TANGIPAHOA PARISH ASSESSOR
AMITE, LOUISIANA

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2009

Tangipahoa Parish Assessor
Amite, Louisiana
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For the Year Ended December 31, 2009

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A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
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June 28, 2010

Independent Auditor's Report

The Honorable Joaquin "JR." Matheu
Tangipahoa Parish Assessor
Amite, Louisiana

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and the general fund of the Tangipahoa Parish Assessor, a component unit of the Tangipahoa Parish Council, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2009, which collectively comprise the Tangipahoa Parish Assessor's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Tangipahoa Parish Assessor's management. 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 of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and the significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

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 general fund of the Tangipahoa Parish Assessor, as of December 31, 2009, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 28, 2010, on our consideration of the Tangipahoa Parish Assessor's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Governmental Auditing Standards* and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

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 7 and page 28 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

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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.

Respectfully submitted,

Durnin + James, CPAs

Durnin & James, CPAs
(A Professional Corporation)

Management's Discussion and Analysis

Tangipahoa Parish Assessor
Amite, Louisiana
Management's Discussion and Analysis
December 31, 2009

Introduction

The Tangipahoa Parish Assessor (the "Assessor") is pleased to present its Annual Financial Report developed in compliance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements – Management's Discussion and Analysis – For State and Local Governments* (hereinafter referred to as GASB 34), and related standards. Please read the following in conjunction with the Bureau's financial statements and footnotes, which follow this section.

Financial Highlights

- Total assets for the year were $3,460,904 at December 31, 2009, and exceeded liabilities in the amount of $3,022,344 (i.e., net assets). Of the total net assets, $2,974,169 was unrestricted and available to support short-term operations, $231,000 was designated for various future projects, with the balance invested in capital assets.

- Ad valorem taxes for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2009 were $2,201,040, representing an increase of 10.34% from the ad valorem property taxes of $1,994,695 for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2008.

- The Assessor's operating expenses increased by $331,072 to $2,140,221 as compared to $1,809,149 for the prior fiscal year. The increase is due primarily to the recording of the current year increase in the Net OPEB Obligation in accordance with the adoption of GASB Statement No. 45, "*Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*."

Overview of Annual Financial Report

Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) serves as an introduction to the basic financial statements and supplementary information. The MD&A presents an overview of management's examination and analysis of Assessor's financial condition and performance.

The financial statements report information on the Assessor using full accrual accounting methods similar to those used in the private business sector. Financial statements include the Statement of Net Assets and Statement of Activities. The Statement of Net Assets provides information about the nature and amount of the Assessor's resources and obligations at year-end, and provides a basis for evaluating the capital structure of the Assessor and assessing the liquidity and financial flexibility of the Assessor.

The Statement of Activities accounts for the revenues and expenses for the fiscal year, and provides information on how net assets changed during the year. This statement measures the success of the Assessor's operations in a format that can be used to determine if the Assessor has recovered its costs through user fees and other charges.

The notes to the financial statements provide required disclosures essential to an understanding of the financial statements. The notes present information about the Assessor's accounting policies, significant account balances and activities, commitments, contingencies, and subsequent events, if any. Supplementary information includes a comparative budget schedule, key information schedules on operation of the Assessor, and schedules detailing audit findings and management response.

Financial Analysis

The purpose of financial analysis is to help determine whether the Assessor is better off as a result of the current year's activities. In this analysis, data from two of the basic financial statements, the Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities, are presented below in condensed format. These statements report the net assets, the difference between assets and liabilities, and the change in net assets, which provides information for indicating the financial condition of the Assessor. Following these statements is a separate schedule summarizing and analyzing budget changes for the current fiscal year.

Condensed Statement of Net Assets

	2009	2008	$ Change	% Change
Assets:				
Current and Other Assets	$ 3,412,729	$ 2,848,823	$ 563,906	19.79%
Capital Assets	48,175	36,671	11,504	31.37%
Total Assets	$ 3,460,904	$ 2,885,494	$ 575,410	19.94%
Liabilities:				
Current Liabilities	$ -	$ -	$ -	-
Long-Term Liabilities	438,560	115,990	322,570	278.10%
Total Liabilities	$ 438,560	$ 115,990	$ 322,570	278.10%
Net Assets:				
Invested in Capital Assets	$ 48,175	$ 36,671	$ 11,504	31.37%
Unrestricted	2,974,169	2,732,833	241,336	8.83%
Total Net Assets	$ 3,022,344	$ 2,769,504	$ 252,840	9.13%

The major components of change for "Current and Other Assets" are a $51,958 increase in State Revenue Sharing Receivable and a $455,508 increase in investments.

"Long-Term Liabilities" increased by $322,570 primarily due to the recording of the Net OPEB Obligation for postemployment benefits as a result of the adoption of GASB Statement No. 45, "*Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions.*"

"Total Net Assets" (total assets less total liabilities) increased by $252,840 for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2009, primarily because of the increase in Ad Valorem Tax revenue over the prior year.

