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MONROE-WEST MONROE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU  
OF OUACHITA PARISH  
WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
DECEMBER 31, 2007

Under provisions of state law, this report is a public document. A copy of the report has been submitted to the entity and other appropriate public officials. The report is available for public inspection at the Baton Rouge office of the Legislative Auditor and, where appropriate, at the office of the parish clerk of court.

Release Date 7/30/08

MONROE-WEST MONROE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU OF OUACHITA PARISH  
 WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA  
 DECEMBER 31, 2007

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## MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Our discussion and analysis of the Monroe-West Monroe Convention and Visitors Bureau of Ouachita Parish provides an overview of the Bureau's activities for the year ended December 31, 2007. Please read it in conjunction with the Bureau's financial statements.

### USING THIS ANNUAL REPORT:

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements. The Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities provide information about the activities of the Bureau as a whole. The Statement of Cash Flows provides detail changes in cash during the year presented.

### THE STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS AND THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES:

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 Bureau's net assets and changes in them. The Bureau's net assets - the difference between assets and liabilities - measures the Bureau's financial position. The increases or decreases in the Bureau's net assets are an indicator of whether its financial position is improving or deteriorating.

### THE BUREAU AS A WHOLE:

For the year ended December 31, 2007 net assets changed as follows:

Beginning Net Assets	2,508,840
Increase in Net Assets	<u>1,002,629</u>
Ending Net Assets	<u>3,511,469</u>

MONROE-WEST MONROE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU OF OUACHITA PARISH

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (Continued)

THE BUREAU'S FUNDS:

The following schedule presents a summary of revenues and expenditures for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007.

<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Percent Of Total</u>
Hotel-Motel Occupancy Tax	1,191,043	49.22%
Hotel-Motel Sales Tax	1,124,893	46.48%
Interest Earned	99,659	4.12%
Special Events (Net)	2,649	.11%
Gain (Loss) on Asset Disposition	-	-
Miscellaneous	<u>1,626</u>	<u>.07%</u>
 <u>Total Revenues</u>	 <u>2,419,870</u>	 <u>100.00%</u>
 <u>Expenditures</u>		
Bureau	<u>1,417,241</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS:

The Bureau's total revenues in 2007 were more than the final budget by \$57,945. Actual expenditures for the Bureau in 2007 were less than the final budget by \$78,634. This variance reflects a large increase in occupancy tax and sales tax during the last year and a decrease in special promotions paid.

CAPITAL ASSET AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION:

Capital Assets

At December 31, 2007, the Bureau had \$1,488,874 invested in capital assets including buildings and improvements, furniture and fixtures, equipment, and vehicles (see table below).

Building and Improvements	1,138,068
Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment	267,000
Vehicles	19,123
Construction in Progress	<u>64,683</u>
 <u>Total</u>	 <u>1,488,874</u>

This year's additions included \$64,683 in construction in progress.

MONROE-WEST MONROE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU OF OUACHITA PARISH

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (Continued)

CAPITAL ASSET AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION: (Continued)

Debt

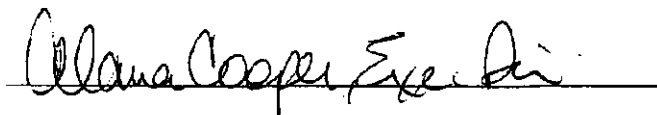
At year end, the Bureau had \$1,335,000 in refunding certificates of indebtedness outstanding with Regions Bank. The refunding certificates shall bear interest at a rate not to exceed six percent (6%) per annum, and shall mature in semi-annual installments due on November 1, 2013.

ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGETS AND RATES:

The Bureau's revenues are derived mainly from Hotel-Motel Occupancy and Sales Taxes. The Bureau does not anticipate any major increases or decreases in the taxes collected.

CONTACTING THE BUREAU'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT:

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, and creditors with a general overview of the Bureau's finances and to show the Bureau's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the Monroe-West Monroe Convention and Visitors Bureau of Ouachita Parish, 601 Constitution Avenue, West Monroe, Louisiana.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alana Cooper", is written over a horizontal line.

Executive Director

# JOHNSTON, PERRY, JOHNSON & ASSOCIATES, L.L.P.

ROWLAND H. PERRY, CPA, APC  
CHARLES L. JOHNSON, JR., CPA  
VIOLET M. ROUSSEL, CPA, APC  
JAY CUTHBERT, CPA, APAC

PAM BATTAGLIA, CPA  
JULIAN B. JOHNSON, CPA



"The CPA. Never Underestimate The Value."

**Certified Public Accountants**

3007 Armand Street  
Monroe, Louisiana 71201  
Telephone (318) 322-5156 or (318) 323-1411  
Facsimile (318) 323-6331

- Accounting & Auditing
  - HUD Audits
  - Non-Profit Organizations
  - Governmental Organizations
- Business & Financial Planning
- Tax Preparation & Planning
  - Individual & Partnership
  - Corporate & Fiduciary
- Bookkeeping & Payroll Services

June 12, 2008

## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Board of Directors  
Monroe-West Monroe Convention  
and Visitors Bureau of Ouachita Parish  
West Monroe, Louisiana

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and fund information of the Monroe-West Monroe Convention and Visitors Bureau of Ouachita Parish (the Bureau), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2007, as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Bureau's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

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

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the governmental activities and fund information for the Monroe-West Monroe Convention and Visitors Bureau of Ouachita Parish as of December 31, 2007, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 12, 2008, on our consideration of the internal control over the Monroe-West Monroe Convention and Visitors Bureau of Ouachita Parish's financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Governmental Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

Management's discussion and analysis on pages 1 through 3 is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Our audit was made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements of the Monroe-West Monroe Convention and Visitors Bureau of Ouachita Parish taken as a whole. The accompanying other supplemental information on pages 29 through 32 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

*Johnston, Perry, Johnson & Associates, L.L.P.*

JOHNSTON, PERRY, JOHNSON & ASSOCIATES, L.L.P.  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

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- Tax Preparation & Planning
  - Individual & Partnership
  - Corporate & Fiduciary
- Bookkeeping & Payroll Services

June 12, 2008

## 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

Board of Directors  
Monroe-West Monroe Convention  
and Visitors Bureau of Ouachita Parish  
West Monroe, Louisiana

We have audited the financial statements of the Monroe-West Monroe Convention and Visitors Bureau of Ouachita Parish as of and for the year ended December 31, 2007, and have issued our report thereon dated June 12, 2008. 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 Monroe-West Monroe Convention and Visitors Bureau of Ouachita Parish'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 Monroe-West Monroe Convention and Visitors Bureau of Ouachita Parish's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Monroe-West Monroe Convention and Visitors Bureau of Ouachita Parish's internal control over financial reporting.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control over



financial reporting that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. However, as discussed below, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

A control deficiency 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 misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects Monroe-West Monroe Convention and Visitors Bureau of Ouachita Parish's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of Monroe-West Monroe Convention and Visitors Bureau of Ouachita Parish's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by Monroe-West Monroe Convention and Visitors Bureau of Ouachita Parish's internal control. We consider the deficiency described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs reported as item 07-1 to be a significant deficiency in internal control over financial reporting.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by Monroe-West Monroe Convention and Visitors Bureau of Ouachita Parish's internal control.

Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in the internal control that might be significant deficiencies and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all significant deficiencies that are also considered to be material weaknesses. However, we believe that none of the significant deficiencies described above is a material weakness.

#### Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Monroe-West Monroe Convention and Visitors Bureau of Ouachita Parish'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 disclosed

instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which are described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as item 07-2.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management, others within the organization, as well as the state of Louisiana, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. However, under Louisiana R.S. 24:513, this report is distributed by the Legislative Auditor as a public document.

*Johnston, Perry, Johnson & Associates, L.L.P.*

JOHNSTON, PERRY, JOHNSON & ASSOCIATES, L.L.P.  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MONROE-WEST MONROE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU OF OUACHITA PARISH  
 WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA  
 STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS  
 DECEMBER 31, 2007

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>	
<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>	
Cash	3,476,018
Accounts Receivable	370,376
Prepaid Expenses	<u>31,758</u>
<u>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</u>	<u>3,878,152</u>
<u>CAPITAL ASSETS</u>	
Non-Depreciable	50,000
Depreciable	<u>1,027,833</u>
<u>TOTAL CAPITAL ASSETS</u>	<u>1,077,833</u>
<u>TOTAL ASSETS</u>	<u>4,955,985</u>
<u>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</u>	
<u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>	
Accounts Payable	89,741
Accrued and Withhold Payroll Taxes	<u>19,775</u>
<u>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>	<u>109,516</u>
<u>DEBT LIABILITIES</u>	
Due Within One Year	200,000
Due in More Than One Year	<u>1,135,000</u>
<u>TOTAL DEBT LIABILITIES</u>	<u>1,335,000</u>
<u>TOTAL LIABILITIES</u>	<u>1,444,516</u>
<u>NET ASSETS</u>	
Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt	1,077,833
Unrestricted	<u>2,433,636</u>
<u>TOTAL NET ASSETS</u>	<u>3,511,469</u>
<u>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</u>	<u>4,955,985</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

MONROE-WEST MONROE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU OF OUACHITA PARISH  
 WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA  
 STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
 DECEMBER 31, 2007

<u>Function/Program</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Charges for</u> <u>Services</u>	<u>Program Revenues</u> <u>Operating</u> <u>Grants and</u> <u>Contributions</u>	<u>Capital</u> <u>Grants and</u> <u>Contributions</u>	<u>Net (Expense)</u> <u>Revenue and</u> <u>Changes in</u> <u>Net Assets</u>
<u>Activities</u>					<u>Governmental</u> <u>Activities</u>
Government Activities:					
Personal Services	440,128	-	-	-	( 440,128)
Travel	34,363	-	-	-	( 34,363)
Operating Expenses	469,457	-	-	-	( 469,457)
Supplies	14,440	-	-	-	( 14,440)
Professional Services	39,371	-	-	-	( 39,371)
Other Charges	311,205	-	-	-	( 311,205)
Interest on Long-Term Debt	52,831	-	-	-	( 52,831)
Unallocated Depreciation	<u>55,446</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>( 55,446)</u>
<u>Total Governmental</u> <u>Activities</u>	<u>1,417,241</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>(1,417,241)</u>
General Revenues:					
					1,191,043
Hotel-Motel Occupancy Tax					1,124,893
Hotel-Motel Sales Tax					1,626
Miscellaneous					-
Gain (Loss) on Asset Disposition					2,649
Special Events (Net)					<u>99,659</u>
Interest Earned					
<u>Total General Revenues</u>					2,419,870
<u>Changes in Net Assets</u>					1,002,629
<u>Net Assets - Beginning</u>					2,508,840
<u>Net Assets - Ending</u>					<u>3,511,469</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MONROE-WEST MONROE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU OF OUACHITA PARISH  
 WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA  
 BALANCE SHEET-GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
 DECEMBER 31, 2007

