

Guam Ancestral Lands Commission

FY2022 Citizen Centric Report



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John T. Burch
Executive Director

ABOUT GALC

The Guam Ancestral Lands Commission (GALC) was created by Public Law 25-45 to serve as the conduit for conveying returned federal excess lands to their original land owners. GALC is known as the Land Claims Facilitator. On October 6, 2011, the Governor of Guam issued Reorganization Advisory No. 5, which was later superseded by Advisory No. 9, whereby the GALC was merged into GovGuam's Department of Land Management (DLM) in 2012. On January 16, 2019, the Governor of Guam issued Executive Order 2019-01 re-establishing the GALC as a separate agency from DLM.



OUR MISSION

Administer the Guam Ancestral Lands Act in order that ancestral landowners, their heirs and descendants may expeditiously exercise all the fundamental civil rights in the property they own; establish a land bank to provide just compensation for dispossessed ancestral landowners; and when appropriate, assume the role of Claims Facilitator to assist ancestral landowners in pursuit of just remedies. (21GCA §80102)

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OUR GOAL

Increase the number of federal return parcels and provide just compensation to the families who will not benefit from the returns.

FY2022 PROGRESS

By year-end, September 30, 2022, the GALC operated with a board of seven members supported by 1 classified employee, 4 unclassified employees. All members of the Board of Commissioners and all GALC staff maintained their certification for the Ethics in Government Program.

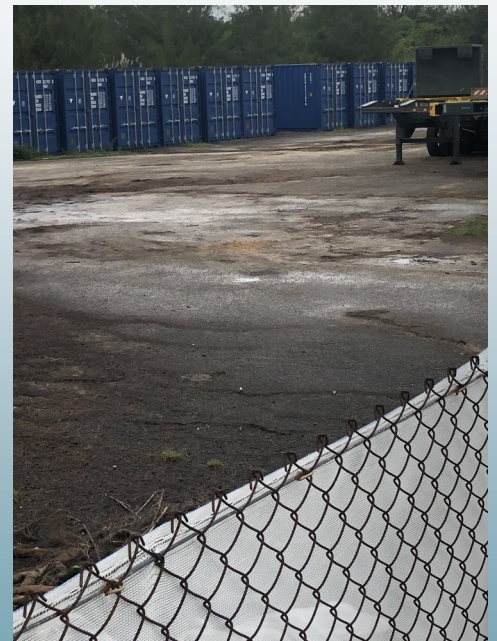
For Fiscal Year 2022, Independent Auditors, EY (Ernst and Young LLP) issued an unmodified, clean opinion for the Guam Ancestral Lands Commission. The following are the financial highlights of the GALC's financial activities:

- GALC paid the Guam Economic Development Authority (GEDA) \$127,702 in management fees for services provided in Fiscal Year 2022.
- Total assets exceeded total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources by \$15,505,392 at September 30, 2022 as compared to \$14,613,800 at the end of the prior year.
- Total assets on September 30, 2022 increased by \$10,915,816 (or 71%) as compared to September 30, 2021.
- Total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources on September 30, 2022 increased by \$10,024,224 (or 1383%) as compared to September 30, 2021.
- Total fund balance on September 30, 2022 increased by \$891,592 (or 6%) as compared to September 30, 2021.

FY2022 PROGRESS CONT.

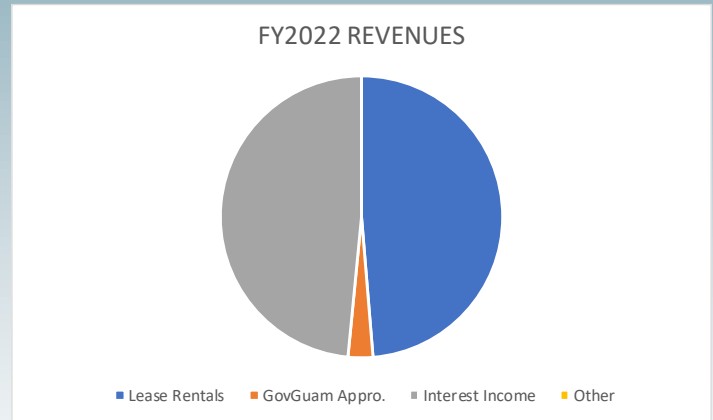
• Total revenues of \$1,443,034 for the year ended September 30, 2022 increased by \$141,178 (or 11%) as compared to \$1,301,856 for the prior year. Total expenditures of \$551,442 for the year ended September 30, 2022 decreased by \$12,134 (or 2%) as compared to \$563,576 for the prior year. This resulted in an increase in the fund balance of \$891,592 for the year ended September 30, 2022 as compared to \$738,280 for the prior year.

GALC issued 1 Commercial License to Smithbridge for thirteen (13) acres at Polaris Point.

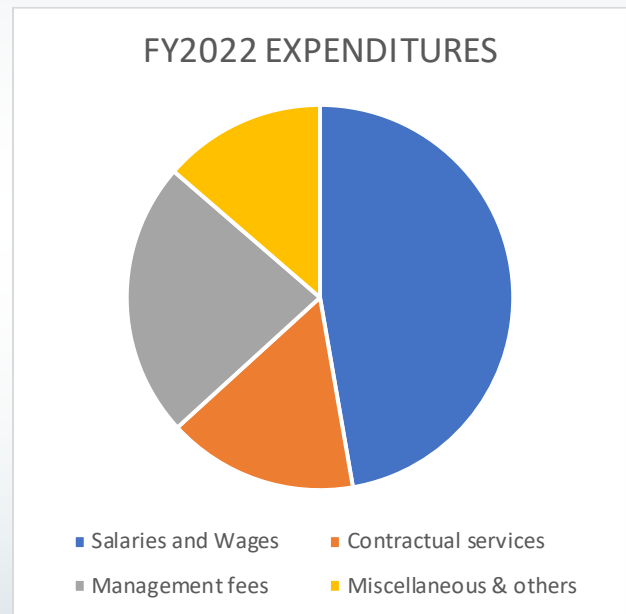


FY 2022 Finances

Revenues:	2022	2021
Lease Rentals	\$ 702,733	\$ 850,819
GovGuam Appro.	40,981	41,887
Interest Income	699,320	409,150
Other	-0-	0
Total Revenues	\$ 1,443,034	\$ 1,301,856



Expenditures:	2022	2021
Salaries and Wages	\$ 260,661	\$ 224,859
Contractual services	87,894	76,320
Management fees	127,702	102,223
Miscellaneous & others	75,185	160,174
Total Revenues	\$ 551,442	\$ 563,576



To view the GALC financial audit, go to the Office of Public Accountability website: opaguam.org

Future Challenges

At year-end September 30, 2021, GALC was unable to finalize the Land Bank Rules and Regulations. As a result, the GALC was unable to compensate original landowners who will not benefit from the return of their lands. Furthermore, the GALC continues to struggle with providing easements to returned property. This is attributed to the reluctance of property owners to dedicate a small portion of their property and the lack of authority to utilize financial resources to provide easements to returned property. In FY 2021, the GALC did not return any property, and the Commission's aggregate amount of land returned remains at 2,643.12 acres.



GALC's Landowner's Recovery Fund was created for the purpose of granting loans, guarantees of loans to aid landowners to defer costs or fees of professional services. Unfortunately, the GALC has been unable to begin such activities because of the lack of staff and a committed funding source.

The GALC's Commissioners and Executive Director acknowledge the difficulty the GALC has with the fulfillment of its mandates due to limited funds and personnel. It has been determined that in order to best fulfill these mandates, it is imperative to recruit much needed personnel. Along with this recruitment, GALC will need additional funds for drug testing, computers, supplies and training.

Outlook

The GALC Commissioners and Executive Director will continue dialogue with the Administration and the Guam Legislature to finalize the Land Bank Rules and Regulations. Furthermore, the GALC management will continue to work with the financial resources available to recruit much needed personnel.



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Did you find this report informative? Do you think we need more information added? Please contact our office at (671) 473-5263

or email us at admin@galc.guam.gov