



Engagement Letter - Single Audit

February 18, 2022

The Honorable Sydney Murphy, County Judge
Polk County
101 W. Church Street, Suite 300
Livingston, Texas 77351-3246

We are pleased to confirm our understanding of the services we are to provide for the Polk County, Texas (the "County") for the years ended September 30, 2022 and 2023.

Audit Services

We will audit the financial statements of the governmental activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund, the aggregate remaining fund information, and the disclosures, including the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements of the County as of and for the years ended September 30, 2022 and 2023.

The component unit will be audited as part of the audit of the financial statements of the County as noted below:

1. IAH Public Facility Corporation: Discretely Presented, Separate Financial Statements

Accounting standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) provide for certain Required Supplementary Information (RSI), such as Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A), to supplement the County's basic financial statements. Such information, 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. As part of our engagement, we will apply certain limited procedures to the County's RSI in accordance with GAAS. These limited procedures will consist of inquiries of management regarding 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 will 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. The following RSI is required by U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) and will be subjected to certain limited procedures, but will not be audited:

1. Management's Discussion and Analysis
2. Budgetary Comparison Schedule(s)
3. Pension Schedule(s) as applicable
4. OPEB Schedule(s) as applicable

We have also been engaged to report on supplementary information other than RSI that accompanies the County's financial statements. We will subject the following supplementary information to the auditing procedures applied in our 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 GAAS, and we will provide an opinion on it in relation to the financial statements as a whole in a report combined with our auditors' report on the financial statements:

1. Combining Statement(s) and Schedule(s)
2. Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards

In connection with our audit of the basic financial statements, we will read the following other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

1. Introductory Section
2. Statistical Section

The objectives of our audit are to obtain reasonable assurance as to whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion about whether your financial statements are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with GAAP; and report on the fairness of the supplementary information referred to in the second paragraph when considered in relation to the financial statements as a whole. 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 will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements, including omissions, can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment of a reasonable user made based on the financial statements. The objective also includes reporting on---

1. Internal control over financial reporting and compliance with the provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and award agreements, noncompliance with which could have a material effect on the financial statements in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.
2. Internal control over compliance related to major programs and an opinion (or disclaimer of opinion) on compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards that could have a direct and material effect on each major program in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (the "Uniform Guidance").

The *Government Auditing Standards* report on internal control over financial reporting and on compliance and other matters will include a paragraph that states that (1) the purpose of the report is solely to describe the scope of 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, and (2) the report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. The Uniform Guidance report on internal control over compliance will include a paragraph that states that the purpose of the report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Both reports will state that the report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Our audit will be conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards for financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996; and the provisions of the Uniform Guidance, and will include tests of accounting records, a determination of major program(s) in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, and other procedures we consider necessary to enable us to express such an opinion.

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

We will conduct our audit in accordance with GAAS and will include tests of your accounting records and other procedures we consider necessary to enable us to express such opinions. As part of an audit in accordance with GAAS, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

We will evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management. We will also evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and determine whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation. We will plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether from (1) errors, (2) fraudulent financial reporting, (3) misappropriation of assets, or (4) violations of laws or governmental regulations that are attributable to the government or to acts by management or employees acting on behalf of the government. Because the determination of abuse is subjective, *Government Auditing Standards* do not expect auditors to provide reasonable assurance of detecting abuse.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, combined with the inherent limitations of internal control, and because we will not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is an avoidable risk that some material misstatements may not be detected by us, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*. In addition, an audit is not designed to detect immaterial misstatements or violations of laws or governmental regulations that do not have a direct and material effect on the financial statements or major programs. However, we will inform the appropriate level of management of any material errors, fraudulent financial reporting, or misappropriation of assets that come to our attention. We will also inform the appropriate level of management of any violations of laws or governmental regulations that come to our attention, unless clearly inconsequential. We will include such matters in the reports required for a Single Audit. Our responsibility as auditors is limited to the period covered by our audit and does not extend to any later periods for which we are not engaged as auditors.

We will also conclude, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the government's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Our procedures will include tests of documentary evidence supporting the transactions recorded in the accounts, and may include tests of the physical existence of inventories, and direct confirmation of receivables and certain assets and liabilities by correspondence with selected creditors, and financial institutions. We will request written representations from your attorneys as part of the engagement, and they may bill you for responding to this inquiry.