	<u>General Fund</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>	
Cash	3,476,018
Receivables (Net of Allowances for Uncollectibles)	370,376
Prepaid Expenses	<u>31,758</u>
 <u>TOTAL ASSETS</u>	 <u>3,878,152</u>
 <u>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</u>	
Accounts Payable	89,741
Accrued and Withhold Payroll Taxes	<u>19,775</u>
 <u>TOTAL LIABILITIES</u>	 <u>109,516</u>
 <u>FUND BALANCE</u>	
Unreserved, Reported in General Fund (Includes \$1,174,415 of Board Designated Funds)	 <u>3,768,636</u>
 <u>TOTAL FUND BALANCE</u>	 <u>3,768,636</u>
 <u>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE</u>	 <u>3,878,152</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

MONROE-WEST MONROE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU OF OUACHITA PARISH  
WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA  
RECONCILIATION OF TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUND BALANCES  
TO NET ASSETS OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES  
DECEMBER 31, 2007

<u>Total Governmental Fund Balances</u>	3,768,636
<i>Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net assets are different because:</i>	
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the funds.	1,077,833
Long-term liabilities, including compensated absences payable, are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds.	<u>(1,335,000)</u>
<u>Net Assets of Governmental Activities</u>	<u>3,511,469</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.



MONROE-WEST MONROE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU OF OUACHITA PARISH  
 WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA  
 STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN  
 FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

	<u>General Fund</u>
<u>REVENUES</u>	
Hotel - Motel Occupancy Tax	1,191,043
Hotel - Motel Sales Tax Rebate	1,124,893
Miscellaneous Revenues	1,626
Gain (Loss) on Asset Disposition	-
Special Events	2,649
Interest	<u>99,659</u>
<u>TOTAL REVENUES</u>	<u>2,419,870</u>
 <u>EXPENDITURES</u>	
Personal Services	
Salaries - Regular	342,208
FICA Taxes	5,812
Retirement Fund Expense	43,526
Unemployment Benefits	1,031
Other Related Benefits	47,551
Travel	
Travel and Convention Solicitation	27,620
Gasoline and Related Expenses	6,470
Auto Repairs and Maintenance	273
Operating Expenses	
Advertising	120,486
Convention Services	44,641
Research and Development	55,925
Miscellaneous Advertising	8,359
Printing	24,045
Insurance, Other Than Personal	47,812
Maintenance of Property and Equipment	75,167
Rentals and Related Expense	12,422
Dues and Subscriptions	8,014
Postage	11,190
Telephone	10,133
Other Operating Expenses	15,346
Utilities	12,519
Professional Organizations	23,398
Supplies	
Office Supplies	5,504
Operating Services	8,936
Professional Services	
Accounting and Auditing	9,883
Legal and Other Professional Services	29,488

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

MONROE-WEST MONROE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU OF OUACHITA PARISH  
 WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA  
 STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN  
 FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS (CONTINUED)  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

	<u>General Fund</u>
<u>EXPENDITURES</u> (Continued)	
Other Charges	
Miscellaneous Charges	3,133
Collection Fees (Statutory Charges)	4,000
Special Promotions and Community Improvement	304,072
Capital Outlays	
Construction in Progress	64,682
Debt Service	
Bond Principal Payments	441,000
Interest	<u>52,831</u>
<u>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>1,867,477</u>
<u>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER)</u> <u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>552,393</u>
<u>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</u>	
None	<u>-</u>
<u>NET OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</u>	<u>-0-</u>
<u>NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE</u>	552,393
<u>FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING OF YEAR</u>	<u>3,216,244</u>
<u>FUND BALANCE - END OF YEAR</u>	<u>3,768,637</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

MONROE-WEST MONROE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU OF OUACHITA PARISH  
 WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA  
 RECONCILIATION OF STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN  
 FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

<u>Net Changes in Total Governmental Fund</u>	552,393
---	---------

*Amounts reported for governmental activities in the:*

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures while governmental activities report depreciation expense to allocate those expenditures over the life of the assets:

Capital assets purchases capitalized	64,682
Depreciation expense	( <u>55,446</u> )
	9,236

Repayment of debt principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term debt liabilities in the statement of net assets.	<u>441,000</u>
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<u>Total Changes in Net Assets</u>	<u><u>1,002,629</u></u>
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

MONROE-WEST MONROE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU OF OUACHITA PARISH  
WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES:

Reporting Entity Information:

The Monroe-West Monroe Convention and Visitors Bureau of Ouachita Parish (the Bureau) was formed and created as a tourist commission for the purpose of the promotion of tourism within the Parish of Ouachita by an ordinance of the Police Jury of the Parish of Ouachita in 1976. There are eleven board members appointed by the Ouachita Parish Police Jury. The board members are not compensated or paid a per diem. On June 8, 1995 pursuant to Article VI, Section 19 and 30 of the Constitution of Louisiana, the Bureau was specifically created as a special district and shall from that point on be a political subdivision of the State of Louisiana.

