



**NEEDLES PUBLIC UTILITY AUTHORITY  
(A Component Unit of the City of Needles)**

**Audited Financial Statements**

**As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2021**

**(With Independent Auditor's Report Thereon)**

**NEEDLES PUBLIC UTILITY AUTHORITY**

**Financial Statements June 30, 2021**

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## **Report of Independent Auditors**

Members of the Commission of the  
Needles Public Utility Authority

### **Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Needles Public Utility Authority (the Authority), a component unit of the City of Needles, California, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2021, and the related notes to financial statements, which collectively comprise the Authority'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.

### **Auditors' Responsibility**

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

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

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

## **Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Authority as of June 30, 2021, and the changes in its financial position and its cash flows 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 4 through 8 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 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 Information*

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Authority's basic financial statements. The combining schedules of net position, revenues, expenses and changes in net position and cash flows, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The combining schedules of net position, revenues, expenses and changes in net position and cash flows 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 applied 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 our opinion, the combining schedules of net position, revenues, expenses and changes in net position and cash flows 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*, we have also issued our report dated February 28, 2022 on our consideration of the Authority's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is 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 Authority'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 the Authority's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

*Bryce & Co., P.C.*

Saipan, MP

February 28, 2022

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## **NEEDLES PUBLIC UTILITY AUTHORITY MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

As Management of the Needles Public Utility Authority (the Authority), we offer readers of the Authority's Financial Statements this narrative overview and analysis of the Authority's financial performance during the fiscal years ended June 30, 2021. Please read it in conjunction with the Authority's Financial Statements, which follow this section.

### **Financial Highlights**

- The total net position increased \$5,979 thousand in 2021.
- Operating revenues increased \$1,324 thousand in 2021.
- Operating expenses (excluding depreciation) increased \$1,049 thousand in 2021.

### **Overview of the Financial Statements**

This annual report includes the management's discussion and analysis report, the independent auditors' report, the Authority's basic financial statements, and the supplementary schedules. The financial statements also include notes that explain in more detail some of the information in the financial statements.

### **Required Financial Statements**

The Authority's financial statements report information using accounting methods like those used by private sector companies. These statements offer both short-term and long-term financial information about its activities. The Statement of Net Position includes all the Authority's assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources, and provides information about the nature and amount of investments in resources (assets), and the obligations to creditors (liabilities). It also provides the basis for evaluation of the capital structure of the Authority and assessing the liquidity and financial flexibility of the Authority.

All the revenues and expenses for the year are accounted for in the Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position. This Statement measures the success of the Authority's operations over the past two years and can be used to determine whether the Authority has successfully recovered its costs, through its fees and other charges, profitability, and creditworthiness.

The final required financial statement is the Statement of Cash Flows. This statement reports cash receipts, cash payments, and net changes in cash resulting from operations, investing, and financing activities, and provides answers to such questions as sources of cash coming in, what expenditures cash was used for, and the change in the cash balance during the reporting periods.

### **Financial Analysis of the Authority**

One of the most important questions asked about the Authority's finances is "Is the Authority, as a whole, better off, or worse off as a result of the year's activities?". The Statement of Net Position, and the Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position will help answer this question. These two statements report the net assets of the Authority, and changes in them. One can think of these changes as indicators of whether the financial health is improving or deteriorating. However, one should also consider other factors, such as changes in the economy, population growth, and if there is any new governmental legislation.

We begin our analysis with a summary of the Authority's Statement of Net Position.

**Condensed Statement of Net Position**  
 (000's)

	FY 2021	FY 2020	Dollar Change	Percent Change
<b>Assets</b>				
Current and other assets	17,402	13,061	4,341	33.24%
Capital assets	19,433	17,449	1,984	11.37%
Total assets	<u>36,835</u>	<u>30,510</u>	<u>6,325</u>	<u>20.73%</u>
<b>Deferred outflows of resources</b>	370	507	(137)	-27.02%
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Long-term debt	21,495	22,488	(993)	-4.42%
Other liabilities	4,854	3,537	1,317	37.23%
Total liabilities	<u>26,349</u>	<u>26,025</u>	<u>324</u>	<u>1.24%</u>
<b>Deferred inflows of resources</b>	113	229	(116)	-50.66%
<b>Net Position</b>				
Net investment in capital and intangible assets	-	1,953	(1,953)	-100%
Restricted for debt service	10,865	700	10,165	1,452.14%
Unrestricted (deficit)	(123)	2,110	(2,233)	-105.83%
Total net position	<u>10,742</u>	<u>4,763</u>	<u>5,979</u>	<u>125.53%</u>

**Condensed Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position**  
 (000's)

	FY 2021	FY 2020	Dollar Change	Percent Change
<b>Revenues</b>				
Operating revenues	14,153	12,829	1,324	10.32%
Nonoperating revenues	552	72	480	666.67%
Total revenues	<u>14,705</u>	<u>12,901</u>	<u>1,804</u>	<u>13.98%</u>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Depreciation	1,257	1,010	247	24.46%
Other operating expenses	9,052	8,003	1,049	13.11%
Nonoperating expenses	1,342	1,175	167	14.21%
Total expenses	<u>11,651</u>	<u>10,188</u>	<u>1,463</u>	<u>14.36%</u>
Income before operating transfers	3,054	2,713	341	12.57%
Capital contributions	3,707	-	3,707	100.00%
Transfers	(1,847)	(914)	(933)	102.08%
Changes in net position	4,914	1,799	3,115	173.15%
Prior period adj-amort water rights	1,065	-	1,065	100.00%
Net position at beginning of year	<u>4,763</u>	<u>2,964</u>	<u>1,799</u>	<u>60.70%</u>
Net position at end of year	<u>\$ 10,742</u>	<u>\$ 4,763</u>	<u>\$ 5,979</u>	<u>125.53%</u>

The \$5,979 thousand increase in total net position in 2021, versus an increase of \$1,799 thousand in 2020, reflects the combination of increase in operating revenues and expenses and decrease in transfers. The slightly higher operating revenues in 2021 were due to increased consumption and usage from FY 2020.

While the Statements of Net Position show the changes in financial position, the Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position provide answers as to the nature of and source of these changes.

**Capital Assets (in 000's)**

	FY 2021	FY 2020	Dollar Change	Percent Change
<b>Costs</b>				
Land	\$3,199	\$3,202	\$ (3)	-0.09%
Utility plant	41,207	36,256	4,951	13.66%
Construction in progress	167	-	167	0.00%
Total costs	44,573	39,458	5,115	13.56%
Accumulated depreciation	25,141	22,009	3,132	14.23%
Net capital assets	<u>\$19,432</u>	<u>\$17,449</u>	<u>\$1,983</u>	-11.36%

The Authority's Capital Plan for the ensuing 10 years includes various capital and deferred maintenance projects, which include, but are not limited to the following:

**ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT**

- Meter replacement.
- Cure Farms substation.
- Electric circuit reliability program.
- 1 MW solar project.
- Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) project.
- Wire trailer
- Mohave Line rehabilitation
- Park Moabi Line Upgrade
- Street light LED phase out program
- Double bucket truck

**WATER DEPARTMENT**

- New well for Urban in fill / South area.
- 1.5 MG of reservoir capacity.
- Water services replacement – second year street paving.
- Water services replacement – third year street paving.
- Water services replacement – fourth year street paving.
- Water services replacement – fifth year street paving.
- Replace deteriorating pipe in Monterey & Arizona Avenues.
- Replace deteriorating pipe in Chesney's subdivision.
- Replace deteriorating pipe in Fairmont Avenue.
- Replace deteriorating pipe in Coronado Street area.
- Replace deteriorating pipe in El Monte Street area.
- Replace deteriorating pipe in Chestnut Street area.
- Replace deteriorating pipe in Casa Linda Street area.