Condensed Statement of Activities

	2009	2008	$ Change	% Change
Revenues:				
Program Revenues:				
Tax Roll Fees	$ 18,086	$ 17,942	$ 144	0.80%
General Revenues:				
Ad Valorem Taxes	2,201,040	1,994,695	206,345	10.34%
State Revenue Sharing	148,646	149,624	(978)	-0.65%
Interest Earnings	10,859	32,590	(21,731)	-66.68%
Other Revenues	14,430	7,850	6,580	83.82%
Total Revenues	2,393,061	2,202,701	190,360	8.64%
Expenditures / Expenses:				
Assessor's Activities	2,122,683	1,773,237	349,446	19.71%
Change in Accrued Leave	2,397	26,842	(24,445)	-91.07%
Depreciation	15,141	9,070	6,071	66.93%
Total Expenditures	2,140,221	1,809,149	331,072	18.30%
Change in Net Assets	252,840	393,552	(140,712)	-35.75%
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	2,769,504	2,375,952	393,552	16.56%
Net Assets - End of Year	$ 3,022,344	$ 2,769,504	$ 252,840	9.13%

While the Statement of Net Assets shows the change in financial position of net assets, the Statement of Activities provides answers to the nature and scope of these changes. The above table gives an indication of how the Assessor is being conservatively managed. Total Revenues increased by $190,360 (8.64%). The majority of this increase can be attributed to an increase of $206,345 (10.34%) in "Ad Valorem Taxes." Total expenses increased by $331,072 from the prior fiscal year due primarily to the aforementioned adoption of GASB Statement No. 45.

The Assessor showed an income of $252,840 for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009, as compared to an income of $393,552 for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008.

Budgetary Highlights

The Assessor adopts an annual operating budget in accordance with requirements of the provisions of Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1301-14. This budget provides an estimate for the current fiscal year of the proposed expenditures and the revenues that will finance the operations of the Assessor. The operating budget is adopted before the end of the prior fiscal year, and is amended after review of monthly budget-to-actual financial reports. A summary of the approved budget is presented below in a condensed format summarizing major revenue and expenditure categories, and is followed by analysis of significant variations between budget and actual amounts. Although not presented as a part of the basic financial statements, a more detailed schedule is also presented in "Schedule 1 – Budgetary Comparison Schedule," as supplementary information, following the footnotes to the financial statements.

Budget vs. Actual – Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2009

	Budget for 2009	Actual for 2009	Variance
Revenues:			
Ad Valorem Taxes	$ 2,029,413	$ 2,201,040	$ 171,627
State Revenue Sharing	126,000	148,646	22,646
Tax Roll Fees	17,000	18,086	1,086
Interest Earnings	10,000	10,859	859
Other Revenues	9,930	14,430	4,500
Total Revenues	2,192,343	2,393,061	200,718
Expenditures:			
Salaries and Related Benefits	1,564,715	1,557,418	7,297
General Office Expenditures	55,000	54,221	779
Automobile Expenditures	26,000	24,679	1,321
Post Employment Benefits - Retirees	67,145	67,145	-
Property and Casualty Insurance	32,000	31,847	153
Education and Travel	8,000	7,512	488
Assessor's Expense Allowance	12,336	12,336	-
Professional Services	38,500	37,980	520
Cooperative Endeavor	10,000	9,372	
Capital Outlay - Equipment	27,500	26,645	855
Total Expenditures	1,841,196	1,829,155	12,041
Income / (Loss)	$ 351,147	$ 563,906	$ 212,759

"Ad Valorem Taxes" exceeded budgeted amounts by $171,627 due to an increase in the assessed values of properties as compared to the prior year. Overall "Income / (Loss)" was over the budgeted amount by $212,759 primarily due to the aforementioned increase in "Ad Valorem Taxes."

Capital Assets

The Assessor's investment in capital assets for its governmental activities as of December 31, 2009 amounts to $48,175 (net of accumulated depreciation). This investment in capital assets includes vehicles, office furniture, and equipment. The total increase in the Assessor's investment in capital assets for the current fiscal year was $11,504, primarily due to the purchase of a new vehicle for the Assessor's office.

Future Economic Plans

The Assessor's management approach is conservative. The Assessor actively monitors revenues and expenses and evaluates the costs of proposed expansion projects. The Assessor is also actively monitoring current economic trends in Tangipahoa Parish to determine what actions, if any, may need to be taken with respect to property values for the upcoming reassessment year in 2012.

Basic Financial Statements

Tangipahoa Parish Assessor
Amite, Louisiana
Statement of Net Assets
December 31, 2009

Exhibit A

		Governmental Activities
Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	$	143,757
Investments		1,177,468
Receivables, Net of Allowances for Uncollectibles		2,091,504
Capital Assets, Net of Accumulated Depreciation		48,175
Total Assets	$	3,460,904
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	$	-
Noncurrent Liabilities:		
Postemployment Healthcare Benefits Payable		320,173
Accumulated Leave Payable		118,387
Total Liabilities	$	438,560
Net Assets		
Investments in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt	$	48,175
Unrestricted		2,974,169
Total Fund Balance / Net Assets	$	3,022,344

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

Tangipahoa Parish Assessor
Amite, Louisiana
Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended December 31, 2009