The Monroe-West Monroe Convention and Visitors Bureau of Ouachita Parish was a component unit of the Ouachita Parish Police Jury, the governing body of the Parish until June 8, 1995 as noted above. The accompanying financial statements present information only on the funds maintained by the Bureau and do not present information on the police jury, or any other governmental unit.

The major sources of revenue for the Bureau are from hotel - motel sales taxes collected in Ouachita Parish.

The Bureau complies with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). GAAP includes all relevant Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements. In the government-wide financial statements, Financial Accounting Standard Board (FASB) pronouncements and Accounting Principles Board (APB) opinions issued on or before November 30, 1989 have been applied unless those pronouncements conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements, in which case, GASB prevails. The accounting and reporting framework and the more significant accounting policies are discussed in subsequent sections of this note. The Bureau has adopted the financial reporting requirements of GASB Statements No. 33 and 34.

MONROE-WEST MONROE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU OF OUACHITA PARISH  
WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES: (Continued)

Reporting Entity Information: (Continued)

The Bureau is an entity administered by a Board of Directors (Board) that acts as the authoritative and legislative body of the entity. The Board is comprised of eleven board members. Officers are elected by the Board. Each officer serves a term of one year; there are no term limits for reappointment. No board members receive compensation for serving on the Board, except for the Executive Director.

The Board of Directors annually appoints the Chairperson of the Board from existing board members. The Chair responsibilities are to preside at all meetings of the Board, be the chief officer of the Bureau, perform all duties commonly incident to the position of presiding officer of a board or business organization and exercise supervision over the business of the Bureau, its officers and employees.

Basis of Presentation

In June 1999, the GASB unanimously approved statement No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements—and Management's Discussion and Analysis—for State and Local Governments*. Certain of the significant changes in the presentation of its funds financial information include a Management Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) section providing an analysis of the Bureau's overall financial position and results of operations and financial statements prepared using full accrual accounting for all fund activities. These and other changes are reflected in the accompanying financial statements including the notes to the financial statements.

Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation

*Government-Wide Financial Statements* - The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when they are both measurable and available and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related

MONROE-WEST MONROE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU OF OUACHITA PARISH  
WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES: (Continued)

Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial  
Statement Presentation (Continued)

cash flows. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period, the Bureau considers revenues to be available if they are collected within sixty days of the end of the current fiscal year end.

*Governmental Fund Financial Statements* - The governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period, the Bureau considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal year end.

Principal revenue sources considered susceptible to accrual are interest on investments and sales taxes. Some revenue items that are considered measurable and available to finance operations during the year from an accounting perspective are not available for expenditure due to the Bureau's present appropriation system. These revenues have been accrued in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America since they have been earned and are expected to be collected within sixty days of the end of the period. Other revenues are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received by the Bureau. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. Modifications to the accrual basis of accounting include:

- Interest on general long-term obligations is recognized when paid.
- Debt service expenditures are recorded only when payment is due.

MONROE-WEST MONROE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU OF OUACHITA PARISH  
WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES: (Continued)

Fund Accounting

The financial activities of the Bureau are recorded in individual funds, each of which is deemed to be a separate accounting entity. The Bureau uses fund accounting to report on its financial position and results of operations. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain government functions or activities. A fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts.

Governmental Funds

*General Fund* - This fund accounts for all activities of the Bureau not specifically required to be accounted for in other funds. Included are transactions to promote tourism in Ouachita Parish. The Bureau has no other funds.

Fund Equity

Equity is classified as net assets and displayed in three components:

- a. Invested in capital assets, net of related debt - Consists of capital assets including restricted capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, mortgages, notes, or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets.
- b. Restricted net assets - Consists of net assets with constraints placed on the use either by (1) external groups, such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or (2) law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. There were no restricted net assets at December 31, 2007.
- c. Unrestricted net assets - All other net assets that do not meet the definition of "restricted" or "invested in capital assets, net of related debt."

MONROE-WEST MONROE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU OF OUACHITA PARISH  
WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES: (Continued)

Fixed Assets

Fixed assets used in governmental fund type operations (general fixed assets) are accounted for in governmental funds. General Fixed Assets purchased are recorded at time of purchase. Such assets are capitalized at cost. Gifts or contributions are recorded at fair market value at the time received. Depreciation has been provided on general fixed assets using the straight-line method of depreciation over their estimated useful lives, ranging from five to eight years for furniture and equipment and ten to thirty-nine years for leasehold improvements and buildings.

All capital assets are capitalized at cost and updated for additions and retirements during the year. The Bureau maintains a capitalization threshold of \$1,000. Improvements are capitalized; the cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend the asset's life are not.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash received by the Bureau is mainly deposited in local financial institutions with excess cash invested in short-term investments.