Audit Procedures-Internal Control

We will obtain an understanding of the government and its environment, including internal control relevant to the audit, sufficient to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and to design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks and obtain evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinions. Tests of controls may be performed to test the effectiveness of certain controls that we consider relevant to preventing and detecting errors and fraud that are material to the financial statements and to preventing and detecting misstatements resulting from illegal acts and other noncompliance matters that have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. Our tests, if performed, will be less in scope than would be necessary to render an opinion on internal control and, accordingly, no opinion will be expressed in our report on internal control issued pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards*.

As required by the Uniform Guidance, we will perform tests of controls over compliance to evaluate the effectiveness of the design and operation of controls that we consider relevant to preventing or detecting material noncompliance with compliance requirements applicable to each major federal award program. However, our tests will be less in scope than would be necessary to render an opinion on those controls and, accordingly, no opinion will be expressed in our report on internal control issued pursuant to the Uniform Guidance.

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, misrepresentation, or the override of internal control. An audit is not designed to provide assurance on internal control or to identify significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in internal control. Accordingly, we will express no such opinion. However, during the audit, we will

communicate to management and those charged with governance internal control related matters that are required to be communicated under AICPA professional standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance.

Audit Procedures-Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, we will perform tests of the County's compliance with provisions of applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and agreements, including grant agreements. However, the objective of our audit will not be to provide an opinion on overall compliance, and we will not express such an opinion in our report on compliance issued pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards*.

The Uniform Guidance requires that we also plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the auditee has complied with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards applicable to major programs. Our procedures will consist of tests of transactions and other applicable procedures described in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* for the types of compliance requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each of the County's major programs. The purpose of these procedures will be to express an opinion on the County's compliance with requirements applicable to each of its major programs in our report on compliance issued pursuant to the Uniform Guidance.

Other Services

We will also assist in preparing the financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, and related disclosures of the County in conformity with GAAP and the Uniform Guidance based on information provided by you. These nonaudit services do not constitute an audit under *Government Auditing Standards* and such services will not be conducted in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.

We will perform the services in accordance with applicable professional standards. The other services are limited to the financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, and related disclosures services previously defined. We, in our sole professional judgment, reserve the right to refuse to perform any procedure or take any action that could be construed as assuming management responsibilities.

Nonaudit Services

In connection with the engagement, we will perform services unrelated to our attest function. The additional services we will provide include:

1. **Preparation of Documents**
We will assist in preparing the financial statements and related notes of the County in conformity with GAAP based on information provided by the County.
2. **Advisory Services**
We will provide routine advisory services through phone calls, conferences, or otherwise, in connection with incidental matters arising during the year. We encourage open lines of communication throughout the year as part of our services.
3. **Correspondence**
We will handle all normal correspondence from grantor, regulatory, or oversight agencies related to the audit.
4. **Professional Proofing**
To ensure documents issued in connection with the audit engagement are professional in appearance, we will submit both client-prepared information, as well as documents created entirely by the auditor, to an independent professional proofreader for a cover-to-cover inspection. This review will include consistent formatting, grammar, logic, and any other items that may detract from the document. This process is over and above technical reviews performed.
5. **Printing and Binding**
All final hard copy documents will be printed on a 1200 dpi or better resolution copier and bright white report paper. Reports will be bound with GBC-brand plastic combs with 30 mil oversized covers. We will manually inspect each page from one document and spot check remaining reports for printing errors. Our reports will be centered, properly aligned, and free of smudges and other detracting elements.

6. Electronic Adobe Searchable PDF

In addition to providing hard copy documents, we will also provide all final documents in electronic image files in Adobe PDF format, suitable for posting in electronic agenda packages, posting on websites, or transmitting by email to regulatory agencies.

7. Client Portal - Auditbox

We will provide the County access to our proprietary AuditBox online site to provide a central repository where both the County's personnel and audit team members can see documents being exchanged during the process to eliminate duplicate requests from audit team members. Both the County's documents, as well as final audit documents, will be hosted on the site providing an archive of information that new personnel may access in subsequent years, if information is needed regarding what was provided for a prior year audit or a copy of audit documents issued.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Our audit will be conducted on the basis that you acknowledge and understand your responsibility for (1) designing, implementing, and maintaining effective internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, including internal controls over federal awards, and for monitoring ongoing activities to help ensure that appropriate goals and objectives are met; (2) following laws and regulations; (3) ensuring that there is reasonable assurance that government programs are administered in compliance with compliance requirements; and (4) ensuring that management is reliable and financial information is reliable and properly reported. Management is also responsible for implementing systems designed to achieve compliance with applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements. You are also responsible for the selection and application of accounting principles; and for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, and all accompanying information in conformity with GAAP; and for compliance with applicable laws and regulations (including federal statutes) and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements (including award agreements). Your responsibilities also include identifying significant contractor relationships in which the contractor has responsibility for program compliance and for the accuracy and completeness of that information.