Exhibit B

	Expenses	Program Revenues: Charges for Services	Program Revenues: Operating Grants	Net Revenue (Expense) and Changes in Net Assets: Governmental Activities
Governmental Activities:				
Assessor's Activities	$ 2,122,683	$ 18,086	$ -	$ (2,104,597)
Change in Accrued Leave	2,397	-	-	(2,397)
Depreciation	15,141	-	-	(15,141)
Total Expenditures	$ 2,140,221	$ 18,086	$ -	(2,122,135)
General Revenues:				
Ad Valorem Taxes				2,201,040
State Revenue Sharing				148,646
Interest Earnings				10,859
Other Revenues				14,430
Total General Revenues				2,374,975
Change in Net Assets				252,840
Net Assets - Beginning of the Year				2,769,504
Net Assets - End of the Year				$ 3,022,344

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

Tangipahoa Parish Assessor
Amite, Louisiana
Governmental Fund – Balance Sheet
December 31, 2009

Exhibit C

		General Fund
Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	$	143,757
Investments		1,177,468
Receivables, Net of Allowances for Uncollectibles		2,091,504
Total Assets	$	3,412,729
Liabilities and Fund Balance		
Liabilities:		
Accounts Payable	$	-
Total Liabilities		-
Fund Balances:		
Unreserved, Undesignated		3,181,729
Unreserved, Designated		231,000
Total Fund Balances		3,412,729
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	$	3,412,729

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

Tangipahoa Parish Assessor
Amite, Louisiana
Reconciliation of the Governmental Fund Balance Sheet to the
Government-Wide Statement of Net Assets
For the Year Ended December 31, 2009

Exhibit D

Total Fund Balances, Governmental Fund (Exhibit C)	$	3,412,729
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net assets are different because:		
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the funds. These assets consist of:		
Governmental Capital Assets, Net of Depreciation		48,175
Other postemployment obligations liability is not due and payable in the current period, and therefore, is not reported in the funds.		(320,173)
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period, and therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds:		
Accumulated Leave Payable		(118,387)
Net Assets of Governmental Activities (Exhibit A)	$	3,022,344

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

Tangipahoa Parish Assessor
Amite, Louisiana
Statement of Governmental Fund Revenues, Expenditures, and
Changes in Fund Balance
For the Year Ended December 31, 2009

Exhibit E

	General Fund
Revenues:	
Ad Valorem Taxes	$ 2,201,040
State Revenue Sharing	148,646
Tax Roll Fees	18,086
Interest Earnings	10,859
Other Revenues	14,430
Total Revenues	2,393,061
Expenditures:	
Salaries and Related Benefits	1,557,418
General Office Expenditures	54,221
Automobile Expenditures	24,679
Post Employment Benefits - Retirees	67,145
Property and Casualty Insurance	31,847
Education and Travel	7,512
Assessor's Expense Allowance	12,336
Professional Services	37,980
Cooperative Endeavor	9,372
Capital Outlay - Equipment	26,645
Total Expenditures	1,829,155
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues over Expenditures	563,906
Fund Balance - Beginning of the Year	2,848,823
Fund Balance - End of the Year	$ 3,412,729

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

Tangipahoa Parish Assessor
Amite, Louisiana
Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance to the Government-Wide Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended December 31, 2009

Exhibit F

Net Change in Fund Balances, Governmental Fund (Exhibit E)	$	563,906
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:		
Capital outlays are reported in governmental funds as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of these assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. These differences consist of:		
Capital Outlay		26,645
Depreciation Expense		(15,141)
The net change in the liability for postemployment healthcare benefits is reported in the government-wide statements, but not in the governmental fund statements.		(320,173)
Annual changes in accrued leave are not recorded in the governmental funds. In the statement of activities, these changes are recorded against current year payroll expenses.		
Change in Accrued Leave		(2,397)
Change in Net Assets of Governmental Activities (Exhibit B)	$	252,840

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

Narrative Profile

As provided by Article VII, Section 24 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974, the Tangipahoa Parish Assessor (hereafter referred to as the "Assessor") is elected by the voters of the parish and serves a four-year term. The Assessor assesses all real and movable property in the parish, subject to ad valorem taxation. The Assessor is authorized to appoint as many deputies as may be necessary for the efficient operation of the office and provide assistance to the taxpayers of the parish. The deputies are authorized to perform all functions of the office, but the Assessor is officially responsible for the actions of the deputies.

The Assessor's office is located in the Tangipahoa Parish Courthouse in Amite, Louisiana. The Assessor employs 22 deputies. In accordance with Louisiana law, the Assessor bases real and movable property assessments on conditions existing on January 1 of the tax year. The Assessor completes an assessment listing by May 1 of the tax year and submits the assessment roll to the parish tax collector, who is responsible for the collection and distribution of taxes to the various taxing bodies.

There were 59,320 real and movable property assessments as of December 31, 2009 respectively, as follows:

Real Property	$ 482,385,140
Personal Property	118,688,301
Public Service	44,039,090
	$ 645,112,531

The year 2009 represents a decrease from 2008 of 628 assessments, but an increase in total property valuation of $33,112,595, caused primarily by growth in commercial and residential real estate in Tangipahoa Parish.

