



**AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022



Independent Auditor's Report

Paper and Packaging Board
McLean, Virginia

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Paper and Packaging Board (P+PB) which comprise the statements of financial position as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended, the related statement of functional expenses for the year ended December 31, 2023, 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 the Paper and Packaging Board as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for our 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 responsibilities 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 the Paper and Packaging Board 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 opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and for 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 the Paper and Packaging Board's ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that 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 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 statements.

Report on the Financial Statements (Continued)

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 misstatement of the financial statements, 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 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 on the effectiveness of the Paper and Packaging Board'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 judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Paper and Packaging Board'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 audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The information in the accompanying supplementary schedules on pages 16-19, which is the responsibility of management, is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service, and is not a required part of the financial statements. Such information, except for the budget information marked "unaudited," was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. That information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits 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, that information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole. The budget information marked "unaudited" has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the financial statements and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on it.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated May 14, 2024, on our consideration of Paper and Packaging Board'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 Paper and Packaging Board's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Paper and Packaging Board's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Bethesda, Maryland
May 14, 2024

Certified Public Accountants



Paper and Packaging Board

Statements of Financial Position December 31, 2023 and 2022

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Assets		
Cash	\$ 5,443,597	\$ 9,375,650
Assessments Receivable - Net	5,268,785	5,173,652
Prepaid Expenses	75,902	212,995
Property, Equipment and Intangible Assets - Net	339,980	301,358
Right of Use (ROU) Asset - Net	670,314	114,468
Total Assets	\$ 11,798,578	\$ 15,178,123
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	\$ 1,331,483	\$ 1,661,675
Lease Liability	669,826	126,627
Total Liabilities	2,001,309	1,788,302
Net Assets		
Without Donor Restrictions - Board Designated	1,294,826	829,040
Without Donor Restrictions	8,502,443	12,560,781
Total Net Assets	9,797,269	13,389,821
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 11,798,578	\$ 15,178,123

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements

Paper and Packaging Board
Statements of Activities
For The Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

	2023	2022
Revenue		
Assessments - Domestic	\$ 19,143,343	\$ 20,708,748
Assessments - Import	1,560,078	1,943,626
Assessments - Total	\$ 20,703,421	\$ 22,652,374
Interest and Other Income	287,243	95,176
Total Revenue	20,990,664	22,747,550
Expenses		
Program Expenses	23,720,928	24,524,692
Management and General	862,288	737,492
Total Expenses	24,583,216	25,262,184
Changes in Net Assets	(3,592,552)	(2,514,634)
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	13,389,821	15,904,455
Net Assets, End of Year	\$ 9,797,269	\$ 13,389,821

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements