	17	16	1	6%
Depreciation	-	1	-	1	(1)	-100%
Total expenditures/expenses	<u>125</u>	<u>108</u>	<u>125</u>	<u>108</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>16%</u>
Excess of revenues over expenditures/expenses before non-operating revenue	<u>62</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>(15)</u>	<u>-19%</u>
Change in net position	<u>62</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>(15)</u>	<u>-19%</u>
Beginning net position	<u>1,454</u>	<u>1,377</u>	<u>1,454</u>	<u>1,377</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>6%</u>
Ending net position	<u>\$ 1,516</u>	<u>\$ 1,454</u>	<u>\$ 1,516</u>	<u>\$ 1,454</u>	<u>\$ 62</u>	<u>4%</u>

Total ad valorem tax revenues remained consistent with the prior year, while interest revenue increased by \$2,000. Total expenses increased by \$17,000 and were impacted by an increase in personnel expenditures of \$1,000, an increase in professional fees of \$19,000, a decrease in contracted services of \$3,000, an increase in administrative expenditures of \$1,000, and a decrease in depreciation expense of \$1,000. The total impact of this activity was a decrease of \$15,000 in the change in net position from the prior year.

**Budgetary Highlights**

Actual revenues in the General Fund were greater than budgeted revenues by \$6,201. Actual General Fund expenditures were \$145,777 less than budgeted expenditures. The District did not revise its budget for the General Fund during the fiscal year.

**REFUGIO GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
For the Year Ended September 30, 2023**

**Capital Assets**

At September 30, 2023 the District had \$33 invested in net capital assets. Depreciation expense for the year was \$81.

**Refugio Groundwater Conservation District  
Capital Assets  
(net of accumulated depreciation)  
September 30, 2023  
With Comparative Totals for September 30, 2022  
(in thousands)**

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>		<u>Total Government</u>		<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>		
Office equipment	\$ 22	\$ 22	\$ 22	\$ 22	\$ -	0%
Subtotal	<u>22</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>0%</u>
Accumulated depreciation	<u>22</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>5%</u>
Capital assets, net	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1</u>	<u>\$ (1)</u>	<u>-100%</u>

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

**Debt Outstanding**

At year-end, the District had no debt outstanding.

**Economic Factors and Next Year's Budgets and Rates**

The District's property tax rate for 2023/2024 is \$0.013740 per \$100 valuation. The net taxable value is \$1,323,874,952 total tax revenue of \$181,900.

The District budgeted \$215,400 in revenues and \$215,300 in expenditures for 2023/2024.

**Financial Contact**

The District's financial statements are designed to present users (citizens, taxpayers, customers, investors, and creditors) with a general overview of the District's finances and to demonstrate the District's accountability. If you have questions about the report or need additional financial information, please contact Tim Andruss, General Manager, 604 Commerce Street, Refugio, Texas 78377.



## **BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**REFUGIO GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION AND BALANCE SHEET – GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**  
**September 30, 2023**

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Adjustments</u>	<u>Statement of Net Position</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>				
Cash and investments	\$ 1,520,521	\$ 1,520,521	\$ -	\$ 1,520,521
Taxes receivable	12,302	12,302	-	12,302
Other receivables	234	234	-	234
Prepayments	4,241	4,241	-	4,241
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	-	-	33	33
<b>Total assets</b>	<u>1,537,298</u>	<u>1,537,298</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>1,537,331</u>
<b>Total assets</b>	<u>\$ 1,537,298</u>	<u>\$ 1,537,298</u>	<u>\$ 33</u>	<u>\$ 1,537,331</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>				
Accounts payable	<u>\$ 21,270</u>	<u>\$ 21,270</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 21,270</u>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<u>21,270</u>	<u>21,270</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,270</u>
<b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>				
Unavailable taxes	<u>12,302</u>	<u>12,302</u>	<u>(12,302)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total deferred inflows of resources</b>	<u>12,302</u>	<u>12,302</u>	<u>(12,302)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>FUND BALANCE</b>				
Nonspendable	4,241	4,241	(4,241)	-
Committed	1,233,230	1,233,230	(1,233,230)	-
Unassigned	266,255	266,255	(266,255)	-
<b>Total fund balance</b>	<u>1,503,726</u>	<u>1,503,726</u>	<u>(1,503,726)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and fund balance</b>	<u>\$ 1,537,298</u>	<u>\$ 1,537,298</u>		
Net position:				
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt			33	33
Unrestricted			<u>1,516,028</u>	<u>1,516,028</u>
<b>Total net position</b>			<u>\$ 1,516,061</u>	<u>\$ 1,516,061</u>

