



Item 4F.  
BCWMC 1-5-15

PRINCIPALS

Thomas M. Montague, CPA  
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December 22, 2014

To the Board of Commissioners and Management of the  
Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission  
City of Golden Valley  
7800 Golden Valley Road  
Golden Valley, MN 55427

Dear Board of Commissioners and Management:

We are pleased to confirm our understanding of the services we are to provide the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission (the Commission) for the year ended January 31, 2015. We will audit the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the budgetary comparison for the General Fund, including the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements of the Commission as of and for the year ended January 31, 2015. Accounting standards generally accepted in the United States of America provide for certain required supplementary information (RSI), such as Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A), to supplement the Commission's basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) 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 Commission's RSI in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. 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 Management's Discussion and Analysis is required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and, if presented, will be subjected to certain limited procedures, but will not be audited.

We will perform the required State Legal Compliance Audit conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the provisions of the *Legal Compliance Audit Guide*, promulgated by the State Auditor pursuant to Minnesota Statute § 6.65, and will include such tests of the accounting records and other procedures we consider necessary to enable us to conclude that, for the items tested, the Commission has complied with the material terms and conditions of applicable legal provisions.

Our services will not include an audit in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and the U.S. Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133, which would only be required if the Commission expended \$500,000 or more in federal assistance funds during the year. If the Commission is required to have a Single Audit of federal assistance funds, this engagement letter would need to be modified.

Malloy, Montague, Karnowski, Radosevich & Co., P.A.

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### **Audit Objective**

The objective of our audit is the expression of opinions as to whether your financial statements are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and to 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. Our audit will be conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and will include tests of the accounting records and other procedures we consider necessary to enable us to express such opinions. We will issue a written report upon completion of our audit of the Commission's financial statements. Our report will be addressed to management and the Board of Commissioners of the Commission. We cannot provide assurance that unmodified opinions will be expressed. Circumstances may arise in which it is necessary for us to modify our opinions or add emphasis-of-matter or other-matter paragraphs. If our opinions on the financial statements 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 may withdraw from this engagement.

### **Management Responsibilities**

Management is responsible for the basic financial statements and all accompanying information as well as all representations contained therein. You agree to assume all management responsibilities for any 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 the services; and accept responsibility for them.

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal controls, including monitoring ongoing activities; for the selection and application of accounting principles; and for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Management is also responsible for making all financial records and related information available to us and for the accuracy and completeness of that information. You are also responsible for providing us with (1) access to all information of which you are aware that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, (2) additional information that we may request for the purpose of the audit, and (3) unrestricted access to persons within the Commission from whom we determine it necessary to obtain audit evidence.

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 taken 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 Commission 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 Commission received in communications from employees, former employees, regulators, or others. In addition, you are responsible for identifying and ensuring that the Commission complies with applicable laws and regulations.

You are responsible for the preparation of the supplementary information in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. 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 OR make the audited financial statements readily available to users of the supplementary information no later than the date the supplementary information is issued with 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 accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; (2) you believe the supplementary information, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; (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.

#### **Audit Procedures – General**

An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements; therefore, our audit will involve judgment about the number of transactions to be examined and the areas to be tested. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We will plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable rather than absolute 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 Commission or to acts by management or employees acting on behalf of the Commission.

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 a risk that material misstatements may exist and not be detected by us, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. 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. However, we will inform the appropriate level of management of any material errors, any 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. Our responsibility as auditors is limited to the period covered by our audit and does not extend to later periods for which we are not engaged as auditors.

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 other assets and liabilities by correspondence with selected individuals, funding sources, 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. At the conclusion of our audit, we will require certain written representations from you about the financial statements and related matters.

### **Audit Procedures – Internal Control**

Our audit will include obtaining an understanding of the Commission and its environment, including internal control, sufficient to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements and to design the nature, timing, and extent of further audit procedures. An audit is not designed to provide assurance on internal control or to identify deficiencies in internal control. 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.

### **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 Commission's compliance with the provisions of applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and 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.

### **Engagement Administration, Fees, and Other**

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

We will provide copies of our reports to the Commission; 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 Malloy, Montague, Karnowski, Radosevich & Co., P.A. (MMKR) 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 a regulatory agency or its designee. We will notify you of any such request. If requested, access to such audit documentation will be provided under the supervision of MMKR personnel. Furthermore, upon request, we may provide copies of selected audit documentation to the regulatory agency or its designee. The regulatory agency or its designee may intend or decide to distribute the copies or information contained therein to others, including other governmental agencies.

We expect to begin our audit shortly after the end of your fiscal year and to issue our reports prior to June 30, 2014. William J. Lauer, CPA is the engagement partner and is responsible for supervising the engagement and signing the reports.

Our fee for these services will be at our standard hourly rates plus out-of-pocket costs (such as report reproduction, word processing, postage, travel, copies, telephone, etc.) except that we agree that our gross fee, including expenses, will not exceed \$9,800. Our standard hourly rates vary according to the degree of responsibility involved and the experience level of the personnel assigned to your audit. Our invoices for these fees will be rendered each month as work progresses and are payable on presentation.

