

#### **Rehmann Robson**

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# COMMUNICATION WITH THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE UNDER SAS NO. 114

April 19, 2013

Board of Directors Calhoun County Consolidated Dispatch Authority

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and the major fund of the *Calhoun County Consolidated Dispatch Authority* (the "Authority") for the year ended December 31, 2012, and have issued our report thereon dated April 19, 2013. Professional standards require that we provide you with the following information related to our audit.

# Our Responsibility Under Auditing Standards Generally Accepted in the United States of America

As stated in our engagement letter dated December 19, 2012, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to express opinions about whether the financial statements prepared by management with your oversight are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of your responsibilities.

Our responsibility is to plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that the financial statements are free of material misstatement. As part of our audit, we considered the internal control of the Authority. Such considerations were solely for the purpose of determining our audit procedures and not to provide any assurance concerning such internal control. We are responsible for communicating significant matters related to the audit that are, in our professional judgment, relevant to your responsibilities in overseeing the financial reporting process. However, we are not required to design procedures specifically to identify such matters.

## Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit

We performed the audit according to the planned scope and timing previously communicated to you in our engagement letter and in our meeting about planning matters on March 19, 2013.

## Significant Results of the Audit

## **Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices**

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter, we will advise management about the appropriateness of accounting policies and their application. The significant accounting policies used by the Authority are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. As described in Note 9 to the financial statements, the Authority adopted Statement of Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 65, *Items Previously Reported as Assets and Liabilities,* in the current year. We noted no transactions entered into by the Authority during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. There are no significant transactions that have been recognized in the financial statements in a different period than when the transaction occurred.



Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting the financial statements were:

- Management's estimate of the useful lives of depreciable capital assets is based on the length of time it is believed that those assets will provide some economic benefit in the future.
- Management's estimate of the accrued compensated absences is based on current hourly rates and policies regarding payment of sick and vacation banks.

We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop these estimates in determining that they are reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

### Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

#### Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. We did not identify any misstatements during our audit.

## Upcoming Changes in Accounting Standards

Generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) are continually changing in order to promote the usability and enhance the applicability of information included in external financial reporting. While it would not be practical to include an in-depth discussion of every upcoming change in professional standards, Attachment B to this letter contains a brief overview of recent pronouncements of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) and their related effective dates. Management is responsible for reviewing these standards, determining their applicability, and implementing them in future accounting periods.

#### Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

#### Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the attached management representation letter dated April 19, 2013.

### Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the entity's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

## Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the governmental unit's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

This information is intended solely for the use of the governing body and management of the *Calhoun County Consolidated Dispatch Authority* and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,

Rehmann Johann

# CALHOUN COUNTY CONSOLIDATED DISPATCH AUTHORITY

# Attachment A - Consideration of Internal Control Over Financial Reporting For the December 31, 2012 Audit

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and the major fund of the *Calhoun County Consolidated Dispatch Authority* (the "Authority") for the year ended December 31, 2012, and have issued our report thereon dated April 19, 2013.

In planning and performing our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the Authority's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority'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 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.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses and, therefore, there can be no assurance that all such deficiencies have been identified. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses.

# Other Matters

## Compliance with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act

Regardless of the number of employees you have, the provisions and requirements of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (the "Act") impact virtually all employers. The Act became law in 2010. Since then, some of the changes have included extending dependent care coverage, and required reporting by health insurers of premium dollars spent on medical care as opposed to administration or retained for profit. While many changes have already taken place in 2010 through 2012, the Act's provisions continue to have implementation dates into 2018. The employer mandate effective for 2014 has many employers seeking to understand and assess the impact on their organizations. The 'Pay or Play Penalty', employer shared responsibility provisions and implementation of insurance exchanges all require your attention to determine the impact on your organization.

