



# COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

*Department of the Treasury*

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October 29, 2024

Ms. Laura Wilborn  
Division of Legislative Automated Systems  
General Assembly Building  
Richmond, VA 23219

*Via Email*

Dear Ms. Wilborn:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 482 (Virginia Acts of Assembly, 2002 Session), I hereby submit the audited annual financial statements for the Virginia Tobacco Settlement Financing Corporation for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared by the Department of the Treasury, whose management is responsible for their integrity and objectivity. The financial statements are considered by management to present fairly this public body's financial position and results of operations. We believe the data presented is accurate in all material respects and that all disclosures necessary to enable the reader to obtain a thorough understanding of this public body's financial statements have been included.

Sincerely,

Bradly L. Jones  
Director of Debt Management

BLJ:lme  
Enclosures

# **VIRGINIA TOBACCO SETTLEMENT FINANCING CORPORATION**

## **Financial Statements**

**For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**



CPAs | CONSULTANTS | WEALTH ADVISORS

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# VIRGINIA TOBACCO SETTLEMENT FINANCING CORPORATION

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

The Honorable Members of the Board of Directors of the  
Virginia Tobacco Settlement Financing Corporation and the  
Virginia Department of the Treasury  
Richmond, Virginia

### **Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements**

#### ***Opinions***

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and the major fund of the Virginia Tobacco Settlement Financing Corporation (the Corporation), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Corporation's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and the major fund of the Corporation, as of June 30, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### ***Basis for Opinions***

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States and the *Specifications for Audits of Authorities, Boards and Commissions* (the Specifications), issued by the Auditor of Public Accounts of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Corporation 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.

#### ***Emphasis of Matter***

As noted in the statement of net position and Note 10, the Corporation has a net deficit of \$1,048,845,080 and anticipates future draws from the senior liquidity reserve account to pay interest on the bonds. The uncertainty of future tobacco settlement revenue collections and investment earnings are discussed in Note 10. Our opinions are not modified with respect to these matters.

The Honorable Members of the Board of Directors of the  
Virginia Tobacco Settlement Financing Corporation and the  
Virginia Department of the Treasury

### ***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 Corporation'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.

### ***Auditors' 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 auditors' 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, *Government Auditing Standards* and the Specifications 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.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards* and the Specifications, 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 Corporation'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 Corporation's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

The Honorable Members of the Board of Directors of the  
Virginia Tobacco Settlement Financing Corporation and the  
Virginia Department of the Treasury

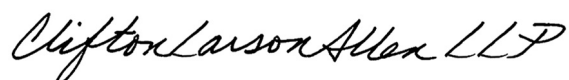
We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control related matters that we identified during the audit.

***Required Supplementary Information***

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with GAAS, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

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

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated October 24, 2024, on our consideration of the Corporation'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 Corporation'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 the Corporation's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



**CliftonLarsonAllen LLP**

Arlington, Virginia  
October 24, 2024

## **VIRGINIA TOBACCO SETTLEMENT FINANCING CORPORATION MANAGEMENT’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

This section of the annual financial report of the Virginia Tobacco Settlement Financing Corporation (“the Corporation”) presents an analysis of the Corporation’s financial performance during the fiscal year that ended on June 30, 2024. This information should be considered in conjunction with the information contained in the financial statements, which follow this section.

### **Corporation Activities and Highlights**

The Corporation is a public body corporate and an independent instrumentality of the state created by the Tobacco Settlement Financing Corporation Act, Chapters 482 and 488 of the 2002 Virginia Acts of the General Assembly (“the Act”). The Corporation was authorized under the Act to purchase up to fifty percent of the annual amount received by the Commonwealth of Virginia (“the Commonwealth”) under the Master Settlement Agreement (“the MSA”) between cigarette manufacturers and 46 states and other United States jurisdictions (“the Tobacco Assets”).

In fiscal year 2007, the Corporation issued \$1,149,273,282 in Tobacco Settlement Asset-Backed Bonds, Series 2007 A, B, C and D (“the 2007 Bonds”). Under an amended and restated Purchase and Sale Agreement, the 2007 Bonds financed the purchase of the Commonwealth’s future right, title and interest to fifty percent of the Commonwealth’s allocation under the MSA. A portion of the proceeds of the 2007 Bonds was used to defease and refund the outstanding Series 2005 Bonds, which were issued in May 2005 in the amount of \$448,260,000.

### **Overview of the Financial Statements**

This discussion and analysis is an introduction to the Corporation’s basic financial statements, which are comprised of two components: 1) government-wide and fund financial statements and 2) notes to the financial statements.

### **Government-wide Financial Statements**

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities are two basic financial statements that report information about the Corporation as a whole. These statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting, similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of the related cash flows. The Statement of Net Position presents all of the Corporation’s assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as “net position.” Over time, increases and decreases in net position measure whether the Corporation’s financial position is improving or declining.

The Statement of Activities presents information showing how the Corporation’s net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. Changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying events giving rise to the change occur, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Therefore, revenues and expenses are reported in these statements for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods.

# **VIRGINIA TOBACCO SETTLEMENT FINANCING CORPORATION MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

## **Fund Financial Statements**

The fund financial statements provide detailed information about the Corporation using a Debt Service Fund. A fund is a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts that the Corporation uses to keep track of specific sources of funding and spending for a particular purpose.

All of the Corporation's activity is reported using a governmental fund type. Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, the governmental funds financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources. This approach is known as using the flow of current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. These statements provide a detailed short-term view of the Corporation's finances that assists in determining whether there will be adequate financial resources available to meet the current needs of the Corporation.

The focus of the governmental fund financial statements is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements. Therefore, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the government's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between governmental funds and the governmental activities. These reconciliations are presented in the adjustment column in each of the financial statements.

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and the fund financial statements.

## **Government-wide Financial Analysis of the Corporation**

The Corporation was formed to purchase Tobacco Assets from the Commonwealth. The purchase was financed with the issuance of bonds. The Virginia Department of the Treasury provides staff support for the Corporation. Operating costs of the Corporation are funded from corporation income. Current assets of the Corporation are funds held to pay operating costs of the Corporation over the next year. Current assets also include revenues received that will be used for the next interest payment on the outstanding bonds. Noncurrent assets are primarily bond proceeds held in the liquidity reserve account and restricted to the payment of debt service on the Bonds. The Corporation owns no capital assets.



**VIRGINIA TOBACCO SETTLEMENT FINANCING CORPORATION  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

Following is summarized financial data for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023:

**Condensed Statements of Net Position  
(in thousands)**

	June 30,	
	2024	2023
Current assets	\$ 115,338	\$ 114,965
Noncurrent assets	30,963	34,723
Total assets	<u>146,301</u>	<u>149,688</u>
Current liabilities	22,132	20,690
Noncurrent liabilities	1,173,014	1,169,739
Total liabilities	<u>1,195,146</u>	<u>1,190,429</u>
Net position:		
Restricted	141,670	144,998
Unrestricted	<u>(1,190,515)</u>	<u>(1,185,739)</u>
Total net position (deficit)	<u>\$ (1,048,845)</u>	<u>\$ (1,040,741)</u>

**Condensed Statements of Activities  
(in thousands)**

	Year Ended June 30,	
	2024	2023
Revenues	\$ 63,259	\$ 68,892
Expenses	<u>71,363</u>	<u>71,365</u>
Change in net position	(8,104)	(2,473)
Net deficit, beginning of year	<u>(1,040,741)</u>	<u>(1,038,268)</u>
Net deficit, end of year	<u>\$ (1,048,845)</u>	<u>\$ (1,040,741)</u>

Revenues for the year are comprised of tobacco settlement revenues, receipt of payments from the partial settlement of the Lehman Brothers Holding Company's Chapter 11 bankruptcy cases and interest on investments. Expenses reflect bond interest expense and amortization of bond discounts. The deficit in net position resulted primarily from interest expense on the outstanding bonds exceeding tobacco settlement revenues and the Lehman Brothers payments.

**Financial Analysis of the Corporation's Funds**

The fund operates solely for the purpose of paying debt service on the outstanding bonds. Revenues are derived from the MSA payments along with interest on invested balances and these funds are used to pay the current debt service and operational costs. All cash equivalents held by the corporation relate to the issuance of the Series 2007 Bonds. As such, all amounts held are considered to be restricted as to their use.