For presentation in the financial statements, investments with an original maturity of three months or less at the time they are purchased are considered to be cash equivalents. Investments with an original maturity of more than three months are reported as investments.

Compensated Absences

Only permanent full-time employees are entitled to vacation and sick leave. Vacation not taken during a calendar year cannot be carried forward to the following year. Sick leave not taken can be carried forward for one year.

Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates.



MONROE-WEST MONROE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU OF OUACHITA PARISH  
WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

NOTE 2 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS:

At December 31, 2007, the Bureau had cash and cash equivalents totaling \$3,476,018 as follows:

Category 1	2,309,365
Category 2	-
Category 3	<u>1,166,653</u>
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>3,476,018</u>

Deposits with financial institutions are classified into one of the following three categories:

1. Category 1 - Insured or collateralized, with securities held by the entity or by its agent in the entity's name.
2. Category 2 - Collateralized, with securities held by the pledging financial institution's trust department or agent in the entity's name.
3. Category 3 - Uncollateralized. Includes any bank balance collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution, or by its trust department or agent, but not in the entity's name.

These deposits are stated at cost, which approximates market and are secured from risk by \$100,000 of federal deposit insurance. At December 31, 2007, the Bureau had \$2,209,365 in the bank that was insured with additional coverage through pledged securities. Time deposits include an investment of \$2,450 in the Louisiana Asset Management Pool (LAMP) and \$896,659 in certificates of deposit with Regions Bank.

LAMP is an investment pool established as a cooperative endeavor to enable public entities of the State of Louisiana (such as parishes, school boards, police juries and sheriffs, among others) to aggregate funds for investment. This pooling is intended to improve administrative efficiency and increase investment yield.

MONROE-WEST MONROE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU OF OUACHITA PARISH  
 WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA  
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

NOTE 2 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS: (Continued)

LAMP is a cooperative endeavor formed, in part, in reliance upon Opinion No. 92-192 (March 31, 1992) issued by the Attorney General of the State of Louisiana. That opinion provides, in part, that public entities may pool funds for investment purposes.

NOTE 3 - RECEIVABLES:

The following is a summary of receivables at December 31, 2007:

<u>Class of Receivable</u>	<u>General Fund</u>
Hotel-Motel Sales Tax Rebate	195,365
Hotel-Motel Sales Tax Revenue	175,074
Miscellaneous	( 63)
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>370,376</u>

Management has determined that all receivables are deemed collectible and no allowance for doubtful accounts is necessary. Management receives monthly for any doubtful receivables.

NOTE 4 - FIXED ASSET ACTIVITY:

Capital asset activity for the year ended December 31, 2007 is as follows:

	December 31, 2006 <u>Balance</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Disposals</u>	December 31, 2007 <u>Balance</u>
Non-Depreciable Assets:			-	
Land	50,000	-	-	50,000
Depreciable Assets:			-	
Building	1,138,068	-	-	1,138,068
Office Equipment and Furniture	258,001	-	-	258,001
Furniture & Fixtures	8,999	-	-	8,999
Vehicles	19,123	-	-	19,123
Construction in Progress	-	64,683	-	64,683
Totals at Historical Cost	<u>1,474,191</u>	64,683	<u>-0-</u>	<u>1,538,874</u>

MONROE-WEST MONROE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU OF OUACHITA PARISH  
 WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA  
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

NOTE 4 - FIXED ASSET ACTIVITY: (Continued)

	December 31, 2006 <u>Balance</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Disposals</u>	December 31, 2007 <u>Balance</u>
Less Accumulated Depreciation For:				
Building	189,679	29,181	-	218,860
Office Equipment & Furniture	200,027	22,125	-	222,152
Furniture & Fixtures	8,088	366	-	8,454
Vehicles	<u>7,801</u>	<u>3,774</u>	-	<u>11,575</u>
 Total Accumulated Depreciation	 <u>405,595</u>	 <u>55,446</u>	 <u>-0-</u>	 <u>461,041</u>
 <u>CAPTIAL ASSETS, NET</u>	 <u>1,068,596</u>	 <u>9,237</u>	 <u>-0-</u>	 <u>1,077,833</u>

Depreciation expense for the depreciable capital assets was \$55,446.

NOTE 5 - PENSION PLAN:

Substantially all employees of the Monroe-West Monroe Convention and Visitors Bureau of Ouachita Parish are members of the Parochial Employees Retirement System of Louisiana (System), a multiple-employer (cost-sharing), public employee retirement system (PERS), controlled and administered by a separate board of trustees. The System is composed of two distinct plans, Plan A and Plan B, with separate assets and benefit provisions. All employees of the Bureau are members of Plan A.

All permanent employees working at least 28 hours per week who are paid wholly or in part from parish funds and all elected parish officials are eligible to participate in the system. Under Plan A, employees who retire at or after age 60 with at least 10 years of creditable service, at or after age 55 with at least 25 years of creditable service, or at any age with at least 30 years of creditable service are entitled to a retirement benefit, payable monthly for life, equal to 3 per cent of their final-average salary for each year of creditable service. However, for those employees who were members of the supplemental plan only prior to January 1, 1980, the benefit is equal to one percent of final average salary plus \$24 for each year of supplemental-plan-only service earned before January 1, 1980, plus 3 percent

MONROE-WEST MONROE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU OF OUACHITA PARISH  
WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

NOTE 5 - PENSION PLAN: (Continued)

of final-average salary for each year of service credited after the revision date. 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 the amount of creditable service stated above, and do not withdraw their employee contributions, may retire at the ages specified above 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.