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

**REFUGIO GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION AND BALANCE  
SHEET – GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION  
September 30, 2023**

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position (page 7) are different because:

Total fund balance - governmental funds (page 7)	\$ 1,503,726
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.	33
Delinquent taxes receivable are not considered available to pay for current period expenditures and, therefore, are deferred in the funds.	<u>12,302</u>
Net position of governmental activities	<u>\$ 1,516,061</u>

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

**REFUGIO GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES**  
**IN FUND BALANCE/NET POSITION – GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2023**

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Adjustments</u>	<u>Statement of Activities</u>
<b>Revenues</b>				
Property taxes, including penalty and interest	\$ 182,246	\$ 182,246	\$ (848)	\$ 181,398
Interest	6,184	6,184	-	6,184
Other	20	20	-	20
<b>Total revenues</b>	<u>188,450</u>	<u>188,450</u>	<u>(848)</u>	<u>187,602</u>
<b>Expenditures/expenses</b>				
Fees of office	4,500	4,500	-	4,500
Professional fees	28,738	28,738	-	28,738
Contracted services	74,441	74,441	-	74,441
Administrative	17,039	17,039	-	17,039
Depreciation	-	-	81	81
<b>Total expenditures/expenses</b>	<u>124,718</u>	<u>124,718</u>	<u>81</u>	<u>124,799</u>
<b>Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures/expenses</b>	<u>63,732</u>	<u>63,732</u>	<u>(929)</u>	<u>62,803</u>
<b>Net change in fund balance/net position</b>	63,732	63,732	(929)	62,803
<b>Fund balance/net position - beginning</b>	<u>1,439,994</u>	<u>1,439,994</u>	<u>13,264</u>	<u>1,453,258</u>
<b>Fund balance/net position - ending</b>	<u>\$ 1,503,726</u>	<u>\$ 1,503,726</u>	<u>\$ 12,335</u>	<u>\$ 1,516,061</u>

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

**REFUGIO GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
 RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN  
 FUND BALANCE/NET POSITION – GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
 For the Year Ended September 30, 2023**

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities (page 9) are different because:

Net change in fund balance - total governmental funds	\$ 63,732
Depreciation expense on capital assets reported in the government-wide statement of activities does not require the use of current financial resources. Therefore, depreciation expense is not reported as an expenditure in governmental funds.	(81)
Some revenue reported in the governmental funds was earned in prior periods and is not reported in the government-wide statement of activities.	<u>(848)</u>
Change in net position of governmental activities	<u><u>\$ 62,803</u></u>

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

**REFUGIO GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
For the Year Ended September 30, 2023**

**NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND BASIS OF ACCOUNTING**

**Basis of Accounting/Measurement Focus**

The accounts of the District are organized on the basis of funds, each of which is considered a separate accounting entity. The operations of each fund are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, fund equity, revenues, and expenditures or expenses, as appropriate. Governmental resources are allocated to and accounted for in individual funds based upon the purposes for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled.

The accounting and reporting policies of the District relating to the funds included in the accompanying financial statements conform to generally accepted accounting principles applicable to state and local governments. Generally accepted accounting principles for local governments include those principles prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants in the publication entitled *Audits of State and Local Governmental Units*, and by the Financial Accounting Standards Board (when applicable). The more significant accounting policies of the District are described below.

**A. Governmental Fund Financial Statements and Government-Wide Financial Statements**

The governmental fund financial statements and government-wide financial statements are combined in the Statement of Net Position and Balance Sheet – Governmental Funds and the Statement of Activities and Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance/Net Position – Governmental Funds. These statements present summaries of governmental activities for the District.

Government-wide financial statements are presented on an "economic resources" measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Accordingly, all of the District's assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, including capital assets as well as infrastructure assets and long-term liabilities, are included in the accompanying Statement of Net Position and Balance Sheet – Governmental Funds. The Statement of Activities and Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance/Net Position – Governmental Funds presents changes in fund balance/net position. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized in the period in which they are earned while expenses are recognized in the period in which the liability is incurred regardless of the timing of related cash flows. The types of transactions reported as program revenues for the District are reported in two categories: 1) property taxes and 2) investment earnings.