# VIRGINIA TOBACCO SETTLEMENT FINANCING CORPORATION MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

## Debt Administration

As a financing entity, the business of the Corporation is debt administration. In 2007, the Corporation issued Bonds to purchase Tobacco Assets from the Commonwealth and to refinance bonds previously issued to purchase Tobacco Assets from the Commonwealth. The outstanding Bonds are secured solely by fifty percent of future tobacco settlement revenues allocated to the Commonwealth and investment earnings. As of June 30, 2024, there were no plans for the Corporation to issue additional debt. The table below summarizes bond activity during the year.

### Summary of Bond Obligations (in millions)

	Tobacco Settlement Asset-Backed Bonds	
Outstanding, 7/1/23	\$	1,186
Principal payments during year		(10)
Amortization of discount and other deferrals		15
Outstanding, 6/30/24	\$	1,191

## Future Impact to Financial Position

Ongoing economic uncertainties could impact domestic tobacco sales, which will impact payments made by the PMs to the Corporation, which are used for debt service. In that case, the Corporation will need to make larger draws against the funds held in the Senior Liquidity Reserve Account in order to make future debt service payments.

## Requests for Information

The financial report is designed to provide an overview of the Corporation's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to the Department of the Treasury, Division of Debt Management, P. O. Box 1879, Richmond, Virginia, 23218-1879.

# VIRGINIA TOBACCO SETTLEMENT FINANCING CORPORATION

## Governmental Fund Balance Sheet and Statement of Net Position

As of June 30, 2024

	DEBT SERVICE FUND	ADJUSTMENTS (NOTE 1-C)	STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Current Assets:			
Cash equivalents (Note 2)	\$ 115,482	\$ -	\$ 115,482
Prepaid items	12,702	-	12,702
Interest receivable	491	-	491
Restricted:			
Cash equivalents (Note 2)	114,711,109	-	114,711,109
Interest receivable	498,545	-	498,545
Total current assets	115,338,329	-	115,338,329
Noncurrent Assets:			
Unamortized bond issuance costs	-	-	-
Restricted assets:			
Investments	-	-	-
Tobacco settlement receivable (Note 6)	-	30,963,217	30,963,217
Lehman Brothers claim receivable	-	-	-
Total noncurrent assets	-	30,963,217	30,963,217
Total assets	\$ 115,338,329	30,963,217	146,301,546
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Current Liabilities:			
Bonds payable (Note 3)	\$ -	17,500,000	17,500,000
Accrued expenses payable	-	-	-
Accrued interest payable	-	4,631,929	4,631,929
Payable - other	-	-	-
Total current liabilities	-	22,131,929	22,131,929
Noncurrent liabilities - bonds payable (Note 3)	-	1,173,014,697	1,173,014,697
Total liabilities	-	1,195,146,626	1,195,146,626
<b>FUND BALANCE/NET POSITION</b>			
Restricted for debt service	115,209,654	(115,209,654)	-
Restricted for operations	128,675	(128,675)	-
Total fund balance	115,338,329	(115,338,329)	-
Total liabilities and fund balance	\$ 115,338,329		
Net Position (Deficit)			
Restricted for debt service (Note 4)		141,540,942	141,540,942
Restricted for operations (Note 4)		128,675	128,675
Unrestricted		(1,190,514,697)	(1,190,514,697)
Total net position (deficit) (Note 5)		\$ (1,048,845,080)	\$ (1,048,845,080)

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.*

## VIRGINIA TOBACCO SETTLEMENT FINANCING CORPORATION

### Statement of Governmental Fund Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance and Statement of Activities For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

	DEBT SERVICE FUND	ADJUSTMENTS (NOTE 1-C)	STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Tobacco settlement revenues (Note 6)	\$ 61,231,033	\$ (3,756,054)	\$ 57,474,979
Lehman Brothers claims receipts	22,974	(4,158)	18,816
Investment interest	5,765,208	-	5,765,208
Miscellaneous Revenue	-	-	-
Total revenues	67,019,215	(3,760,212)	63,259,003
<b>EXPENDITURES/EXPENSES</b>			
General and administrative (Note 7)	50,670	-	50,670
Debt service:			
Principal retirement	10,320,000	(10,320,000)	-
Interest	56,275,208	(57,671)	56,217,537
Amortization of bond issuance discount	-	15,095,215	15,095,215
Total expenditures/expenses	66,645,878	4,717,544	71,363,422
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures/expenses	373,337	(373,337)	-
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures/expenses	373,337	(373,337)	-
Change in net position	-	(8,104,419)	(8,104,419)
Fund balance/net position (deficit) at beginning of year	114,964,992	(1,155,705,653)	(1,040,740,661)
Fund balance/net position (deficit) at end of year	\$ 115,338,329	\$ (1,164,183,409)	\$ (1,048,845,080)