The rules are complex and require proactive planning to best ascertain how the Act will affect your future financial and employment plans. Failure to plan for the effects of the Act that start in 2014 may have financial detriments or loss of an opportunity to reduce costs. Compliance and reporting requirements will likely prove to be daunting. The changes are primarily regulatory and tax in nature which may require engaging an expert in the employee benefit / insurance market in addition to your trusted Rehmann business advisor. We encourage management to begin planning for this Act.



# CALHOUN COUNTY CONSOLIDATED DISPATCH AUTHORITY

# Attachment B - Upcoming Changes in Accounting Standards

For the December 31, 2012 Audit

The following pronouncements of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) have been released recently and may be applicable to the Authority in the near future. We encourage management to review the following information and determine which standard(s) may be applicable to the Authority. For the complete text of these and other GASB standards, visit www.gasb.org and click on the "pronouncements" tab. If you have questions regarding the applicability, timing, or implementation approach for any of these standards, please contact your audit team.

# GASB 66 ■ 2012 Technical Corrections (an Amendment to GASB 10 and GASB 62) *Effective 12/15/2013 (your FY 2013)*

This standard was issued to eliminate conflicting guidance that resulted from the issuance of GASB 54 and GASB 62, which are both already effective. GASB 10 was amended to allow for risk financing activities to be accounted for in whichever fund type is most applicable (no longer limited to the general fund or an internal service fund). GASB 62 was amended to modify specific guidance related to (1) operating leases with scheduled rent increases, (2) purchase of loans at an amount other than the principal amount, and (3) service fees related to mortgages that are sold when the service rate varies significantly from the current (normal) service fees.

We do not expect GASB 66 to have any significant impact on the Authority at this time.

## GASB 67 ■ Financial Reporting for Pension Plans Effective 06/15/2014 (your FY 2014)

This standard establishes the requirements for pension plans administered by trusts to report on their operations, including setting new uniform requirements for actuarial valuations of the total pension liability, and reporting various 10-year trend data as required supplementary information. The financial statements of pension plans will not change substantially as a result of GASB 67, though the additional note disclosures and required supplementary information will be significant. Additionally, actuarial valuations conducted in accordance with GASB 67 will have to match the government's fiscal year, or be rolled forward to that date by the actuary.

Because the Authority does not maintain its own pension trust fund, we do not expect GASB 67 to have any significant impact on the Authority at this time.

# GASB 68 ■ Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions

Effective 06/15/2015 (your FY 2015)

This standard establishes new requirements for governments to report a "net pension liability" for the unfunded portion of its pension plan. Governments that maintain their own pension plans (either single employer or agent multiple-employer) will report a liability for the difference between the total pension liability calculated in accordance with GASB 67 and the amount held in the pension trust fund. Governments that participate in a cost sharing plan will report a liability for their "proportionate share" of the net pension liability of the entire system.

# CALHOUN COUNTY CONSOLIDATED DISPATCH AUTHORITY

# Attachment B - Upcoming Changes in Accounting Standards

For the December 31, 2012 Audit

Historically, governments have only been required to report a net pension obligation to the extent that they have not met the annual required contribution (ARC) in any given year. Upon implementation of this standard, governments will be required to report a net pension liability based on the current funded status of their pension plans. This liability would be limited to the government-wide financial statements. Changes in this liability from year to year will largely be reflected on the income statement, though certain amounts will be deferred and amortized over varying periods.

GASB 68 also requires more extensive note disclosures and required supplementary information, including 10 years of historical information. The methods used to determine the discount rate (the assumed rate of return on plan assets held in trust) are mandated and must be disclosed, along with what the impact would be on the net pension liability if that rate changed by 1% in either direction. Other new disclosure requirements include details of the changes in the components of the net pension liability, comparisons of actual employer contributions to actuarially determined contributions, and ratios to put the net pension liability in context. For single-employer and agent multiple-employer plans, the information for these statements will come from the annual actuarial valuation. For cost sharing plans, this information will be derived from the financial reports of the plan itself, multiplied by the government's proportionate share of plan.

GASB 67 and 68 are only applicable to pension plans. However, the GASB has announced its intent to issue similar standards for other postemployment benefits (e.g., retiree healthcare) on a two year delay from these standards.

# GASB 69 ■ Government Combinations and Disposals of Government Operations *Effective 12/15/2014 (your FY 2014)*

This standard provides detailed requirements for the accounting and disclosure of various types of government combinations, such as mergers, acquisitions, and transfers of operations. The guidance available previously was limited to nongovernmental entities, and therefore did not provide practical examples for situations common in government-specific combinations and disposals. The accounting and disclosure requirements for these events vary based on whether a significant payment is made, the continuation or termination of services, and the legal structure of the new or continuing entity.

Given the infrequent nature of these types of events, we do not expect this standard to have any impact on the Authority at this time.





# Calhoun County Consolidated Dispatch Authority

Serving Our Community One Call at a Time

April 19, 2013

Rehmann Robson P.O. Box 449 Jackson, MI 49203

We are providing this letter in connection with your audit of the financial statements of the *Calhoun County Consolidated Dispatch Authority* as of December 31, 2012 and for the year then ended for the purpose of expressing opinions as to whether the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and the major fund of the Calhoun County Consolidated Dispatch Authority and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We confirm that we are responsible for the fair presentation of the previously mentioned financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We are also responsible for adopting sound accounting policies, establishing and maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting, and preventing and detecting fraud.

We confirm as of April 19, 2013, the following representations made to you during your audit.

- 1. The financial statements referred to above are fairly presented in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and include all properly classified funds and other financial information of the primary government and all component units required by generally accepted accounting principles to be included in the financial reporting entity.
- 2. We have made available to you all
  - a. Financial records and related data.
  - b. Minutes of the meetings of the Authority Board or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared.
- 3. There have been no communications from regulatory agencies concerning noncompliance with, or deficiencies in, financial reporting practices.
- 4. There are no material transactions that have not been properly recorded in the accounting records underlying the financial statements.
- 5. We are in agreement with the adjusting journal entries you have proposed, and they have been posted.
- 6. We acknowledge our responsibility for the design and implementation of programs and controls to prevent and detect fraud.
- 7. We have no knowledge of any fraud or suspected fraud affecting the entity involving:
  - a. Management,
  - b. Employees who have significant roles in internal control, or

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- c. Others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.
- 8. We have no knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the entity received in communications from employees, former employees, analysts, regulators, or others.
- 9. We have taken timely and appropriate steps to remedy fraud, illegal acts, violations of provisions of contracts or grant agreements, or abuse that you have reported to us.
- 10. We have a process to track the status of audit findings and recommendations.
- 11. We have identified to you any previous audits, attestation engagements, and other studies related to the audit objectives and whether related recommendations have been implemented.
- 12. We have provided our views on reported findings, conclusions, and recommendations, as well as our planned corrective actions, for the report.
- 13. The Authority has no plans or intentions that may materially affect the carrying value or classification of assets, liabilities, or equity.
- 14. The following, if any, have been properly recorded or disclosed in the financial statements:
  - a. Related party transactions, including revenues, expenditures/expenses, loans, transfers, leasing arrangements, and guarantees, and amounts receivable from or payable to related parties.

For the purposes of this letter, related parties mean members of the governing body; board members; administrative officials; immediate families of administrative officials, board members, and members of the governing body; and any companies affiliated with or owned by such individuals.

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- b. Guarantees, whether written or oral, under which the Authority is contingently liable.
- c. All accounting estimates that could be material to the financial statements, including the key factors and significant assumptions underlying those estimates and measurements. We believe the estimates and measurements are reasonable in the circumstances.
- 15. We are responsible for compliance with the laws, regulations, and provisions of contracts and grant agreements applicable to us, including tax or debt limits and debt contracts; and we have identified and disclosed to you all laws, regulations and provisions of contracts and grant agreements that we believe have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts, or other financial data significant to the audit objectives, including legal and contractual provisions for reporting specific activities in separate funds.
- 16. There are no
  - a. Violations or possible violations of budget ordinances, laws and regulations (including those pertaining to adopting, approving, and amending budgets), provisions of contracts and grant agreements, tax or debt limits, and any related debt covenants whose effects should be considered for disclosure in the financial statements, or as a basis for recording a loss contingency, or for reporting on noncompliance.

- b. Unasserted claims or assessments that our lawyer has advised us are probable of assertion and must be disclosed in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.
- c. Other liabilities or gain or loss contingencies that are required to be accrued or disclosed by generally accepted accounting principles, other than a lawsuit filed from a former non-union group regarding continuation of health care benefits to that group.
- 17. As part of your audit, you assisted with preparation of the financial statements and related notes. We have designated an individual with suitable skill, knowledge, or experience to oversee your services and have made all management decisions and performed all management functions. We have reviewed, approved, and accepted responsibility for those financial statements and related notes.
- 18. The Authority has satisfactory title to all owned assets, and there are no liens or encumbrances on such assets nor has any asset been pledged as collateral.
- 19. The Authority has complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that would have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of noncompliance.
- 20. We have followed all applicable laws and regulations in adopting, approving, and amending budgets.
- 21. As applicable, the financial statements include all component units as well as joint ventures with an equity interest, and properly disclose all other joint ventures and other related organizations.
- 22. The financial statements properly classify all funds and activities.
- 23. All funds that meet the quantitative criteria in GASB Statement Nos. 34 and 37 for presentation as major are identified and presented as such and all other funds that are presented as major are particularly important to financial statement users.
- 24. Components of net assets (invested in capital assets, net of related debt; restricted; and unrestricted) and equity amounts are properly classified and, if applicable, approved.
- 25. Investments, derivative transactions, and land and other real estate held by endowments are properly valued.
- 26. Provisions for uncollectible receivables have been properly identified and recorded, as necessary.
- 27. Expenses have been appropriately classified in or allocated to functions and programs in the statement of activities, and allocations have been made on a reasonable basis.
- 28. Revenues are appropriately classified in the statement of activities within program revenues, general revenues, contributions to term or permanent endowments, or contributions to permanent fund principal.
- 29. Interfund, internal, and intra-entity activity and balances have been appropriately classified and reported.
- 30. Deposits and investment securities and derivative transactions are properly classified as to risk and are properly disclosed.
- 31. Capital assets, including infrastructure and intangible assets, are properly capitalized, reported, and, if applicable, depreciated.

- We have appropriately disclosed the Authority's policy regarding whether to first apply restricted or 32. unrestricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net assets are available and have determined that net assets were properly recognized under the policy.
- 33. We believe that the actuarial assumptions and methods used to measure pension and OPEB liabilities and costs for financial accounting purposes are appropriate in the circumstances.
- 34. We acknowledge our responsibility for the required supplementary information (RSI). The required supplementary information is measured and presented within prescribed guidelines and the methods of measurement and presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period. We have disclosed to you any significant assumptions and interpretations underlying the measurement and presentation of the RSI.
- 35. We acknowledge our responsibility for the required supplementary information (RSI). The required supplementary information is measured and presented within prescribed guidelines and the methods of measurement and presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period. We have disclosed to you any significant assumptions and interpretations underlying the measurement and presentation of the RSI.
- We have evaluated the Authority's ability to continue as a going concern and have included 36. appropriate disclosures, as necessary, in the financial statements.
- 37. Expenditures of federal awards were below the \$500,000 threshold in the audit period and we were not required to have an audit in accordance with OMB Circular A-133.
- 38. We have evaluated and classified any subsequent events as recognized or nonrecognized through the date of this letter. No events, including instances of noncompliance, have occurred subsequent to the balance sheet date and through the date of this letter that would require adjustment to or disclosure in the aforementioned financial statements.

Signature

CCCDA Executive Director

ADMINIST Title

Title