JOINT LEGISLATIVE AUDITING COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY February 10, 2025

Members in attendance:

Senator Jay Collins, Chair
Representative Chip LaMarca, Vice Chair
Senator Jason Brodeur
Representative Kimberly Daniels
Senator Tracie Davis
Representative Peggy Gossett-Seidman
Representative Sam Greco
Representative Yvonne Hayes Hinson
Senator Stan McClain
Senator Jason W. B. Pizzo
Senator Tom A. Wright
Representative Taylor Michael Yarkosky

Senator Corey Simon was excused Representative Rachel Saunders Plakon was excused

Presentation of the Auditor General's operational audit of the City of Mexico Beach and response from the City

Derek Noonan, Audit Manager with the Auditor General's Office, presented the findings from the Auditor General's operational audit of the City of Mexico Beach (Report Number 2025-095) and answered members' questions.

The following individuals from the City of Mexico Beach were present, spoke to the Committee, and answered the Committee's questions:

Rich Wolff, Mayor Chris Truitt, City Administrator Tammy Brunson, City Clerk

The following individuals from the City of Mexico Beach were present:

Mike Snyder, Finance Director Juli Danaher, Executive Assistant

The Committee is expected to consider taking action against local governmental entities that have failed to file an annual financial report and/or annual financial audit report (if required) in accordance with ss. 218.32(1) and 218.39, F.S.

Chair Collins called on Debbie White, CPA, Chief Legislative Analyst with the Committee, to explain the lists of local governmental entities that have not filed required financial reports.

Below are the lists of the local governmental entities that, as of the time of the meeting, had failed to submit an Annual Financial Report (AFR) and/or an annual financial audit report for one or more fiscal years and the staff's recommendations. Unless otherwise stated, the delinquent financial reports below are for the 2022-23 fiscal year.

List 1: Counties

| Name | Staff Recommendation |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Baker County | Take action if delinquent financial reports not received |
| Jefferson County | by 3/31/2025 |
| Total Number of Counties: 2 | |

List 2: Municipalities

| Name | County | Staff Recommendation |
|---------------------------|------------|---|
| Town of Altha | Calhoun | Take action if delinquent financial |
| Town of Bell | Gilchrist | report(s) not received by 2/28/2025 |
| City of Blountstown | Calhoun | report(s) not received by 2/20/2025 |
| City of Brooksville | Hernando | Take action if delinquent financial |
| City of Crescent City | Putnam | reports not received by 3/31/2025 |
| City of Dade City | Pasco | Take action if delinquent financial reports not received by 4/30/2025 |
| Village of El Portal | Miami-Dade | |
| City of Gretna | Gadsden | Take action if delinquent financial |
| Town of Havana | Gadsden | reports not received by 2/28/2025 |
| City of Hawthorne | Alachua | 10ports nev10001/04 by 2/20/2025 |
| City of Hialeah Gardens | Miami-Dade | |
| City of High Springs | Alachua | Take action if delinquent financial reports not received by 4/30/2025 |
| Town of Hillcrest Heights | Polk | Take action if delinquent financial report not received by 3/31/2025 |
| Village of Indiantown | Martin | T-1 |
| City of Jacob City | Jackson | Take action if delinquent financial report(s) not received by 2/28/2025 |
| Town of Lake Park | Palm Beach | report(s) not received by 2/25/2025 |
| City of Lake Worth Beach | Palm Beach | Take action if delinquent financial reports not received by 3/31/2025 |
| Town of Manalapan | Palm Beach | Take action if delinquent financial reports not received by 5/30/2025 |
| Town of Mangonia Park | Palm Beach | Take action if delinquent financial |
| City of Mexico Beach | Bay | report(s) not received by 2/28/2025 |
| Village of Miami Shores | Miami-Dade | 10poin(3) not received by 2/20/2023 |
| City of Moore Haven | Glades | Take action if delinquent financial reports not received by 3/31/2025 |
| City of Neptune Beach | Duval | Take action if delinquent financial |
| City of New Port Richey | Pasco | report(s) not received by 2/28/2025 |
| Town of Noma | Holmes | |

| Name | County | Staff Recommendation |
|------------------------------------|--------------|---|
| City of North Bay Village | Miami-Dade | Take action if delinquent financial reports not received by 3/31/2025 |
| City of Palatka | Putnam | |
| City of Quincy | Gadsden | |
| Town of Raiford | Union | |
| City of Safety Harbor | Pinellas | Take action if delinquent financial |
| City of Vero Beach | Indian River | report(s) not received by 2/28/2025 |
| Town of Wausau | Washington | |
| Town of Welaka | Putnam | |
| Town of Westville | Holmes | |
| Total Number of Municipalities: 34 | | |

List 3: Special Districts (Independent)

| Name | County / Creation Method | Staff Recommendation |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| Abbott Square Community Development District | Pasco / Local Ordinance | |
| Belmond Reserve Community | Hillsborough / Local | |
| Development District | Ordinance | |
| Bobcat Trail Community Development | Sarasota / Local | |
| District | Ordinance | |
| Buckhead Trails II Community | Manatee / Local | |
| Development District | Ordinance | |
| CC Community Development District | Lee / Local Ordinance | |
| Concorde Estates Community | Osceola / Local | |
| Development District | Ordinance | |
| Duval Soil and Water Conservation District | Duval / General Law | |
| Eastpoint Water and Sewer District | Franklin / Special Act | |
| Florida Crown Workforce Board, Inc. | Union, Dixie, Gilchrist, and Columbia / General Law | Take action if delinquent financial |
| Grand Oaks Community Development District | St. Johns / Local Ordinance | report(s) not received by 2/28/2025 |
| Haines City Water Control District | Polk / General Law | |
| Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District | Hamilton / General Law | |
| Hammock Bay Community Development | Walton / Local | |
| District | Ordinance | |
| Harvest Ridge Community Development District | Pasco / Local Ordinance | |
| Heights Community Development | Hillsborough / Local | |
| District, The | Ordinance | |
| Highland Meadows II Community Development District | Polk / Local Ordinance | |
| Hilltop Point Community Development District | Pasco / Local Ordinance | |
| Mirabella Community Development District | Hillsborough / Local Ordinance | |

| Name | County / Creation Method | Staff Recommendation |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| Oaks at Shady Creek Community | Hillsborough / Local | |
| Development District | Ordinance | Take action if delinquent financial |
| Orange Hill Soil and Water Conservation District | Washington / General Law | report(s) not received by 2/28/2025 |
| Pebble Ridge Community Development District | Polk / Local Ordinance | Due to the lack of a registered agent and office, take action upon the filing of a registered agent or office if filed by 12/10/2025. Otherwise, declare District inactive in accordance with Section 189.062, Florida Statutes. |
| Riverbend West Community Development District | Hillsborough / Local Ordinance | |
| Santa Fe Soil and Water Conservation District | Columbia / General Law | |
| Sawgrass Village Community | Manatee / Local | |
| Development District | Ordinance | |
| Seaton Creek Reserve Community Development District | Duval / Local Ordinance | |
| Sherwood Manor Community Development District | Hillsborough / Local Ordinance | |
| South Fork III Community Development | Hillsborough / Local | Take action if delinquent financial |
| District | Ordinance | report(s) not received by 2/28/2025 |
| Southern Hills Plantation II Community Development District | Hernando / Local Ordinance | , |
| St. Johns County Airport Authority | St. Johns / Special Act | |
| Suncoast Community Development District | Pasco / Local Ordinance | |
| Touchstone Community Development | Hillsborough / Local | |
| District | Ordinance | |
| Waccasassa Water and Wastewater Cooperative | Levy / General Law | |
| West Hillcrest Community Development District | Pasco / Local Ordinance | |
| Total Number of Special Districts (Independent): 33 | | |

List 4: Special Districts (Dependent)

| Name | County / Creation | Staff Recommendation |
|--|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | Method | |
| Arlington Special Dependent District | Hillsborough / Local | |
| Armigion Special Dependent District | Ordinance | Take action if delinquent financial |
| City of Brooksville Community | Hernando / Local | report(s) not received by 2/28/2025 |
| Redevelopment Agency | Ordinance | |
| City of Crescent City Community | Putnam / Local | |
| Redevelopment Agency | Ordinance | |
| City of Moore Haven Affordable Housing | Glades / Local | Take action if delinquent financial |
| Finance Authority | Ordinance | report(s) not received by 3/31/2025 |
| City of Moore Haven Redevelopment | Glades / Local | |
| Agency | Ordinance | |

