BUCHANAN COUNTY, MISSOURI

SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS AND INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORTS AS REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS AND UNIFORM GRANT GUIDANCE

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023



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

Buchanan County Commission Buchanan County, Missouri

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information; and we were engaged to audit the aggregate discretely presented component units of Buchanan County, Missouri (the County), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated September 5, 2024. Our report contains a disclaimer of opinion on the aggregate discretely presented component units, and unmodified opinions on the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information. Buchanan County Tourism Board and Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority, included in the aggregate discretely presented component units were not audited in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, and accordingly, this report does not include reporting on internal control over financial reporting or instances of reportable noncompliance associated with those entities.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. However, as described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses and significant deficiencies.

Buchanan County Commission Buchanan County, Missouri

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. We consider the deficiency described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as item 2023-001 to be a material weakness.

A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance. We consider the deficiencies described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as items 2023-002 and 2023-003 to be significant deficiencies.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Buchanan County, Missouri'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*.

Buchanan County's Responses to Findings

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on Buchanan County's responses to the findings identified in our audit and described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs. The County's responses were not subjected to auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the responses.

Purpose of this Report

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

CliftonLarsonAllen LLP

Clifton Larson Allen LLP

Kansas City, Missouri September 5, 2024



INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM, REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE, AND REPORT ON THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE

Buchanan County Commission Buchanan County, Missouri

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We have audited Buchanan County, Missouri's (the County) compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to the audit in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on the County's major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2023. The County's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs.

In our opinion, Buchanan County complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2023.

Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative* Requirements, *Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of Buchanan County and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with 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 opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of Buchanan County's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to Buchanan County's federal programs.

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on Buchanan County, Missouri's compliance based on our audit. 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, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about Buchanan County, Missouri's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, 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 Buchanan County, Missouri's compliance with the compliance
 requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered
 necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of Buchanan County, Missouri's internal control over compliance relevant
 to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to
 test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but
 not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Buchanan County, Missouri's
 internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on Buchanan County, Missouri's response to the noncompliance findings identified in our compliance audit described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs. Buchanan County, Missouri's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of compliance and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses.

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

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Report on Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards Required by the Uniform Guidance

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Buchanan County, Missouri, (the County) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023 we have issued our report thereon dated September 5, 2024, which contained a qualified opinion on the aggregate discretely presented component unit; and unmodified opinions on the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information. Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements the collectively comprise the basic financial statements. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by the Uniform Guidance and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the schedule of expenditures of federal awards is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

CliftonLarsonAllen LLP

Clifton Larson Allen LLP

Kansas City, Missouri September 5, 2024

BUCHANAN COUNTY, MISSOURI SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

Federal Grantor/Pass-Through Agency/Grant Program Title or Cluster Name U.S. Department of Justice	Federal Assistance Listing Number	Pass-Through Entity Identifying Number	Current Year Expenditures	Passed Through to Subrecipients
Direct Program:				
Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program	16.607	Not Applicable	\$ 8,423	\$ -
Passed through the Missouri Department of Public Safety:		, pp. 100 00000	• •,•	*
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program	16.738	15PBJA-21-GG-00249- MUMU-03-S-JAG 22	54,176	-
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program	16.738	15-PBJA-22-GG-0640- MUMU-F03-JAG23	76,767	-
Total Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance				
Grant Program			130,943	_
COVID- 19 Coronavirus Response, Remediation and Future				
Preparation	16.034	2020-VD-BX-0711	16,785	-
Passed through Missouri Prosecuting Attorneys Association:				
Crime Victim Assistance	16.575	ER130220126-001	54,211	-
Crime Victim Assistance	16.575	ER130200072	27,755	_
Total Crime Victim Assistance Program			81,966	_
Total U.S. Department of Justice			238,117	
U.S. Department of Transportation National Highway Cluster Passed through the Missouri Department of Transportation:				
State and Community Highway Safety	20.600	23-PT-02-003	4,625	_
Total State and Community Highway Safety Program	20.000	20 1 1 02 000	4,625	
Total National Highway Cluster			4,625	
Passed through the Central Missouri State University:			4,020	
Alcohol Open Container Requirements	20.607	23-154-AL-044	689	_
Passed through the Missouri Department of Transportation:	20.007	20 104 712 044	000	
Highway Planning and Construction	20.205	BRO-B011(33)	(4,816)	_
Highway Planning and Construction	20.205	BRO-B011(34)	33,972	_
Total Highway Planning and Construction	20.200	B1(0-B011(04)	29,156	
Total U.S. Department of Transportation			34,470	-
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services				
Passed through the Missouri Department of Social Services:				
Child Support Enforcement IV-D	93.563	ER10220A002	961,984	-
State Court Improvement Program	93.586	22-01748-06	355	-
Total U.S. Department of Health and Human Services			962,339	-
U.S. Department of Homeland Security Passed through the Missouri Department of Public Safety: Disaster Grants - Public Assistance (Presidentially Declared				
Disasters)	97.036	FEMA-4451- DR-MO	1,956	-
Emergency Management Performance Grant	97.042	EMK-2022-EP-00004-013	75,154	-
Total U.S. Department of Homeland Security			77,110	-
U.S. Department of Treasury Direct Program:				
COVID- 19 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds	21027	Not Applicable	4,561,433	
Total U.S. Department of Treasury	Z 1.UZ1	Not Applicable	4,561,433	
Total C.S. Department of Treasury Total Expenditures of Federal Awards			\$ 5,873,469	\$ -
•				