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying financial statements of the Assessor have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. This financial report has been prepared in conformity with GASB Statement No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements – and Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments,* issued in June 1999.

B. Financial Reporting Entity

The Assessor is an independently elected official; however, the Assessor is fiscally dependent on Tangipahoa Parish Government. As the governing authority of the parish, for reporting purposes, Tangipahoa Parish Government is the financial reporting entity for the parish. The financial reporting entity consists of (a) primary government (parish government), (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. Because parish government provides for office space, the Assessor is financially dependent on parish government. Therefore, the Assessor was determined to be a component unit of Tangipahoa Parish Government, the financial reporting entity.

The accompanying financial statements present information only on the funds maintained by the Assessor and do not present information on the parish government, the general governmental services provided by that governmental unit, or the other governmental units that comprise the financial reporting entity.

C. Fund Accounting

The Assessor uses fund accounting to maintain its financial records and the results of its operations. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid management by segregating transactions relating to certain Assessor functions and activities. A fund is defined as a separate fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts.

Governmental Fund

Governmental funds account for all of the Assessor's general activities. These funds focus on the sources, uses, and balances of current financial resources. Expendable assets are assigned to the various governmental funds according to the purposes for which they may be used. Current liabilities are assigned to the fund from which they will be paid. The difference between a governmental fund's assets and liabilities is reported as fund balance. In general, fund balance represents the accumulated expendable resources that may be used to finance future period programs or operations of the Assessor. The following is the Assessor's governmental fund:

Assessor's Salary and Expense Fund – the primary operating fund of the Assessor, as provided by Louisiana Revised Statute 47:1906, which accounts for the operation of the Assessor's office. Compensation received from the various taxing bodies, prescribed by formula in Louisiana Revised Statute 47:1907-1908 and ad valorem taxes authorized by Act 806 of 1984, are accounted for in this fund. General operating expenditures are paid from this fund.

D. Measurement Focus / Basis of Accounting

Basic Financial Statements – Government-Wide Financial Statements

The statement of net assets and the statement of activities display information about the Assessor as a whole. These statements include all the financial activities of the Assessor. Information contained in these columns reflects the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets, and liabilities resulting from exchange or exchange-like transactions are recognized when the exchange occurs (regardless of when cash is received or disbursed). Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets, and liabilities resulting from nonexchange transactions are recognized in accordance with the requirements of GASB Statement No. 33, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Nonexchange Transactions*.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program revenues include (1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment and (2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Interest earnings and other revenues not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenues.

The Assessor does not allocate indirect expenses.

Basic Financial Statements – Governmental Funds

The amounts reflected in the Assessor's Salary and Expense Fund are accounted for using a current financial resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, only current assets and current liabilities are generally included on the balance sheet. The statement of changes in fund balances reports on the sources (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and uses (i.e., expenditures and other financing uses) of current financial resources. This approach is then reconciled, through adjustment, to a government-wide view of the Assessor's operations.

The amounts reflected in the Assessor's Salary and Expense Fund use the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when susceptible to accrual (i.e., when they become both measurable and available). Measurable means the amount of the transaction can be determined and available means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. The Assessor considers all revenues available if they are collected within 60 days after the fiscal year end. Expenditures are recorded when the related liability is incurred, except for interest and principal payments on long-term debt, which are recognized when due, and certain compensated absences and claims and judgments which are recognized when the obligations are expected to be liquidated with expendable available financial resources. The governmental funds use the following practices in recording revenues and expenditures:

Revenues – Revenues are generally recognized when they become measurable and available as net current assets. Ad valorem taxes and related state revenue sharing are recorded in the year the taxes are assessed. Ad valorem taxes are assessed on a calendar year basis, become due on November 15 of each year, and become delinquent on December 31. The taxes are generally collected in December of the current year and January and February of the ensuing year. Interest income is recorded when time deposits have matured and the income is available. All other revenues are recorded when received.

Expenditures – Expenditures are generally recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related fund liability is incurred.

Reconciliation – Explanation of differences between the governmental funds balance sheet and the government-wide statement of net assets is presented in Statement D of the basic financial statements. Explanation of differences between the governmental funds statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances and the government-wide statement of activities is presented in Statement F of the basic financial statements.

E. Budgets and Budgetary Accounting

The proposed budget for 2009 was published in the official journal on December 12, 2008, and again on December 16, 2008. A public hearing was held on the proposed budget on December 22, 2008. The 2009 budget was adopted on December 22, 2008. The 2009 budget was amended on October 15, 2009.

A budget comparison report is examined each month to determine problem areas that will not meet the original projections. The necessary corrections are made to the budget when these problem areas are recognized.

All unexpended amounts in any budgetary account lapse at the end of the budgetary year.

F. Cash, Cash Equivalents, and Investments

The Assessor's cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand, demand deposits, interest bearing demand deposits, and money market accounts with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

Under state law, the Assessor may deposit funds in demand deposits, interest bearing demand deposits, money market accounts, or time deposits with state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having principal offices in Louisiana. In addition, the Assessor may invest in United States bonds, treasury notes, or certificates. These are classified as investments if their original maturities exceed 90 days; however, if the original maturities are 90 days or less, they are classified as cash equivalents.

