

**OLMSTED SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

**OLMSTED SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA
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DECEMBER 31, 2023**

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**OLMSTED SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA
ORGANIZATION
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>
Chair	James Rentz	12/31/2026
Vice-Chair	Cheryl Winters	12/31/2026
Secretary/Treasurer	Andy Hart	12/31/2024
Board Member	Paul Uecker	12/31/2026
Board Member	Kevin Connelly	12/31/2024

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Supervisors
Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District
Rochester, Minnesota

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and the General Fund of Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and the General Fund of Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District, as of December 31, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* (GAS), issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and GAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and GAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that management's discussion and analysis on pages 5-7, the budgetary comparison schedule on page 14, and the note to the required supplementary information on pages 15 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the district's organizational information under the introductory section but does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the basic financial statements do not cover the other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon. In connection with our audit of the basic financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated October 9, 2024, on our consideration of Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of 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 Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Peterson Company Ltd

Peterson Company Ltd
Waconia, Minnesota

October 9, 2024

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
OLMSTED SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

The Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District's discussion and analysis provides an overview of the District's financial activities for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023. Since this information is designed to focus on the current year's activities, resulting changes, and currently known facts, it should be read in conjunction with the financial statements (beginning on page 8).

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

As of December 31, 2023, Olmsted SWCD's assets exceeded liabilities by \$445,681 (total net position). Of the total assets, \$443,464 represents unrestricted net position that may be used to meet Olmsted SWCD operations.

USING THIS ANNUAL REPORT

This annual report consists of three parts: management's discussion and analysis (this section), the basic financial statements, and required supplementary information. The basic financial statements include a series of financial statements. The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities (on pages 8 and 9) provide information about the activities of the District as a whole and present a longer-term view of the District's finances. For governmental activities, these statements tell how these services were financed in the short term as well as what remains for future spending. Fund financial statements also report the District's operations in more detail than the government-wide statements by providing information about the District's general fund. Since Districts are single-purpose, special-purpose government units, the District combines the government-wide and fund financial statements into a single presentation.

THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION AND THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Analysis of the District as a whole begins on page 6. One of the most important questions asked about the District's finances is, "Is the District as a whole better or worse off as a result of the year's activities?" The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities report information about the District as a whole and about its activities in a way that helps answer this question. These statements include all assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are taken into account regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These two statements report the District's net position and changes in them. You can think of the District's net position—the difference between assets and liabilities—as one way to measure the District's financial health, or financial position. Over time, increases or decreases in the District's net position are one indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating.

In the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities, the District presents governmental activities. All of the District's basic services are reported here. Appropriations from the county and state finance most activities.

REPORTING THE DISTRICT'S GENERAL FUND

The fund financial statements provide detailed information about the general fund—not the District as a whole. The District presents only a general fund, which is a governmental fund. All of the District's basic services are reported in the general fund, which focuses on how money flows into and out of the fund and the balances left at year-end that are available for spending. The fund is reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting. This method measures cash and all other financial assets that can be readily converted to cash. The general fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the District's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the District's programs.

THE DISTRICT AS A WHOLE

The analysis below focuses on the net position (Table 1) and changes in net position (Table 2) of the District's governmental activities.

Table 1
Net Position:

	Governmental Activities	
	2023	2022
Current Assets	\$ 925,837	\$ 489,333
Total Assets	<u>\$ 925,837</u>	<u>\$ 489,333</u>
Current Liabilities	\$ 480,156	\$ 323,007
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 480,156</u>	<u>\$ 323,007</u>
Unrestricted	\$ 445,681	\$ 166,326
Total Net Position	<u>\$ 445,681</u>	<u>\$ 166,326</u>

Net position of the District's governmental activities increased by \$279,355 or 168%. Unrestricted net position - the part of net position that can be used to finance day-to-day operations without constraints established by debt covenants, enabling legislation, or other legal requirements changed from \$166,326 at December 31, 2022 to \$445,681 at December 31, 2023.