- Replace deteriorating pipe in River Road area.
- L Street booster.
- Main replacement and upgrade pipe size on Lilly Hill + Booster
- AMI meters.

#### WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT

- Railroad crossing at Bazoobuth.
- Replacement of undersize inlet piping on SBR1.
- Plant grit separator.
- Upsize deficient sewer lines on T Street to Front Street.
- Upsize sewer on Market Street & Broadway Avenue.
- Upsize sewer on Needles Highway from P Street to Broadway.
- Upsize sewer on L Street from Walnut Street to RR.
- Connection between North Needles trunk line.
- Jet Vac trailer
- Mini excavator & tilt trailer

#### Long Term Debt

Total indebtedness (all liabilities) outstanding at June 30, 2021, and 2020 amounted to \$26.3 million and \$26.0 million, respectively. The decrease in total liabilities was due to payments of debt and advances from the City and lower OPEB and pension-related liabilities. More detailed information about the Authority's long-term liabilities is presented in Note 6 of the financial statements.

#### Economic Factors and Power Rates

The Authority's cost for electricity is dependent upon the open market prices. Since 2008 the Authority has been purchasing its power from Western Area Power Administration (WAPA), and energy costs decreased substantially because of this contract, from their peak in 2006 and 2007. In January 2014, the City, on behalf of the Authority, entered into Amendment No. 5 to Contract No. 00-DSR-11223 among United States Department of Energy Western Area Power Administration Desert Southwest Service Region ("WAPA"), Parker-Davis Project, SLCA Integrated Projects, Boulder Canyon Project and Yuma County Water Users' Association and Wellton-Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District and Eastern Arizona Preference Pooling Association and City of Needles, California for Aggregated Energy Services ("AES") (through WAPA) that accommodates aggregation of all member resources (hydroelectric and thermal electric) subject to transmission arrangements. There is an opportunity for Needles to receive excess Wellton-Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District Federal Energy Services ("FES") hydro at a pre-negotiated cost, based on the FES rate (exchanges cannot be made at a rate greater than the FES rate). Those hydro deliveries will be deemed "specified" resources and will not be subject to Cap and Trade penalties.

AES (through WAPA) accommodates aggregation of all member resources (hydroelectric and thermal electric) subject to transmission arrangements. There is an opportunity for Needles to receive excess Wellton – Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District Federal Energy Services ("FES") hydro at a pre-negotiated cost, based on the FES rate (exchanges cannot be made at a rate greater than the FES Rate). Those hydro deliveries will be deemed "specified" resources and will not be subject to Cap and Trade penalties.

### **Implementation of New Accounting Pronouncements**

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021, the Authority considered but was not required to implement various Statements issued by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), including Statements through GASB Statement No. 97, *Certain Component Unit Criteria, and Accounting and Financial Reporting for Internal Revenue Code Section 457 Deferred Compensation Plans*.

The effective dates of many of the Statements were delayed with the issuance of GASB Statement No. 95, *Postponement of the Effective Dates of Certain Authoritative Guidance*.

The Authority has not yet evaluated whether the recent Statements will have a material impact on the Authority's financial statements.

### **Contacting the Authority's Financial Manager**

This financial report is designed to provide our customers and creditors with a generalized overview of the Authority's finances, and to demonstrate the Authority's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report, or if additional financial information is needed, please contact the Needles Public Utility Authority, Director of Finance, 817 Third Street, Needles, California 92363.

**NEEDLES PUBLIC UTILITY AUTHORITY**  
(A Component Unit of the City of Needles)

Statement of Net Position  
June 30, 2021

<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current assets:	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 10,864,731
Receivables, net	2,505,011
Materials and supplies inventory	<u>703,841</u>
Total current assets	<u>14,073,583</u>
Noncurrent assets:	
Prepayment of purchase obligation	871,110
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	19,432,755
Intangible assets, net of accumulated amortization	<u>2,457,399</u>
Total noncurrent assets	<u>22,761,264</u>
Total assets	<u>36,834,847</u>
Deferred outflows of resources:	
Deferred outflows related to pensions	346,968
Deferred outflows related to OPEB	<u>22,561</u>
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>369,529</u>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET POSITION</b>	
Current liabilities:	
Accounts payable and other current liabilities	131,384
Compensated absences	253,651
Customer deposits	2,579,813
Accrued interest payable	190,951
Current portion of bonds and notes payable	<u>1,032,877</u>
Total current liabilities	<u>4,188,676</u>
Noncurrent liabilities:	
Net pension liability	1,359,852
Net OPEB liability	338,730
Bonds and notes payable, net of current portion	<u>20,461,732</u>
Total noncurrent liabilities	<u>22,160,314</u>
Total liabilities	<u>26,348,990</u>
Deferred inflows of resources:	
Deferred inflows related to pensions	<u>113,230</u>
Net position:	
Net investment in capital and intangible assets	-
Restricted for debt service	10,864,731
Unrestricted	<u>( 122,574)</u>
Total net position	\$ <u><u>10,742,157</u></u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

**NEEDLES PUBLIC UTILITY AUTHORITY**  
(A Component Unit of the City of Needles)

Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position  
Year ended June 30, 2021

Operating revenues:	
Sales of electricity	\$ 7,898,548
Sales of water	3,470,776
Charges for wastewater system use	1,919,098
Other revenues	<u>1,142,343</u>
Total operating revenues	<u>14,430,764</u>
Operating expenses:	
Operations and maintenance	6,147,006
Electric power purchased	2,177,730
Depreciation and amortization	1,256,988
City franchise fee	726,958
Utility users tax	<u>797</u>
Total operating expenses	<u>10,309,480</u>
Operating income	4,121,284
Nonoperating revenues (expenses);	
Interest expense	(1,342,198)
Interest and investment revenue	<u>274,576</u>
Net nonoperating expense	<u>(1,067,622)</u>
Income before contributions and transfers	3,053,662
Capital contributions	3,707,125
Operating transfers	
Transfers to City of Needles	<u>(1,846,809)</u>
Change in net position	4,913,978
Net position at beginning of year, as previously reported	4,763,056
Prior period adjustment - amortization of water rights	<u>1,065,122</u>
Net position at beginning of year, as adjusted	<u>5,828,178</u>
Net position at end of year	\$ <u><u>10,742,157</u></u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