Investments for the Assessor are reported at fair market value. The state investment pool (LAMP) operates in accordance with state laws and regulations. The reported value of the pool is the same as the fair value of the pool shares.

G. Inventory

Inventories for supplies are immaterial and are recorded as expenditures / expenses when purchased.

H. Prepaid Items

The Assessor recognizes expenditures for insurance and similar services extending over more than one accounting period when paid. The Assessor did not record any prepaid items at December 31, 2009.

I. Capital Assets

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 fair market value at the date of donation.

Capital assets are recorded in the statement of net assets and statement of activities. Since surplus assets are sold for an immaterial amount when declared as no longer needed for public purposes, no salvage value is taken into consideration for depreciation purposes. All capital assets, other than land, are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

Equipment	5 Years
Furniture	7 Years
Vehicles	5 Years

J. Compensated Absences

The Assessor has the following policy relating to vacation and sick leave:

All full-time employees earn both vacation and sick leave based on years of service. Employees are allowed to accrue up to a total of 45 days of vacation and sick leave at the end of each year. These 45 days may be carried over to the next year and they are payable upon termination of employment.

The Assessor's recognition and measurement criteria for compensated absences is as follows:

GASB Statement No. 16 provides that vacation leave and other compensated absences with similar characteristics should be accrued as a liability as the benefits are earned by the employees if both of the following conditions are met:

1. The employees' rights to receive compensation are attributable to services already rendered.

2. It is probable that the employer will compensate the employees for the benefits through paid time off or some other means, such as cash payments at termination or retirement.

GASB Statement No. 16 provides that a liability for sick leave should be accrued using one of the following termination approaches:

1. An accrual for earned sick leave should be made only to the extent it is probable that the benefits will result in termination payments, rather than be taken as absences due to illness or other contingencies, such as medical appointments and funerals.

2. Alternatively, a governmental entity should estimate its accrued sick leave liability based on the sick leave accumulated at the balance sheet date by those employees who currently are eligible to receive termination payments as well as other employees who are expected to become eligible in the future to receive such payments.

Only the current portion of the liability for compensated absences is reported. The current portion is the unpaid amount at the end of the year that normally would be liquidated with available financial resources.

K. Fund Equity

In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report reservations of fund balances for amounts that are not available for appropriation or are legally restricted by outside parties for use for a specific purpose. Designations of fund balance represent tentative management plans that are subject to change.

L. 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 disclosure of contingent 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.

2. *Stewardship, Compliance, and Accountability*

A. Budgetary Information

Annual budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles. All annual appropriations lapse at year-end. See Note 1-E regarding operating budgets. The Assessor complied with all aspects of the local budget act.

B. Deposits and Investment Laws and Regulations

In accordance with state law, all uninsured deposits of funds in financial institutions must be secured with acceptable collateral valued at the lower of market or par. As reflected in Note 3 regarding cash, cash equivalents, and investments, the Assessor complied with the deposits and investments laws and regulations.

C. Deficit Fund Equity

As of December 31, 2009, the Assessor had no funds with deficit fund equities.

3. Cash, Cash Equivalents, and Investments

As reflected in Exhibit A, the Assessor has cash totaling $143,757 and investments totaling $1,177,468 at December 31, 2009.

These deposits are stated at cost, which approximates market. Under state law, these deposits (or the resulting bank balances) must be secured by federal deposit insurance or the pledge of securities owned by the 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 bank. These pledged securities are held in the name of the pledging fiscal agent bank in a holding or custodial bank that is mutually acceptable to both parties.

The following is a summary of cash and investments (bank balances) at December 31, 2009, with the related federal deposit insurance and pledged securities:

Bank Balances:	
Insured (FDIC Insurance)	$ 404,121
Uninsured and Collateralized:	
Collateral held by pledging bank's trust department not in the Assessor's name	-
Uninsured and Uncollateralized	-
Total Deposits	$ 404,121

Even though the pledged securities are not held in the entity's name, Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1229 imposes a statutory requirement on the custodial bank to advertise and sell the pledged securities within ten days of being notified by the Assessor that the fiscal agent has failed to pay deposited funds upon demand.

At December 31, 2009, the Assessor's investment balance was as follows:

	Reported Amount	Fair Value
Louisiana Asset Management Pool	$ 927,468	$ 927,468

Louisiana Asset Management Pool (LAMP) is administered by LAMP, Inc., a non-profit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana. Only local government entities having contracted to participate in LAMP have an investment interest in its pool of assets. The primary objective of LAMP is to provide a safe environment for the placement of public funds in short-term, high quality investments. The

LAMP portfolio includes only securities and other obligations in which local governments in Louisiana are authorized to invest in accordance with LSA-R.S. 33:2955.

GASB Statement No. 40, Deposit and Investment Risk Disclosure, requires disclosure of credit risk, custodial credit risk, concentration of credit risk, interest rate risk, and foreign currency risk for all public entity investments.

LAMP is a 2a7-like investment pool. The following facts are relevant for 2a7 like investment pools:

- Credit Risk: LAMP is rated AAAm by Standard & Poor's.

- Custodial Credit Risk: LAMP participants' investments in the pool are evidenced by shares of the pool. Investments in pools should be disclosed, but not categorized because they are not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book-entry form. The public entity's investment is with the pool, not the securities that make up the pool; therefore, no disclosure is required.

- Concentration of Credit Risk: Pooled investments are excluded from the 5% disclosure requirement.

- Interest Rate Risk: 2a7-like investment pools are excluded from this disclosure requirement, per paragraph 15 of the GASB 40 statement.

- Foreign Currency Risk: Not applicable to 2a7-like pools.

The dollar weighted average portfolio maturity of LAMP assets is restricted to not more than 90 days, and consists of no securities with a maturity in excess of 397 days. LAMP is designed to be highly liquid to give its participants immediate access to their account balances. The investments in LAMP are stated at fair value based on quoted market rates. The fair value is determined on a weekly basis by LAMP and the value of the position in the external investment pool is the same as the value of the pool shares.

LAMP, Inc. is subject to the regulatory oversight of the state treasurer and the board of directors. LAMP is not registered with the SEC as an investment company.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the LAMP administrative office at 800-249-5267.

4. Levied Taxes

The Assessor's office is financed by a millage tax authorized by Act 806 of the Louisiana Legislature in 1984. The present tax rate of 4.67 mills is the maximum authorized by law. In 2009, this office levied 4.67 mills on the 2009 tax roll. The principal taxpayers in Tangipahoa Parish are as follows:

Taxpayer	Business Type	2009 Assessed Valuation	Percentage of Total Assessment
Entergy Louisiana, Inc.	Public Service	$ 18,958,310	2.94%
Wal-Mart Distribution Center	Distribution Center	13,418,001	2.08%
ZSF/WD Hammond, LLC	Distribution Center	11,803,357	1.83%
BellSouth Telecommunications	Public Service	9,429,300	1.46%
E.I. Dupont	Distribution Center	4,767,806	0.74%
Florida Gas Transmission Co.	Public Service	3,631,730	0.56%
Grand Trunk Corp.	Public Service	3,816,960	0.59%
First Guaranty Bank	Banking	3,914,317	0.61%
Hammond Industrial Holdings	Distribution Center	3,703,560	0.57%
Cardinal Health	Public Service	3,150,027	0.49%
		$ 76,593,368	11.87%

Ad valorem taxes attach as an enforceable lien on property as of January 1 of each year. Taxes are levied by the Assessor in September or October and are actually billed to the taxpayers in November. Billed taxes become delinquent on January 1 of the following year. Revenues from ad valorem taxes are budgeted in the year billed.

The Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff bills and collects property taxes for the Assessor using the assessed values determined by the Assessor. For the year ended December 31, 2009, taxes were levied on property with taxable assessed valuations totaling $469,016,299 and were dedicated to general purposes.

Total taxes levied were $2,190,313. At December 31, 2009, the ad valorem tax receivable was $1,941,610 and the state revenue sharing receivable was $148,646. Ad valorem taxes receivable at December 31, 2009, are recorded net of a 5% allowance for uncollectible taxes.

5. Capital Assets

A summary of changes in capital assets for the year are as follows:

	Balance 01/01/09	Additions	Deletions	Balance 12/31/09
Capital Assets:				
Vehicles	$ 73,916	$ 17,907	$ -	$ 91,823
Office Furniture & Equipment	328,265	8,738	-	337,003
Total Capital Assets	402,181	26,645	-	428,826
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(365,510)	(15,141)	-	(380,651)
Total	$ 36,671	$ 11,504	$ -	$ 48,175

6. Pension Plan

Plan Description – Substantially all employees of the Assessor's office are members of the Louisiana Assessor's Retirement Fund System (System), a cost sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by a separate board of trustees.

All full-time employees who are under the age of 60 at the time of original employment and are not drawing retirement benefits from any other public retirement system in Louisiana are required to participate in the System. Employees who retire at or after age 55 with at least 12 years of credited service or at or after age 50 with at least 30 years of credited service are entitled to a retirement benefit, payable monthly for life, equal to 3.33% of their final-average salary for each year of credited service, not to exceed 100% of their final-average salary. Final-average salary is the employee's average salary over the 36 consecutive or joined months that produce the highest average. Employees who terminate with at least 12 years of service and do not withdraw their employee contributions may retire at or after age 55 and receive the benefit accrued to their date of termination. The System also provides death and disability benefits. Benefits are established or amended by state statute.

Funding Policy – Plan members are required by state statute to contribute 8.00% of their annual covered salary and the Assessor is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. The current rate is 13.50% of annual covered payroll. Contributions to the System also include one-fourth of one percent (one percent for Orleans Parish) of the taxes shown to be collectible by the tax rolls of each parish, plus revenue sharing funds appropriated by the legislature. The contribution requirements of plan members and the Assessor are established and may be amended by state statute. As provided by Louisiana Revised Statute 11:103, the employer contributions are determined by actuarial valuation and are subject to change each year based on the results of the valuation for the prior fiscal year.