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.*

# **VIRGINIA TOBACCO SETTLEMENT FINANCING CORPORATION**

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

### **ORGANIZATION AND NATURE OF ACTIVITIES**

The Tobacco Settlement Financing Corporation (“the Corporation”) was created by the Tobacco Settlement Financing Corporation Act, Chapters 482 and 488 of the Acts of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia (“the Commonwealth”) during the 2002 General Session. The Corporation is a public corporate entity and an independent instrumentality of the state, managed by a six-member board, including the State Treasurer.

The purpose of the Corporation is to purchase from the Commonwealth portions of its future right, title and interest in the Tobacco Settlement Revenues (“the TSRs”) under the Master Settlement Agreement and the Consent Decree and Final Judgment (“the MSA”). The MSA resolved tobacco-related litigation between the settling states and the Participating Manufacturers (“the PMs”), released the PMs from past and present tobacco-related claims of the settling states, and provides for a continuing release of future tobacco-related claims, in exchange for certain payments to be made to the settling states, as well as certain tobacco advertising and marketing restrictions, among other things.

In May 2005, pursuant to a Purchase and Sale Agreement with the Commonwealth, the Commonwealth sold to the Corporation 25% of its future right, title and interest in the TSRs. Specifically, these rights include a 25% share of TSRs received by the Commonwealth starting May 15, 2005, and in perpetuity under the MSA. Consideration paid by the Corporation to the Commonwealth for TSRs consisted of a cash amount deposited into an endowment to fund the long-term spending plan approved by the Tobacco Indemnification and Community Revitalization Commission.

In May 2007, the Corporation issued \$1,149,273,282 of its Tobacco Settlement Asset-Backed Bonds, Series 2007 A, B-1, B-2, C and D. Proceeds of the sale were used to fully defease the Corporation’s outstanding Tobacco Settlement Asset-Backed Bonds Series 2005. Pursuant to an Amended and Restated Sale Agreement dated as of May 1, 2007, net proceeds from the sale in the amount of \$613,994,236 were transferred to the Tobacco Indemnification and Community Revitalization Endowment Fund as consideration for the purchase of an additional 25% share of TSRs received by the Commonwealth starting April 27, 2007, and in perpetuity under the MSA.

The bonds of the Corporation are asset-backed instruments secured solely by the TSRs. The Corporation’s right to receive TSRs was, at the time of issuance, expected to produce funding for its obligations. The TSR payments are dependent on a variety of factors, some of which are:

- the financial capability of the participating cigarette manufacturers to pay TSRs,
- cigarette consumption which impacts the TSR payment, and
- legal and legislative challenges against the tobacco manufacturers and the master settlement agreement providing for the TSRs.

Changes in these factors could affect the amount of funds available to pay scheduled debt service requirements.

Operations of the Corporation are funded with Corporation revenues.

# **VIRGINIA TOBACCO SETTLEMENT FINANCING CORPORATION**

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

### **1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

#### **A. MEASUREMENT FOCUS AND BASIS OF ACCOUNTING**

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (“GASB”). These principles are found in the *Codification of Governmental Accounting and Financial Reporting Standards*, published by the GASB, which is the accepted standard setting body for establishing governmental accounting principles and reporting standards.

The accompanying governmental fund financial statements (Balance Sheet and Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance) are presented using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when they become measurable and available to fund current operations, which includes revenues received in the current fiscal year and accrued during the six months following the end of the fiscal year. Expenditures are recognized when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on long-term debt, which is recognized when due.

The accompanying government-wide statements (Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities) are presented using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when they are earned and expenses are recognized when the related liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows.

