

# ASCENSION PARISH

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## TOURISM COMMISSION - LOUISIANA

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ASCENSION PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DECEMBER 31, 2014

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**P&N** Postlethwaite  
& Netterville

A Professional Accounting Corporation

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**ASCENSION PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**DECEMBER 31, 2014**

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT**

The Board of Trustees  
Ascension Parish Tourism Commission  
Sorrento, Louisiana

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and the major fund of Ascension Parish Tourism Commission (the Commission), a component unit of the Ascension Parish Council, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2014, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Commission'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 opinions 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 auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the 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 opinions.

## **Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and the major fund of Ascension Parish Tourism Commission, as of December 31, 2014, and the respective changes in financial position, thereof for the year then ended in conformity 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 and budgetary comparison information on pages 4 through 9, and page 23, respectively, 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 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 purposes of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Commission's basic financial statements. The Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to Agency Head or Chief Executive Officer, as required by The Louisiana Legislative Auditor's Office, are prepared for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to Agency Head or Chief Executive Officer is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates 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 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 Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to Agency Head or Chief Executive Officer is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

### *Other Matter*

The 2013 financial statements were reviewed by us and our report thereon, dated May 22, 2014, stated we were not aware of any material modifications that should be made to those statements for them to be in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. However, a review is substantially less in scope than an audit and does not provide a basis for the expression of an opinion on the financial statements.

### Other Reports Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 9, 2015, on our consideration of the Commission's internal control over financial reporting and on our test of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Commission's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

*Postlithwait & Mettewill*

Gonzales, Louisiana  
June 9, 2015

ASCENSION PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION  
Sorrento, Louisiana

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**  
**December 31, 2014**

This section of Commission's annual financial report presents our discussion and analysis of the Commission's financial performance during the fiscal year that ended on December 31, 2014.

**FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

- The Commission's total net position equaled \$775,442 over the course of the year's operations. Net position increased over 20% from prior years operations.
- During the year, the Commission's governmental activities expenses were \$131,313 less than the \$544,166 generated in taxes and other revenue.
- The General Fund reported a fund balance of \$716,418 at year end.

**OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

This annual report consists of four parts—management's discussion and analysis (this section), the basic financial statements, required supplementary information, and supplementary information. The basic financial statements include two kinds of statements that present different views of the Commission:

- The first two statements are government-wide financial statements that provide both long-term and short-term information about the Commission's overall financial status.
- The remaining statements are fund financial statements that focus on individual parts of the Commission government, reporting the Commission's operations in more detail than the government-wide statements.
  - The governmental funds statements tell how general government services were financed in the short term as well as what remains for future spending.

The financial statements also include notes that explain some of the information in the financial statements and provide more detailed data. The statements are followed by a section of required supplementary information that further explains and supports the information in the financial statements. Figure A-1 shows how the required parts of this annual report are arranged and relate to one another.

Figure A-1 summarizes the major features of the Commission's financial statements, including the portion of the Commission's government they cover and the types of information they contain. The remainder of this overview section of management's discussion and analysis explains the structure of contents of each of the statements.

ASCENSION PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION  
Sorrento, Louisiana

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**  
**December 31, 2014**

Figure A-1  
Major Features of Commission's Government and Fund Financial Statements

	<b>Government-wide Statements</b>	<b>Fund Statements Governmental Fund</b>
Scope	Entire government (except fiduciary funds)	The activities of the Commission that are not proprietary or fiduciary
Required financial statements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statement of net position</li> <li>• Statement of activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Balance Sheet</li> <li>• Statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balance</li> </ul>
Accounting basis and measurements focus	Accrual accounting and economic resources focus	Modified accrual accounting and current financial resources focus
Type of asset/liability information	All assets and liabilities, both financial and capital, and short-term and long-term	Only assets expected to be used up and liabilities that come due during the year or soon thereafter; no capital assets included
Type of inflow/outflow information	All revenues and expenses during year, regardless of when cash is received or paid	Revenues for which cash is received during or soon after the end of the year; expenditures when goods or services have been received and payments is due during the year or soon thereafter

ASCENSION PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION

Sorrento, Louisiana

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

**December 31, 2014**

**Government-wide Statements**

The government-wide statements report information about the Commission as a whole using accounting methods similar to those used by private-sector companies. The statement of net position includes all of the government's assets and liabilities. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are accounted for in the statement of activities regardless of when cash is received or paid.