Governmental fund financial statements are accounted for on a spending or "current financial resources" measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Accordingly, only current assets, current liabilities, and current deferred inflows of resources are included on the Statement of Net Position and Balance Sheet – Governmental Funds. The Statement of Activities and Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance/Net Position – Governmental Funds present increases (revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (expenditures and other financing uses) in net current assets. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized in the accounting period in which they become both measurable and available to finance expenditures of the current period. Accordingly, revenues are recorded when received in cash, except that revenues subject to accrual (generally 60 days after year-end) are recognized when due. The primary revenue sources, which have been treated as susceptible to accrual by the District are charges for property tax and interest income. Expenditures are recorded in the accounting period in which the related fund liability is incurred.

**REFUGIO GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2023**

**NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND BASIS OF ACCOUNTING**  
**(Continued)**

The following is the District's Governmental Fund type:

General Fund

The General Fund is the general operating fund of the District. All financial resources, except those required to be accounted for in another fund, are accounted for in the General Fund.

**B. Fund Balance Classification**

The governmental fund financial statements present fund balances based on classifications that comprise a hierarchy that is based primarily on the extent to which the District is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in the respective governmental funds can be spent. The classifications used in the governmental fund financial statements are as follows:

Nonspendable

Amounts that cannot be spent either because they are in nonspendable form or because they are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

Restricted

Amounts constrained to specific purposes by their providers, through constitutional provisions, or by enabling legislation.

Committed

Amounts constrained to specific purposes by the District itself, using its highest level of decision-making authority, the Board of Directors. To be reported as committed, amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the District takes the same highest-level action to remove or change the constraint.

Assigned

Amounts the District intends to use for a specific purpose but does not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. Intent can be expressed by the District Board of Directors or by an official to which the District delegates the authority.

Unassigned

All other spendable amounts.

**REFUGIO GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2023**

**NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND BASIS OF ACCOUNTING**  
**(Continued)**

**C. Restricted Resources**

The District applies restricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net assets are available.

**D. Cash and Cash Equivalents**

The District's cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand, demand deposits, and certificates of deposits with maturity dates of twelve months or less.

**E. Budget**

The District Board members follow these procedures in establishing the District budgets:

- a. Thirty to sixty days prior to the beginning of each fiscal year, the department supervisors submit to the Board members a proposed budget for the fiscal year beginning on the following October 1. The operating budget includes proposed expenditures and the means of financing them.
- b. Public hearings are conducted at which comments concerning the budget are heard.
- c. The budget is legally enacted by the Board members prior to the beginning of the fiscal year.
- d. Any revisions that alter the total expenditures of any fund must be approved by the Board members.

**F. Property Tax**

The Appraisal District annually prepares appraisal records listing all property within the District and the appraised value of each parcel or item as of January 1. Additionally on January 1, a tax lien attaches to property to secure the payment of all taxes, penalty, and interest ultimately imposed for the year on the property. By September 1 of each year, or as soon thereafter as practicable, the rate of taxation is set by the Board of Directors of the District based upon the aggregate appraisal value.

Taxes are levied on October 1 and are due and payable on or before January 31 of the following year. All unpaid taxes become delinquent February 1 and attach as an enforceable lien on the property as of July 1 of the following year. The Refugio County Tax Assessor/Collector collects and remits the property taxes to the District on a monthly basis. Property taxes not collected within 60 days are deemed not to be material to the financial statements, so no allowance for doubtful accounts has been established.



**REFUGIO GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
For the Year Ended September 30, 2023**

**NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND BASIS OF ACCOUNTING  
(Concluded)**

**G. Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources**

The District reports deferred inflows of resources on its General Fund balance sheet. Deferred inflows of resources arise when potential revenue does not meet both the "measurable" and "available" criteria for recognition in the current period. Deferred inflows of resources also arise when the District receives resources before it has legal claim to them. In subsequent periods, when both revenue recognition criteria are met, or when the District has a legal claim to the resources, the liability for deferred inflows of resources is removed from the balance sheet and revenue is recognized.

**H. Capital Assets**

Capital assets purchased or acquired are carried at historical cost or estimated historical cost. Contributed assets are recorded at fair market value as of the date donated. Additions, improvements, and other capital outlays that significantly extend the useful life of an asset are capitalized. Other costs incurred for repairs and maintenance are expensed as incurred. Depreciation on capital assets is calculated on the straight-line basis over the following estimated useful lives:

Office equipment	3 – 7 years
Weather station equipment	5 – 7 years
Vehicle	5 – 7 years

**I. Contracts**

Interlocal Cooperation Agreement

On August 24, 2015, the District entered into an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with Victoria County Groundwater Conservation District (VCGCD) to provide office and field equipment incidental to the operation of the District. This contract is renewed annually.

