



**East Arkansas Planning & Development District  
Board of Directors Agenda  
Thursday, March 12, 2026  
11:00 am**

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. President Comments
4. EAPDD Minutes 12-11-25
5. EAPDD Financial Statements – July 1, 2025 to January 31, 2026
6. EAPDD Department Reports/Items
  - a. Financial Services
  - b. ECD Services
  - c. WIOA Services
7. EAPDD Audit ending 06-30-25
8. Community Awareness - Ebony Mitchell, Arkansas Advanced Energy Association
9. EAPDD Board Vacancy – Mississippi County Judge
10. Administrative Update
11. Other Business
12. Adjourn

Next Meeting Date: Thursday, June 11, 2026.

Meeting dates and packets are also available at <https://www.eapdd.org/meetings>.

**East Arkansas Planning & Development District  
Board Meeting Minutes  
12-11-25  
11 a.m.  
2905 King St, Jonesboro, AR 72401**

**Agenda Item 1. Call to Order**

President Hobbs called the meeting to order.

**Agenda Item 2. Roll Call**

The Roll Call was as follows:

Name	Present	Absent
Barnhill, Judge Gary	X	
Blake, Judge Lynn	X	
Brick, Mayor Tracy		X
Bryant, Mayor Larry		X
Carter, Judge J.C.	X	
Day, Judge Marvin	X	
Futrell, Mayor Keith	X	
Hicks-Gilbert, Mayor Lisa		X
Hobbs, Mayor Jennifer	X	
Hunter, Bevin	X	
Johnson, Mayor Danny	X	
Jones, Judge Craig	X	
McCollum, Mayor Charles	X	
McMillon, Judge Rusty	X	
Neill, Mayor Dianne	X	
Nelson, Judge John A.		X
Patterson, Judge Mike	X	
Sandfer, Judge Terry	X	
Shaw, Mayor Dan	X	
Sisco, Mayor Emily	X	
Snapp, Mayor Charles	X	
Stevens, Mayor Ora		X
Wheeless, Judge Woody	X	
Wicker, Judge Ben	X	
Vacancy – Helena/West Helena		X
Total	19	6

There was a quorum.

**Agenda Item 3 – President Comments**

President Hobbs welcomed everyone to the meeting. President Hobbs addressed the letter from the Prosecuting Attorney's office that was included in the packet. The letter closes the Arkansas Legislative Audit of EAPDD, and no further action is required.

**Agenda Item 4 – EAPDD Minutes – 09-11-25**

President Hobbs said the minutes were included in the packet and would entertain a motion to accept the minutes as presented.

**Judge Patterson moved to accept the minutes as presented. Judge Wheelless seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Agenda Item 5. EAPDD Financial Statements**

President Hobbs recognized Brent Cassady to present the EAPDD Financial Statements – Expenditures – July 1, 2025 to October 31, 2025.

Brent provided an overview of the expenditures from the current fiscal year.

**Mayor Neill moved to accept the financial statements as presented. Mayor McCollum seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Agenda Item 6. EAPDD Department Reports/Items**

President Hobbs recognized each department to make a report.

- a. Financial Services – Mike Willyerd presented on Financial Services. A summary of current loans, available lending funds, loan applications received, and outreach efforts was provided.
- b. ECD Services - Sara Stocker presented on ECD Services. A summary of the project totals by agency, the latest news, important information, the latest awards, and the year in review was provided.
- c. WIOA Services – Charlotte Rose presented on WIOA Services. A summary of the number of participants by occupational skills training, supportive services, and work experience was provided.

**The agenda item was informational only, and no motion was required.**

**Agenda Item 7. Celebration of the United States' 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary**

President Hobbs recognized Judge Dale James and Ebony Mitchell to present on the celebration of the United States' 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**The agenda item was informational only, and no motion was required.**

**Agenda Item 8. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Plan**

President Hobbs recognized James to present on the CEDS plan. James stated the CEDS plan was a mandated document by the Economic Development Administration (EDA). This plan serves as a reference for economic conditions, development strategies, and other projects across the 12-county district.

**Judge Day moved to accept the CEDS Plan as presented. Mayor Snapp seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Agenda Item 9. Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Plan**

President Hobbs recognized James to present on the RLF plan. James stated the RLF plan provides policies and procedures to guide the economic development activities assisted with funds made available by EAPDD's CARES RLF program. The CARES RLF program is funded by EDA for the 12-county district.

**Judge Day moved to accept the RLF Plan as presented. Mayor Snapp seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Agenda Item 10. EAPDD Board Vacancy – Helena-West Helena Mayor**

President Hobbs stated that the Governor has appointed Joseph Whitfield as the new mayor for Helena-West Helena.

**Judge Wheelless moved to appoint Joseph Whitfield to the EAPDD Board. Judge Blake seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Agenda Item 11. EAPDD Administrative Updates**

President Hobbs recognized James to present. The board was notified of the following items:

1. EAPDD website updates – New information has been added to provide municipalities with meaningful resources to serve their community.
2. Staff Training Across All Departments – Focus is being placed on training staff in the various Federal and State agencies. With the ongoing changes, it is crucial for staff to be well-versed in the new laws and regulations.
3. Accounting Manual Review and Updates – EAPDD has been reviewing the possibility of engaging a third-party to assist with the manual.