#### **B. FUND ACCOUNTING**

Fund level activities of the Corporation are accounted for in the Debt Service Fund. The Debt Service Fund accounts for the accumulation of resources for, and the payment of, long-term debt principal and interest. The Debt Service Fund consists of the current assets and liabilities of the Corporation with the difference being fund balance restricted for debt service.

#### **C. ADJUSTMENTS**

The adjustments column represents the recording of bonds payable, interest payable on bonds, and discounts on issued bonds on the Statement of Net Position and the related effect of these transactions on the Statement of Activities. Governmental fund statements do not reflect bonds payable. This column is also used to record full accrual revenues and receivables.

#### **D. CASH EQUIVALENTS AND INVESTMENTS**

Cash equivalents consist of money market funds, which are stated at amortized cost which approximates fair value. The Corporation did not hold any investments at June 30, 2024.

#### **E. RESTRICTED ASSETS**

Restricted assets represent resources set aside for the purpose of funding debt service payments in accordance with bond resolutions.

**VIRGINIA TOBACCO SETTLEMENT FINANCING CORPORATION**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**

**F. CAPITAL ASSETS**

The Corporation has no capital assets at June 30, 2024.

**G. LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS**

Long-term obligations are reported net of unamortized discounts.

**H. COMPENSATED ABSENCES, PENSION BENEFITS AND POSTEMPLOYMENT HEALTH CARE AND LIFE INSURANCE BENEFITS**

The Corporation has no employees. Therefore, no compensated absences, pension benefits, or postretirement benefits are provided by the Corporation.

**I. FUND BALANCE**

Fund balance is comprised of the Corporation's cash equivalents and receivables. The majority of the Corporation's assets were derived from the sale of bonds and subsequent collection of revenues to be used for debt service. Use of these assets is controlled by bond covenants. As such, amounts derived from bond proceeds and revenue collections for debt service have been restricted for debt service in accordance with GASB Statement No. 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*.

Additionally, the Corporation has accounts established to pay bond issuance costs and operating expenditures. Both accounts were initially funded with bond proceeds and these initial amounts are controlled by bond covenants. Continuing operations are funded through the Corporation's income, the use of which is also defined in the bond documents. Therefore, these amounts have been designated as restricted for operations.

**J. NET POSITION**

Net position comprises the various net earnings from revenues and expenses. Net position generally is classified in the following components:

Restricted net position consists of external constraints placed on net position use by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments or constraints imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Unrestricted net position consists of all other net positions that are not included in restricted net position.

**K. ESTIMATES**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America 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

## VIRGINIA TOBACCO SETTLEMENT FINANCING CORPORATION

### Notes to the Financial Statements

of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenditures/expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### 2. CASH EQUIVALENTS

At June 30, 2024, the Corporation has cash equivalents totaling \$114,826,591, which is held in the JPMorgan US Government Money Market Fund, as presented on the Statement of Net Position and Debt Service Fund Balance Sheet. The Fund is rated Aaa-mf by Moody's Investors Service.

*Custodial Credit Risk:* For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the Corporation will not be able to recover the value of its investments that are in the possession of an outside party. The Corporation does not have a formal investment policy for custodial credit risk.

*Credit Risk:* This risk is defined as the risk that an issuer or other counterparty to an investment transaction will not fulfill its obligations. The Corporation's bond indenture restricts the Corporation to investments rated A-1 or higher by S&P Global Ratings, P-1 or higher by Moody's Investors Service, and F-1 or higher by Fitch.

*Concentration of Credit Risk:* The Corporation does not have a policy for this type of risk, which is defined as the risk of loss attributed to the magnitude of the Corporation's investment in a single issuer.

*Interest Rate Risk:* This risk is defined as the risk that changes in interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. Originally, the Corporation mitigated interest rate risk by structuring investment maturities to meet cash requirements as outlined in the indenture.

*Reserve Requirements:* A cash equivalents balance of \$86,151,219 is held for the Senior Liquidity Reserve Requirement. These cash equivalents were sufficient to cover the Corporation's reserve balance requirement of \$85,392,039 at June 30, 2024, leaving an excess of \$759,180 of the Senior Liquidity Reserve Requirement.

All investments of the Corporation must follow the restrictive guidelines as outlined in the bond documents.

