EQUUS BEDS GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT
DISTRICT NO. 2

HALSTEAD, KANSAS

Financial Statement

For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Equus Beds Groundwater Management District No. 2

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Knudsen Monroe & Company LLC

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Directors
Equus Beds Groundwater Management District No. 2
Halstead, Kansas

Adverse and Unmodified Opinions

We have audited the accompanying fund summary statement of regulatory basis receipts, expenditures, and unencumbered cash balances of Equus Beds Groundwater Management District No. 2, Halstead, Kansas (District), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related disclosures to the financial statement.

Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the Basis for Adverse and Unmodified Opinions section of our report, the accompanying financial statement referred to above does not present fairly, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the District as of December 31, 2023, or changes in financial position and cash flows thereof for the year then ended.

Unmodified Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the aggregate cash and unencumbered cash balance of the District as of December 31, 2023, and the aggregate receipts and expenditures for the year then ended in accordance with the financial reporting provisions of the *Kansas Municipal Audit and Accounting Guide* described in Note 1.

Basis for Adverse and Unmodified Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the *Kansas Municipal Audit and Accounting Guide*. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statement section of our report. We are required to be independent of the 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 adverse and unmodified audit opinions.

Matter Giving Rise to Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

As discussed in Note 1 of the financial statement, the financial statement is prepared by the District on the basis of the financial reporting provisions of the *Kansas Municipal Audit and Accounting Guide*, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The effects on the financial statement of the variances between the regulatory basis of accounting described in Note 1 and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, although not reasonably determinable, are presumed to be material.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statement

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of this financial statement in accordance with the *Kansas Municipal Audit and Accounting Guide* as described in Note 1; this includes determining that the regulatory basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statement in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statement, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the 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 Statement

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. 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 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 statement.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statement, 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 statement.
- 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 the 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 statement.
- conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the 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.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the 2023 fund summary statement of regulatory basis receipts, expenditures, and unencumbered cash balances (basic financial statement) as a whole. The summary of regulatory basis expenditures–actual and budget and schedule of regulatory basis receipts and expenditures–actual and budget (Schedules 1 and 2 as listed in the table of contents) are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the 2023 basic financial statement, but are required to be presented under the provisions of the *Kansas Municipal Audit and Accounting Guide*. 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 2023 basic financial statement. The 2023 information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the 2023 basic financial statement and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the 2023 basic financial statement or to the 2023 basic financial statement itself, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the accompanying supplementary information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the 2023 basic financial statement as a whole, on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

We also previously audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the basic financial statement of the District as of and for the year ended December 31, 2022 (not presented herein), and have issued our report thereon dated March 20, 2023, which contained an unmodified opinion on the basic financial statement. The 2022 basic financial statement and our accompanying report are not presented herein, but are available in electronic form from the web site of the Kansas Department of Administration at the following link https://admin.ks.gov/offices/accounts-reports/local-government/municipal-services. The 2022 actual column (2022 comparative information) presented in the individual fund schedule of regulatory basis receipts and expenditures–actual and budget for the year ended December 31, 2023 (Schedule 2 as listed in the table of contents) is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the 2023 basic financial statement. Such 2022 comparative information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the 2022 basic financial statement. The 2022 comparative information was subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the 2022 basic financial statement and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the 2022 basic financial statement or to the 2022 basic financial statement itself, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the 2022 comparative information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statement as a whole for the year ended December 31, 2022, on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

Knudsen, Monroe & Company, LLC

Certified Public Accountants

Newton, Kansas
March 6, 2024

Equus Beds Groundwater Management District No. 2

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURES AND UNENCUMBERED CASH
Regulatory Basis

For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Fund	Beginning Unencumbered Cash Balance	Receipts	Expenditures	Ending Unencumbered Cash Balance	Add Encumbrances and Accounts Payable	Ending Cash Balance
General	$ 846,959	649,331	580,927	915,363	12,026	927,389

Composition of Cash:

The Halstead Bank:	
Checking	$ 927,389

The notes to the financial statement are an integral part of this statement.

Equus Beds Groundwater Management District No. 2

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT

December 31, 2023

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Municipal Financial Reporting Entity

The Equus Beds Groundwater Management District No. 2 (District) was formed in 1974 as authorized by K.S.A. 82a-1020, et seq., to promote conservation and local management of the groundwater reserves found in the Equus Beds aquifer. The Equus Beds aquifer is located in south-central Kansas in an approximately 1,400-square-mile area within Harvey, Sedgwick, McPherson, and Reno counties.

The District is a local government entity primarily funded through property assessments and governed by a locally elected board of directors.

Regulatory Basis Fund Type

General Fund – used to account for all resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

Regulatory Basis of Accounting and Departure from Accounting Principles Generally Accepted in the United States of America

The *Kansas Municipal Audit and Accounting Guide* (KMAAG) regulatory basis of accounting involves the recognition of cash, cash equivalents, marketable investments, and certain accounts payable and encumbrance obligations to arrive at a net unencumbered cash and investments balance on a regulatory basis for each fund, and the reporting of changes in unencumbered cash and investments of a fund resulting from the difference in regulatory basis receipts and regulatory basis expenditures for the fiscal year. All recognized assets and liabilities are measured and reported at cost, unless they have been permanently impaired and have no future cash value or represent no future obligation against cash. The KMAAG regulatory basis does not recognize capital assets, long-term debt, accrued receivables and payables, or any other assets, liabilities or deferred inflows or outflows, other than those mentioned above.

The District has approved a resolution that is in compliance with K.S.A. 75-1120a(c), waiving the requirement for application of generally accepted accounting principles and allowing the District to use the regulatory basis of accounting.

Budgetary Information

Kansas statutes require that before any assessment is made, or user charge imposed, the Board shall submit the proposed budget for the ensuing year to the eligible voters of the District at a hearing called for that purpose by one publication in a newspaper or newspapers of general circulation within the District at least 28 days prior to the meeting. Following the hearing, the Board shall, by resolution, adopt either the proposed budget or a modified budget and determine the amount of land assessment or user charge, or both, needed to support such budget.

The Board can increase the originally adopted budget for previously unbudgeted increases in revenue. There were no budget amendments for the year ended December 31, 2023.

The statutes permit transferring budgeted amounts between line items within an individual fund. However, such statutes prohibit expenditures in excess of the total amount of the adopted budget of expenditures of individual funds. A budget comparison schedule is presented for the general fund showing actual receipts and expenditures compared to legally budgeted receipts and expenditures.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

The legal annual operating budget is prepared using the regulatory basis of accounting, in which regulatory receipts are recognized when cash is received and expenditures include disbursements, accounts payable, and encumbrances, with disbursements being adjusted for the prior year's accounts payable and encumbrances. Encumbrances are commitments by the District for future payments and are supported by a document evidencing the commitment, such as a purchase order or contract. Any unused budgeted expenditure authority lapses at year end.

2. STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Compliance with Kansas Statutes

Management is not aware of any statutory violation incurred during the year ended December 31, 2023.

3. DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

K.S.A. 9-1401 establishes the depositories which may be used by the District. The statute requires banks eligible to hold the District's funds have a main or branch bank in the county in which the District is located, or in an adjoining county if such institution has been designated as an official depository, and the banks provide an acceptable rate of return on funds. In addition, K.S.A. 9-1402 requires the banks to pledge securities for deposits in excess of FDIC coverage. The District has no other policies that would further limit interest rate risk.

K.S.A. 12-1675 limits the District's investment of idle funds to time deposits, open accounts, and certificates of deposit with allowable financial institutions; U.S. government securities; temporary notes; no-fund warrants; repurchase agreements; and the Kansas Municipal Investment Pool. The District has no investment policy that would further limit its investment choices.

Concentration of Credit Risk

State statutes place no limit on the amount the District may invest in any one issuer as long as the investments are adequately secured under K.S.A. 9-1402 and 9-1405.

Custodial Credit Risk - Deposits

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the District's deposits may not be returned to it. State statutes require the District's deposits in financial institutions to be entirely covered by federal depository insurance or by collateral held under a joint custody receipt issued by a bank within the State of Kansas, the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, or the Federal Home Loan Bank of Topeka. All deposits were legally secured at December 31, 2023.

At December 31, 2023, the carrying amount of the District's deposits was $927,389 and the bank balance was $929,008. The bank balance was held by one bank resulting in a concentration of credit risk. Of the bank balance, $250,000 was covered by federal depository insurance and the remaining $679,008 was collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's agents in the District's name.

4. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN

Plan Description

The District participates in the Kansas Public Employees Retirement System (KPERS), a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan as provided by K.S.A. 74-4901, et. seq. Kansas law establishes and amends benefit provisions. KPERS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. KPERS' financial statements are included in its Annual Comprehensive Financial Report which can be found on the KPERS website at www.kpers.org or by writing to KPERS (611 South Kansas, Suite 100, Topeka, KS 66603) or by calling 1-888-275-5737.