**NEEDLES PUBLIC UTILITY AUTHORITY**  
(A Component Unit of the City of Needles)

Statement of Cash Flows  
Year ended June 30, 2021

Cash flows from operating activities:	
Receipts from customers	\$ 16,527,544
Payments to City of Needles:	
Suppliers and other costs	( 8,216,768)
Employee compensation and related costs	( 1,979,998)
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>6,330,778</u>
Cash flows from capital and related financing activities:	
Capital contributions	3,707,125
Purchases of capital assets	( 2,157,138)
Principal paid on capital debt	( 993,136)
Interest paid on capital debt	( 1,372,383)
Net transfers for asset replacement reserves	( 1,846,809)
Net cash used in capital and related financing activities	<u>( 2,662,340)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities	
Interest and investment income collected	<u>274,575</u>
Net cash provided by investing activities	<u>274,575</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents	3,943,013
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	<u>6,921,718</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u>\$ 10,864,731</u>
Reconciliation of operating income to net cash provided by operating activities:	
Operating income	4,121,284
Adjustments to reconcile operating income to net cash provided by operating activities:	
Depreciation and amortization	1,256,988
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:	
Receivables	107,663
Due from City of Needles	( 448,972)
Materials and supplies inventory	( 74,533)
Deferred outflows of resources	137,626
Accounts payable and other current liabilities	26,770
Due to the City of Needles	( 141,308)
Compensated absences	( 34,569)
Customer deposits	1,989,115
Net pension liability	( 377,967)
Net OPEB liability	( 115,091)
Deferred inflows of resources	<u>( 116,228)</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>\$ 6,330,778</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

**NOTE 1                      SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements of the Needles Public Utility Authority (the Authority) have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to government units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The significant accounting principles and policies utilized by the Authority are described below:

**Reporting Entity**

The Authority was formed by a Joint Powers Agreement, entered into on June 6, 1997, between the City of Needles, California (City) and the Redevelopment Agency of the City of Needles (Agency). Pursuant to the provisions of ABX126, the Agency was dissolved effective February 1, 2012. The City currently serves as the successor agency to the former redevelopment agency that is responsible for revenue collection, maintaining the bond reserves, disposing of excess property and fulfilling the remaining obligations of the dissolved Agency.

The Authority was formed for the purpose of acquiring and operating the City's water, sewer and electrical enterprises. The Authority is governed by a Commission, the members of which are also members of the City Council. The Authority has no employees, its day-to-day activities and operations are performed by City employees under a management agreement with the City. The Authority is a component unit of the City.

**Basis of Accounting and Measurement Focus**

The Authority is considered to be an enterprise fund, which is a proprietary fund type. Proprietary funds are used to account for activities that are similar to those often found in the private sector. The measurement focus is upon determination of net income and capital maintenance.

Enterprise funds are used to account for operations that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises where the intent of the governing body is that the costs of providing goods or services to the general public on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges.

The Authority uses the full accrual basis of accounting. Under this basis, revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when incurred, even though actual payment or receipt may not occur until after the period ends.

The Authority's financial statements are presented in accordance with the provisions of GASB Statement No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements – and Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments* as amended by GASB Statement No. 63, *Financial Reporting of Deferred Outflows of Resources, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net Position*. Statement No. 63 established standards for external financial reporting for all state and local governmental entities. It requires the classification of net position into three components – net investment in capital assets; restricted; and unrestricted. These classifications are defined as follows:

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**NOTE 1                      SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**  
**(CONTINUED)**

**Basis of Accounting and Measurement Focus (continued)**

- Net investment in capital and intangible assets – This component of net position consists of capital and intangible assets, including restricted capital and intangible assets, net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, mortgages, notes, or other borrowing that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those capital assets. If there are significant unspent related debt proceeds at year-end, the portion of the debt attributable to the unspent proceeds are not included in the calculation of invested in capital assets, net of related debt. Rather, that portion of the debt is included in the same net position component as the unspent proceeds.
- Restricted – This component of net position consists of constraints placed on net position use through external constraints imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments or restrictions imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- Unrestricted net position – This category consists of that component of net position that does not meet the definition of restricted or net investment in capital assets.

**Implementation of New Accounting Pronouncements**

During the year ended June 30, 2021, the Authority considered the following Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) statements:

In January 2017, GASB issued Statement No. 84, *Fiduciary Activities*. This Statement improves guidance regarding the identification of fiduciary activities for accounting and financial reporting purposes and how those activities should be reported. GASB Statement No. 84 was to be effective for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020 but was delayed for one year with the issuance of GASB Statement No. 95 as discussed below. The implementation of this statement did not have a material effect on the Authority's financial statements.

In June 2017, GASB issued Statement No. 87, *Leases*. The objective of this Statement is to better meet the information needs of financial statement users by improving accounting and financial reporting for leases by governments. This Statement increases the usefulness of governments' financial statements by requiring recognition of certain lease assets and liabilities for leases that previously were classified as operating leases and as inflows of resources or outflows of resources recognized based on the payment provisions of the contract. GASB Statement No. 87 was to be effective for the Authority for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021 but has been delayed with the issuance of GASB Statement 95 as discussed below. Management does not believe that the implementation of this statement will have a material effect on the Authority's financial statements.



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**NOTE 1                      SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES  
(CONTINUED)**

**Implementation of New Accounting Pronouncements, continued**

In May 2019, GASB issued Statement No. 91 *Conduit Debt Obligations*. The primary objectives of this Statement are to provide a single method of reporting conduit debt obligations by issuers and eliminate diversity in practice associated with (1) commitments extended by issuers, (2) arrangements associated with conduit debt obligations, and (3) related note disclosures.

This Statement achieves those objectives by clarifying the existing definition of a conduit debt obligation; establishing that a conduit debt obligation is not a liability of the issuer; establishing standards for accounting and financial reporting of additional commitments and voluntary commitments extended by issuers and arrangements associated with conduit debt obligations; and improving required note disclosure. GASB Statement No. 91 will be effective for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023.

In January 2020, GASB issued Statement No. 92, *Omnibus 2020*. The requirements of this Statement will enhance comparability in the application of accounting and financial reporting requirements and will improve the consistency of authoritative literature. More comparable reporting will improve the usefulness of information for users of state and local government financial statements.

This Statement addresses a variety of topics and includes specific provisions about leases; reporting of intra-entity transfers of assets between a primary government employer and a component unit defined benefit pension plan or defined benefit other than postemployment benefit (OPEB) plan; applicability of Statement No. 73 and 84 to postemployment benefits, measurements of liabilities (and assets, if any) related to asset retirement obligations (AROs) in a government acquisition; reporting by public entity risk pools for amounts that are recoverable from reinsurers or excess insurers; reference to nonrecurring fair value measurements of assets or liabilities in authoritative literature and terminology used to refer to derivative instruments. GASB Statement No. 92 will be effective for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.

In April 2020, GASB issued Statement No. 93, *Replacement of Interbank Offered Rates (IBOR)*. The primary objective of the Statement is to address those and other accounting and financial reporting implications of the replacement of IBOR. GASB Statement No. 93 will be effective for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.

In March 2020, GASB issued Statement No. 94, *Public-private and Public-public Partnership Arrangements (PPPs)*. The primary objective of this Statement is to improve financial reporting by addressing issues related to public-private and public-public partnership arrangements (PPPs). GASB Statement No. 94 will be effective for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023.

In May 2020, GASB issued Statement No. 95, *Postponement of the Effective Dates of Certain Authoritative Guidance*. The primary objective of this Statement is to provide temporary relief to governments and other stakeholders in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

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**NOTE 1                      SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**  
**(CONTINUED)**

**Implementation of New Accounting Pronouncements, continued**

The effective dates of certain provisions contained in the following pronouncements are postponed by one year:

- Statement No. 83, *Certain Asset Retirement Obligations*
- Statement No. 84, *Fiduciary Activities*
- Statement No. 88, *Certain Disclosures Related to Debt, including Direct Borrowings and Direct Placements*
- Statement No. 89, *Accounting for Interest Cost Incurred before the End of a Construction Period*
- Statement No. 90, *Majority Equity Interests*
- Statement No. 91, *Conduit Debt Obligations*
- Statement No. 92, *Omnibus 2020*
- Statement No. 93, *Replacement of Interbank Offered Rates*
- Implementation Guide No.2017-3, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions (and Certain Issues Related to OPEB Plan Reporting)*
- Implementation Guide No. 2018-1, *Implementation Guidance Update—2018*
- Implementation Guide No. 2019-1, *Implementation Guidance Update—2019*
- Implementation Guide No. 2019-2, *Fiduciary Activities*.

The effective dates of the following pronouncements are postponed by 18 months:

- *Statement No. 87, Leases*
- *Implementation Guide No. 2019-3, Leases*.

In May 2020, GASB issued Statement No. 96, *Subscription-based Information Technology Arrangements* (SBITAs). This Statement provides guidance on the accounting and financial reporting for subscription-based information technology arrangements (SBITAs) for government end users (governments). This Statement (1) defines a SBITA; (2) establishes that a SBITA results in a right-to-use subscription asset—an intangible asset—and a corresponding subscription liability; (3) provides the capitalization criteria for outlays other than subscription payments, including implementation costs of a SBITA; and (4) requires note disclosures regarding a SBITA. GASB Statement No. 96 will be effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2022.

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**NOTE 1                      SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**  
**(CONTINUED)**

**Implementation of New Accounting Pronouncements, continued**

In June 2020, GASB issued Statement No. 97, *Certain Component Unit Criteria, and Accounting and Financial Reporting for Internal Revenue Code Section 457 Deferred Compensation Plans*. The primary objectives of this Statement are to (1) increase consistency and comparability related to the reporting of fiduciary component units in circumstances in which a potential component unit does not have a governing board and the primary government performs the duties that a governing board typically would perform; (2) mitigate costs associated with the reporting of certain defined contribution pension plans, defined contribution other postemployment benefit (OPEB) plans, and employee benefit plans other than pension plans or OPEB plans (other employee benefit plans) as fiduciary component units in fiduciary fund financial statements; and (3) enhance the relevance, consistency, and comparability of the accounting and financial reporting for Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 457 deferred compensation plans (Section 457 plans) that meet the definition of a pension plan and for benefits provided through those plans. GASB Statement No. 97 will be effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2021.

In October 2021, GASB issued Statement No. 98, *The Annual Comprehensive Financial Report*. This statement establishes the term annual comprehensive financial report and its acronym ACFR. That new term and acronym replaces instances of comprehensive annual financial report and its acronym. This statement is effective for fiscal years ending after December 15, 2021. Management does not believe the implementation of this statement will have a material impact on the Authority's financial statements.

The Authority is currently evaluating whether or not the above listed new GASB pronouncements with effective dates after the year ended June 30, 2021 will have a significant impact on its financial statements

**Pension**

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability and deferred outflows/inflows of resources related to pension, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the City's California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) plan (Plan) and additions to/deductions from the Plan's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by CalPERS.

For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value. The City allocates about 37.37% of the net pension liability and pension-related transactions to the Authority based on its share in the pension contribution for the year ended June 30, 2021.

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**NOTE 1                      SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**  
**(CONTINUED)**

**Use of Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, and Net Position**

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand and in banks, money market accounts and deposits with the Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF), and also certificates of deposit and U.S. Treasury bills with maturities of less than 90 days when purchased. It also includes money market accounts in deposits held by the bond trustee that are not restricted.

Inventories

Inventories are recorded at average cost, which approximates market. Inventories consist of expendable supplies held for consumption. The cost is recorded as an expense at the time individual inventory items are consumed rather than when purchased.

Capital Assets

Capital assets are defined by the Authority as assets with an initial, individual cost of more than \$5,000 and with an estimated useful life in excess of one year.

Capital assets of the Authority are recorded at either their historical cost or at an allocation of the utility plant purchase price, based on appraisal values at January 1, 1997. Donated assets are valued at their estimated fair value on the date donated. Depreciation for all exhaustible capital assets is charged as an expense against operations.

The provision for depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over estimated useful lives of the assets as follows:

Buildings	20 - 40 years
Improvements	20 - 40 years
Plant	15 - 30 years
Equipment	3 -10 years

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**NOTE 1                      SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**  
**(CONTINUED)**

**Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, and Net Position**

Capital Assets, continued

Net interest costs during construction periods were capitalized for assets acquired by the issuance of long-term debt through the year ended June 30, 2020, but with the implementation of GASB Statement No. 89 during the year ended June 30, 2021 are charged to expense. Major additions and betterments are capitalized while expenditures for maintenance and repairs that do not add value to the assets and materially extend asset lives are charged to operations as incurred.

Deposits

Customer deposits represent deposits held by the Authority as collateral in the event of non-payment for service rendered.

Deferred Outflows and Inflows of Resources

Pursuant to GASB Statement Nos. 63 and 65, the Authority recognizes deferred outflows and inflows of resources. A deferred outflow of resources is defined as a consumption of net position by the government that is applicable to a future reporting period. A deferred inflow of resources is defined as an acquisition of net position by the government that is applicable to a future reporting period.

**Revenues and Expenses**

Revenue Recognition

Charges for electricity, water and sewer use are recorded as billed to customers on a monthly cycle billing basis. At the end of each month, unbilled revenues are accrued for each cycle based on the most recent cycle billings.

Operating and Non-Operating Revenues and Expenses

Revenues and expenses are distinguished between operating and nonoperating items. The Authority defines operating revenues to be exchange transactions where a product or service is furnished and a charge collected therefrom, while operating expenses are all of the costs incurred in delivering those products or services including depreciation on capital assets. Nonoperating revenues and expenses are generally non-exchange transactions and those transactions that are capital and non-capital related financing activities or investing activities.

Compensated Absences

As discussed in Note 11, the Authority has a management agreement with the City concerning employees and their compensation.

**NOTE 1                      SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**  
**(CONTINUED)**

Compensated Absences, continued

All earned vacation, holiday, compensatory time off, and a portion of accumulated sick leave of the City’s employees payable upon termination or retirement are accrued. The liability is accrued for a portion of the sick leave balances of all employees who are currently eligible to receive a payment for sick leave upon termination, as well as for those expected to become eligible. As of June 30, 2021, the total estimated liability for all compensated absences, including sick leave, was \$253,651.