The two government-wide statements report the Commission's net position and how it has changed. Net position—the difference between the Commission's assets and liabilities—is one way to measure the Commission's financial health.

- Over time, increases or decreases in the Commission's net position is an indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating, respectively.

The government-wide financial statements of the Commission have one category:

- Governmental activities—most of the Commission's basic operations are included here, such as the general administration. Grants/contributions and general revenues from intergovernmental taxes make up most of these activities.

**Fund Financial Statements**

The fund financial statements provide more detailed information about the Commission's most significant fund—not the Commission as a whole. Funds are accounting devices that the Commission uses to keep track of specific sources of funding and spending for particular purposes.

- Some funds are required by State law and by bond covenants. The Commission has one kind of fund:
- Governmental fund—The Commission's basic operations are included in governmental funds, which focus on (1) how cash and other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash flow in and out and (2) the balances left at year-end that are available for spending. Consequently, the governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view that helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the Commission's programs. Because this information does not encompass the additional long-term focus of the government-wide statements, we provide additional information at the bottom of the governmental fund statements, or on the subsequent page, that explains the relationship (or differences) between them.

ASCENSION PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION  
Sorrento, Louisiana

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**  
**December 31, 2014**

**FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE COMMISSION AS A WHOLE**

**Net position.** The Commission's net position was \$775,442 at the end of the fiscal year. (See Table A-1.)

**Table A-1**  
**Commission's Net Position**  
**Governmental Activities**

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Current and other assets	719,312	\$ 618,482
Capital assets, net	59,024	30,764
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>778,336</b>	<b>649,246</b>
Current liabilities	3,007	5,117
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>3,007</b>	<b>5,117</b>
Net position		
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	59,024	30,764
Unrestricted	716,418	613,365
<b>Total net position</b>	<b>\$ 775,442</b>	<b>\$ 644,129</b>

Net position of the Commission's governmental activities was \$775,442 at year end, an increase of 20% from prior year end.

**Changes in net position.** The Commission's total revenues for all programs were \$544,166 at year end (See Table A-2.) Approximately 95 percent of the Commission's revenue comes from occupancy taxes. The remaining is miscellaneous revenue.

The total cost of all programs \$412,966.

ASCENSION PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION

Sorrento, Louisiana

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

**December 31, 2014**

**Governmental Activities**

Revenues for the Commission's governmental activities were \$131,313 more than total expenses for year end. The cost of all governmental activities this year was \$412,966.

**Table A-2**  
**Changes in Commission's Net Position**  
**Governmental Activities**

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
<b>Revenues</b>		
Program revenues		
Grants	\$ -	\$ -
General revenues		
Occupancy tax	518,684	463,764
Miscellaneous	25,595	25,583
<b>Total revenues</b>	<u>544,279</u>	<u>489,347</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		
General government	412,966	414,491
<b>Total expenses</b>	<u>412,966</u>	<u>414,491</u>
<b>Increase in net position</b>	<u>\$ 131,313</u>	<u>\$ 74,856</u>

**FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE COMMISSION'S FUNDS**

As the Commission completed the year, its governmental funds reported a fund balance of \$716,418.

ASCENSION PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION

Sorrento, Louisiana

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

**December 31, 2014**

**General Fund Budgetary Highlights**

Over the course of the year, there was an amendment made to the general fund budget to increase revenues and expenditures. Revenues were increased by approximately \$24,308 to account for an increase in other intergovernmental revenue. Expenditures increased by \$79,335 mainly attributed to the increase in marketing/advertising and building maintenance during the year.