**The agenda item was informational only, and no motion was required.**

**Agenda Item 12. Other Business**

President Hobbs asked the board if there was any other business.

**No other business was discussed.**

**Agenda Item 13. Adjourn**

President Hobbs asked if there was a motion to adjourn.

**Mayor McCollum moved to adjourn the meeting. Judge Wheelless seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

The next Board meeting dates will be emailed to the EAPDD members after finalization.

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President's Signature & Date



108 E. Huntington, Ave., Jonesboro AR 72401 PH 870.932.1755

East Arkansas Planning & Development District  
Board of Directors,

The accompanying financial statements of the East Arkansas Planning & Development District for the period July 1, 2025 through January 31, 2026 were not subjected to an audit, review, or compilation engagement by me and, accordingly, I do not express an opinion, a conclusion, nor provide any assurance on them.

Brent G. Cassady, CPA, PLLC

March 2, 2026

**East Arkansas Planning & Development District  
Statement of Financial Position**

**Modified Cash Basis  
As of January 31, 2026**

<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
<b>Checking/Savings</b>	
11100 · EAPDD Operating	\$ 262,978.02
11310 · Revolving Loan Fund	983,344.78
11315 · Revolving Loan Fund - CARES Act	462,840.62
11325 · WIOA Program	533.28
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<u>1,709,696.70</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u>1,709,696.70</u>
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	
15000 · Building & Equipment	1,308,186.83
15500 · Accumulated Depreciation	(749,430.00)
<b>Net Fixed Assets</b>	<u>558,756.83</u>
<b>Other Assets</b>	
17310 · N/R - EDA-RLF	478,180.13
17315 · N/R - CARES Act RLF	1,155,653.12
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<u>1,633,833.25</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u><u>\$ 3,902,286.78</u></u>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
Credit Cards Payable	\$ 1,053.90
24000 · Payroll Liabilities	8,849.29
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<u>9,903.19</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u>9,903.19</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>	
31000 · Net assets with Donor Restrictions	3,080,551.93
32000 · Net Assets without Donor Restrictions	811,831.66
<b>Net Assets</b>	<u>3,892,383.59</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</b>	<u><u>\$ 3,902,286.78</u></u>

See Accountant's Disclaimer

Substantially all disclosures ordinarily included in financial statements prepared in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting are not included.

**East Arkansas Planning & Development District**  
**Statement of Activities**  
**Modified Cash Basis**  
**July 1, 2025 through January 31, 2026**

	Operations	E&CD	FS	WIOA	TOTAL
<b>Revenue</b>					
43501 · WIOA Grants	-	-	-	616,766.60	616,766.60
43600 · SHRM Admin Fee		-		10,500.00	10,500.00
43900 · DRA Technical Assistance	-	12,098.00	-	-	12,098.00
44100 · State	33,750.00	-	-	-	33,750.00
44400 · Interest on RLF Loans	55,642.32	-	69,901.52	-	125,543.84
44410 · RLF - Other Income	-	-	1,199.48	-	1,199.48
44610 · AEDC Grant Management		155,417.50	-		155,417.50
44640 · EDA Grant Administration		17,455.00	-		17,455.00
44650 · DRA Grant Administration	-	48,103.14	-	-	48,103.14
44800 · Interest Income	5,793.05	-	25,652.56	0.35	31,445.96
44900 · Miscellaneous Income	5,000.00	-	-	-	5,000.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>100,185.37</b>	<b>233,073.64</b>	<b>96,753.56</b>	<b>627,266.95</b>	<b>1,057,279.52</b>
<b>Expense</b>					
60120 · Wages	-	95,659.42	49,621.68	376,489.10	521,770.20
60122 · Payroll Tax Expense	203.71	7,393.44	3,822.20	28,919.10	40,338.45
60124 · Workers' Comp Insurance	2,373.16	-	-	-	2,373.16
60126 · Insurance - Group Medical	8,097.29	24,772.24	2,159.52	35,589.11	70,618.16
60128 · Retirement Plan Expense	4,341.34	3,826.36	1,984.79	6,117.87	16,270.36
60140 · Travel and Meetings	2,957.11	2,553.55	-	486.95	5,997.61
60142 · Mileage reimbursements	329.40	179.20	380.10	6,519.98	7,408.68
60144 · Fuel	-	614.32	-	-	614.32
60150 · Printing and Copying	1,280.75	1,693.48	-	98.74	3,072.97
60160 · Supplies	2,941.03	565.52	36.88	382.60	3,926.03
60170 · Advertising	94.24	-	-	-	94.24
60175 · Bank fees	367.01	-	583.27	282.37	1,232.65
60180 · Dues & Registrations	1,400.00	3,400.00	-	-	4,800.00
60190 · Contract Services	-	-	-	11,270.00	11,270.00
60230 · Legal Fees - Other	1,170.00	60.00	4,299.40	210.00	5,739.40
70120 · Accounting & Auditing	17,059.95	1,750.00	6,311.80	7,841.50	32,963.25
70130 · Insurance - General	13,899.78	-	2,311.11	217.08	16,427.97
70140 · Books, Subscriptions, Reference	2,893.52	27.85	19.00	711.89	3,652.26
70150 · Postage & Shipping	-	33.40	-	-	33.40
70160 · Repairs & Maintenance	2,120.79	106.44	70.53	703.21	3,000.97
70170 · Building Repairs & Maintenance	2,350.28	-	-	-	2,350.28
70180 · Telephone, Telecommunications	5,618.08	-	-	3,799.31	9,417.39
70185 · Telephone - Cellular	63.52	127.04	-	-	190.56
70220 · Utilities	2,380.47	-	274.26	264.54	2,919.27
70230 · Rent - Office Space	-	-	-	5,520.24	5,520.24
70240 · Miscellaneous Taxes & Fees	-	28.00	-	-	28.00
70270 · Marketing	-	-	5,000.00	-	5,000.00
70290 · System Upgrades	5,284.56	541.42	-	-	5,825.98
70310 · Individual Training Accounts	-	-	-	33,034.00	33,034.00
70320 · Supportive Services	-	-	-	18,334.32	18,334.32
<b>Total Direct Expense</b>	<b>77,225.99</b>	<b>143,331.68</b>	<b>76,874.54</b>	<b>536,791.91</b>	<b>834,224.12</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>22,959.38</b>	<b>89,741.96</b>	<b>9,947.79</b>	<b>9,947.79</b>	<b>132,596.92</b>
60820 · Indirect P/R expense applied	-	18,814.23	9,701.45	34,039.97	62,555.65
70830 · Indirect costs applied	(77,225.99)	23,179.11	12,308.03	41,738.85	-
<b>Total 70800 · Allocated Indirect Costs</b>	<b>(77,225.99)</b>	<b>41,993.34</b>	<b>22,009.48</b>	<b>75,778.82</b>	<b>62,555.65</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>185,325.02</b>	<b>98,884.02</b>	<b>612,570.73</b>	<b>896,779.77</b>
<b>YTD Revenue over (under) expense</b>	<b>100,185.37</b>	<b>47,748.62</b>	<b>(2,130.46)</b>	<b>14,696.22</b>	<b>160,499.75</b>

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# Financial Services

## March 2026

### SUMMARY

July 2025 - January 2026

- **Active Cares Act RLF Loans**  
Total **\$1,155,653**
- **Active Original RLF Loans**  
Total **\$478,188**
- **CARES RLF Available for Lending**  
Total **\$462,840**
- **Original RLF Available for Lending**  
Total **\$1,015,476**
- **Loan Applications Received**  
Total **7**



### FINANCIAL SERVICES UPDATES

- Completed outreach and meetings with Chambers of Commerce in all 12 counties.
- Continued collaboration with the Arkansas State Small Business and Technology Development Center (ASBTDC) on business plans, workshops, and referrals.
- Expanded networking through the Delta Center for Economic Development's Leadership in Banking Series.
- Continuing to strengthen relationships with regional bank leaders.
- Enrolled in the Delta Center for Economic Development's Leadership Class.
- EDA has approved the RLF plan.
- The Loan Committee has been established and will convene in the near future.

### FINANCIAL SERVICES INFORMATION

East Arkansas Planning & Development District is dedicated to be a source of funding for start-up and growth of small businesses throughout Northeast Arkansas. EAPDD is dedicated to providing assistance to existing small businesses and cultivating a supportive culture for new startup businesses. The development of businesses owned by minorities and women is at the forefront of our initiative.

The Financial Services Division of the East Arkansas Planning & Development District is the home of the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) funded Revolving Loan Fund (RLF). The RLF exists for the purpose of lending to business entities who are unable to obtain financing through traditional means at competitive interest rates and flexible terms, in turn, creating or retaining jobs across our region.

### STAFF CONTACT

**Mike Willyerd**  
Financial Services Director / [mwillyerd@eapdd.com](mailto:mwillyerd@eapdd.com)

**For More Information, Visit:**  
[www.eapdd.com/financialservices](http://www.eapdd.com/financialservices)



# Economic & Community Development

## March 2026

### PROJECT TOTALS BY AGENCY

AEDC	27	\$13,367,911
DRA	22	\$18,267,639
EDA	5	\$11,690,402
ADEM	2	\$115,798
FEMA	3	\$691,342
DOT	2	\$999,000
PARKS	3	\$298,625
OTHER	1	\$51,700

**65**  
TOTAL PROJECTS

**\$45,482,417**  
TOTAL AGENCY INVESTMENTS



### LATEST NEWS

- **U.S. Economic Development Commission (EDA)**
  - Disaster Supplemental funding is available for the counties that received major disaster declarations in 2023 and 2024. Eligible counties for this funding are: Randolph, Poinsett, and Cross. Applications accepted on a rolling basis
  - Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance funding is available for all counties. Applications accepted on a rolling basis
- **Delta Regional Authority (DRA)**
  - The States Economic Development Assistance Program (SEDAP) and Community Infrastructure Fund (CIF) programs are currently closed. The CIF program is no longer on a rolling basis. Due dates for both programs are TBD.
    - CIF - \$500,000 - \$1,000,000 (Reduced from a previous maximum amount of \$2,000,000)
    - SEDAP - \$50,000 - \$500,000
- **Arkansas Economic Development Commission (AEDC)**
  - The Rural Services Block Grant and Community Development Block Grant program due dates are still to be determined
    - Rural Services Block Grant - for LMI eligible applicants with a population of 3,000 or less / Can apply up to \$100,000 with a 10% match
    - Community Development Block Grant - for LMI eligible applicants only / Minimum - \$75,000 / Maximum - \$500,000
- **Arkansas Department of Emergency Management (ADEM)**
  - The State Mitigation Grant Program is expected to open in April, May, or June. There will be a \$300,000 cap in state funding with a 25% matching share requirement. Eligible projects are still being determined. Previous projects included generators, sirens, drainage studies, culverts, and bridge repairs.
- The Rural Development Conference will be held at the Embassy Suites in Jonesboro, May 19 - 21, 2026