Management is also responsible for making drafts of financial statements, all financial records and related information available to us and for the accuracy and completeness of that information (including information from outside of the general and subsidiary ledgers). You are also responsible for providing us with (1) access to all information of which we are aware that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, such as records, documentation, identification of all related parties and all related-party relationships and transactions, and other matters; (2) access to personnel, accounts, books, records, supporting documentation, and other information as needed to perform an audit under the Uniform Guidance; (3) additional information that we may request for the purpose of the audit; and (4) unrestricted access to persons within the government from whom we determine it necessary to obtain audit evidence. At the conclusion of our audit, we will require certain written representations from you about the financial statements and related matters.

Your responsibilities include adjusting the financial statements to correct material misstatements and confirming to us in the management representation letter that the effects of any uncorrected misstatements aggregated by us during the current engagement and pertaining to the latest period presented are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements of each opinion unit as a whole.

You are responsible for the design and implementation of programs and controls to prevent and detect fraud, and for informing us about all known or suspected fraud affecting the government involving (1) management, (2) employees who have significant roles in internal control, and (3) others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements. Your responsibilities include informing us of your knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the government received in communications from employees, former employees, grantors, regulators, or others. In addition, you are responsible for identifying and ensuring that the government complies with applicable laws, regulations, contracts, agreements, and grants. Management is also responsible for taking timely and appropriate steps to remedy fraud and noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, or abuse that we report. Additionally, as required by the Uniform Guidance, it is management's responsibility to evaluate and monitor noncompliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards; take prompt action when instances of noncompliance are identified including noncompliance identified in audit findings; promptly follow up and take corrective action on reported audit findings; and prepare a summary schedule of prior audit findings and a separate corrective action plan. The summary schedule of prior audit findings should be available for our review prior to the beginning of our audit

fieldwork.

You are responsible for identifying all federal awards received and understanding and complying with the compliance requirements and for the preparation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards (including notes and noncash assistance received) in conformity with the Uniform Guidance. You agree to include our report on the schedule of expenditures of federal awards in any document that contains and indicates that we have reported on the schedule of expenditures of federal awards. You also agree to make the audited financial statements readily available to intended users of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards no later than the date the schedule of expenditures of federal awards is issued with our report thereon. Your responsibilities include acknowledging to us in the written representation letter that (1) you are responsible for presentation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards in accordance with the Uniform Guidance; (2) you believe the schedule of expenditures of federal awards, including its form and content, is stated fairly in accordance with the Uniform Guidance; (3) the methods of measurement or presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period (or, if they have changed, the reasons for such changes); and (4) you have disclosed to us any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement or presentation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards.

You are also responsible for the preparation of the other supplementary information, on which we have been engaged to report, in conformity with GAAP. You agree to include our report on the supplementary information in any document that contains, and indicates that we have reported on, the supplementary information. You also agree to include the audited financial statements with any presentation of the supplementary information that includes our report thereon. Your responsibilities include acknowledging to us in the representation letter that (1) you are responsible for presentation of the supplementary information in accordance with GAAP; (2) you believe the supplementary information, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with GAAP; (3) the methods of measurement or presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period (or, if they have changed, the reasons for such changes); and (4) you have disclosed to us any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement or presentation of the supplementary information.

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining a process for tracking the status of audit findings and recommendations. Management is also responsible for identifying and providing report copies of previous financial audits, attestation engagements, performance audits, or other studies related to the objectives discussed in the Audit Objectives section of this letter. This responsibility includes relaying to us corrective actions taken to address significant findings and recommendations resulting from those audits, attestation engagements, performance audits, or studies. You are also responsible for providing management's views on our current findings, conclusions, and recommendations, as well as your planned corrective actions, for the report, and for the timing and format for providing that information.

You agree to assume all management responsibilities for the financial statements preparation, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, related disclosures, and any other nonattest services we provide; oversee the services by designating an individual, preferably from senior management, with suitable skill, knowledge, or experience; evaluate the adequacy and results of those services; and accept responsibility for them.

