

## REPORT OF INDEPENDENT CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Beaufort County Council  
Beaufort County  
Beaufort, South Carolina

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Beaufort County, South Carolina (the County) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2008 which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of County's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit.

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. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Beaufort County as of June 30, 2008, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, thereof and the respective budgetary comparison for the general fund for the year then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued a report dated January 23, 2009 on our consideration of Beaufort County's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is 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 internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with government auditing standards and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

Management's Discussion and Analysis and required supplementary information, as listed in the Table of Contents, is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements. The introductory section, combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements, general, debt service, and capital project fund budgetary comparison information, Clerk of Court and Magistrates fees and fines schedule, and statistical tables as listed in the Table of Contents are presented for the purpose of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by U.S. Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133, Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations, and is also not a required part of the basic financial statements of Beaufort County, South Carolina. The combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements, general fund, debt service, and capital project fund budgetary comparison information, Clerk of Court and Magistrate fees and fines schedule, and accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, are fairly presented, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The introductory section and statistical tables have not been subjected to auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

*Elliott Davis, LLC*

Columbia, South Carolina  
January 23, 2009