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Any city, county, or eligible entity applying for any federal or state funds MUST be registered in [Sam.gov](http://Sam.gov).
- **Rate Studies:** For any water or sewer projects, applicants MUST have a completed rate study and proof of implemented rate adjustments to be considered eligible for funding.
- **Arkansas Act 605:** All Water Service Providers must complete a rate study a minimum of every 5 years before any major development project. The upcoming deadline for providers that serve more than 1,000 customers is July 1, 2026.
- There have been no award announcements since the December 2025 board meeting. We anticipate that the AEDC CDBG awards will be announced at the end of March or early April

**Sara Stocker**

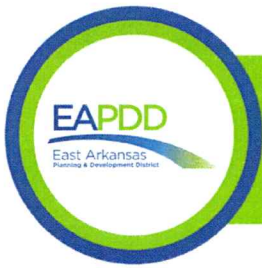
Economic & Community Development Manager  
sstocker@eapdd.com

**Courtney Nance**

Economic & Community Development Coordinator  
cnance@eapdd.com

**Miranda Sullens**

Economic & Community Development Coordinator  
msullens@eapdd.com



# WIOA Services

## March 2026

### PARTICIPANTS SERVED

July 2025 - January 2026



**64** Participants in Occupational Skills Training

Adults - 56  
Dislocated Workers - 8  
Youth - 0



**46** Participants in Supportive Services

Adults - 38  
Dislocated Workers - 8  
Youth - 0



**53** Participants in Work Experience

Adults - 27  
Dislocated Workers - 1  
Youth - 25

### WIOA SPOTLIGHT SUCCESS STORY

#### Lindsey Muse

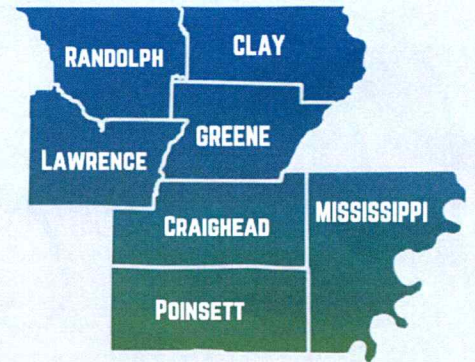
- WIOA Program: Adult
- Training Activities: Occupational Skills Training
- Training Provider: Arkansas Northeastern College
- Training Program: Licensed Practical Nursing
- Employer: Gosnell Health and Rehabilitation Center

Lindsey successfully completed the LPN training on June 27, 2025, passed her state boards, and secured full-time employment at Gosnell Health and Rehabilitation Center in Gosnell, AR. She is currently earning \$31.50 per hour. Lindsey is thankful for the opportunity to obtain a certificate that provides her with a high-demand skill and the ability to support her family long-term and achieve financial stability.



### AREA SERVED

The Northeast Arkansas Workforce Development Area (NEAWDA) comprises the following seven (7) counties:



### STAFF CONTACTS

**Charlotte Rose**

870-930-2165

crose@neaworks.com

**Teresa McDonald**

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**Jennifer McFarland**

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**Tanya McMillen**

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tmcmillen@neaworks.com

WIOA Application for services - <https://www.neaworks.com/application.html>

EAST ARKANSAS PLANNING AND  
DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, INC.  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
(AUDITED)  
JUNE 30, 2025

MEYER & WARD, P.A.  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS  
P.O. BOX 1045  
WYNNE, ARKANSAS 72396  
PHONE 870-238-7971, FAX 870-238-7972

EAST ARKANSAS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, INC.

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**Meyer & Ward, P.A.**  
**Certified Public Accountants**  
**P.O. Box 1045**  
**Wynne, AR 72396**

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

To the Board of Directors  
East Arkansas Planning and Development District, Inc.  
Jonesboro, Arkansas 72403

***Opinion***

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of East Arkansas Planning and Development District, Inc. (a nonprofit organization) which comprise the statement of financial position as of June 30, 2025, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of East Arkansas Planning and Development District, Inc. as of June 30, 2025, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

***Basis for Opinion***

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

***Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements***

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

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about East Arkansas Planning and Development District, Inc 's ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date the financial statements are available to be issued.

### ***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than 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 aggregate, they would influence the judgement made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform the audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion of the effectiveness of the East Arkansas Planning and Development District, Inc.'s internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgement, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Entity'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 financial statements as a whole. The accompanying supplementary information, consisting of the schedule of state financial assistance, schedule of employee benefits, the combining schedule of activities with donor restrictions and the schedule of expenditures of federal awards required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, as listed in the table of contents, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from, and relates directly to, the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the supplementary information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

### ***Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated January 21, 2026, on our consideration of the Organization's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization's internal control over financial reporting on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Organization's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Meyer & Ward

Meyer & Ward, P.A.  
Certified Public Accountants  
Wynne, Arkansas 72396

January 21, 2026

**EAST ARKANSAS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, INC.**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**FOR YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