Engagement Administration, Fees, and Other

We understand that your employees will prepare all cash, accounts receivable, or other confirmations we request and will locate any documents selected by us for testing.

At the conclusion of the engagement, we will complete the appropriate sections of the Data Collection Form that summarizes our audit findings. It is management's responsibility to electronically submit the reporting package (including financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, summary schedule of prior audit findings, auditors' reports, and corrective action plan) along with the Data Collection Form to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse. We will coordinate with you the electronic submission and certification. The Data Collection Form and the reporting package must be submitted within the earlier of 30 calendar days after receipt of the auditors' reports or nine months after the end of the audit period.

We will provide copies of our reports to the County; however, management is responsible for distribution of the reports and the financial statements. Unless restricted by law or regulation, or containing privileged and confidential information, copies of our reports are to be made available for public inspection.

The audit documentation for this engagement is the property of Belt Harris Pechacek, LLLP and constitutes

confidential information. However, subject to applicable laws and regulations, audit documentation and appropriate individuals will be made available upon request and in a timely manner to any oversight agency or its designee, a federal agency providing direct or indirect funding, or the U.S. Government Accountability Office for purposes of a quality review of the audit, to resolve audit findings, or to carry out oversight responsibilities. We will notify you of any such request. If requested, access to such audit documentation will be provided under the supervision of Belt Harris Pechacek, LLLP personnel. Furthermore, upon request, we may provide copies of selected audit documentation to the aforementioned parties. These parties may intend, or decide, to distribute the copies or information contained therein to others, including other governmental agencies.

The audit documentation for this engagement will be retained for a minimum of five years after the report release date or for any additional period requested by the oversight agency. If we are aware that a federal awarding agency, pass-through entity, or auditee is contesting an audit finding, we will contact the party(ies) contesting the audit finding for guidance prior to destroying the audit documentation.

Fees for our services are based on the actual time spent at our standard hourly rates, plus travel and other out-of-pocket costs such as report production, word processing, postage, etc. Our standard hourly rates vary according to the degree of responsibility involved and the experience level of the personnel assigned to your audit. Items that likely will increase the fee estimate include:

1. Assistance with addressing matters that were designated as management's responsibility, which include closing schedules and closing entries.
2. Submission of audit data within 60 days of a client requested completion date or filing deadline, requiring overtime hours to meet the deadline.
3. Changes in accounting pronouncements, professional standards, laws, and regulations not known to us as of the date of this letter that have a significant impact on time requirements.
4. Changes in the operations and significant matters that materially change the audit scope such as evaluation of the impact of joint ventures, debt issuance/refunding/advance extinguishment, forbearance agreements, notice of material events, enforcement actions, required corrective actions, self-insurance, environmental liabilities, going concern, and/or other postemployment benefits.
5. Significant increases in State or Federal funding requiring State and/or Federal Single Audits and/or increases to the number of grants classified as major programs by Office of Management and Budget (OMB) or State requirements.
6. Follow up on allegations or discovery of a) noncompliance with laws, regulations, and policies; b) fraud, waste, and abuse; c) significant deficiencies in internal control; d) nepotism; and e) related party transactions.

As customary in the industry, the price quoted is an estimate. In accordance with rules of the State Board of Public Accountancy, we cannot be bound to provide the audit for the amount estimated. However, in practice, we honor our fee quotes unless adverse conditions such as those described above are encountered.

Fee Estimates

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
Financial Statement Audit	\$ 66,220	\$ 70,855
Federal Single Audit - Base Fee	\$ 4,350	\$ 4,655
Federal Single Audit - Per Major Program	\$ 5,510	\$ 5,895

GASB Statement 87

Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement 87, *Leases* ("GASB 87") takes effect this year. GASB 87 essentially requires that all leases that finance the right to use an underlying asset should be reported on the balance sheet for both the lessor and lessee. Unlike other accounting standards changes, GASB 87 will require management to evaluate the impact, plan for the impact, and make necessary changes in business processes. Implementation of GASB 87 will generally require centralized lease document management; in-depth review of lease documents;

recording and tracking of multiple data points per lease, which may necessitate new software based on the volume of leases; and development of new controls, reconciliations, and policies and procedures. Management needs to begin making initial assessments immediately to determine the lead time and resources needed. Management needs to identify all leases as both the lessor (leasing to someone-landlord-receivable) and lessee (leasing from someone-tenant-payable) in which the term initially exceeded 12 months. Based on the aggregate value of leases and materiality, management should determine a cutoff for exclusion of insignificant leases. Management should establish the goal of being fully implemented at the earlier of interim audit procedures or 60 days prior to year end to provide for a sufficient buffer to safeguard against delay in issuing the financial statements. If management is not prepared by the regularly scheduled start date for the audit, the options will be to receive a modified audit opinion, for us to withdraw from the engagement, or to reschedule the engagement to the end of the government audit season, April 2023. The number of leases that an organization has will likely be grossly underestimated and the time requirement to assemble and evaluate documents understated. Accordingly, **it is imperative to begin the GASB 87 lease process early to avoid negative impact.**