Trend Information – The System issues an annual publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for the System. That report may be obtained by writing to the Louisiana Assessor's Retirement Fund, P.O. Box 14699, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70898, or by calling (225) 928-8886. The Assessor's office total payroll in the year ended December 31, 2009, was $1,223,795, and the Assessor's office employer and employee contributions were both based on a payroll of $1,079,390. Both the Assessor's office and the covered employees made the required contributions amounting to $232,069. Contributions required by state statute are as follows:

	Required Contribution		Percentage Contributed
December 31, 2007	$	205,479	100.00%
December 31, 2008	$	221,625	100.00%
December 31, 2009	$	232,069	100.00%

7. Deferred Compensation Plans

Eligible employees of the Assessor may voluntarily participate in the Louisiana Deferred Compensation Plan and a private deferred compensation plan, both adopted under the provisions of Internal Revenue Code Section 457. Employees may elect to contribute a maximum of $14,000 of their salaries to the plans. There is no match on the part of the Assessor's office. As of December 31, 2009, there were six participants in the plan who contributed $12,100.

8. Post-Retirement Health Care and Life Insurance Benefits

Plan Description – The Insurance Committee of the Assessor's Insurance Fund dba Louisiana Assessor's Association Employee Benefits Plan (hereinafter referred to as the "Plan"), is a group health plan sponsored and maintained by the Louisiana Assessor's Association. The Plan is an agent, multiple-employer, defined benefit plan that is maintained for the purpose of providing benefits for eligible employees and their eligible dependents. Eligible employees are those employees who work at least 35 hours a week for their employer, who have completed a waiting period of thirty consecutive days while employed, and who is eligible for the employer's retirement plan. Eligible employees are also retired employees who are at least 55 years of age (or have at least 30 years of service regardless of age); who have at least 12 years of service with the employer; and who were covered under the Plan for a minimum of 30 consecutive days immediately preceding the date of retirement.

The Plan issues an annual publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for the Plan. That report may be obtained by writing to the Insurance Committee of the Assessor's Insurance Fund dba Louisiana Assessor's Association, 3060 Valley Creek Drive, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808, or by calling (225) 928-8886.

Funding Policy – Although the Plan is a statewide Plan, it is up to each individual Assessor to determine the level at which their particular office will pay the benefits for retired employees. At the present time, the Assessor pays 100% of the post-retirement benefit for all retirees and 50% of the post-retirement benefit for spouses.

Annual Other Postemployment Benefit Cost and Liability – The Assessor's annual other postemployment benefit (OPEB) cost is calculated based on the annual required contribution of the employer (ARC), an amount actuarially determined in accordance with GASB Statement No. 45, which is being implemented prospectively for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009. The ARC represents a level of funding that, if paid on an ongoing basis, is projected to cover normal cost each year and amortize any unfunded actuarial accrued liability (UAAL). The total ARC for fiscal year 2009 is as set forth below:

Normal Cost at December 31, 2009	$	172,772
Interest on Normal Cost and Amortization		-
Amortization of the UAAL		214,546
Annual Required Contribution	$	387,318

The following schedule presents components of the Assessor's annual OPEB cost for fiscal year 2009, the amount actually contributed to the plan, and changes in the Assessor's net OPEB obligation to the OPEB plan:

Annual Required Contribution	$	387,318
Interest on Prior Year Net OPEB Obligation		-
ARC Adjustment		-
Annual OPEB Cost		387,318
Contributions Made by Employer		(67,145)
Increase in Net OPEB Obligation		320,173
Beginning Net OPEB Obligation, December 31, 2008		-
Ending Net OPEB Obligation, December 31, 2009	$	320,173

Funded Status and Funding Progress – During the fiscal year 2009, the Assessor did not establish or contribute to a postemployment benefits plan trust. Since there is no trust, the Assessor's entire actuarial accrued liability of $3,709,938 was unfunded.

The funded status of the plan, as determined by an actuary as of January 1, 2009, was as follows:

Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL)	$ 3,709,938
Actuarial Value of Plan Assets	-
Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (UAAL)	$ 3,709,938
Funded Ratio	0.00%

Actuarial Methods and Assumptions – Actuarial valuations of an ongoing plan involve estimates of the value of reported amounts and assumptions about the probability of occurrence of events far into the future. Examples include assumptions about future employment, mortality, and healthcare cost trends. Amounts determined regarding the funded status of the plan and the annual required contributions of the employer are subject to continual revision as actual results are compared with past expectations and new estimates are made about the future.

Projections of benefits for financial reporting purposes are based on the substantive plan (the plan as understood by the employer and plan members) and include the types of benefits provided at the time of each valuation and the historical pattern of sharing of benefit costs between the employer and plan members to that point. The actuarial methods and assumptions used include techniques that are designed to reduce short-term volatility in actuarial accrued liabilities and the actuarial value of assets consistent with the long-term perspective of the calculations.

In the January 1, 2009 Assessor's actuarial valuation, the projected unit credit actuarial cost method was used. The actuarial assumptions included a 4% investment rate of return. The RP 2000 Mortality Table was used in making actuarial assumptions. Retirement rate assumptions differ by employment group and date of plan participation. The Assessor's unfunded actuarial accrued liability is being amortized over 30 years using a level dollar basis. The remaining amortization period at December 31, 2009, is 29 years.