Amortization

Canal construction cost sharing is amortized using the straight-line method over 40 years. Effective July 1, 2004, the Authority discontinued amortizing its Water Rights intangible asset, as this asset has an indeterminate life and has value. Water Rights are tested annually for impairment under GASB 42, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Impairment of Capital Assets and for Insurance Recoveries*. If it is determined that the asset has been impaired, the book value will be adjusted to reflect the reduced fair value of the rights. Accumulated amortization on Water Rights amounted to \$490,688 prior to July 1, 2004.

**NOTE 2                      CASH AND INVESTMENTS**

The indenture for the 2016 Revenue Refunding Bonds (Note 6) requires the establishment of special funds to be held and administered by trustees and by the Authority. As of and for the year ended June 30, 2021, investments and cash held by trustees and by the Authority in these funds and accounts are as follows:

Custodian:	
Local Agency Investment Fund	\$ 2,953,547
Bank	<u>7,911,184</u>
	\$ <u>10,864,731</u>
Special funds balances:	
Operating funds	\$ 6,619,099
Electric asset replacement reserve	2,845,347
Utility rate stabilization fund	700,285
PCA balances	<u>700,000</u>
	\$ <u>10,864,731</u>

The Authority, periodically during the year, maintained bank balances in excess of federally insured limits.

Statutes authorize the Authority to invest in obligations of U.S. Government agencies and U.S. Government securities, certificates of deposit, municipal securities and the Local Agency Investment Fund of the State of California. Investments are stated at fair value.

**NOTE 2 CASH AND INVESTMENTS, continued**

**Investment in State Investment Pool**

The Authority is a voluntary participant in LAIF that is regulated by California Government Code Section 16429 under the oversight of the Treasurer of the State of California. The fair value of the Authority’s investment in this pool is reported in the accompanying financial statements at amounts based upon the Authority’s pro-rata share of the fair value provided by LAIF for the entire LAIF portfolio (in relation to the amortized cost of that portfolio). The balance available for withdrawal is based on the accounting records maintained by LAIF, which are recorded on an amortized cost basis. At June 30, 2021, the total fair value of LAIF, including accrued interest was approximately \$193 billion. The fair value of the Authority’s investment in the pool is \$2,953,547 as of June 30, 2021. LAIF’s and the Authority’s exposure to risk (credit, market, or legal) is not currently available.

The Authority 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.

The Authority’s investment in LAIF as of June 30, 2021 is reported at the Agency’s pro-rata share of the amortized cost provided by LAIF for the entire LAIF portfolio. This valuation amount which approximates fair value, is not categorized under the fair value hierarchy.

**NOTE 3 ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE**

Accounts receivable at June 30, 2021 consist of the following:

	<u>Electric</u>	<u>Water</u>	<u>AAC</u>	<u>Wastewater</u>	<u>Total</u>
Accounts receivable	\$ 1,888,209	429,379	9,874	289,003	2,616,465
Allowance for doubtful accounts	( 251,788)	( 53,598)	-	( 89,739)	( 395,125)
Net receivables	\$ <u>1,636,421</u>	<u>375,781</u>	<u>9,874</u>	<u>199,264</u>	<u>2,221,340</u>

**NOTE 4 CAPITAL ASSETS**

Changes in capital assets for the year ended June 30, 2021 were as follows:

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Transfers/ Deductions</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
Nondepreciable assets:				
Land	\$ 3,201,893	-	(2,793)	3,199,100
Construction in progress	<u>-</u>	<u>167,403</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>167,403</u>
	3,201,893	167,403	(2,793)	3,366,503
Depreciable assets:				
Utility plant	36,256,167	4,950,798	-	41,206,965
Accumulated depreciation	<u>(22,008,785)</u>	<u>(3,131,929)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(25,140,714)</u>
	<u>14,247,382</u>	<u>1,818,869</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,066,251</u>
Capital assets, net	\$ <u>17,449,275</u>	<u>1,986,272</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19,432,754</u>

**NOTE 5 INTANGIBLE ASSETS**

Changes in the intangible assets for the year ended June 30, 2021 were as follows:

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Transfers/ Deductions</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
Cost:				
Water rights	\$ 2,662,807	-	-	2,662,807
Canal construction cost sharing	<u>728,366</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>728,366</u>
	3,391,173	-	-	3,391,173
Accumulated amortization:				
Water rights	(490,688)	(1,131,691)	-	(1,622,379)
Canal construction cost sharing	<u>(424,877)</u>	<u>(18,209)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(443,086)</u>
	<u>(91,565)</u>	<u>(1,149,900)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,065,465)</u>
Capital assets, net	\$ <u>2,475,608</u>	<u>(1,149,900)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,325,708</u>

**NOTE 6 LONG-TERM DEBT**

Long-term debt consists of the following:

- 2016 Revenue Refunding Bonds, interest at 3.86% payable each February 1st and August 1st – principal redemptions in varying annual amounts that are due through February 2031.
- Purchase Obligation due to the City, \$685,300 payable each February 1st, including interest imputed at 6.714% through February 2012. Starting February 2013, the annual payment was reduced to \$673,036 as a result of the \$400,000 prepayments made in 2012. The annual payment was further reduced to \$666,983 in fiscal year 2016 as a result of the additional prepayment made in 2013 amounting to \$350,000.

**NOTE 6 LONG-TERM DEBT, continued**

Long-term liability activity for the year ended June 30, 2021 was as follows:

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Reductions</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>	<u>Amounts Due Within One Year</u>
Revenue Bonds	\$ 12,828,913	-	(956,330)	11,872,583	993,600
Purchase Obligation	<u>9,658,832</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(36,806)</u>	<u>9,622,026</u>	<u>39,277</u>
	<u>\$ 22,487,745</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(993,136)</u>	<u>21,494,609</u>	<u>1,032,877</u>

Annual maturities of long-term debt are as follows:

<u>Year Ending June 30</u>	<u>Revenue Refunding Bonds</u>	<u>Purchase Obligation</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2022	\$ 993,600	\$ 39,277	\$ 1,094,808	\$ 2,127,685
2023	1,032,323	41,914	1,053,448	2,127,685
2024	1,072,556	44,728	1,010,401	2,127,685
2025	1,114,355	47,731	965,598	2,127,684
2026	1,157,784	50,936	918,964	2,127,684
2027-2031	6,501,965	310,808	3,825,654	10,638,427
2032-2036	-	430,130	2,996,370	3,426,500
2037-2041	-	595,259	2,831,241	3,426,500
2042-2046	-	823,784	2,602,716	3,426,500
2047-2051	-	1,140,041	2,286,459	3,426,500
2052-2056	-	1,577,710	1,848,790	3,426,500
2057-2061	-	2,183,405	1,243,095	3,426,500
2062-2065	<u>-</u>	<u>2,336,303</u>	<u>404,872</u>	<u>2,741,175</u>
Total	<u>\$ 11,872,583</u>	<u>9,622,026</u>	<u>23,082,416</u>	<u>44,577,025</u>

The varying long-term debt installment payments are to be made from various Authority revenues (all as defined in the applicable agreements) which are irrevocably pledged to such payments, as follows: net independent utility revenues for the 2016 Revenue Refunding Bonds; and, surplus revenues for the Purchase Obligation.