ASSETS

<b>Current Assets:</b>	
Cash	\$ 251,444
Cash - restricted	1,269,994
Accounts receivable - (Programs/Grants)	242,386
Notes receivable - portion due in one year	242,637
Prepaid expense	<u>50</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>2,006,511</u>
<b>Property and Equipment:</b>	
Buildings and equipment	1,340,637
Less - accumulated depreciation	<u>(847,925)</u>
Net Property and Equipment	<u>492,712</u>
<b>Other Assets:</b>	
Notes receivable - net of current portion	<u>1,509,657</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u><b>\$ 4,008,880</b></u>

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

<b>Current Liabilities:</b>	
Accounts payable	\$ 70,102
Accrued and withheld payroll taxes	<u>9,512</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>79,614</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>	
Net Assets without donor restrictions	951,885
Net Assets with donor restrictions	<u>2,977,381</u>
Net Assets	<u>3,929,266</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<u><b>\$ 4,008,880</b></u>

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

**EAST ARKANSAS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, INC.**  
**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

<b>Revenues:</b>	<b>Without</b>	<b>With</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>Donor Restrictions</b>	<b>Donor Restrictions</b>	
Grants and Contracts			
Federal	\$ 944,215	\$ 136,426	\$ 1,080,641
State	60,000	-	60,000
Program Revenue	253,724	173,274	426,998
Contributions	29,741		29,741
Other revenue	136,457	-	136,457
Loss on disposal of assets	(13,648)		(13,648)
Net assets released from restrictions	281,177	(281,177)	-
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>1,691,666</b>	<b>28,523</b>	<b>1,720,189</b>
<b>Program Expenses</b>			
Economic and Community Development	234,255		234,255
Financial Services	140,372		140,372
WIOA	876,792		876,792
<b>Total Program Services</b>	<b>1,251,419</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,251,419</b>
<b>Supporting Services</b>			
Management & General	270,690	-	270,690
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1,522,109</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,522,109</b>
 Change in Net Assets	 169,557	 28,523	 198,080
Beginning Net Assets	782,328	2,948,858	3,731,186
Ending Net Assets	\$ 951,885	\$ 2,977,381	\$ 3,929,266

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

**EAST ARKANSAS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, INC.**  
**STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES**  
**FOR YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

	Economic & Community Development	Financial Services	WIOA	Management & General	Total
<b>Expenses</b>					
Salaries and Payroll Tax	\$ 173,364	\$ 50,230	\$ 590,020	\$ 90,435	\$ 904,049
Bad Debts		10,395			10,395
Employee Benefits	2,333	683	7,593		10,609
Insurance - Group	43,217	7,594	57,678		108,489
Depreciation				57,433	57,433
Travel	3,447	139	10,428	4,689	18,703
Printing	637	-	99	2,210	2,946
Supplies	73	1,215	3,647	4,661	9,596
Advertising		5,000		793	5,793
Miscellaneous		3,942	564	8,289	12,795
Dues and Registration				18,750	18,750
Legal Fees	450	29,980		4,510	34,940
Accounting & Auditing	8,908	17,695	12,775	32,202	71,580
Insurance		1,561	4,519	13,319	19,399
Postage				256	256
Repairs	394	10,129	2,596	12,809	25,928
Rent			8,488		8,488
Telephone	580		1,650	11,210	13,440
Education and Training	600	450	308		1,358
Individual Training Accounts			127,100		127,100
Supportive Services			48,531		48,531
Utilities		684	629	4,379	5,692
System Upgrades	252	675	167	4,745	5,839
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$ 234,255</b>	<b>\$ 140,372</b>	<b>\$ 876,792</b>	<b>\$ 270,690</b>	<b>\$ 1,522,109</b>

**EAST ARKANSAS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, INC.**  
**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
**FOR YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>	
Change in Net Assets	\$ 198,080
Adjustments to Reconcile Increase in Net Assets to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	
Loss on Sale of Assets	13,648
Depreciation	57,443
(Increase) Decrease In Accounts Receivable	(118,248)
Increase (Decrease) in :	
Accounts Payable	(17,406)
Accrued Payroll Tax Liability	5,703
Net Cash Provided (used) by Operating Activities	<u>139,220</u>
<b>Cash Flows from Investing Activities</b>	
Equipment purchases	(112,780)
Loans made to RLF recipients	(43,512)
Collections from RLF recipients	305,883
Net Cash Provided (Used) by Investing Activities	<u>149,591</u>
<b>Cash Flows from Financing Activities</b>	
Net Cash Provided (Used) by Financing Activities	<u>-</u>
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	288,811
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Year	<u>1,232,627</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Year	<u>1,521,438</u>
<b>Supplemental Disclosure of Cash Flow Information</b>	
Income Taxes Paid	<u>\$ -</u>
Interest Paid	<u>\$ -</u>
Reconciliation of Cash and Cash Equivalents to Statement of Net Position	
Cash	\$ 251,444
Cash - Restricted Cash	<u>1,269,994</u>
	<u>\$ 1,521,438</u>

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

EAST ARKANSAS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, INC.  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Nature of Entity and Activities

East Arkansas Planning and Development District, Inc. (“District”) was created under the provisions of the Economic Development Act of 1965 and applicable laws of the State of Arkansas. The objective of the District is to develop programs for the long- range economic growth, (which includes adequate land use and transportation planning): improving economic conditions; and to coordinate the over-all economic planning and development in the District among member counties.