#### 3. LONG-TERM DEBT

Activity in the bonds payable and related accounts for fiscal year 2024 was as follows:

	Balance at June 30, 2023	Increases	Decreases	Balance at June 30, 2024	Amount due Within One Year
Total bonds outstanding	\$ 1,921,815,000	\$ -	\$ (10,320,000)	\$ 1,911,495,000	\$ 17,500,000
Less:					
Unaccreted capital					
appreciation bonds	(730,502,292)	-	14,971,391	(715,530,901)	-
Unamortized issuance discounts	(5,573,227)	-	123,825	(5,449,402)	-
	<u>\$ 1,185,739,481</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 4,775,216</u>	<u>\$ 1,190,514,697</u>	<u>\$ 17,500,000</u>



**VIRGINIA TOBACCO SETTLEMENT FINANCING CORPORATION**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**

Long-term debt is comprised of the following:

Series 2007A Turbo Term Bonds due June 1, 2046, with interest of 6.706% due semiannually June 1 and December 1, commencing on December 1, 2007	\$ 552,320,000
Series 2007B-1 Turbo Term Bonds due June 1, 2047, with interest of 5% due semiannually June 1 and December 1, commencing on December 1, 2007	335,625,000
Series 2007B-2 Senior Convertible Bonds due June 1, 2046, convertible to interest bearing bonds on December 1, 2011 with interest of 5.2% due semiannually June 1 and December 1, commencing on June 1, 2012, accreted value at conversion of \$33,910,000	33,910,000
Series 2007C First Subordinate Capital Appreciation Bonds due June 1, 2047, with approximate yield of 5.67%, maturity value \$724,870,000	201,962,451
Series 2007D Second Subordinate Capital Appreciation Bonds due June 1, 2047, with approximate yield of 5.77%, maturity value \$264,770,000	72,146,648
Total long-term debt	1,195,964,099
Unaccreted Capital Appreciation Bonds	715,530,901
Total Outstanding Maturities	<u>\$ 1,911,495,000</u>

In May 2007, the Corporation issued \$1,149,273,282 of its Tobacco Settlement Asset-Backed Bonds, Series 2007 A, B-1, B-2, C and D. Proceeds from the issuance were used to fully defease the Corporation's outstanding Tobacco Settlement Asset-Backed Bonds Series 2005.

The bonds were also issued to finance the Corporation's purchase of an additional 25% of the Commonwealth's future receipts from the MSA with participating cigarette manufacturers. The bonds are secured by the Corporation's claim to 50% of these future receipts. The claim is on parity with the claim of the Commonwealth to the ownership of the remaining 50% of all amounts expected to be paid to the Commonwealth under the MSA. In addition, the bonds are secured by all earnings on amounts on deposit in certain accounts pledged under the indenture and the amounts held in certain accounts established under the indenture. The capital appreciation bonds were issued at an aggregate discount from par of \$892,551,718. The discount is being amortized using the effective interest method over the life of the bonds.

The bond indenture states that the Series 2007 Bonds shall not be deemed to be nor constitute a debt or obligation of the Commonwealth or a pledge of the full faith or credit of the Commonwealth or any political subdivision thereof. The Corporation has no taxing power. No assets or revenues of the Commonwealth or any political subdivision thereof are obligated or pledged to the payment of the principal of or interest on the bonds.

The 2007C and 2007D Bonds have Capital Appreciation Bonds with unaccreted values of \$522,907,549 and \$192,623,352, respectively, as of June 30, 2024. The 2007B-2 bonds are fully accreted.

**VIRGINIA TOBACCO SETTLEMENT FINANCING CORPORATION**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**

Debt service requirements, including interest to maturity, are as follows:

Fiscal Year	Sinking Fund Installments	Interest	Term Bond Maturities	Interest
2025	\$ 17,500,000	\$ 55,583,149	\$ -	\$ 55,583,149
2026	18,700,000	54,409,599	-	55,583,149
2027	19,900,000	53,155,577	-	55,583,149
2028	21,400,000	51,821,083	-	55,583,149
2029	22,700,000	50,385,999	-	55,583,149
2030-2034	146,670,000	226,067,636	-	277,915,746
2035-2039	208,255,000	169,225,570	-	277,915,746
2040-2044	263,050,000	94,287,823	-	277,915,747
2045-2047	1,193,320,000	20,819,000	1,911,495,000	123,315,620
	\$ 1,911,495,000	\$ 775,755,436	\$ 1,911,495,000	\$ 1,234,978,604

Term bond maturities represent the minimum amount of principal that the Corporation must pay as of specific distribution dates in order to avoid an event of default under the indenture.