Table 2
Change in Net Position:

	Governmental Activities	
	2023	2022
Revenues		
Intergovernmental	\$ 1,828,654	\$ 1,043,987
Charges for Services	48,274	48,004
Interest Earnings	15,778	6,791
Miscellaneous	36,125	2,797
Total Revenues	<u>\$ 1,928,831</u>	<u>\$ 1,101,579</u>
Expenses		
Conservation	\$ 1,649,476	\$ 1,117,612
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 1,649,476</u>	<u>\$ 1,117,612</u>
Increase (decrease) in Net Position	<u>\$ 279,355</u>	<u>\$ (16,033)</u>

The District's total revenues increased by \$827,252 or 75.10%. Intergovernmental Revenues increased overall by \$784,667 or 75.16%. State Grant revenues increased by \$204,638 in 2023 versus 2022, due to the timing of project completion and receipt of SWCD State Aid. County revenues increased by \$582,139, due to funding from the County's General Fund for a new Ground Water Protection Program. The annual cost-of-living adjustment for SWCD staff was also included in the increased funding. Other Governmental revenues decreased by \$2,110 or 1.31%. There were no Federal revenues in 2023. Charges for Services increased by \$270 or .056%, interest earnings increased by \$8,987, 132.34% and Miscellaneous Revenue increased by \$33,328 or 1,191.56%. This large increase was due primarily to the receipt of \$27,414 from a Monsanto class-action lawsuit.

The total cost of all programs and services increased by \$531,864, which is a 47.59% increase over 2022. District operations expense decreased in 2023 by \$41,295 or 21.07% due to a decrease in equipment purchases. Contracted personnel services decreased \$25,092 or 3.93% due to savings realized with staff turnover. District project expenses increased by \$553,901 or 1,789.09% due to increases of nursery stock purchased for the tree sale and the addition of the Ground Water Protection Program. State project expenses increased by \$44,350 or 17.53%. This reflects the usual increases and decreases based on the number and size of projects in progress each year.

The District had a reserve buildup of \$279,355 as compared to a budgeted reserve shortfall of \$834. The reserve buildup was due to the receipt of 2023 SWCD State Aid and also fluctuations in the timing of projects completed using State funding sources.

GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES

Overall, the District's governmental program revenues increased from \$1,043,987 in 2022 to \$1,828,654 in 2023. The cost of all governmental activities were \$1,117,612 in 2022 compared to \$1,649,476 in 2023. Governmental program revenues exceeded governmental program expenses by \$179,178. The addition of Other Revenues of \$100,177, resulted in an increase to net position of \$279,355.

THE DISTRICT'S GENERAL FUND

As the District completed the year, its general fund as presented in the balance sheet reported a fund balance of \$445,681 which is an increase from last year's total of \$166,326.

GENERAL FUND BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS

The District's Original and Final budgets are reflected in the statement on page 14.

The most significant change in 2023 budget projection was in the District's Intergovernmental revenues where the District received \$468,578 more in revenues than anticipated. Project expenses were also more than the budgeted amount by \$285,035. State project revenues and the corresponding expenses are difficult to budget because these projects are completed over a multi-year period and the revenues and expenses cannot be accurately budgeted in a specific year.

For 2023, total expenditures of \$1,649,476 were \$222,166 more than the budgeted projection of \$1,427,310. This was due to savings within District Operations of \$62,869, netted with Project Expenditures which exceeded budgeted amounts by \$285,035. Total revenues of \$1,928,831 were \$502,355 more than the budgeted projection of \$1,426,476. This was due to State funding received for the completed conservation projects and SWCD State Aid that was not expected to be received in 2023. The District had anticipated a small reserve decrease of \$834 in 2023, but the actual reserve buildup was \$279,355. This buildup, added to the 2022 unrestricted net position of \$166,326, resulted in an unrestricted net position at the end 2023 of \$445,681.

CAPITAL ASSETS

The District does not have Capital Assets

ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGETS AND RATES

The District's elected and appointed officials considered many factors when setting the fiscal-year 2024 budget.

CONTACTING THE DISTRICT'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, customers and creditors with a general overview of the District's finances and to show the District's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District at 1188 50th Street SE, Rochester, MN 55904 or call 507-328-7070.

**OLMSTED SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA
GENERAL FUND BALANCE SHEET AND GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES -
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

	General Fund	Adjustments	Governmental Activities
ASSETS			
Cash	\$ 728,452	\$ -	\$ 728,452
Accounts Receivables	8,711	-	8,711
Due from Other Governments	186,457	-	186,457
Prepaid Expenses	2,217	-	2,217
Total Assets	<u>\$ 925,837</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 925,837</u>
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities:			
Accounts Payable	\$ 102,762	\$ -	\$ 102,762
Due to Other Governments	291	-	291
Deposits on Sales	30,640	-	30,640
Unearned Revenue	346,463	-	346,463
Total Current Liabilities	<u>\$ 480,156</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 480,156</u>
FUND BALANCE/NET POSITION			
Fund Balance:			
Non-spendable - Prepaid Expenses	\$ 2,217	\$ (2,217)	\$ -
Unassigned	443,464	(443,464)	-
Total Fund Balance	<u>\$ 445,681</u>	<u>\$ (445,681)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Net Position:			
Unrestricted		\$ 445,681	\$ 445,681
Total Net Position		<u>\$ 445,681</u>	<u>\$ 445,681</u>

See accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements.

**OLMSTED SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA
GENERAL FUND STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES
IN FUND BALANCE AND GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES - STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023**

	General Fund	Adjustments	Governmental Activities
REVENUES			
Intergovernmental	\$ 1,828,654	\$ -	\$ 1,828,654
Charges for Services	48,274	-	48,274
Interest Earnings	15,778	-	15,778
Miscellaneous	36,125	-	36,125
Total Revenues	<u>1,928,831</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,928,831</u>
EXPENDITURES/EXPENSES			
Conservation:			
Current	1,649,476	-	1,649,476
Total Expenditures/Expenses	<u>1,649,476</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,649,476</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER/UNDER EXPENDITURES	279,355	-	279,355
Fund Balance/Net Position - Beginning of Year	<u>166,326</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>166,326</u>
FUND BALANCE/NET POSITION - END OF YEAR	<u><u>\$ 445,681</u></u>	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 445,681</u></u>

See accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements.

**OLMSTED SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District (the District) have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) for the year ended December 31, 2023. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is responsible for establishing GAAP for state and local governments through its pronouncements (statements and interpretations). The significant accounting policies used by the District are discussed below.

Financial Reporting Entity

The Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District is organized under the provisions of Minnesota Statutes Chapter 103C. The District is governed by a Board of Supervisors, nominated by, and elected to four-year terms by the voters of Olmsted County.

The purpose of the District is to assist land occupiers in applying practices for the conservation of soil and water resources. These practices are intended to control wind and water erosion, pollution of lakes and streams, and damage to wetlands and wildlife habitats.

As required by generally accepted accounting principles, consideration has been given to other organizations that should be included in the District's financial statements for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the District are such that exclusion would cause the District's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete. There are no organizations that should be presented with the District.

Basic Financial Statements

Basic financial statements include information on the District's activities as a whole and information on the individual fund of the District. These separate presentations are reported in different columns. Each of the statements starts with a column of information based on activities of the General Fund and reconciles it to a column that reports the "governmental activities" of the District as a whole.

Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

The governmental activities are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting, which recognizes all long-term assets and receivables as well as long-term debt and obligations. Revenues are recorded when earned, and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of the related cash flows. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met. The District's net position is reported as restricted and unrestricted. The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the expenses of the District are offset by revenues.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized when they become both measurable and available. The District considers all revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days after the end of the current period. Charges for services and interest are considered to be susceptible to accrual. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on general long-term debt, compensated absences, and claims and judgments, which are recognized as expenditures to the extent that they have matured. Proceeds of long-term debt and acquisitions under capital leases are reported as other financing sources, when applicable.

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

**OLMSTED SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Assets, Liabilities, and Net Position or Fund Balance

Cash

Cash is stated at fair value, except for non-negotiable Certificates of Deposit, which are on a cost basis, and short-term money market investments, which are stated at amortized cost.