**NOTE 2: THE FINANCIAL REPORTING ENTITY**

**Creation of District**

Refugio Groundwater Conservation District operates with a Board of Directors form of government. The District was created on November 6, 2001 under and subject to the authority, conditions, and restrictions of Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution. It has the same boundaries as Refugio County, which covers an area of 771 square miles and is in the West Gulf Coast Plain of South Texas. The District's mission is to develop, promote, and implement water conservation, augmentation, and management strategies in order to protect water resources for the benefit of the citizens, economy, and environment of Refugio County, Texas.

**REFUGIO GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2023**

**NOTE 3: CASH DEPOSITS WITH FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS**

Custodial Credit Risk - Deposits

State statutes require that all deposits in financial institutions be fully collateralized by U.S. Government obligations or obligations of Texas and its agencies that have a market value of not less than the principal amount of the deposits. The District's deposits were fully collateralized at September 30, 2023. At year-end, the carrying amount of the District's deposits was \$1,520,521 and the respective bank balance totaled \$1,519,899. Of the total bank balances, \$500,000 was covered by Federal Depository Insurance. The balance not covered by Federal Depository Insurance was covered by additional securities pledged to the District at September 30, 2023. The fair market value of the pledged securities at year end was \$1,750,000.

**Investments**

In accordance with the Texas Government Code, Subtitle F, Chapter 2256, Subchapter A, Authorized Investments for Governmental Entities, the District can invest in the following, subject to requirements within the Code:

1. Obligations of, or guaranteed by Governmental Entities
2. Certificates of Deposit and share certificates
3. Repurchase agreements
4. Securities Lending Programs
5. Banker's Acceptance
6. Commercial Paper
7. Mutual Funds
8. Guaranteed Investment Contracts
9. Investment pools

The District categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. The hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the asset. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets; Level 2 inputs are significant other observable inputs; Level 3 inputs are significant unobservable inputs.

As of September 30, 2023 the District had no investments.

Other investment Risks

As the District does not have investments, it is not exposed to Credit Risk, Concentration of Credit Risk or Interest Rate Risk.

**NOTE 4: OTHER DISCLOSURES**

**Tax Revenues**

The tax rate for 2022/2023 was \$0.01519 per \$100 valuation. The taxable value was \$1,189,920,664. All tax monies are used for maintenance and operations.

**Location of District**

The District is located in Refugio County, Texas. The general membership of the Board is elected within the District.

**REFUGIO GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
For the Year Ended September 30, 2023**

**NOTE 5: CHANGES IN FIXED ASSETS**

	Primary Government			Ending Balance
	Beginning Balance	Additions	Retirements	
Governmental activities:				
Capital assets, being depreciated:				
Office equipment	\$ 20,983	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,983
Total capital assets, being depreciated	20,983	-	-	20,983
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Office equipment	20,869	81	-	20,950
Total accumulated depreciation	20,869	81	-	20,950
Total capital assets, being depreciated, net	114	(81)	-	33
Governmental activities capital assets, net	\$ 114	\$ (81)	\$ -	\$ 33

Depreciation expense for the year ended September 30, 2023 totaled \$81.

**NOTE 6: RISK MANAGEMENT**

The District 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. During the year ended September 30, 2023, the District purchased commercial insurance to cover general liabilities. Contractors have the required general liability coverage as required by the various construction contracts.

Hurricanes can cause flooding, particularly in coastal areas such as the area where the District is located. Hurricanes can also cause windstorm and other damage and hurricane induced flooding can submerge roadways connecting coastal areas with inland areas, thus preventing the evacuation of people and/or property. If a hurricane (or other natural disaster) destroyed all or part of the area in which the District operates, the assessed value of property within the District could be substantially reduced, with a corresponding decrease in tax revenues or increase in the tax rate. Further, there can be no assurance that a casualty loss will be covered by insurance (certain casualties, including flood, are usually excluded unless specific insurance is purchased), that any insurance company will fulfill its obligation to provide insurance proceeds or that insurance proceeds will be used to rebuild or repair damaged District property. Even if insurance proceeds are available and the District does repair/rebuild damaged assets, there could be a lengthy period in which assessed values within the District could be adversely affected. The Gulf Coast region in which the District is located is subject to occasional destructive weather. There can be no assurance the District will not endure damage from future meteorological events.

The District operates in a regulated industry. As a result, various lawsuits, claims, and legal and regulatory proceedings can be instituted or asserted against the District.

**REFUGIO GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
For the Year Ended September 30, 2023**

**NOTE 7: LEASE AGREEMENT**

The District rents offices from an unrelated party on a month-to-month basis for \$600 per month.