The District operates a two Revolving Loan Fund programs pursuant to grants awarded by the United States Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA). The goal of the RLF programs is to provide distressed area businesses with capital for job creating and/or job retaining economic activities such as: (a) redeveloping and recycling land and facilities in order to put them into productive use; (b) aiding businesses owned and operated by minorities; (c) aiding employers with start-up and/or expansion cost of locally owned businesses; and (d) aiding manufacturing and service companies using new technologies.

Basis of Accounting

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Basis of Presentation

Financial statement presentation reports information regarding its financial position according to two classes of net assets- Net Assets with Donor Restrictions and Net Assets without Donor Restrictions

Cash Equivalents

The District considers all cash, savings accounts and certificates of deposit purchased with a maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents

Building and equipment

Buildings and equipment are recorded at historical cost. Depreciation is provided for in amounts sufficient to relate the cost of the depreciable assets to operations over their estimated useful service lives using the straight-line method. Service lives of buildings are fifty years and equipment service lives (including furniture, office machines, etc.) range from seven to fifteen years.

EAST ARKANSAS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, INC.  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Estimates

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

Functional Expenses

Program service expenses are the direct and indirect costs related to providing services to programs. The District does not conduct any fund-raising activities. The District's primary purpose is to develop and administer various programs as described in the nature of activities. Functional expenses are allocated between program and supporting services based on analysis of personnel time and type of expense.

Income Tax Status

The District is a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c) (4) of the Internal Revenue Code and similar statutes of Arkansas state law.

Allocation of Indirect Cost and Employee Benefits

The District accumulates all indirect cost (supplies, utilities, repairs, payroll taxes and benefits, etc.) An allocation is made to the various programs based on each program's direct personnel expense.

NOTE B – CASH (UNRESTRICTED AND RESTRICTED)

Cash in restricted funds is restricted by outside agencies and/or agreements. Unrestricted funds are those which the District has complete control and discretion. In some instances, the District is required to hold restricted cash in separate accounts. Cash from restricted funds is not available for general expenditures and is restricted externally or by agreement for specific purposes. Contributions or grant revenues received and spent during the year are recorded as unrestricted.

NOTE C – NOTES RECEIVABLE – RLF/IRP/CARES ACT RLF

Notes Receivable – consists of amounts receivable from loans made to various entities, less an allowance for credit losses. As of June 30, 2025, notes receivable was \$ 2,151,364. Notes Receivable is presented net of an allowance for credit losses of \$ 399,070. The allowance is based on management's estimate of anticipated losses. Payments due on loans over 90 days are considered delinquent. At June 30, 2025, notes with payments over 90 days past due were \$ 530,442. These notes are collateralized by real estate, equipment and other property.

EAST ARKANSAS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, INC.  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

NOTE D- ALLOWANCE FOR CREDIT LOSSES

An allowance for credit losses is an estimate based upon historical account write-off trends, facts about the current financial condition of the debtor, forecasts of future operating results based upon current trends, and other macroeconomic factors. Credit quality is monitored through the timing of payments compared to payment terms and known facts regarding the financial condition of debtors. Management assumes current conditions are not expected to change over the remaining life of the assets. Management has also elected to consider collection activity after the statement of financial position date, but before the financial statements are available to be issued. Accounts receivable balances are charged off against the allowance for credit losses after recovery efforts have ceased. The District had the following activity for credit losses for accounts receivable for the year ended June 30, 2025.-

Beginning balance	\$ 388,675
Provision for expected losses	10,395
Write-offs charged	-
	<u>\$ 399,070</u>

NOTE E – PREPAID EXPENSES

Prepaid expenses at June 30, 2025 consist of the following:

Postage deposit	<u>\$ 50</u>
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NOTE F – PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Property and equipment are summarized as follows:

	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Accumulated Depreciation</u>
Real Estate ( Building & Lot)	\$ 497,439	\$ 202,263
Equipment ( Office/ Autos, etc.)	843,198	645,662
Total	<u>\$ 1,340,637</u>	<u>\$ 847,925</u>

Depreciation for the year ended June 30, 2025 was \$ 57,443 .

EAST ARKANSAS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, INC.  
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

NOTE G – COMPENSATED ABSENCES

The District accrues vacation time on the same fiscal year as the accounting fiscal year. The District’s policy is to not substitute pay for annual leave and any vacation time must be used prior to the end of the fiscal year. Sick pay accumulates but does not vest. Pay for unused sick leave is not granted upon termination.

NOTE H – CONCENTRATION OF CREDIT RISK

The District’s financial instruments that potentially subject the District to concentration of credit risk consist principally of cash and notes receivable.

Notes receivable result from the District’s loan program. Loans are made to qualifying businesses in East Arkansas under provisions of the EDA RLF, and Cares Act RLF. The loans are collateralized by first or second mortgages on property and equipment, life insurance policies, and personal guarantees. The amount of the accounting loss the District’s loan programs would incur if parties to the financial instruments that make up the concentration failed to perform, and if the collateral proved to be of no value would be approximately \$ 1,752, 294.

NOTE H – CONCENTRATION OF CREDIT RISK- cont’d

The District maintains bank accounts in an area financial institution located in Jonesboro, Arkansas.