Our fee estimate does not include any additional time to prepare required data and disclosures or to perform audit procedures as the number and types of leases varies significantly by organization. Time associated with GASB 87 will be tracked and billed separately. It is imperative that the GASB 87 work be fully completed prior to the interim audit, which typically occurs during the summer.

Federal Single Audit Engagement

A federal single audit is required by the OMB's Uniform Guidance when federal funds over \$750,000 are expended. Federal single audit fees vary based on the number of major programs as defined by OMB. Accordingly, the federal single audit fee consists of a 'Federal Single Audit-Base Fee' to cover basic fixed amounts and the 'Federal Single Audit-Per Major Program Fee', which is the scalable portion dependent on the actual number of major programs. The number of major programs is established by OMB criteria. If a federal single audit is required, there will be at least one major program. Prior year federal single audit reports will help plan for the number of major programs, but they will vary from year to year based on the level of federal funding. Should you not exceed OMB's federal single audit threshold, a federal single audit will not be required. If you anticipate exceeding the federal single audit threshold, please contact us as far in advance as possible so that we can begin doing preliminary federal single audit work.

Non-State Single Audit Engagement

A state single audit is required when grant funds that originated from the State of Texas (this does not include federal monies passed through the State) over \$750,000 are expended. State single audit fees vary based on the number of major programs as defined by the *State of Texas Single Audit Circular*. The additional technical verbiage that is necessary when a state single audit is required is not included within this engagement letter, nor does the proposed engagement fee include additional fees related to a state single audit. Should you exceed the state single audit threshold, a new engagement letter will be required.

Billing Protocol

Our invoices for these fees will be rendered each month as work progresses and are payable on presentation. Generally, 40 percent will be billed and payable upon completion of interim audit procedures (normally one to four months before year end) and 60 percent after a draft of the financial statements is issued. Accordingly, the fee will be split 40/60 between budget years. In accordance with our firm policies, work may be suspended if your account becomes 30 days or more overdue and may not be resumed until your account is paid in full. If we elect to terminate our services for nonpayment, our engagement will be deemed to have been completed upon written notification of termination, even if we have not completed our report. You will be obligated to compensate us for all time expended and to reimburse us for all out-of-pocket costs through the date of termination. The above fee is based on anticipated cooperation from your personnel and the assumption that unexpected circumstances will not be encountered during the audit. If significant additional time is necessary, we will discuss it with you and arrive at a new fee estimate before we incur the additional costs.

Required Attachments

Government Auditing Standards require that we provide you with a copy of our most recent external peer review report and any letter of comment, and any subsequent peer review reports and letters of comment received during

the period of the contract. Our 2018 peer review accompanies this letter.

Reporting

We will issue a written report upon completion of our audit of the County's financial statements. Our report will be addressed to those charged with governance of the County. Circumstances may arise in which our report may differ from its expected form and content based on the results of the audit. Depending on the nature of these circumstances, it may be necessary for us to modify our opinions or add an emphasis of matter or other matter paragraph to our auditors' report or, if necessary, withdraw from this engagement. If our opinions are other than unmodified, we will discuss the reasons with you in advance. If, for any reason, we are unable to complete the audit or are unable to form or have not formed opinions, we may decline to express opinions or withdraw from the engagement.

Foreign Terrorists Organizations

Pursuant to Chapter 2252, Texas Government Code, we represent and certify that, at the time of execution of this letter, neither we nor any wholly owned subsidiary, majority-owned subsidiary, parent company, or affiliate of the same (i) engages in business with Iran, Sudan, or any foreign terrorist organization as described in Chapters 806 or 807 of the Texas Government Code or Subchapter F of Chapter 2252 of the Texas Government Code or (ii) is a company listed by the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts under Sections 806.051, 807.051, or 2252.153 of the Texas Government Code. The term 'foreign terrorist organization' in this paragraph has the meaning assigned to such term in Section 2252.151 of the Texas Government Code.