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 Parochial Employee's Retirement System, Post Office Box 14619, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70898-4619, or by calling (504)928-1361.

Under Plan A, members are required by state statute to contribute 9.5 percent of their annual covered salary and the Bureau is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. The current rate is 12.75 percent of annual covered payroll. Contributions to the System also include one-fourth of one percent (except Orleans and East Baton Rouge Parishes) of the taxes shown to be collectible by the tax rolls of each parish. These tax dollars are divided between Plan A and Plan B based proportionately on the salaries of the active members of each plan. The contribution requirements of plan members and the Bureau 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. The Bureau's contributions to the System under Plan A for the year ending December 31, 2007 was \$43,526, equal to the required contributions for the year.

MONROE-WEST MONROE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU OF OUACHITA PARISH  
 WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA  
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

NOTE 6 - CAPITAL LEASE:

During 1997, the Bureau entered into a capital lease with the city of West Monroe, Louisiana to build and lease office space. The lease is for a fifteen-year period commencing September 1, 1997. The initial monthly rental is \$450 per month beginning September 1, 1997. The monthly rental is subject to increase on November 1, 1997; February 1, 1998; June 1, 1998; September 1, 1998 and as of the date of final completion of construction and final acceptance based upon expenditures of lessor. The Bureau paid \$323,172 and \$300,000 during 2002 and 2001, respectively, on the capital lease. The lease payment was increased in order to amortize the additional cost of construction over the remaining lease period subject to a maximum monthly payment of \$2,000 per month by the lessee. If the amounts exceed \$2,000 per month, the Bureau can pay down the principal balance sufficient enough to maintain a \$2,000 maximum rental payment or pay \$2,000 for three years and adjust the payments subsequently to pay the balance over the remaining life of the lease. In 2002, the Bureau paid \$323,172 to the City of West Monroe to completely pay-off the capital lease amount. Construction on the building was completed in November 2000, and the Bureau moved in December 2000. The capital lease had a stated interest rate of 7.5%.

The Bureau will be responsible for maintenance, repairs, insurance, utilities, and taxes. The Bureau had the option to purchase the leased premises at a price equal to the amortized principal balance owed on the date of transfer of ownership. Ownership transferred to the Bureau in 2003.

NOTE 7 - DESIGNATED NET ASSETS:

The Board of Directors has designated net assets for use in future years for tourism in Ouachita Parish. The breakdown of the designated amounts is as follows:

Designation Related to 2004 Series Bond Issue

City of Monroe	394,544
City of West Monroe	70,672
Northeast Louisiana Delta African-American Museum	493,180
Louisiana Purchase Zoological Society	27,405
Refund from Bond Commission and Interest Earned	<u>30,989</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>1,016,790</u>

MONROE-WEST MONROE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU OF OUACHITA PARISH  
 WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA  
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

NOTE 7 - DESIGNATED NET ASSETS: (Continued)

Additional board of directors designated net assets are as follows:

City of Monroe - Airport	10,000
ULM @ Monroe	25,000
LA Assn. of FFA	27,500
Mardi Gras Prize Money	5,000
N/E LA Community Tennis Assn.	20,000
Northeast LA Children's Museum	5,000
Northeast LA Soccer Assn.	5,000
Peak Performance Track Club	10,000
APA Zone 6 Deep South Zone-A-Rama	1,625
Aviation & Military Museum	1,500
Ag-Expo	1,875
Ouachita River Art Guild	1,000
S/C Regional Music Conference	1,250
Twin City Ballet Company	1,875
ULM Athletic Dept.	10,000
ULM University Park	20,000
B.A.S.S. Women Tournament	6,000
Northeast Louisiana Tennis Association	5,000
<u>Total</u>	<u>157,625</u>

NOTE 8 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS:

The general obligation bonds issued in December 1997 were refinanced in 2003. In order to obtain a reduced interest rate of 2.26%, the bonds were issued to provide funds for a cooperative agreement with the city of West Monroe and will be repaid with hotel-motel sales tax revenues and rebates received. The Bureau has formally pledged the two percent occupancy tax and four percent sales tax rebate for bond repayment.

On March 31, 2004, general obligation bonds were issued in the amount of \$2,000,000. In order to obtain a reduced interest rate of 3.05%, the bonds were issued to provide funds for various tourism projects as per the cooperative agreements and will be repaid from the proceeds of a 4% sales and use tax on the occupancy of hotel and motel rooms in the parish.

MONROE-WEST MONROE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU OF OUACHITA PARISH  
 WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA  
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

NOTE 8 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS: (Continued)

Details are as follows:

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Reductions</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>	<u>Amounts Due Within One Year</u>
Government Activities: General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2003	251,000	-0-	251,000	-0-	-0-
Series 2004	<u>1,525,000</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>190,000</u>	<u>1,335,000</u>	<u>200,000</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>1,776,000</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>441,000</u>	<u>1,335,000</u>	<u>200,000</u>

Payments on the bonds payable that pertain to the Bureau's governmental activities are made by the debt service fund.

Principal and interest requirements to retire the Bureau's bonds payable obligation are as follows:

Interest paid during 2007 was \$52,831.

NOTE 9 - EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT:

The Board of Directors voted to grant the Executive Director a three-year employment contract in May of 2005. The three-year contract offers a 3% annual raise.

NOTE 10 - RISK MANAGEMENT:

The Bureau is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, theft, damage or destruction of assets, employee injuries, natural disaster and other claims in its normal course of business. The Bureau has obtained insurance coverages to reduce its risk in the event of a loss. The Bureau has had no significant reduction in insurance coverage from prior years and has had no settlement that exceeds insurance coverage during the past six years.

MONROE-WEST MONROE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU OF OUACHITA PARISH  
 WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA  
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

NOTE 11 - SPECIAL EVENTS: (Continued)

Special events held during the year consist of an AAU Basketball Tournament and a Louisiana High School Baseball Tournament. Details of these events are as follows:

	AAU Basketball S. Regional Tournament	Louisiana High School Baseball Tournament
Income	14,295	27,636
Expenses	<u>12,272</u>	<u>27,010</u>
<u>Net</u>	<u>2,023</u>	<u>626</u>

NOTE 12 - CONDUIT DEBT OBLIGATIONS:

During 2007, the Bureau participated in the issuance of certain private activity bonds for the Biedenharn Museum and Gardens (a Louisiana not-for-profit organization). These bonds are not a direct or contingent liability of the Bureau. Revenues from the Biedenharn Museum and Gardens are pledged for the total payment of the bond's principle and interest. Bond holders can only look to those sources for repayment. The principle amount, issued and outstanding, at December 31, 2007 is \$4.5 million.



REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

MONROE-WEST MONROE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU OF OUACHITA PARISH  
WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA  
BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - GENERAL FUND  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>		<u>Actual Amounts</u>	Variance With
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>		Final Budget Positive (Negative)
<u>Resources (Inflows):</u>				
Hotel-Motel Occupancy Tax	965,000	1,136,700	1,191,043	54,343
Hotel-Motel Sales Tax Rebate	875,000	1,154,525	1,124,893	( 29,632)
Miscellaneous Revenues	900	1,200	1,626	426
Special Events (Net)	-	-	2,649	2,649
Gain (Loss) on Asset Disposition	-	-	-	-
Interest	<u>25,000</u>	<u>69,500</u>	<u>99,659</u>	<u>30,159</u>
Amounts Available for Appropriation	<u>1,865,900</u>	<u>2,361,925</u>	<u>2,419,870</u>	<u>57,945</u>
<u>Charges to Appropriations</u>				
<u>(Outflows):</u>				
Personal Services	458,364	438,240	440,128	( 1,888)
Travel	29,000	33,120	34,363	( 1,243)
Operating Expenses	470,030	494,495	469,457	25,038
Supplies	8,000	7,000	14,440	( 7,440)
Professional Services	35,500	50,883	39,371	11,512
Other Charges	1,332,928	387,541	311,205	76,336
Capital Outlays	73,000	41,000	64,682	( 23,682)
Bond Principal Payments	441,000	441,000	441,000	-
Interest on Long-Term Debt	<u>52,186</u>	<u>52,832</u>	<u>52,831</u>	<u>1</u>
Total Charges to Appropriations	<u>2,900,008</u>	<u>1,946,111</u>	<u>1,867,477</u>	<u>78,634</u>
<u>Excess of Reserves</u> <u>Over (Under) Expenditures</u>	<u>(1,034,108)</u>	<u>415,814</u>	<u>552,393</u>	<u>136,579</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

MONROE-WEST MONROE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU OF OUACHITA PARISH  
 WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA  
 BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - GENERAL FUND (CONTINUED)  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>		<u>Actual Amounts</u>	Variance With Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>		
<u>Other Financing Sources</u> <u>(Uses)</u>				
Proceeds of Bond	-	-	-	-
Asset	-	-	-	-
<u>Net Other Financing</u> <u>Sources (Uses)</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>
<u>Excess of Revenues and</u> <u>Sources Over (Under)</u> <u>Expenditures and Uses</u>	(1,034,108)	415,814	552,393	136,579
<u>Fund Balance at Beginning</u> <u>of Year</u>	<u>3,216,244</u>	<u>3,216,244</u>	<u>3,216,244</u>	<u>-0-</u>
<u>FUND BALANCE AT END OF</u> <u>YEAR</u>	<u>2,182,136</u>	<u>3,632,058</u>	<u>3,768,637</u>	<u>136,579</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

MONROE-WEST MONROE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU OF OUACHITA PARISH  
WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA  
NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
DECEMBER 31, 2007

NOTE 1 - BUDGETARY PROCESS

The Executive Director submits an annual budget to the Board of Directors in accordance with Louisiana law and regulation. The Board of Directors then reviews the budget and may make changes to revenues and/or expenditures as they deem needed. The Board of Directors approves the budget. Budget modification may be made throughout the year with approval of the Board of Directors.