In accordance with our firm policies, work may be suspended if your account becomes 60 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.

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 regulatory 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.

William J. Lauer, CPA is the engagement partner and is responsible for supervising the engagement. Our fees for these services will be based on the actual time spent at our standard hourly rates. We will also bill you for travel and other out-of-pocket costs such as report production, typing, and postage. Our standard hourly rates vary according to the degree of responsibility involved and the experience level of the personnel assigned to your audit. Our invoices for these fees will be rendered each month as work progresses and are payable upon presentation.

If we find that additional audit procedures are required, or if additional services are requested by the Commission, those services will be billed at our standard hourly rates. Additional audit procedures might be required for certain accounting issues or events, such as new contractual agreements, transactions and legal requirements of new bond issues, new funds, major capital projects, new tax increment districts, an indication of misappropriation or misuse of public funds, or if significant difficulties are encountered due to the lack of accounting records, incomplete records, or turnover in the Commission's staff.

These fees are based on anticipated cooperation from your personnel and the assumption that unexpected circumstances will not be encountered during the audit. If we find that additional audit procedures are required, or if additional services are requested by the Commission, those services will be billed at our standard hourly rates. Additional audit procedures might be required for certain accounting issues or events, such as new contractual agreements, transactions and legal requirements of new bond issues, new funds, major capital projects, new tax increment districts, if there is an indication of misappropriation or misuse of public funds, or if significant difficulties are encountered due to the lack of accounting records, incomplete records, or turnover in the Commission's staff.

With regard to the electronic dissemination of audited financial statements, including financial statements published electronically on your website, you understand that electronic sites are a means to distribute information and, therefore, we are not required to read the information contained in these sites or to consider the consistency of other information in the electronic site with the original document.

If you intend to publish or otherwise reproduce the financial statements, such as in a bond statement, and make reference to our firm name, you agree to provide us with printers' proofs or masters for our review and approval before printing. You also agree to provide us with a copy of the final reproduced material for our approval before it is distributed.

During the year, you might request additional services such as routine advice, assistance in implementing audit recommendations, review of your projections or budgets, and other similar projects. Independence standards allow us to perform these routine services; however, it is important that you understand that we are not allowed to make management decisions, perform management functions, nor can we audit our own work or provide nonaudit services that are significant to the subject matter of the audit.

Please be aware that e-mail is not a secure method of transmitting data. It can be intercepted, read, and possibly changed. Due to the large volume of e-mails sent daily, the likelihood of someone intercepting your e-mail is relatively small, but it does exist. We will communicate with you via e-mail, if you are willing to accept this risk.

To ensure that MMKR's independence is not impaired under the AICPA Code of Professional Conduct, you agree to inform the engagement partner before entering into any substantive employment discussions with any of our personnel.

If a dispute occurs related in any way to our services, our firm and the Commission agree to discuss the dispute and, if necessary, to promptly mediate in a good faith effort to resolve it. We will agree on a mediator, but if we cannot, either of us may apply to a court having personal jurisdiction over the parties for appointment of a mediator. We will share the mediator's fees and expenses equally, but otherwise will bear our own attorney fees and costs of the mediation. Participation in such mediation shall be a condition to either of us initiating litigation. To allow time for the mediation, any applicable statute of limitations shall be tolled for a period not to exceed 120 days from the date either of us first requests in writing to mediate the dispute.

The mediation shall be confidential in all respects, as allowed or required by law, except that our final settlement positions at mediation shall be admissible in litigation solely to determine the identity of the prevailing party for purposes of the awarding of attorney fees.

We both recognize the importance of performing our obligations under this agreement in a timely way and fully cooperating with the other. In the event that either of us fails to timely perform or fully cooperate, the other party may, in its sole discretion, elect to suspend performance or terminate the agreement regardless of the prejudice to the other person. We agree we will give 10 days' written notice of an intent to suspend or terminate, specifying the grounds for our decision, and will give the other an opportunity to cure the circumstances cited as grounds for that decision. In the event of suspension or termination, all fees and costs are immediately due on billing.

We agree that it is important that disputes be discussed and resolved promptly. For that reason, we agree that, notwithstanding any other statutes of limitations or court decisions concerning them, all claims either of us may have will be barred unless brought within one year of the date the complaining party first incurs any damage of any kind, whether discovered or not, related in any way to acts or omissions of the other party, whether or not the complaining party seeks recovery for that first damage and whether or not we have continued to maintain a business relationship after the first damage occurred. Notwithstanding anything in this letter to the contrary we agree that regardless of where the Commission is located, or where this agreement is physically signed, this agreement shall have been deemed to have been entered into at our office in Hennepin County, Minnesota, and Hennepin County shall be the exclusive venue and jurisdiction for resolving disputes related to this agreement. This agreement shall be interpreted and governed under the laws of Minnesota.

When requested, *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 most recent peer review report accompanies this letter.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to the Commission 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,

MALLOY, MONTAGUE, KARNOWSKI, RADOSEVICH & CO., P.A.



William J. Lauer, CPA  
Principal

WJL:kch

Response:

This letter correctly sets forth the understanding of the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_