If an event of default shall have occurred and be continuing and if requested by the bond owner of a majority in aggregate principal amount of outstanding bonds, the Trustee shall exercise such one or more of such available remedies as the Trustee as directed by the bond owner. All amounts received by the Trustee pursuant to any right given or action taken by the Trustee under the provisions of the Indenture shall be applied by the Trustee in order upon presentation of the bonds.

During the years ended June 30, 2013, 2012 and 2010, the Authority made additional payments amounting to \$350,000, \$400,000, and \$250,000, respectively, on the Purchase Obligation (shown in the noncurrent assets in the Statements of Net Position).

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**NOTE 6**                      **LONG-TERM DEBT, continued**

Any future payments less than \$685,300 (annual debt service stated in the Purchase Obligation) will decrease the amount of the prepaid balance. The Authority reduced the annual payments to \$666,432 in 2019 which resulted in the reduction of the prepayment balance by \$18,868 in 2020. There was no reduction of the annual payment for the year ended June 30, 2021 and therefore no decrease in the prepaid balance.

Upon payment in full of all indebtedness of the Authority, title to the water, sewer, and electrical enterprises (Enterprises) shall automatically revert to the City.

**NOTE 7**                      **RETIREMENT PLAN**

**General Information about the Pension Plans**

***Plan Description***

All qualified permanent and probationary employees are eligible to participate in the City of Needles' Miscellaneous Employee Pension Plans, cost-sharing multiple employer defined benefit pension plans administered by CalPERS. Benefit provisions under the Plans are established by State statute and City resolution. CalPERS issues publicly available reports that include a full description of the pension plans regarding benefit provisions, assumptions and membership information that can be found on the CalPERS website.

Classic participants (defined as eligible participants prior to January 1, 2013) are required to contribute 8% of their annual covered salary. New participants (defined as eligible employees brought into CalPERS membership for the first time on or after January 1, 2013) contribute at least half the normal cost rate as determined by CalPERS. The City contributes the remaining amounts necessary to fund the benefits for its employees, using the actuarial basis adopted by the CalPERS Board of Administration.

***Benefits Provided***

CalPERS provides service retirement and disability benefits, annual cost of living adjustments and death benefits to plan members, who must be public employees and beneficiaries. Benefits are based on years of credited service, equal to one year of full time employment. Classic members with five years of total service are eligible to retire at age 50 with statutorily reduced benefits. All members are eligible for non-duty disability benefits after 10 years of service. The death benefit is one of the following: the Basic Death Benefit, the 1957 Survivor Benefit, or the Optional Settlement 2W Death Benefit. The cost of living adjustments for each plan are applied as specified by the Public Employees' Retirement Law.

With the implementation of GASB Statement No. 68, the City allocates about 37.37% of the City's net pension liability and pension-related transactions to the Authority based on its share in the pension contribution for the year ended June 30, 2021.

**NOTE 7 RETIREMENT PLAN, continued**

Amounts allocated in fiscal year 2020-21 were as follows:

Net pension liability	\$ 1,359,852
Deferred outflows of resources	346,968
Deferred inflows of resources	113,230
Pension expense	176,060

Please refer to the City’s audited financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021 for more information about the City’s retirement plan required note disclosures and supplementary information in accordance with GASB Statement No. 68.

**NOTE 8 OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB)**

***Plan Description***

In addition to providing pension benefits, the City provides certain health care benefits for retired employees. Classified and unclassified employees retiring after 20 or more years of service and after having reached age 58 or older are provided medical insurance coverage until the retiree becomes eligible for Medicare. Classified employees hired after July 1, 2007 and retiring at age 55 or later with 20 or more years of service are paid \$300 per month for medical insurance coverage until the retiree becomes eligible for Medicare.

***Contributions and Funding Policy***

The contribution requirements of the City are established and may be amended by the City Council. While GASB Statement 75 requires that the liability for all postemployment benefits be measured, it does not require that an agency “pre-fund” the accrued liability. The City pays for the postemployment healthcare cost on a “pay-as-you-go” basis. The provisions of GASB Statement 75 determine the amount that must be presented as an annual expense and accrued liability on the City’s financial statements.

***Net OPEB Liability***

The Authority’s net OPEB liability was measured as of June 30, 2020, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2021.

With the implementation of GASB Statement No. 75, the City allocates about 37.37% of the City’s net OPEB liability and related transactions to the Authority based on its share in the contribution for the year ended June 30, 2021. Amounts allocated in fiscal year 2020-21 were as follows:

Net OPEB liability	\$ 453,822
Deferred outflows of resources	25,297
OPEB expense	(8,783)

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**NOTE 8                      OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB), continued**

Please refer to the City’s audited financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021 for more information about the City’s OPEB plan required note disclosures and supplementary information in accordance with GASB Statement No. 75.

**NOTE 9                      ASSET REPLACEMENT FUNDS**

The Authority transfers certain amounts to the City to fund future replacement of existing property and equipment and other capital expenditure requirements of the Authority. For the year ended June 30, 2021, the Authority transferred \$787,811 to the City for deposit to the asset replacement funds.

At June 30, 2021, the following asset replacement funds are under the control and custody of the City and are recorded in the City’s accounting records as restricted funds (less usage):

Water	\$ 1,421,032
Wastewater	323,872
Electric	<u>951,192</u>
	\$ <u>2,696,096</u>

**NOTE 10                    COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES**

The Authority is considered a transmission and generation dependent electric utility, and, therefore, completely dependent on others for supply and transmission of energy to the City’s electric system.

The Authority receives a hydroelectric allotment from the Parker-Davis Dam. The Authority’s rate structure is designed to allocate the hydroelectric allotment equally among all customers, giving 395 KWH per customer per month in winter months and 740 KWH per customer per month in summer months. The actual cost of power is analyzed every month and if a Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) is required, it is to be put into effect the following month. If the PCA has gone down, then a credit is to be calculated by KWH per bill. The new rate structure is put into place every October.

In 2008, the Authority partnered with the United States Department of Energy Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) for management of energy costs. This partnership was effective April 1, 2008 and has allowed the Authority greater flexibility in the power purchase market. Through WAPA the Authority is able to procure long term power supply contracts, and limit risks in the spot market.

**NOTE 11                    RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

Section 1202 of the Needles Municipal Code states, “Each utility shall be operated as a separate unit and all accounting respecting such utility shall be on that basis. All personal services of officers or employees and all costs incurred for the joint benefit of any such utility and any other office, department or agency of the city shall be prorated between them.

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**NOTE 11**                      **RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS, continued**

Charges shall be made by the utility for all service, property or other things of value supplied or rendered by it to any other office, department or agency of the city.”

The City acts as the manager and operator of the Authority’s Enterprises under a Management Agreement. The City receives a management fee equal to its actual costs and direct overhead incurred in connection with the management and operation of the Enterprises.

Such costs include, but are not limited to, salaries, insurance and retirement benefits of City employees providing services to the Enterprises. Each July 1, the Management Agreement is extended for one year, unless either party notifies the other that it does not intend to extend the term of the Agreement. Total payments made to the City for operating the Enterprises for the year ended June 30, 2021 amounted to \$8,743,937. This amount includes payment of Fair Share Allocation (FSA) and purchase of electric power and capital assets.