Contributions

K.S.A. 74-4919 and K.S.A. 74-49,210 establish the KPERS member-employee contribution rates. KPERS has multiple benefit structures and contribution rates depending on whether the employee is a KPERS 1, KPERS 2 or KPERS 3 member. KPERS 1 members are active and contributing members hired before July 1, 2009. KPERS 2 members were first employed in a covered position on or after July 1, 2009, and KPERS 3 members were first employed in a covered position on or after January 1, 2015. Effective January 1, 2015, Kansas law established the KPERS member-employee contribution rate at 6% of covered salary for KPERS 1, KPERS 2 and KPERS 3 members. Member contributions are withheld by their employer and paid to KPERS according to the provisions of Section 414(h) of the Internal Revenue Code.

State law provides that the employer contribution rates for KPERS 1, KPERS 2 and KPERS 3 be determined based on the results of each annual actuarial valuation. Kansas law sets a limitation on annual increases in the employer contribution rates. The actuarially determined employer contribution rate (not including the 1% contribution rate for the Death and Disability Program) and the statutory contribution rate was 8.43% for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023. Contributions to the pension plan from the District were $25,927 for the year ended December 31, 2023.

Net Pension Liability

At December 31, 2023, the District's proportionate share of the collective net pension liability reported by KPERS was $292,993. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2023, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2022, which was rolled forward to June 30, 2023. The District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the ratio of the District's contributions to KPERS, relative to the total employer and non-employer contributions of the Local subgroup within KPERS. Since the KMAAG regulatory basis of accounting does not recognize long-term debt, this liability is not reported in this financial statement.

The complete actuarial valuation report including all actuarial assumptions and methods, and the report on the allocation of the KPERS collective net pension liability to all participating employers are publicly available on the website at www.kpers.org or can be obtained as described above.

5. OTHER LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS FROM OPERATIONS

Death and Disability Other Post-Employment Benefits

As provided by K.S.A. 74-4927, disabled members in the Kansas Public Employees Retirement System (KPERS) receive long-term disability benefits and life insurance benefits. The plan is administered through a trust held by KPERS that is funded to pay annual benefit payments. The employer contribution rate is set at 1% for the year ended December 31, 2023.

Other Employee Benefits

All employees earn 10 days of paid time off (PTO) per year for the first three years of employment; 15 days after three years of employment; 20 days after six years of employment; 25 days after 12 years of employment; 30 days after 18 years of employment; and 35 days after 24 years of employment. The maximum carryover is two-times their applicable annual accrual. Unused PTO is paid to employees upon termination. Unused PTO, with an estimated cost of $42,309, has not been recorded as a liability in the accompanying financial statement.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

The District is exposed to various risks of loss relating to torts; thefts of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The District obtains coverage from commercial insurance companies in order to effectively manage risk. There have been no significant reductions in coverage from the prior year and settlements have not exceeded coverage in the past three years.

During the ordinary course of its operations, the District is a party to potential claims, legal actions and complaints. It is the opinion of the District's management and legal counsel that these matters are not anticipated to have a material financial effect on the District.

7. MANAGEMENT'S DATE OF REVIEW

Management has performed an analysis of the activities and transactions subsequent to December 31, 2023, to determine the need for any adjustments to and/or disclosures within the audited financial statement. Management has performed their analysis through March 6, 2024, which is the date at which the financial statement was available to be issued.

EQUUS BEDS GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT NO. 2

REGULATORY–REQUIRED
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

SCHEDULE 1

Equus Beds Groundwater Management District No. 2

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES – ACTUAL AND BUDGET
Regulatory Basis

For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Fund	Certified Budget	Adjustments for Qualifying Budget Credits	Total Budget for Comparison	Expenditures Chargeable to Current Year	Variance - Over (Under)
General Fund	$ 817,279	-	817,279	580,927	(236,352)

Equus Beds Groundwater Management District No. 2

General Fund

SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES – ACTUAL AND BUDGET
Regulatory Basis

For the Year Ended December 31, 2023
(With Comparative Actual Totals for the Prior Year Ended December 31, 2022)

		Current Year		
	Prior Year Actual	Actual	Budget	Variance - Over (Under)
Receipts				
Water user fees and assessments	$ 585,653	557,129	558,031	(902)
Sales, service fees and other	30,870	37,499	45,000	(7,501)
Interest	19,476	54,703	500	54,203
Total receipts	635,999	649,331	603,531	45,800
Expenditures				
Salaries and benefits	368,797	394,065	375,179	18,886
Transportation	7,641	9,515	15,500	(5,985)
Administration	108,382	96,188	304,100	(207,912)
Water management projects	32,154	81,159	122,500	(41,341)
Total expenditures	516,974	580,927	817,279	(236,352)
Receipts over (under) expenditures	119,025	68,404		
Unencumbered cash, Beginning	727,934	846,959		
Unencumbered cash, Ending	$ 846,959	915,363		