1. Estimated Resources

As part of the Bureau's budgetary process, the Board approves the official estimated resources. The official estimated resources states the projected revenue of the organization. Prior to December 31, the Bureau must revise its budget so that the total contemplated expenditures during the ensuing fiscal year will not exceed the amount available as stated in the official estimated resources. Estimated resources may be further amended during the year if the Board determines that an estimate needs to be either increased or decreased. The amounts reported on the budgetary statements reflect the amounts in the final amended official certificate of estimated resources issued during 2007.

2. Appropriations/Expenditures

An annual appropriation resolution must be adopted by the Board of Directors. The appropriation resolution fixes spending authority at the fund and object level. The appropriation resolution may be amended during the year as new information becomes available, provided that total fund appropriations do not exceed current estimated resources. Also, the allocation of appropriations among objects within a fund may be modified during the year by a resolution of the Board. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts in the budgetary statements reflect the appropriations in the first complete appropriated budget. The amounts reported as final budgeted amounts in the schedules of budgetary comparison represent the final appropriation amounts, including all supplemental appropriations.

MONROE-WEST MONROE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU OF OUACHITA PARISH  
WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA  
NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (CONTINUED)  
DECEMBER 31, 2007

NOTE 1 - BUDGETARY PROCESS (Continued)

3. Lapsing of Appropriations

At the close of each year, the unencumbered balance of each appropriation reverts to the fund from which it was appropriated and becomes subject to future appropriations. The encumbered appropriation balance is carried forward to the subsequent fiscal year and need not be reappropriated.

4. Budgetary Basis of Accounting

The Bureau's budgetary process accounts for transactions on a GAAP basis by fund.

OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

MONROE-WEST MONROE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU OF OUACHITA PARISH  
WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA  
CURRENT YEAR AUDIT FINDINGS  
DECEMBER 31, 2007

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS

Internal Control

07-1

Criteria: As is common in small organizations, management has chosen to engage the auditor to propose certain year-end adjusting journal entries and to prepare the Project's annual financial statements. This condition is intentional by management based upon the Project's financial complexity, along with the cost effectiveness of acquiring the ability to prepare financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Consistent with this decision, internal controls over the preparation of year-end adjusting entries and annual financial statements, complete with notes, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, have not been established. Under generally accepted auditing standards, this condition represents a significant deficiency in internal controls.

Recently issued Statement on Auditing Standards (SAS) 112 requires that we report the above condition as a control deficiency. The SAS does not provide exceptions to reporting deficiencies that are adequately mitigated with non-audit services rendered by the auditor or deficiencies for which the remedy would be cost prohibitive or otherwise impractical.

Conditions: Proper internal controls under SAS 112 require management to prepare the Project's annual financial statements.

Effect: This finding has no effect on the financial statements.

Cause: It is not cost effective for the Project to cure this control deficiency.

MONROE-WEST MONROE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU OF OUACHITA PARISH  
WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA  
CURRENT YEAR AUDIT FINDINGS (CONTINUED)  
DECEMBER 31, 2007

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS (Continued)

Internal Control (Continued)

07-1 (Continued)

Recommendation: As mentioned above, whether or not it would be cost effective to cure a control deficiency is not a factor in applying SAS 112's reporting requirements. Because prudent management requires that the potential benefit from an internal control must exceed its cost, it may not be practical to correct all the deficiencies an auditor reports under SAS 112. In this case, we do not believe that curing the significant deficiency described above would be cost effective or practical and, accordingly, do not believe any corrective action is necessary.

Reply: Management agrees with this finding.

Compliance

07-2

Criteria: Proper oversight of public funds requires cash and cash equivalents to be held in financial institutions with all funds insured or having pledged securities.

Conditions: Securities pledged by the Bureau's financial institutions are insufficient to cover all uninsured balances.

Questioned Costs: None

Context: Oversight of public funds

Effect: This finding has no effect on the financial statements.

Cause: Management did not monitor the amount of securities pledged by the Bureau's financial institutions.



MONROE-WEST MONROE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU OF OUACHITA PARISH  
WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA  
CURRENT YEAR AUDIT FINDINGS (CONTINUED)  
DECEMBER 31, 2007

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS (Continued)

Compliance (Continued)

07-2 (Continued)

Recommendation: We recommend that management monitor the amount of bank balances and pledged securities on a frequent basis.

Reply: Management agrees with this finding and will monitor the amount of bank balances and pledged securities on a frequent basis.



CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS

A. Comments on Findings and Recommendations

1. Management agrees with the finding concerning the preparation of the financial statements.
2. Management agrees with the finding concerning pledged securities.

B. Actions Taken or Planned

1. No action is necessary regarding the finding on the preparation of the financial statements as this is not cost effective to correct.
2. Management will appoint a person to regularly monitor the securities pledged by the Bureau's financial statements.

C. Status of Corrective Action on Prior Findings

There are no longer Board members serving on the Board of Directors whose terms have expired.

MONROE-WEST MONROE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU OF OUACHITA PARISH  
WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA  
PRIOR YEAR AUDIT FINDINGS  
DECEMBER 31, 2007

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS - PRIOR YEAR

06-1

Finding: There are currently eight members serving on the Board of Directors whose terms have expired.

Status: Cleared.