BUCHANAN COUNTY, MISSOURI NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 1 REPORTING ENTITY

Buchanan County, Missouri, (the County) is the recipient of several federal awards. All federal awards received directly from federal agencies as well as those awards that are passed through other government agencies, are included on the schedule of expenditures of federal awards (the Schedule). The County's reporting entity is defined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

NOTE 2 BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards includes the federal award activity of the County under programs of the federal government for the year ended December 31, 2023. The information in this Schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance) from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the County, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position, changes in net position, or cash flows of the County.

NOTE 3 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Expenditures reported on the Schedule are reported on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards for all awards. Under these principles, certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement.

NOTE 4 LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTIONS

Local cost sharing, as defined by the Uniform Guidance is required by certain federal grants. The amount of cost sharing varies with each program. Only the federal share of expenditures is presented in the Schedule.

NOTE 5 ADDITIONAL AUDITS

Grantor agencies reserve the right to conduct additional audits of the County's grant programs for economy and efficiency and program results that may result in disallowed costs to the County. However, management does not believe such audits would result in any disallowed costs that would be material to the County's financial position at December 31, 2023.

NOTE 6 INDIRECT COST RATE

The County charges indirect costs for the Circuit Clerk and the Child Support Enforcement Agency using the 10-percent de minimis indirect cost rate as allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

Section I – Summary of Auditors' Results

Financial Statements 1. Type of auditors' report issued: Qualified Opinion on the aggregate discretely presented component units; unmodified opinions on the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information 2. Internal control over financial reporting: Material weakness(es) identified? __<u>x</u>___yes • Significant deficiency(ies) identified that are not considered to be material weakness(es)? _____ none reported <u>x</u> yes 3. Noncompliance material to financial statements noted? <u>x</u> no ____yes Federal Awards 1. Internal control over major federal programs: Material weakness(es) identified? _____yes <u>x</u> no ____x ___ none reported Significant deficiency(ies) identified _____yes 2. Type of auditors' report issued on compliance for major federal programs: Unmodified 3. Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a)? _____ yes X no Identification of Major Federal Programs Assistance Listing Number(s) Name of Federal Program or Cluster COVID-19 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal 21.027 Recovery Funds Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs: \$750,000

_____ yes ____x ___ no

Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee?

Section II - Financial Statement Findings

2023-001 Material Weakness in Financial Reporting

Type of Finding Material Weakness in Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Condition:

Management is responsible for establishing, maintaining, and monitoring internal controls over financial reporting, and for the fair presentation of the financial statements and related notes in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

As part of the audit, management requested us to prepare a draft of the financial statements, including the related notes to the financial statements. The County does not have an internal policy in place over the preparation or review of the annual financial statements that would enable management to prepare the financial statements and the related note disclosures.

Specific conditions resulting from management not having formal policies or reconciliation procedures included:

- Adjustments were required to balance transfers between funds. Certain transfers were recorded as revenues and expenditures in the funds, rather than being recorded in interfund transfer accounts.
- Due to/from balances between funds were not in balance which required additional investigation and corrections in order to properly state the balances. Included in the due to/from accounts between funds are several balances that have remained open for a number of years. The physical transfer of cash between the funds will need to occur in order to resolve the balances.

Criteria:

County management is responsible for establishing and maintaining internal controls, including monitoring, and for the fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with applicable accounting and reporting standards.

Cause:

Year-end procedures were not sufficient to identify the adjustments listed above in a timely manner and there are a limited number of personnel.

Effect:

Potential exists that material misstatements to the financial statements could occur and not be prevented or detected by the County's internal controls. These adjustments arose, primarily because management does not have a process in place to ensure that the trial balance used in financial statement preparation is final and contains all appropriate journal entries.

Section II – Financial Statement Findings (Continued)

Repeat Finding:

Yes, 2022-001.

Recommendation:

The County should establish and document a well-defined process for financial reporting. The County should continue to assess its personnel needs including consideration of training and continuing professional educational opportunities that are essential in understanding of the County's financial reporting processes and requirements. We also recommend that a year-end checklist be developed to help ensure that errors are detected and corrected in the year end closing process.

Finally, due to the complexities of accounting for some of the County's transactions, we recommend that management explore various alternatives to improving the controls over financial reporting including, but not limited to, the use of governmental accounting standards and reference guides and financial statement completion and disclosure check lists provided by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, (AICPA), the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) and other various financial publishing companies.

Management's Response

Management agrees with the recommendations and specifically regarding:

 Due to/from – While management believes some improvements were made regarding due to/from reconciliations and other audit schedules, certain audit schedules required some revisions. Management plans on implementing procedures to review these balances each month to ensure they remain in balance.

In response to the other financial reporting findings, Management will work to improve financial reporting and consider implementing the following procedures moving forward:

- A comprehensive manual has been completed. There is also a chart of accounts in our adopted budget book. This manual is complete enough that someone could run the office if necessary. The manual will be provided to the commission for acknowledging receipt of the final document.
- Continues development of a comprehensive year-end closing manual to list documents and schedules needed, including accounts payable, accounts receivable, accrued salaries that includes examples of typical items that are accrued
- Maintain and review a listing of leases that includes a determination of capital or operating lease classification. The purchasing agent has copies of our leases.

In addition, management will continue evaluating professional services to assist with continued training in financial recording and reporting matters as well as additional training related to our financial reporting software as necessary.

Section II – Financial Statement Findings (Continued)

2023-002 Lack of Segregation of Duties

Type of Finding Significant Deficiency in Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Condition

During our audit we noted that a limited number of employees were performing procedures in conjunction with recordkeeping, reconciliation, and financial reporting. Multiple employees have the ability and responsibility to sign checks, access to signature stamps, and access to checks.

Our review of the controls at the Recorder of Deed's office disclosed that multiple employees have access to receive funds, enter receipts, sign checks, and mails checks and reconcile bank accounts.

Criteria

Effective internal control will help ensure an adequate segregation of duties so that no one individual handles or has the ability to override the control of a transaction from its inception to its completion.

Cause

Limited resources and personnel.

Effect

Without a proper segregation of duties potential exists for misstatements to the financial statements.

Repeat Finding:

Yes, 2022-002.

Recommendation

We recommend that Management evaluate the controls in place for the County as a whole, and specifically in the areas of cash collections and disbursements, to the extent possible, all critical accounting functions are adequately segregated.

While we recognize that the County must assess the value of its internal control systems within a cost-benefit context, to the extent possible, we believe that the duties should be segregated to serve as a check and balance on operations in order to maintain the best control system possible. To the extent that segregation of duties is not practical, we suggest that management work to implement alternative procedures to compensate for the consolidation of incompatible duties.

Section II – Financial Statement Findings (Continued)

Management's Response

Management will work with the office holders to evaluate current processes and implement procedures to segregate duties as necessary.

Recorder of Deeds Office

All the employees in the recorder's office take cash payments because they are a customer service public office. Three employees have access to write checks. The checks have dual signature as a safeguard. There are four signors to cover when someone is out of the office.

2023-003 Road Expenditure Tracking

Type of Finding Significant Deficiency in Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Condition

GWorks is a job costing software used by the County to track expenditures and resources used on the County's roads. Tracking of road expenditures in GWorks for the Western District did not reconcile back to the general ledger, noting a difference of over \$200,000. Expenditures in the general ledger were greater than the amount reported in GWorks. The variance for the Eastern District was less than \$1,000.

Criteria

County management is responsible for establishing and maintaining internal controls, including monitoring of expenditures.

Cause

GWorks was not timely reconciled with the general ledger.

Effect

Inaccurate information could be relied upon in decision making.

Repeat Finding

No.

Recommendation

We recommend that GWorks be reconciled with the general ledger expenditures on a monthly or quarterly basis to ensure that all expenditures have been captured and appropriately tracked.

Management's Response

The Western District plans to remedy the road expenditure tracking issue with more extensive training to both the road crew personnel and the data entry personnel.

	Section III - F	indings and	Questioned	Costs - Maj	or Federal	Programs
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None reported.