In exchange for the City providing rights of way and rights of access to all real property owned by the City and necessary for the Authority to operate the Enterprises, the City collected an annual franchise fee from the Authority. The amount of the franchise fee was determined by the City, the payment of which is subordinate to the Authority’s annual debt service. In August 2010, the Authority’s Board approved the increase in franchise fee from 5% of gross revenues to 7.5% of gross revenues for two years, and then 5% thereafter. In November 2012, the voters of the City of Needles approved Measure T eliminating 2.5% of the franchise fee that the City of Needles charges the Authority and established a utility user tax of up to 2.5% to be applied to electric, water and sewer charges. In FY 17 the City underwent a study to determine the utilities’ actual usage of rights of way and rights of access to all real property owned by the City. After the study the City eliminated the franchise fee and created the Fair Share Allocation (FSA). The FSA and utility user tax amounted to \$979,556 for the year ended June 30, 2021.

In connection with the City’s 1997 sale of the Enterprises to the Authority, the Authority’s remaining unpaid purchase obligation to the City is payable annually, each February 1, through 2065. Payments are payable solely from Surplus Revenues (as defined). Purchase obligation payments amounted to \$685,300 for the year ended June 30, 2021, which included interest amounting to \$648,494. The unpaid purchase obligation is included in the bonds and note payable account in the Statement of Net Position.

**NOTE 12**                      **RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Authority is subject to various risks in the normal course of operations. The Authority, as a component unit of the City, protects itself against such risks by the City’s participation in the California Joint Powers Insurance Authority (CJPIA), a joint power agency (risk-sharing pool) that provides an independently managed, self-insurance program for member cities.

The City contributes its pro rata share of anticipated losses to a pool administered by CJPIA. Should actual losses among participants exceed anticipated losses, the City will be assessed its pro rata share of that deficiency. Conversely, if the actual losses are less than anticipated, the City will be refunded its pro rata share of the excess.

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**NOTE 12**                      **RISK MANAGEMENT, continued**

The Authority's allocated share of the City's contributions to CJPIA is included in the operations and maintenance expenses paid to the City under the management agreement discussed in Note 11.

**NOTE 13**                      **SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

The Authority has evaluated events subsequent to June 30, 2021 to assess the need for potential recognition or disclosure in the financial statements. Such events were evaluated through March 1, 2022, the date on which the financial statements were available to be issued.

In June 2021, the price for electric power purchases for on-peak consumption increased from roughly \$65 per megawatt to over \$260 per megawatt and for off-peak consumption from \$30 per megawatt to over \$75 per megawatt. That is a tripling and more than doubling of the cost of electric power purchases. The Authority spent \$2,261,373 on power purchases for July and August 2021 alone. Historically, the annual budget for electric power purchases has been around \$2.5 million. The price of electric power purchases is expected to continue to increase as a result of State and Federal policies to transition to renewable energy sources.

The NPUA's non-hydropower allocation is fueled by a combination of 40% nuclear, and natural gases. There has been an increasing use of renewable energy sources while shutting down nuclear and gas powered plants.

The cost of electric power purchased has increased from a historical amount of \$2.2M annually to an estimated \$4.6M for fiscal year 2022. This is being caused by an increase in the over-hydro rate. The over-hydro rate was .1079 in June 2019, decreased to .0860. The current over-hydro rate is still below the all-time historical high of .15 in 2007-2008.

The NPUA cannot make a profit and the goal is to keep rates as low as possible for the rate payers.

**NEEDLES PUBLIC UTILITY AUTHORITY**

(A Component Unit of the City of Needles)

Combining Schedule of Net Position

June 30, 2021

		WATER			
			All American		
	<u>Electric</u>	<u>Water</u>	<u>Canal</u>	<u>Wastewater</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>					
Current assets:					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 9,074,073	1,023,233	-	767,425	10,864,731
Receivables, net	1,349,962	375,781	9,874	199,264	1,934,881
Due from City of Needles	570,130	-	-	-	570,130
Due from other funds	648,704	-	283,992	-	932,696
Materials and supplies inventory	644,894	24,871	-	34,076	703,841
Total current assets	<u>12,287,763</u>	<u>1,423,885</u>	<u>293,866</u>	<u>1,000,765</u>	<u>15,006,279</u>
Noncurrent assets:					
Prepayment of purchase obligation	409,422	191,644	-	270,044	871,110
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	10,988,335	3,605,075	-	4,839,344	19,432,755
Intangible assets, net of accumulated amortization	-	2,172,119	-	285,280	2,457,399
Total noncurrent assets	<u>11,397,757</u>	<u>5,968,838</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,394,669</u>	<u>22,761,263</u>
Total assets	<u>23,685,520</u>	<u>7,392,723</u>	<u>293,866</u>	<u>6,395,434</u>	<u>37,767,542</u>
Deferred outflows of resources:					
Deferred outflows related to pensions	208,181	93,681	6,939	38,166	346,968
Deferred outflows related to OPEB	13,537	6,091	451	2,482	22,561
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>221,717</u>	<u>99,773</u>	<u>7,391</u>	<u>40,648</u>	<u>369,529</u>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET POSITION</b>					
Current liabilities:					
Accounts payable and other current liabilities	94,596	15,503	5,518	15,766	131,384
Due to the City of Needles	-	-	-	-	-
Due to other funds	-	723,945	-	208,751	932,696
Compensated absences	165,403	56,605	2,330	29,312	253,651
Customer deposits	2,516,363	63,450	-	-	2,579,813
Accrued interest payable	89,747	42,009	-	59,195	190,951
Current portion of bonds and notes payable	485,452	227,233	-	320,192	1,032,877
Total current liabilities	<u>3,351,561</u>	<u>1,128,746</u>	<u>7,848</u>	<u>633,216</u>	<u>5,121,371</u>
Noncurrent liabilities:					
Net pension liability	815,911	367,160	27,197	149,584	1,359,852
Net OPEB liability	203,238	91,457	6,775	37,260	338,730
Bonds and notes payable, net of current portion	9,617,014	4,501,581	-	6,343,137	20,461,732
Total noncurrent liabilities	<u>10,636,163</u>	<u>4,960,198</u>	<u>33,972</u>	<u>6,529,981</u>	<u>22,160,314</u>
Total liabilities	<u>13,987,725</u>	<u>6,088,944</u>	<u>41,820</u>	<u>7,163,197</u>	<u>27,281,685</u>
Deferred inflows of resources:					
Deferred inflows related to pension	67,938	30,572	2,265	12,455	113,230
Net position:					
Net investment in capital and intangible assets	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted for debt service	9,074,073	1,023,233	-	767,425	10,864,731
Unrestricted	777,501	349,746	257,172	( 1,506,994)	( 122,574)
Total net position	<u>9,851,574</u>	<u>1,372,979</u>	<u>257,172</u>	<u>( 739,570)</u>	<u>10,742,157</u>

See independent auditor's report.