Accounts Receivable and Due from Other Governments

Receivables are collectible within one year. The financial statements contain no allowance for uncollectible accounts. Uncollectible accounts due for receivables are recognized as bad debts at the time information becomes available that indicates the particular receivable is uncollectible. These amounts are not considered to be material in relation to the financial position or operations of the fund.

Due from other governments are recorded for state, county, and local grant amounts that were received after year-end and all eligibility requirements were met.

Prepaid Expenses

Prepaid expenses are for items that will provide future benefit over the next twelve months.

Unearned Revenue

Unearned revenue is recorded for amounts of state grants received prior to satisfying all eligibility requirements imposed by the providers.

Fund Balance

In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report components of fund balance to provide information about fund balance availability for appropriation. Non-spendable fund balance represents amounts that are inherently non-spendable or assets that are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. Restricted fund balance represents amounts available for appropriation but intended for a specific use and is legally restricted by outside parties (statute, grantors, bond agreements, etc.). Committed fund balance represents constraints on spending that the government imposes upon itself by a high-level formal action prior to the close of the fiscal period. Assigned fund balance represents resources intended for spending for a purpose set by the government body itself or by some person or government body delegated to exercise such authority in accordance with the policy established by the Board. Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the District's General Fund and includes all spendable amounts not contained in the other classifications.

When an expenditure is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available, it is the District's policy to use restricted first, then the unrestricted fund balance. When an expenditure is incurred for purposes for which committed, assigned, and unassigned fund balance amounts are available, it is the District's policy to use committed first, then assigned, and finally unassigned fund balance amounts.

Net Position

Net position represents the difference between assets and liabilities in the government-wide statement of net position. Net position is reported as restricted in the government-wide financial statements when there are limitations imposed on its use through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, laws, or regulations of other governments. Unrestricted net position is the residual classification for the Governmental Activities Fund and includes all spendable amounts not contained in the other classifications.

**OLMSTED SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Assets, Liabilities, and Net Position or Fund Balance (Continued)

Use of Estimates

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

Change in Accounting Principle

Effective January 1, 2023, the District adopted GASB 96, *Subscription-Based Technology Arrangements*. The new standard establishes a right of use subscription asset and a corresponding liability that amortizes over the subscription term for all arrangements with terms longer than 12 months. The District only has short-term arrangements; therefore, this new standard will not affect them.

NOTE 2 – DEPOSITS

All District funds are on deposit with Olmsted County, per the service agreement between Olmsted County and Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District dated December 5, 2002. Olmsted County shall serve as the fiscal agent for the District and maintain all funds in segregated accounts. Olmsted County's cash and investment policies are followed. Minnesota Statutes require that all County deposits be protected by insurance, surety bond, or collateral.

NOTE 3 – UNEARNED REVENUE

Unearned revenue represents unearned advances from the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) for administrative service grants and for the cost-share program. Revenues will be recognized when the related program expenditures are recorded. Unearned revenue for the year ended December 31, 2023, consisted of the following: BWSR Cost Share Program \$58,239; Local Capacity \$118,784; Conservation Delivery \$43,508; Conservation Contracts \$66,862; Buffer Law \$ 42,945; Soil Health Cost Share \$16,125; Total \$346,463.

NOTE 4 – RISK MANAGEMENT

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to tort; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to contracted personnel; workers' compensation claims; and natural disasters. Property, automobile, casualty liabilities and workers' compensation are insured through Olmsted County. The District retains risk for the deductible portion of the insurance. The amounts of these deductibles are considered immaterial to the financial statements. There were no significant increases or reductions in insurance from the previous year or settlements in excess of insurance coverage for any of the past three fiscal years.

NOTE 5 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN

The District does not employ staff, per the staff agreement between the County of Olmsted and the Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District dated December 5, 2002, where District employees became employees of Olmsted County effective January 1, 2003. Olmsted County is responsible for pension plans for the District's contract staff.

NOTE 6 – LEASES

The District leases office space from Olmsted County for contracted personnel. Under the current agreement total costs for 2023 were \$31,185.

**OLMSTED SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

NOTE 7 – COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The District is not aware of any existing or pending lawsuits, claims or other actions in which the District is a defendant.