| Name | County / Creation Method | Staff Recommendation |
|---|-----------------------------------|--|
| Columbia County Industrial Development Authority | Columbia / General Law | Take action if delinquent financial report(s) not received by 2/28/2025 |
| Community Redevelopment Agency of the Town of Havana | Gadsden / Local Ordinance | No action on the special district since the Town of Havana is responsible for submitting the Agency's AFR. [Note: Take action on Town of Havana if delinquent financial report not received by 2/28/2025.] |
| Community Redevelopment Agency of the Town of Lake Park | Palm Beach / Local Ordinance | No action on the special district since the Town of Lake Park is responsible for submitting the Agency's AFR. [Note: Take action on Town of Lake Park if delinquent financial report not received by 2/28/2025.] |
| Dade City Community Redevelopment Agency | Pasco / Local Ordinance | Take action if delinquent financial reports not received by 4/30/2025 |
| Deerfield Beach Community Redevelopment Agency | Broward / Local Ordinance | No action on the special district since the City of Deerfield Beach is responsible for submitting the Agency's AFR. [Note: Take action on City of Deerfield Beach if delinquent financial report not received by 2/28/2025.] |
| Dorcas Fire District | Okaloosa / Special Act | Accept the report prepared by the Clerk of Court's office in lieu of the FY 2022-23 audit and take no state action regarding such. Take action if FY 2022-23 AFR not received by 3/31/2025. |
| Gretna Neighborhood Improvement District | Gadsden / Local Ordinance | No action on the special district since the City of Gretna is responsible for submitting the District's AFR. [Note: Take action on City of Gretna if delinquent financial report(s) not received by 2/28/2025.] |
| Hawthorne Community Redevelopment Agency | Alachua / Local Ordinance | Take action if delinquent financial |
| Hickory Hill Special Dependent Tax District | Hillsborough / Local Ordinance | report(s) not received by 2/28/2025 |
| High Springs Community Redevelopment Agency | Alachua / Local Ordinance | Take action if delinquent financial reports not received by 4/30/2025 |
| Highlands County Industrial Development Authority | Highlands / General Law | Take action if delinquent financial report(s) not received by 2/28/2025 |
| Lake Worth Beach Community Redevelopment Agency | Palm Beach / Local Ordinance | No action on the special district since the City of Lake Worth Beach is responsible for submitting the Agency's AFR. [Note: Take action |

| Name | County / Creation Method | Staff Recommendation |
|---|-------------------------------|--|
| Lake Worth Beach Community Redevelopment Agency (continued) | | on City of Lake Worth Beach if delinquent financial report not received by 3/31/2025.] |
| Millers Creek Special District | Duval / Local Ordinance | Take action if delinquent financial report not received by 2/28/2025 |
| Moore Haven Capital Projects Finance Authority | Glades / Local Ordinance | Take action if delinquent financial reports not received by 3/31/2025 |
| New Port Richey Community Redevelopment Agency | Pasco / Local Ordinance | Take action if delinquent financial reports not received by 2/28/2025 |
| Quincy Community Redevelopment Agency | Gadsden / Local Ordinance | No action on the special district since the City of Quincy is responsible for submitting the Agency's AFR. [Note: Take action on City of Quincy if delinquent financial report not received by 2/28/2025.] |
| Safety Harbor Community Redevelopment Agency | Pinellas / Local Ordinance | Take action if delinquent financial reports not received by 2/28/2025 |
| Total Number of Special Districts (Dependent): 22 | | |

List 5: Take No Action or Continue to Delay Action

| Name | County / | Staff Recommendation |
|--|--------------------------|--|
| | Creation Method | |
| Campbellton-Graceville Hospital District | Jackson / Special Act | Continue to delay state action on prior year delinquent financial reports and delay state action on FY 2022-23 delinquent financial reports because the Department of Commerce is in the process of declaring the District inactive. |
| Total Number of Special Districts: 1 | | |

Senator McClain moved that the Committee accept staff recommendations for the counties, municipalities, and special districts on Lists 1 through 5, and direct staff to contact the Department of Revenue and the Department of Financial Services or FloridaCommerce, as appropriate, and direct them to proceed according to the provisions of Section 11.40(2), Florida Statutes. He further moved that the Chair, with the consent of the Vice Chair, be permitted to delay action against the entities on Lists 1 through 4 if additional information is brought to their attention that should be considered in determining the effective date of the Committee's action. Staff shall deliver a copy of any such decision to the members of the Committee, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House.

Motion was adopted unanimously.

Note: For additional details, see the Committee <u>Meeting Packet</u> for February 10, 2025, pages 34-89.

Consideration of the Department of the Lottery's audit for the 2024-25 fiscal year

Chair Collins discussed directing the audit of the Department of the Lottery.

Representative Gossett-Siedman moved that the Committee direct the Auditor General and OPPAGA to conduct the audit of the Department of the Lottery for the 2024-25 fiscal year. The Auditor General will be responsible for the financial statements, internal control, and compliance issues. The Auditor General may also use her discretion to include operational topics. OPPAGA will be responsible for developing recommendations to enhance the earning capability of the lottery and to improve the efficiency of the department's operations.

Motion was adopted unanimously.

With no further business before the Committee, Senator Wright moved to adjourn.