Vendor Representation Regarding Israel

Pursuant to Chapter 2271, Texas Government Code, we represent that we do not boycott Israel and will not boycott Israel during the term of the contract. The term 'boycott Israel' shall have the meaning ascribed to this term in Section 808.001 of the Texas Government Code.

Required Non-Appropriation Clause

Notwithstanding anything contained in this engagement to the contrary, in the event no funds or insufficient funds are appropriated and budgeted or are otherwise unavailable in any fiscal period for fees due under this engagement agreement, the County will immediately notify us in writing of such occurrence and this agreement shall terminate on the last day of the fiscal period for which appropriations have been received or made.

Authorization of CPA's Disclosure

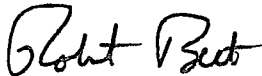
Any client certified public accountant involved with assisting us shall not be prohibited from disclosure of information required to be made available by the standards of the public accounting profession in reporting on the examination of financial statements. Management understands and provides permission to staff certificate or registration holders as required under the Rules of Professional Conduct, Texas Administrative Code, Title 22, Part 22, Chapter 501, Subchapter C, Section 501.75.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to the County and believe this letter accurately summarizes the significant terms of our engagement. If you have any questions, please let us know. If you agree with the terms of our engagement as described in this letter, please sign the enclosed copy and return it to us.

Sincerely,

Belt Harris Pechacek, LLLP
Certified Public Accountants

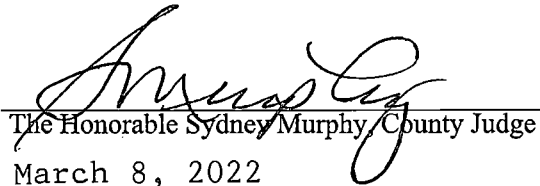
Authorized by:



Robert Belt, CPA, CGMA
Managing Partner

RESPONSE:

This letter correctly sets forth the understanding of Polk County.



The Honorable Sydney Murphy, County Judge

March 8, 2022

Date



BUMGARDNERMORRISON

CPAs • Tax • Audit & Accounting

Empowering Peace of Mind

Report on the Firm's System of Quality Control

To the Partners of Belt Harris Pechacek, LLLP
And the Peer Review Committee of the Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants

We have reviewed the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Belt Harris Pechacek, LLLP (the firm) in effect for the year ended June 30, 2018. Our peer review was conducted in accordance with the Standards for Performing and Reporting on Peer Reviews established by the Peer Review Board of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (Standards).

A summary of the nature, objectives, scope, limitations of, and the procedures performed in a System Review as described in the Standards may be found at www.aicpa.org/prsummary. The summary also includes an explanation of how engagements identified as not performed or reported in conformity with applicable professional standards, if any, are evaluated by a peer reviewer to determine a peer review rating.

Firm's Responsibility

The firm is responsible for designing a system of quality control and complying with it to provide the firm with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with applicable professional standards in all material respects. The firm is also responsible for evaluating actions to promptly remediate engagements deemed as not performed or reported in conformity with professional standards, when appropriate, and for remediating weaknesses in its system of quality control, if any.

Peer Reviewer's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the design of the system of quality control and the firm's compliance therewith based on our review.

Required Selections and Considerations

Engagements selected for review included engagements performed under *Government Auditing Standards*, including compliance audits under the Single Audit Act;

As part of our review, we considered reviews by regulatory entities as communicated by the firm, if applicable, in determining the nature and extent of our procedures.

Opinion

In our opinion, the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Belt Harris Pechacek, LLLP in effect for the year ended June 30, 2018, has been suitably designed and complied with to provide the firm with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with applicable professional standards in all material respects. Firms can receive a rating of *pass*, *pass with deficiency(ies)* or *fail*. Belt Harris Pechacek, LLLP has received a peer review rating of *pass*.



BUMGARDNER, MORRISON & COMPANY, LLP
December 14, 2018

Bumgardner, Morrison & Company, LLP
Certified Public Accountants

Members: American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants
AICPA Private Companies Practice Section
AICPA Employee Benefit Plan Audit Quality Center
AICPA Government Audit Quality Center

1501 E Mockingbird Lane, Suite 300
PO Box 3750
Victoria, Texas 77903-3750
Phone: 361.575.0271
Fax: 361.578.0880
Website: BMCcpa.com