Sinking fund maturities represent the amount of principal that the Corporation will pay according to the terms of the indenture. The Corporation is required to make these payments to the extent that funds are available for payment. Failure by the Corporation to make a sinking fund installment according to the terms of the indenture will not constitute an event of default under the terms of the indenture. The amount of any sinking fund installments made will be credited against term maturities in ascending chronological order. Through June 30, 2024, bonds in the amount of \$130,330,000 have been redeemed through scheduled and turbo sinking fund payments.

Turbo maturities represent the requirement contained in the indenture to apply 100% of all collections that are in excess of the funding requirements of the indenture to redemption of the Series 2007 Term Bonds. The amount of any turbo redemption made will be credited against both sinking fund installments and term bond maturities in ascending chronological order.

**4. RESTRICTED NET POSITION**

Restricted net position represents the items restricted by the indenture for debt service and operations. The composition of restricted net position is as follows:

## VIRGINIA TOBACCO SETTLEMENT FINANCING CORPORATION

### Notes to the Financial Statements

Cash equivalents and investments	\$	114,711,109
Tobacco settlement receivable		30,963,217
Lehman Brothers claim receivable		-
Interest receivable		498,545
Interest payable		(4,631,929)
Net position restricted for debt service	\$	<u>141,540,942</u>
Cash equivalents and investments	\$	115,482
Prepaid items		12,702
Interest receivable		491
Other payables		-
Net position restricted for operations	\$	<u>128,675</u>

#### 5. DEFICIT NET POSITION

The Tobacco Settlement Asset-Backed Bonds issued in fiscal year 2007 are secured by future TSRs. TSRs are computed annually based on tobacco-related sales combined with other factors and the future payment amounts are not known at this time. Accordingly, outstanding obligations are reported on the Statement of Net Position while the related future revenues have not yet been reported. Therefore, as of June 30, 2024, the Corporation reflects a deficit net position of \$1,048,845,080 on the Statement of Net Position.

#### 6. TOBACCO SETTLEMENT REVENUES AND RECEIVABLE

Tobacco Settlement Revenues consist of the amounts to be received under the terms of the MSA among participating cigarette manufacturers and 46 states and six other U.S. jurisdictions (“the Settling States”). The MSA is an industry-wide settlement of litigation between the Settling States and the Original Participating Manufacturers (“the OPMs”) and was entered into between the attorneys general of the Settling States and the OPMs on November 23, 1998. The MSA provides for other tobacco companies, referred to as Subsequent Participating Manufacturers (“the SPMs”), to become parties to the MSA. The four OPMs together with the 30+ SPMs are referred to as the Participating Manufacturers (“the PMs”). The settlement represents the resolution of a potential financial liability of the PMs for smoking-related injuries, the cost of which have been borne and will likely continue to be borne by cigarette consumers. Pursuant to the MSA, the Settling States agreed to settle all their past and future smoking-related claims against the PMs in exchange for agreements and undertakings by the PMs concerning a number of issues. These issues include, among other things, making payments to the Settling States, abiding by more stringent advertising restrictions and funding educational programs, all in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the MSA. Distributors of the PMs are also covered by the settlement of such claims to the same extent as the PMs.

Under the MSA, the PMs are required to pay to the Settling States (i) five initial payments, the first of which was due on November 12, 1999, with the remaining four due on January 10, 2000 through 2003 (Initial Payments); (ii) annual payments required to be made on April 15, commencing April 15, 2000, and continuing in perpetuity (Annual Payments) and (iii) ten annual payments required to be made on each April 15, commencing on April 15, 2008, and continuing through April 15, 2017 (Strategic Contribution Payments). Before the formation of the Corporation, the PMs made all five required Initial Payments and the Annual Payments due April 15, 2000 through 2005, none of which the Corporation had any right to receive.