**CAPITAL ASSETS**

At the end of 2014, the Commission had invested approximately \$59,024 in capital assets, which includes equipment, furniture and fixtures, and improvements. (See Table A-3)

**Table A-3  
Commission's Capital Assets**

	<b>Governmental Activities</b>	
	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
Equipment, fixtures, & improvements	105,741	56,095
Work in process	-	13,643
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(46,717)</u>	<u>(38,974)</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$ 59,024</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 30,764</u></b>

**ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGETS AND RATES**

Among the factors considered in compiling the 2015 budget were as follows. The Commission is dependent on the 2% Occupancy Tax for 95 percent of its revenues. This revenue is generated from hotel and motel taxes collected in the Parish. The Parish is expected to have stabilized growth for next year. Therefore, the Commission's expenditures are expected to be consistent with the current years; however, they could fluctuate with revenues.

**CONTACTING THE COMMISSION'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, customers, and investors and creditors with a general overview of the Commission's finances and to demonstrate the Commission's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact Ms. Ooly Lejeune; 6967 Highway 22; Sorrento, LA 70778.

**ASCENSION PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION**  
**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION**  
**DECEMBER 31, 2014**

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
<b><u>ASSETS</u></b>	
Cash	\$ 600,572
Certificate of deposits	50,501
Accounts receivable	68,344
Other assets	8
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	<u>59,024</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>778,449</u>
<b><u>LIABILITIES</u></b>	
Accrued expenses	<u>\$ 3,007</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>3,007</u>
<b><u>NET POSITION</u></b>	
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	59,024
Unrestricted	<u>716,418</u>
TOTAL NET POSITION	<u>\$ 775,442</u>

See accompanying notes and independent auditors' report.

**ASCENSION PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION**  
**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014**

	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Grants and Contributions</u>	<u>Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position</u>
<b><u>ACTIVITIES</u></b>			
<b>Governmental:</b>			
General government	\$ 412,966	\$ -	\$ (412,966)
Total governmental activities	<u>412,966</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(412,966)</u>
General Revenues:			
Intergovernmental:			
Occupancy tax			518,684
Other:			
Interest			1,160
Other income			24,435
Total general revenues			<u>544,279</u>
Change in net position			131,313
Net position- January 1, 2014			<u>644,129</u>
Net position - December 31, 2014			<u><u>\$ 775,442</u></u>

See accompanying notes and independent auditors' report.

**ASCENSION PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION**  
**BALANCE SHEET**  
**GOVERNMENTAL FUND**  
**DECEMBER 31, 2014**

	<u>General Fund</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Cash	\$ 600,572
Certificate of deposits	50,501
Accounts receivable	68,344
Other assets	8
<b>Total assets</b>	<u>\$ 719,425</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
Accrued expenses	\$ 3,007
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<u>3,007</u>
<b>FUND BALANCE</b>	
Unassigned	<u>716,418</u>
<b>Total liabilities and fund balance</b>	<u>\$ 719,425</u>

See accompanying notes and independent auditors' report.

**ASCENSION PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION**  
**RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUND BALANCE SHEET**  
**TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION**  
**DECEMBER 31, 2014**

Total fund balance - Governmental Fund		\$ 716,418
Cost of capital assets at December 31, 2014	105,741	
Less: accumulated depreciation as of December 31, 2014	<u>(46,717)</u>	<u>59,024</u>
Total net position at December 31, 2014 - Governmental Activities		<u>\$ 775,442</u>

See accompanying notes and independent auditors' report.

**ASCENSION PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND**  
**CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES**  
**YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014**

	General Fund
<b>REVENUE</b>	
Intergovernmental:	
Occupancy tax	\$ 518,684
Other:	
Interest	1,160
Other income	24,435
Total revenues	544,279
 <b>EXPENDITURES</b>	
Current:	
General government	441,226
Total expenditures	441,226
 Excess of revenues over expenditures	 103,053
 <b>Fund Balance, Beginning of Year</b>	 613,365
 <b>Fund Balance, End of Year</b>	 \$ 716,418

See accompanying notes and independent auditors' report.

**ASCENSION PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION**  
**RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES,**  
**EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUND**  
**TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**  
**DECEMBER 31, 2014**

Excess of revenues over expenditures-Governmental fund	\$	103,053
The change in net assets reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities is different because:		
Capital assets purchased capitalized		36,003
Depreciation expense		<u>(7,743)</u>
Change in net position of governmental activities	\$	<u><u>131,313</u></u>

See accompanying notes and independent auditors' report.

ASCENSION PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION  
Sorrento, Louisiana

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Significant Accounting Policies and Presentations

Organization and Purpose

The Ascension Parish Tourism Commission (the Commission) is a governmental corporation which was organized to encourage the Parish and Civic Community to create an atmosphere conducive to tourism, the Commission should be apprised of those activities of tourism interest, to aid and promote these activities, to represent the Parish business and civic community in an organized and non-profit basis, for soliciting and servicing conventions for the promotion of visitor activity within Ascension Parish, and to develop and carry out programs designed to promote tourism in the area of Ascension Parish. The Commission is funded by the Parish of Ascension.

Basis of Accounting

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus. The government-wide financial statements are reported using the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred, regardless of when the related cash flows take place. Non-exchange transactions, in which the Commission gives (or receives) value without directly receiving (or giving) equal value in exchange, includes taxes.

Basis of Presentation

The Commission's Basic Financial Statements consist of the government-wide statements on all of the governmental activities. The statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as applied to governmental units.

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements include the statement of net position and the statement of activities for all governmental activities. The government-wide presentation focuses primarily on the sustainability of the Commission as an entity and the change in aggregate financial position resulting from the activities of the fiscal period. All programs of the Commission are considered governmental activities which are normally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues.

The Statement of Activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function are offset by program revenues. Program revenues included in the Statement of Activities are derived from parties outside the Commission's taxpayers or citizenry, as a whole; program revenues reduce the cost of the function to be financed from the Commission's general revenues.

ASCENSION PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION

Sorrento, Louisiana

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**1. Significant Accounting Policies and Presentations (continued)**

The Commission reports all direct expenses by classification in the Statement of Activities. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a classification. Indirect expenses of other classification are not allocated to those classifications but are reported separately in the Statement of Activities.

Governmental Fund Type:

Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions of the Commission are financed. The acquisition, use, and balances of the Commission's expendable financial resources and the related liabilities are accounted for through governmental funds. The measurement focus is upon determination of changes in financial position, rather than upon net income determination. The following is the Commission's governmental fund type:

General Fund - The General Fund is the general operating fund of the Commission. It is used to account for all financial resources, except those required to be accounted for in other funds.

Reporting Entity

As the governing authority of the parish, for reporting purposes, the Ascension Parish Council is the financial reporting entity for Ascension Parish. The financial reporting entity consists of (a) the primary government (council), (b) organizations for which the primary government is financially accountable and (c) other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the primary government are such that exclusion would cause the reporting entity's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete.

GASB Codification Section 2100, established criteria for determining which component units should be considered part of the Ascension Parish Council for financial reporting purposes. The basic criterion for including a potential component unit within the reporting entity is financial accountability. The GASB has set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability. This criterion includes:

1. Appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body, and
  - a. The ability of the council to impose its will on that organization and/or
  - b. The potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to or impose specific financial burdens on the council.
2. Organizations for which the council does not appoint a voting majority, but are fiscally dependent on the council.

ASCENSION PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION

Sorrento, Louisiana

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**1. Significant Accounting Policies and Presentations (continued)**

3. Organizations for which the reporting entity financial statements would be misleading if data of the organization is not included because of the nature or significance of the relationship.

Because the council appoints all members to the Commission's Board of Trustees, the Commission was determined to be a component unit of the Ascension Parish Council, the financial reporting entity. The accompanying financial statements present information only on the funds maintained by the Commission and do not present information on the council, the general government services provided by that governmental unit, or the other governmental units that comprise the financial reporting entity.

Budget Practices

The Commission follows these procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in these financial statements:

- 1) The Commission's management prepares a proposed budget message and budget prior to the beginning of each fiscal year.
- 2) A summary of the proposed budget is published and the public notified that the proposed budget is available for public inspection. At the same time, a public hearing is called.
- 3) A special meeting is held to conduct a public hearing is held to review and discuss on the proposed budget.
- 4) After the holding of the public hearing and completion of all action necessary to finalize and implement the budget, the budget is adopted through passage of an ordinance prior to the commencement of the fiscal year for which the budget is being adopted.
- 5) Budgetary amendments involving the transfer of funds from one department, program, or function to another, or involving increases in expenditures resulting from revenues exceeding amounts estimated require the approval of the Commission.
- 6) All budgetary appropriations lapse at the end of each fiscal year.
- 7) The budget for the General Fund is adopted on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP).

ASCENSION PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION  
Sorrento, Louisiana

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Significant Accounting Policies and Presentations (continued)

Cash and Investments

Cash and investments include an interest-bearing demand deposit account and certificates of deposit.

The Commission considers all cash accounts and certificates of deposit with a maturity of three months or less when purchased to be cash and cash equivalents.

Under state law, the Commission may deposit funds in obligations of the U.S. Treasury and U.S. agencies, demand deposit accounts, interest-bearing demand deposit accounts, money market accounts, and time certificates of deposit with state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having principal offices in Louisiana.

Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include building improvements, equipment, and furniture/fixtures are reported in the applicable governmental column in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are capitalized at historical cost or estimated cost if historical cost is not available. Donated assets are recorded as capital assets at their estimated market value at the date of donation. The Commission maintains a threshold of \$500 or more for capitalizing capital assets.

All capital assets are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

Improvements	15 years
Equipment & fixtures	5-7 years

Estimates

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

Restricted Net Position

For the government-wide statement of net position, net assets are reported as restricted when constraints placed on net assets use either:

Externally imposed by creditors (such as debt covenants), grantors, contributors, laws, or regulations of other governments; or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the government's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

ASCENSION PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION  
Sorrento, Louisiana

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**1. Significant Accounting Policies and Presentations (continued)**

Fund Equity of Fund Financial Statements

Accounting standards require governmental fund balances to be reported in as many as five classifications as listed below:

**Nonspendable**- represents amounts that are not expected to be converted to cash because they are either not in spendable form or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

**Restricted**- represents balances where constraints have been established by parties outside the Commission or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

**Committed**- represents balances that can only be used for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the Commission's highest level of decision-making authority.

**Assigned**- represents balances that are constrained by the Commission's intent to be used for specific purposes, but are neither restricted nor committed

**Unassigned**- represents balances that have not been assigned to other funds and that have not been restricted, committed, or assigned to specific purposes within the general fund.

When expenditures are incurred for the purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted amounts are available, the Commission reduces restricted amounts first, followed by unrestricted amounts. When expenditures are incurred for purposes for which committed, assigned, and unassigned amounts are available, the Commission reduces committed amounts first, followed by assigned amounts and then unassigned amounts.

Compensated Absences

The Commission does not have a policy relating to vacation and sick leave.

Revenue

Approximately 95% of the Commission's funding is provided from a 2% occupancy tax within the Parish.

Risk Management

The Commission is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; natural disasters. The Commission carries commercial insurance for all risks of loss.

ASCENSION PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION  
Sorrento, Louisiana

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**2. Cash and Certificates of Deposit**

At December 31, 2014, the carrying amounts of the Commission's deposits were as follows:

Demand deposit account		\$600,572
Certificates of deposit		50,501
 Total deposits		 \$651,073

These deposits are stated at cost, which approximates market. Under state law, these deposits must be secured by either federal deposit insurance or by the pledge of securities owned by a fiscal agent bank. The market value of the pledged securities plus the federal deposit insurance must at all times equal the amount on deposit with the fiscal agent bank.

**3. Custodial Credit Risk**

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a financial institution failure, the Commission's deposits may not be returned to it. The Commission does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk. At December 31, 2014, the Commission's bank balance was not exposed to custodial credit risk.