9. Designation of Fund Balance

Designations of equity are used to show the amounts within unreserved equity that are intended to be used for specific purposes in future years, but are not legally restricted.

Fund	Purpose	Amount
General Fund	Accumulated Leave	$ 18,000
General Fund	Health Insurance - Increase	30,000
General Fund	Protested Taxes Received	55,000
General Fund	Web Site Upgrade	8,000
General Fund	Computer Upgrade & Equipment	50,000
General Fund	Professional Fees	20,000
General Fund	Cooperative Endeavor	50,000
		$ 231,000

10. Related-Party Transactions

There were no related-party transactions during 2009.

11. Expenditures of the Assessor not Included in the Financial Statements

Certain operating expenditures of the Assessor's office are paid by the parish council as required by Louisiana Revised Statute 33:4713. The Assessor's office is located in the Tangipahoa Parish Courthouse and the upkeep and maintenance of the Courthouse is paid by the Tangipahoa Parish Council.

12. Litigation and Claims

The Assessor is named as a party to various suits filed against the Louisiana Tax Commission protesting certain taxes paid by various companies. It is not possible to tell what liability, if any, the Assessor may have for repayment of any taxes paid under protest by the various companies. Therefore, no accrual for any loss contingency has been made in the financial statements.

13. Subsequent Events

There are no subsequent events as of the date of this report that would alter or materially affect the financial data disclosed in this report.

Required Supplemental Information (Part II)

Budgetary Comparison Schedules

Tangipahoa Parish Assessor
Amite, Louisiana
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance –
Budget (GAAP Basis) and Actual
For the Year Ended December 31, 2009

Schedule 1

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual Amounts - Budgetary Basis	Variance with Final Budget Favorable / (Unfavorable)
Revenues:				
Ad Valorem Taxes	$ 1,952,000	$ 2,029,413	$ 2,201,040	$ 171,627
State Revenue Sharing	126,000	126,000	148,646	22,646
Tax Roll Fees	16,000	17,000	18,086	1,086
Interest Earnings	15,000	10,000	10,859	859
Other Revenues	5,000	9,930	14,430	4,500
Total Revenues	2,114,000	2,192,343	2,393,061	200,718
Expenditures:				
Salaries and Related Benefits:				
Assessor	123,360	123,360	123,360	-
Deputies	1,060,000	1,075,000	1,070,223	4,777
Retirement Contributions	140,000	147,000	145,718	1,282
Insurance - Employees	212,233	197,855	197,208	647
FICA and Medicare	20,000	21,500	20,909	591
General Office Expenditures	55,000	55,000	54,221	779
Automobile Expenditures	45,000	26,000	24,679	1,321
Post Employment Benefits - Retirees	67,145	67,145	67,145	-
Property and Casualty Insurance	25,000	32,000	31,847	153
Education and Travel	7,500	8,000	7,512	488
Assessor's Expense Allowance	12,336	12,336	12,336	-
Professional Services	73,000	38,500	37,980	520
Cooperative Endeavor	10,000	10,000	9,372	628
Capital Outlay - Equipment	145,000	27,500	26,645	855
Total Expenditures	1,995,574	1,841,196	1,829,155	12,041
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues over Expenditures	118,426	351,147	563,906	212,759
Fund Balance:				
Beginning of the Year	2,848,823	2,848,823	2,848,823	-
End of the Year	$ 2,967,249	$ 3,199,970	$ 3,412,729	$ 212,759

See auditor's report.

Other Independent Auditor's Report and Findings and Recommendations

Durnin & James

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
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June 28, 2010

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 Honorable Joaquin "JR." Matheu
Tangipahoa Parish Assessor
Amite, Louisiana

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and the general fund of the Tangipahoa Assessor, a component unit of the Tangipahoa Parish Council, as of for the year ended December 31, 2009, which collectively comprise the Tangipahoa Parish Assessor's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated June 28, 2010. 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.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Tangipahoa Parish Assessor's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures 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 Tangipahoa Parish Assessor's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Tangipahoa Parish Assessor's internal control over financial reporting.

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.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting 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 deficiencies, significant deficiencies, or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Tangipahoa Parish Assessor's financial statements are free of 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

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disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the Legislative Auditor as a public document.

Respectfully submitted,

Durnin & James, CPAs

Durnin & James, CPAs
(A Professional Corporation)

Tangipahoa Parish Assessor
Amite, Louisiana
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
For the Year Ended December 31, 2009

Internal Control over Financial Reporting:

None

Compliance and Other Matters:

None

Tangipahoa Parish Assessor
Amite, Louisiana
Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings
For the Year Ended December 31, 2009

Ref.#	Fiscal Year Findings Initially Occurred	Description of Findings	Corrective Action Taken	Corrective Action / Partial Corrective Action Taken	Additional Explanation
Internal Control over Financial Reporting					
None					
Compliance and Other Matters					
None					

Note: This schedule prepared by the Tangipahoa Parish Assessor.