NOTE 8 – RECONCILIATION OF FUND BALANCE TO NET POSITION

Governmental Fund Balance, January 1	\$	166,326
Plus: Excess of Revenues Over Expenditures		279,355
Governmental Fund Balance, December 31	<u>\$</u>	<u>445,681</u>
Net Position	<u>\$</u>	<u>445,681</u>

NOTE 9 – RECONCILIATION OF CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE TO CHANGE IN NET POSITION

Change in Fund Balance	<u>\$</u>	<u>279,355</u>
Change in Net Position	<u>\$</u>	<u>279,355</u>

NOTE 10 – SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The District has evaluated events and transactions for potential recognition or disclosure through October 9, 2024, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

**OLMSTED SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA
BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE
GENERAL FUND
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023**

	Original/ Final Budget	Actual	Variance With Final Budget
REVENUES			
Intergovernmental:			
County	\$ 936,415	\$ 1,050,586	\$ 114,171
Local	187,911	160,735	(27,176)
State Grants	240,250	617,333	377,083
Total Intergovernmental	1,364,576	1,828,654	464,078
Charges for Services	52,900	48,274	(4,626)
Interest Earnings	5,000	15,778	10,778
Miscellaneous	4,000	36,125	32,125
Total Revenues	1,426,476	1,928,831	502,355
EXPENDITURES			
District Operations:			
Contracted Personnel Services	644,291	612,586	31,705
Other Services and Charges	181,349	154,685	26,664
Supplies	4,500	-	4,500
Total District Operations	830,140	767,271	62,869
Project Expenditures:			
District	497,170	584,861	(87,691)
State	100,000	297,344	(197,344)
Total Project Expenditures	597,170	882,205	(285,035)
Total Expenditures	1,427,310	1,649,476	(222,166)
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER/UNDER EXPENDITURES	(834)	279,355	280,189
Fund Balance - Beginning of Year	166,326	166,326	-
FUND BALANCE - END OF YEAR	\$ 165,492	\$ 445,681	\$ 280,189

See accompanying Note to the Required Supplementary Information.

**OLMSTED SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
NOTE TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

NOTE 1 – STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE, AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Annual budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Each fall, the Board of Supervisors adopts an annual budget for the following year for the General Fund. Any modifications in the adopted budget can be made upon request of and approval by the Board of Supervisors. All annual appropriations lapse at fiscal year-end. Legal budgetary control is at the fund level.

Excess of expenditures over budget – The General Fund had expenditures in excess of budget for the year as follows: Expenditures \$1,649,476; Budget \$1,427,310; Excess \$222,166.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON
MINNESOTA LEGAL COMPLIANCE**

To the Board of Supervisors
Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District
Rochester, Minnesota

We have audited, 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, the financial statements of the governmental activities and the General Fund of Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated October 9, 2024.

In connection with our audit, nothing came to our attention that caused us to believe that the Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District failed to comply with the provisions of the contracting – bid laws, depositories of public funds and public investments, conflicts of interest, claims and disbursements, and miscellaneous provisions sections of the *Minnesota Legal Compliance Audit Guide for Other Political Subdivisions*, promulgated by the State Auditor pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §6.65, insofar as they relate to accounting matters. However, our audit was not directed primarily toward obtaining knowledge of such noncompliance. Accordingly, had we performed additional procedures; other matters may have come to our attention regarding the Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District's noncompliance with the above referenced provisions, insofar as they relate to accounting matters.

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Peterson Company Ltd

Peterson Company Ltd
Waconia, Minnesota

October 9, 2024

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

To the Board of Supervisors
Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District
Rochester, Minnesota

We have audited, 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, the financial statements of the governmental activities and the General Fund of Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated October 9, 2024.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District's internal control over financial reporting.

A deficiency in internal control over financial reporting 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 over financial reporting 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 combination of deficiencies, in internal control over financial reporting that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

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 material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and, therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. Given these limitations, during our audit, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

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

Purpose of This Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control over financial reporting 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.

Peterson Company Ltd

Peterson Company Ltd
Waconia, Minnesota

October 9, 2024