The TSRs due under the MSA are subject to numerous adjustments, some of which are material. Such adjustments include, among others, reductions for decreased domestic cigarette shipments, reductions for amounts paid by PMs to four states that had previously settled their claims independently of the MSA, and in

## **VIRGINIA TOBACCO SETTLEMENT FINANCING CORPORATION**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements**

the case of Annual Payments and Strategic Contribution Payments, increases related to inflation of not less than 3% per annum.

Much of the TSRs represent a portion of future sales of tobacco products. GASB Technical Bulletin No. 2004-1 clarified guidance relating to the recognition of revenues and receivables. Specifically, the bulletin allows for the recognition of revenue to be received based on the shipment of domestic cigarettes. The amount recognized is estimated to be 50% of the next projected payment due from the MSA. Accordingly, the Statement of Net Position includes an estimated receivable of \$30,963,217 at June 30, 2024.

#### **7. ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES**

Administration expenses for the year ending June 30, 2024 were \$50,670, for trustee, accounting, and rating agency fees.

#### **8. CONTINGENCIES**

##### *Tobacco Litigation Risk:*

The amount of future revenue recognized by the Corporation could be adversely impacted by certain third party litigation involving tobacco companies and others.

##### *Guaranteed Investment Contract:*

Upon issuance of the Tobacco Bonds in 2005 and 2007, the Corporation entered into Reserve Fund Agreements among itself, Lehman Brothers Special Financing Inc., and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, National Association, as successor to JP Morgan Trust Company, National Association, as trustee under the bond indenture. Under the Agreements, Lehman Brothers Special Financing Inc. guaranteed to provide qualifying securities for investment from funds available in the Reserve Funds at a guaranteed rate of return through June 1, 2047, unless sooner terminated. In December 2008, Lehman Brothers Special Financing Inc. defaulted on their contractual obligation when they failed to deliver securities as proscribed in the Agreements. As a result, the Corporation exercised its right to terminate the Agreements and so notified Lehman Brothers Special Financing Inc. on March 19, 2009.

On July 15, 2014, the Corporation entered into a termination agreement among Lehman Brothers Special Financing Inc. and Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc. relating to certain reserve fund agreements dated as of May 26, 2005 and May 3, 2007, as amended. The termination agreement, among other things, provided for settlement of the claims asserted by the Corporation in certain of the Lehman bankruptcy cases. Absent the sale of these claims, the Corporation will receive periodic distributions on these claims as a holder of these allowed claims. The Corporation recorded revenues related to these distributions of \$18,816 in fiscal year 2024.

#### **9. UNSCHEDULED DRAWS ON DEBT SERVICE RESERVES REFLECTING FINANCIAL DIFFICULTY**

Due to the uncertainty of future TSR collections and lower than expected investment earnings, the Corporation anticipates that draws against the reserve funds will be needed to make future interest payments. Certain events may occur that could improve the financial outlook for the Corporation. One such event in fiscal year 2024 was the change in market conditions that provided a higher rate of return on funds held in the Senior Liquidity Reserve Account. The Corporation is actively monitoring investment alternatives to maximize the rate of return.

#### **10. RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES**



**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' 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***

The Honorable Members of the Board of Directors of the  
Virginia Tobacco Settlement Financing Corporation and the  
Virginia Department of the Treasury  
Richmond, Virginia

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 the governmental activities and each major fund information of Virginia Tobacco Settlement, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Virginia Tobacco Settlement's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated October 24, 2024.

**Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Corporation's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Corporation's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Corporation'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 was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control 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 or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

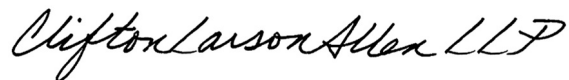
To the Honorable Members of the Board of Directors of the  
Virginia Tobacco Settlement Financing Corporation and the  
Virginia Department of the Treasury

### **Report on Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Corporation's financial statements are free from 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 financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed 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 entity'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 entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



**CliftonLarsonAllen LLP**

Arlington, Virginia  
October 24, 2024

## **VIRGINIA TOBACCO SETTLEMENT FINANCING CORPORATION**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements**

Ongoing economic uncertainties could impact domestic tobacco sales, which will impact payments made by the PMs to the Corporation, which are used for debt service. In that case, the Corporation will need to make larger draws against the funds held in the Senior Liquidity Reserve Account in order to make future debt service payments.



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