The District’s bank balance of cash deposits and investments are classified in three categories of risk:

- 1) Insured or collateralized with securities held by the Entity or by its agent in the Entity’s name.
- 2) Collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution’s trust department or agent in the Entity’s name.
- 3) Uncollateralized

	CATEGORY		
Total	1	2	3
\$ 1,521,438	\$ 250,000	\$ 1,271,438	\$ -

EAST ARKANSAS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, INC.  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

NOTE I – RETIREMENT PLAN

The District has a SIMPLE IRA retirement plan. Any employee who has attained age 21 and has completed one year of service is eligible to participate. For year ended June 30, 2025 total retirement plan expenses were \$ 10,609.

NOTE J – SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Management has evaluated subsequent events through the date of this report, which is the date the report was available to be issued. No events were noted that require disclosure.

NOTE K – INCOME TAXES

Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) Topic 740, Income Taxes, requires an entity to recognize a liability for taxes to the extent of any unrelated business income as defined by IRS regulations. The Organization believes that it has not engaged in any unrelated business income activities as defined by IRS regulations and that it is more likely than not that this position would be sustained upon examination. As such there were no liabilities recorded for uncertain tax positions as of June 30, 2025.

The Organization is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions: however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in process. The Organization's Federal Exempt Organization's Business Income Tax Return for the years ended June 30, 2024, 2023, and 2022 are subject to examination by the IRS.

NOTE L – RESTRICTED CASH

Revolving Loan Fund	\$ 978,490
Revolving Loan Fund Cares Act	<u>291,504</u>
	<u>\$ 1,269,994</u>

NOTE M – RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

At year end, Accounts Payable includes \$ 69,392 payable to East Arkansas Regional Solid Waste Management District. Accounts Receivable includes a \$ 53,566 receivable from East Arkansas Regional Solid Waste Management District. The East Arkansas Regional Solid Waste Management District is considered a related party due to some common management members.

EAST ARKANSAS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, INC.  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

NOTE N LIQUIDITY AND AVAILABILITY

The District regularly monitors liquidity required to meet its operating needs and other contractual commitments while also striving to maximize the investment of its available funds. In addition to financial assets available to meet general expenditures over the next 12 months, the District operates with a balanced budget and anticipates collecting sufficient revenue to cover expenditures. The District's financial assets available within one year of the balance sheet date for general expenditures are:

Financial assets at year end:	
Cash	\$ 1,521,438
Accounts Receivable	242,386
Notes Receivable - current	<u>242,637</u>
	<u>\$ 2,006,461</u>

NOTE O – LEASES

The District has short term operating leases that are not material to the financial statements.

**EAST ARKANSAS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, INC.**  
**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**  
**SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS**  
**FOR YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

FEDERAL GRANTOR/PROGRAM TITLE/DESCRIPTION	ASSISTANCE LISTING NUMBER	Program Expenses
<u>U.S. DEPT. OF COMMERCE</u>		
Non Major Program		
EDA Technical Assistance	11.302	\$ 78,750
 <u>DELTA REGIONAL AUTHORITY:</u>		
Non Major Program		
Delta Regional Development	90.200	57,675
 Other Notes Receivable considered to be Federal Assistance:		
Major Grant Award		
Economic Assistance Cluster		
U.S. Dept of Commerce		
Cares Act Revolving Loan Fund	11.307	1,695,102
 U.S. Department of Labor		
Pass through Arkansas Workforce Connections		
WIOA Adult Program	17.258	440,975
WIOA Youth Activities	17.259	346,543
WIOA Dislocated Worker	17.278	156,686
Total WIOA Cluster-Cluster		<u>944,204</u>
 Total		 <u>\$ 2,775,731</u>
The amount deemed federal assistance for RLF is determined as follows:		
	Cares act	
Notes Receivable	\$ 1,316,848	
Cash RLF Funds	291,503	
Administrative Expenses paid	86,751	
	<u>\$ 1,695,102</u>	

**EAST ARKANSAS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, INC.**  
**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**  
**SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS**  
**FOR YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

Note 1 - Basis of Presentation:

The schedule of expenditures of federal awards includes federal grant and loan activity of East Arkansas Planning and Development District, Inc. and is presented on the accrual basis of accounting. This information is presented in accordance with the requirements of *Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations, Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations.

Note 2 - The Entity did not elect to use the 10% de minimis indirect cost rate.

**EAST ARKANSAS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, INC.  
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION  
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE  
FOR YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

STATE GRANTOR/ PROGRAM TITLE

Department of Finance and Administration  
Office of Administration Services- Act 118

\$ 60,000

**EAST ARKANSAS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, INC.**  
**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**  
**SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**  
**FOR YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	
RETIREMENT	<u>\$ 10,609</u>
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS ALLOCATED	<u><u>\$ 10,609</u></u>



**MEYER & WARD, P.A.**  
**CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS**  
**P.O. BOX 1045**  
**WYNNE, AR 72396**

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

To the Board of Directors  
East Arkansas Planning and Development District, Inc.  
Jonesboro, AR

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of East Arkansas Planning and Development District, Inc. ( a nonprofit corporation), which comprise the statement of financial position as of June 30, 2025, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated January 21, 2026.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered East Arkansas Planning and Development District, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the effectiveness of the internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the East Arkansas Planning and Development District, Inc.'s internal control.

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

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

Compliance and Other Matters:

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether East Arkansas Planning and Development District, Inc.'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 audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this report

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

Meyer & Ward

Meyer & Ward, P.A.  
Certified Public Accountants  
Wynne, Arkansas 72396

January 21, 2026

**MEYER & WARD, P.A.**  
**CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS**  
**P.O. BOX 1045**  
**WYNNE, AR 72396**

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR  
PROGRAM AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY  
THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE

To the Board of Directors  
East Arkansas Planning and Development District, Inc.  
Jonesboro, AR

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

*Opinion on Each Major Federal Program*

We have audited the East Arkansas Planning and Development District, Inc. compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the OMB *Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of the East Arkansas Planning and Development District, Inc major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2025. East Arkansas Planning and Development District, Inc.'s programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and responses.

In our opinion, East Arkansas Planning and Development District, Inc. complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2025.

*Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program*

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

We are required to be independent of the East Arkansas Planning and Development District, Inc. and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our

**MEYER & WARD, P.A.**  
**CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS**  
**P.O. BOX 1045**  
**WYNNE, AR 72396**

***Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program – cont'd***

audit does not provide a legal determination of East Arkansas Planning and Development District, Inc. compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

***Responsibilities of Management for Compliance***

Management is responsible for the compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal controls over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules and provisions of contracts, or grant agreements applicable to East Arkansas Planning and Development District, Inc.'s federal programs.

***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on East Arkansas Planning and Development District, Inc. compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material noncompliance from fraud is higher than that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about East Arkansas Planning and Development District, Inc.'s compliance with the requirements of each major federal programs as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding East Arkansas Planning and Development District, Inc.'s compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, and to test and report on internal control

over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of East Arkansas Planning and Development District, Inc.'s internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

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

### **Report on Internal Control Over Compliance**

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

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance Section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be a material weakness, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

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

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

Meyer & Ward

Meyer & Ward, P.A.  
Certified Public Accountants  
Wynne, AR 72396  
January 22, 2025

**EAST ARKANSAS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, INC.  
SCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

Prior year findings:

Prior Year Findings:

**#2024-001 – Internal Controls**

Internal Controls were not in place to limit disbursements from EDA revolving loan funds to allowable costs.

Corrective Action Taken: The Entity has made management changes and Executive Director has established a review and approval process to ensure compliance.

Status of Finding: Corrected

**Finding # 2024-002 - Noncompliance**

During the year ended June 30, 2024, the Entity used \$ 27,804 of the EDA Revolving Loan fund cash to repay a debt obligation from another loan program.

Corrective Action Taken – The Entity used unrestricted funds to repay funds taken from the EDA Revolving Loan Fund.

Status of Finding: Corrected

**EAST ARKANSAS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, INC.  
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

Summary of Audit Results

1. The independent auditor's report expresses an unmodified opinion on the financial statements of the East Arkansas Planning and Development District, Inc.
2. The Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards (a) disclosed no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards and (b) disclosed no control deficiencies or material weaknesses that are required to be disclosed under Government Auditing Standards.
3. The Auditor's Report on Compliance for Each Major Program and Internal Control Over Compliance required by the Uniform Guidance (a) expresses an unqualified opinion that East Arkansas Planning and Development District, Inc. complied, in all material respects, with the requirements (stated in the above report) that are applicable to each of its federal programs and (b) disclosed no internal control deficiencies. No instances of noncompliance were disclosed.
4. Major Programs: the following programs were identified as major programs:

U.S. Department of Labor WOIA Cluster:  
Federal Assistance Listing Numbers 17.258, 17.259 and 17.278
5. The threshold to determine Type A and Type B programs was \$ 750,000.
6. The East Arkansas Planning and Development District, Inc. was determined to be a low risk auditee for the year ended June 30, 2025.

Findings – Financial Statement Audit

No Findings were noted.

Findings Major Federal Awards Programs

No finding was noted

Questioned Costs

No questioned costs were noted.

**EAST ARKANSAS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, INC.  
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

**FINDINGS – MAJOR FEDERAL AWARD PROGRAM**

No Findings Noted

OFFICE OF COUNTY JUDGE  
**MISSISSIPPI COUNTY**  
ARKANSAS

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter to inform you of my decision to resign from the East Arkansas Planning & Development District (EAPDD) Board of Directors. I look forward to continuing to participate within EAPDD initiatives and working alongside its various employees and Directors, but I have reached a time where I am unable to fulfill my duties as a member of the organization's governing body.

I trust in the judgement of this board to choose my successor.

Sincerely,



---

John Alan Nelson

Mississippi County Judge

**James Morgan**

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**From:** publicaffairs <publicaffairs@mississippicountyar.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 21, 2026 2:46 PM  
**To:** James Morgan  
**Cc:** countyjudge; Mayor Rick Creecy  
**Subject:** Recommendation for EAPDD Replacement

James,

After our conversation today, Judge Nelson decided that he would like to recommend Rick Creecy, Mayor of Keiser, for his now vacant seat on the EAPDD board. He is CC'd on this email.

Please feel free to contact him at your convenience and pass on our recommendation to the rest of the board.

Thank you for your time,



**William Partain**

**Public Affairs Director**

**Phone:** 870-763-3212

**Mobile:** 870-375-2117

**Web:** [www.mississippicountyar.org](http://www.mississippicountyar.org)

**Email:** [publicaffairs@mississippicountyar.org](mailto:publicaffairs@mississippicountyar.org)