**4. Capital Assets**

Capital assets and depreciation activity as of and for the year ended December 31, 2014, are as follows:

Governmental activities:	<b>Equipment &amp; Fixtures</b>	<b>Work in process</b>
Cost of Capital		
Assets December 31, 2013	\$ 56,094	\$ 13,643
Additions	49,647	-
Deletions	-	(13,643)
Costs of Capital		
Assets, December 31, 2014	105,741	-
Accumulated depreciation		
December 31, 2013	38,974	-
Additions	7,743	-
Deletions	-	-
Accumulated depreciation,		
December 31, 2014	46,717	-
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation at December 31, 2014	\$ 59,024	\$ -

For the year ended December 31, 2014, depreciation expense was \$7,743.

ASCENSION PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION  
Sorrento, Louisiana

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

5. Subsequent Events

Management has evaluated subsequent events through the date that the financial statements were available to be issued, which was June 9, 2015 and determined that there were no significant subsequent events that required disclosure in the financial statements.

No subsequent events occurring after this date have been evaluated for inclusion in these financial statements.

**ASCENSION PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION**  
**BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE**  
**GENERAL FUND**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014**

	<u>Original Budget</u>	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Occupancy tax	\$ 456,000	\$ 456,000	\$ 518,684
Other:			
Interest	100	1,000	1,160
Other income	-	23,408	24,435
Total revenues	<u>456,100</u>	<u>480,408</u>	<u>544,279</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
Current:			
General government	456,100	535,435	441,226
Total expenditures	<u>456,100</u>	<u>535,435</u>	<u>441,226</u>
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	-	(55,027)	103,053
<b>Fund Balance, Beginning of year</b>	<u>613,365</u>	<u>613,365</u>	<u>613,365</u>
<b>Fund Balance, End of year</b>	<u>\$ 613,365</u>	<u>\$ 558,338</u>	<u>\$ 716,418</u>

See accompanying independent auditors' report.

**ASCENSION PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION**  
**SCHEDULE OF COMPENSATION, BENEFITS AND OTHER PAYMENTS**  
**TO AGENCY HEAD OR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**  
**DECEMBER 31, 2014**

Agency Head Name/Title: Tracy Browning, Director

<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Salary	51,624
Benefits - insurance	0
Benefits - retirement	1,549
Car allowance	0
Vehicle provided by government	0
Per diem	0
Reimbursements	367
Travel	204
Registration fees	0
Conference travel	0
Continuing professional education fees	0
Housing	0
Un-vouchered expenses	0
Special meals	0

See accompanying independent auditors' report.

ASCENSION PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION

Sorrento, Louisiana

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

**A. SUMMARY OF AUDIT RESULTS**

1. The auditors' report expresses an unmodified opinion on the basic financial statements of Ascension Parish Tourism Commission.
2. No significant deficiencies were reported in the audit of the financial statements of Ascension Parish Tourism Commission.
3. No instances of noncompliance material to the financial statements of Ascension Parish Tourism Commission were reported during the audit.

**B. FINDINGS – FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT**

INTERNAL CONTROLS

None

NON COMPLIANCE

None

ASCENSION PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION  
Sorrento, Louisiana

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS  
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

**A. FINDINGS -- FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

NONE

**B. FINDINGS-NON COMPLIANCE WITH STATE LAWS AND REGULATIONS  
COMPLIANCE FINDINGS**

NONE

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

The Board of Trustees  
Ascension Parish Tourism Commission  
Sorrento, Louisiana

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 of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities and the major fund of Ascension Parish Tourism Commission, a component unit of the Ascension Parish Council, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2014, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Ascension Parish Tourism Commission's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated June 9, 2015.

**Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Ascension Parish Tourism Commission'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 opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Commission'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 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 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 over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses or, significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting 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 Ascension Parish Tourism Commission's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provision 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 that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

## Purpose of this Report

This purpose of this report is 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.

*Peotthwait & Nettunill*

Gonzales, Louisiana  
June 9, 2015