**NOTE 8: FUND BALANCE**

The Government committed the following fund balance types through formal action.

The Government does not have a formal minimum fund balance policy.

A schedule of fund balance is provided below:

	Governmental Activities	Total
FUND BALANCE		
Nonspendable	\$ 4,241	\$ 4,241
Committed:		
Groundwater conservation	61,661	61,661
Groundwater monitoring	308,307	308,307
Groundwater research	61,661	61,661
Groundwater management	123,323	123,323
Groundwater protections	308,308	308,308
Groundwater planning	61,662	61,662
Legal and professional services	308,308	308,308
Total committed	1,233,230	1,233,230
Unassigned	266,255	266,255
Total fund balance	\$ 1,503,726	\$ 1,503,726

**NOTE 9: SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

In preparing these financial statements, events and transactions have been evaluated for potential recognition or disclosure through July 15, 2024, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

**REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

**REFUGIO GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE – GENERAL FUND  
For the Year Ended September 30, 2023**

	<b>Original and Final Budget</b>	<b>Actual Amounts</b>	<b>Variance with Final Budget</b>
<b>Revenues</b>			
Property taxes, including penalty and interest	\$ 180,749	\$ 182,246	\$ 1,497
Interest	1,500	6,184	4,684
Other	-	20	20
<b>Total revenues</b>	<u>182,249</u>	<u>188,450</u>	<u>6,201</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Fees of office	10,000	4,500	5,500
Professional fees	85,750	28,738	57,012
Contracted services	135,195	74,441	60,754
Capital outlay	15,000	-	15,000
Administrative	24,550	17,039	7,511
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<u>270,495</u>	<u>124,718</u>	<u>145,777</u>
<b>Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures</b>	<u>\$ (88,246)</u>	<u>\$ 63,732</u>	<u>\$ 151,978</u>

**REFUGIO GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
NOTE TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
For the Year Ended September 30, 2023**

**NOTE 1: BUDGET**

The budget for the General Fund adopted during the year by the District was prepared using the modified accrual basis of accounting in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The General Fund has a legally adopted budget.

## **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**



# Goldman, Hunt & Notz, L.L.P.

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## Certified Public Accountants

DONALD G. GOLDMAN, CPA  
D. DALE HUNT, CPA  
JAMIE K. NOTZ, CPA, CVA\*

MEMBERS OF:  
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TEXAS SOCIETY OF  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

\*CERTIFIED INFORMATION SYSTEMS AUDITOR

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

To the Board of Directors  
Refugio Groundwater Conservation District  
Refugio, Texas

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of Refugio Groundwater Conservation District (the District), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated July 15, 2024.

#### Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

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

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. We identified certain deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

### Lack of Controls over Annual Financial Reporting

We have drafted the annual financial statements and related note disclosures of the District at the District's request. This was done because, due to its limited resources, the District's internal personnel did not possess all of the skills and competencies necessary to prepare its own annual financial statements in accordance with the highly technical pronouncements and requirements of generally accepted accounting principles. However, we cannot be considered part of the District's internal controls – specifically, we cannot be a part of the financial reporting internal control that addresses the preparation of accurate annual financial statements and related note disclosures. Consequently, the inability of the District to prepare its own financial statements and related note disclosures is considered to be a control deficiency. The fact that we prepare the financial statements may give users more confidence that the financial statements are correct; however, it does not eliminate the control deficiency.

To remedy the control deficiency related to the preparation of the annual financial statements, the District would need to ensure that sufficient personnel are in place and that they have the appropriate knowledge and tools (i.e., current accounting literature, current disclosure checklist, etc.) to be an effective element of the internal control process over financial reporting. We understand that it is not feasible because of the District's size and limited resources. Management may make a conscious decision to accept the degree of risk in this control deficiency because of cost or other considerations.

### Refugio Groundwater Conservation District's Response to Identified Material Weakness

While the District does not prepare our own financial statements, the District prepares internal financial reports and investment reports, represented on a cash-basis, that accurately represent the account balances, financial transactions, and budget performance information throughout the fiscal year. However, due to limited resources, it is not feasible for Refugio Groundwater Conservation District to employ qualified personnel who possess the competencies and skills to prepare our own financial statements.

### **Report on Compliance and Other Matters**

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

### **Refugio Groundwater Conservation District's Response to Findings**

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the District's response to the findings identified in our audit and described previously. The District's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

### **Purpose of This Report**

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

  
Goldman, Hunt & Notz, L.L.P.

July 15, 2024