**NEEDLES PUBLIC UTILITY AUTHORITY**

(A Component Unit of the City of Needles)

Combining Schedule of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position  
Year ended June 30, 2021

		<u>Water</u>			
			<u>All American</u>		
	<u>Electric</u>	<u>Water</u>	<u>Canal</u>	<u>Wastewater</u>	<u>Total</u>
Operating revenues:					
Sales of electricity	\$ 7,898,548	-	-	-	7,898,548
Sales of water	-	2,438,398	1,032,378	-	3,470,776
Charges for wastewater system use	-	-	-	1,919,098	1,919,098
Other revenues	852,234	290,108	-	-	1,142,343
Total operating revenues	<u>8,750,783</u>	<u>2,728,505</u>	<u>1,032,378</u>	<u>1,919,098</u>	<u>14,430,764</u>
Operating expenses:					
Electric power purchased	2,177,730	-	-	-	2,177,730
Salaries and benefits	949,852	722,737	35,297	237,543	1,945,429
Depreciation and amortization	518,283	339,477	-	399,228	1,256,988
City franchise fee	491,348	143,461	-	92,149	726,958
Utility users tax	-	-	-	797	797
Supplies	298,729	90,846	655	40,788	431,017
Bad debts	121,800	26,390	-	54,810	203,000
Administrative and management	496,520	283,070	12,948	175,923	968,461
Power and utilities	53,065	112,303	78	92,577	258,023
Contractual services	155,324	205,664	748,107	478,838	1,587,933
Maintenance and operations	31,047	12,637	-	36,202	79,887
Insurance	219,308	25,320	-	40,161	284,789
Conservation/solar rebates	107,729	900	-	-	108,629
Miscellaneous	191,650	30,186	1,794	56,211	279,841
Total operating expenses	<u>5,812,384</u>	<u>1,992,990</u>	<u>798,879</u>	<u>1,705,228</u>	<u>10,309,480</u>
Operating income	<u>2,938,399</u>	<u>735,516</u>	<u>233,499</u>	<u>213,871</u>	<u>4,121,284</u>
Nonoperating revenues (expenses);					
Interest expense	(630,833)	(295,284)	-	(416,081)	(1,342,198)
Interest and investment revenue	129,050	60,406	-	85,118	274,576
Net nonoperating expense	<u>(501,783)</u>	<u>(234,876)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(330,963)</u>	<u>(1,067,622)</u>
Income before contributions and transfers	<u>2,436,616</u>	<u>500,639</u>	<u>233,499</u>	<u>(117,092)</u>	<u>3,053,662</u>
Capital contributions	1,742,349	815,567	-	1,149,209	3,707,125
Operating transfers					
Transfers to City of Needles	<u>(1,029,363)</u>	<u>(652,747)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(164,699)</u>	<u>(1,846,809)</u>
Change in net position	3,149,602	663,459	233,499	867,419	4,913,978
Net position at beginning of year, as previously reported	6,701,973	(355,602)	23,674	(1,606,988)	4,763,056
Prior period adjustment - amortization of water rights	-	1,065,122	-	-	1,065,122
Net position at beginning of year, as adjusted	<u>6,701,973</u>	<u>709,520</u>	<u>23,674</u>	<u>(1,606,988)</u>	<u>5,828,178</u>
Net position at end of year	\$ <u>9,851,574</u>	<u>1,372,979</u>	<u>257,172</u>	<u>(739,570)</u>	<u>10,742,157</u>

See independent auditor's report.

**NEEDLES PUBLIC UTILITY AUTHORITY**  
(A Component Unit of the City of Needles)

Combining Schedule of Cash Flows  
Year ended June 30, 2021

	WATER				Total
	Electric	Water	All American Canal	Wastewater	
Cash flows from operating activities:					
Receipts from customers	\$ 10,684,627	2,797,073	1,090,889	1,954,956	16,527,544
Payments to City of Needles:					
Suppliers and other costs	( 4,730,221)	( 1,243,224)	( 1,055,883)	( 1,187,440)	( 8,216,768)
Employee compensation and related costs	( 970,265)	( 731,716)	( 35,006)	( 243,012)	( 1,979,998)
Net cash provided by operating activities	4,984,141	822,133	-	524,505	6,330,778
Cash flows from noncapital financing activities:					
Disposition of accumulated interfund borrowing	-	-	-	-	-
Cash flows from capital and related financing activities:					
Capital contributions	1,742,349	815,567	-	1,149,209	3,707,125
Purchases of capital assets	( 1,261,587)	( 228,016)	-	( 667,534)	( 2,157,138)
Principal paid on capital debt	( 506,171)	( 154,760)	-	( 332,204)	( 993,136)
Interest paid on capital debt	( 645,020)	( 301,924)	-	( 425,439)	( 1,372,383)
Net transfers for asset replacement reserves	( 1,029,363)	( 652,747)	-	( 164,699)	( 1,846,809)
Net cash used in capital and related financing activities	( 1,699,793)	( 521,881)	-	( 440,667)	( 2,662,340)
Cash flows from investing activities					
Interest and investment income collected	129,050	60,406	-	85,118	274,575
Net cash provided by investing activities	129,050	60,406	-	85,118	274,575
Change in cash and cash equivalents	3,413,398	360,658	-	168,956	3,943,013
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	5,660,674	662,574	-	598,470	6,921,718
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	\$ 9,074,072	1,023,232	-	767,426	10,864,731
Reconciliation of operating income to net cash provided by operating activities:					
Operating income	2,938,399	735,516	233,499	213,871	4,121,284
Adjustments to reconcile operating income to net cash provided by operating activities:					
Depreciation and amortization	518,283	339,477	-	399,228	1,256,988
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:					
Receivables	( 70,861)	84,157	58,509	35,858	107,663
Due from City of Needles	( 448,972)	-	-	-	( 448,972)
Due from other funds	542,125	-	( 283,992)	-	258,133
Materials and supplies inventory	( 74,094)	( 850)	-	411	( 74,533)
Deferred outflows of resources	82,576	37,159	2,752	15,139	137,626
Accounts payable and other current liabilities	19,274	3,159	1,124	3,212	26,770
Due to the City of Needles	( 141,308)	-	-	-	( 141,308)
Due to other funds	-	( 187,408)	-	( 70,725)	( 258,133)
Compensated absences	( 20,413)	( 8,980)	292	( 5,469)	( 34,569)
Customer deposits	2,004,705	( 15,590)	-	-	1,989,115
Net pension liability	( 226,781)	( 102,051)	( 7,559)	( 41,576)	( 377,967)
Net OPEB liability	( 69,055)	( 31,075)	( 2,301)	( 12,660)	( 115,091)
Deferred inflows of resources	( 69,737)	( 31,382)	( 2,324)	( 12,785)	( 116,228)
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 4,984,141	822,133	-	524,505	6,330,778

See independent auditor's report.

**Report of Independent Auditors 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***

**Members of the Commission of the Needles Public Utility Authority**

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 Needles Public Utility Authority (the Authority), a component unit of the City of Needles, California, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Authority's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated February 28, 2022.

**Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Authority's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority'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. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified

## **Compliance and Other Matters**

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

## **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.

*Bryce & Conner, P.C.*

February 28, 2022  
Saipan, MP