### DISTRICT DIRECTOR:

Brian M. Helminger

#### **SERVING:**

Combined Locks Kaukauna Kimberly Little Chute Darboy S.D.



## **COMMISSIONERS:**

David J. Casper, President Bruce M. Siebers, Vice-Pres. Kevin P. Coffey, Secretary Patrick E. Hennessey John W. Sundelius

# Heart of the Valley

# **METROPOLITAN SEWERAGE DISTRICT**

801 THILMANY ROAD KAUKAUNA, WISCONSIN 54130 (920) 766-5731 FAX (920) 766-5733 www.hvmsd.org

June 5, 2017

Erickson & Associates, S.C. 1000 West College Avenue Appleton, WI 54912-1116

This representation letter is provided in connection with your audits of the financial statements of Heart of the Valley Metropolitan Sewerage District [District], which comprise the statement of net position of the business-type activities as of December 31, 2016 and 2015 and the statements of revenue, expenses, and changes in fund net position and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, for the purpose of expressing opinions as to whether the financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP).

Certain representations in this letter are described as being limited to matters that are material. Items are considered material, regardless of size, if they involve an omission or misstatement of accounting information that, in light of surrounding circumstances, makes it probable that the judgment of a reasonable person relying on the information would be changed or influenced by the omission or misstatement. An omission or misstatement that is monetarily small in amount could be considered material as a result of qualitative factors.

We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, as of June 5, 2017, the following representations made to you during your audits.

### **Financial Statements**

- We have fulfilled our responsibilities, as set out in the terms of the audit engagement letter dated April 10, 2017, including our responsibility for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP and for preparation of the supplementary information in accordance with the applicable criteria.
- 2) The financial statements referred to above are fairly presented in conformity with U.S. GAAP 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.
- 3) We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.
- 4) We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud.
- 5) Significant assumptions we used in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable.

- 6) Related party relationships and transactions, including revenues, expenditures/expenses, loans, transfers, leasing arrangements, and guarantees, and amounts receivable from or payable to related parties have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
- 7) Adjustments or disclosures have been made for all events, including instances of noncompliance, subsequent to the date of the financial statements that would require adjustment to or disclosure in the financial statements.
- 8) We are in agreement with the adjusting journal entries you have proposed, and they have been posted to the accounts.
- 9) The effects of all known actual or possible litigation, claims and assessments have been accounted for and disclosed in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
- Guarantees, whether written or oral, under which the District is contingently liable, if any, have been properly recorded or disclosed.

### Information Provided

- 11) We have provided you with:
  - 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, and other matters.
  - b) Additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit.
  - Unrestricted access to persons within the District from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
  - d) Minutes of the meetings of the Board of Commissioners or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared.
- 12) All material transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements.
- 13) We have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.
- 14) We have no knowledge of any fraud or suspected fraud that affects the District and involves:
  - Management,
  - Employees who have significant roles in internal control, or
  - Others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.
- 15) We have no knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the District's financial statements communicated by employees, former employees, regulators, or others.
- 16) We have no knowledge of instances of noncompliance or suspected noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, or grant agreements, or abuse, whose effects should be considered when preparing financial statements.
- 17) We have disclosed to you all known actual or possible litigation, claims, and assessments whose effects should be considered when preparing financial statements.
- 18) We have disclosed to you the identity of the District's related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware.

# Government—specific

- 19) There have been no communications from regulatory agencies concerning noncompliance with, or deficiencies in, financial reporting practices.
- 20) 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.
- 21) The District has no plans or intentions that may materially affect the carrying value or classification of assets, liabilities, or equity.

- 22) 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 legal and contractual provisions for reporting specific activities in separate funds.
- 23) We have identified and disclosed to you all instances, which have occurred or are likely to have occurred, of fraud and noncompliance with provisions of laws and regulations that we believe have a material effect on the financial statements or other financial data significant to the audit objectives, and any other instances that warrant the attention of those charged with governance.
- 24) We have identified and disclosed to you all instances, which have occurred or are likely to have occurred, of noncompliance with provisions of contracts and grant agreements that we believe have a material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts or other financial data significant to the audit objectives.
- 25) We have identified and disclosed to you all instances that have occurred or are likely to have occurred, of abuse that could be quantitatively or qualitatively material to the financial statements or other financial data significant to the audit objectives.
- 26) There are no 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.
- 27) As part of your audit, you assisted with preparation of the financial statements and related notes. We acknowledge our responsibility as it relates to those nonaudit services, including that we assume all management responsibilities; oversee the services by designating an individual, preferably within senior management, who possesses suitable skill, knowledge, or experience; evaluate the adequacy and results of the services performed; and accept responsibility for the results of the services. We have reviewed, approved, and accepted responsibility for those financial statements and related notes.
- 28) The District 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.
- 29) The District has complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that would have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of noncompliance.
- 30) 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.
- 31) The financial statements properly classify all funds and activities, in accordance with GASB Statement No. 34.
- 32) Components of net position (net investment in capital assets; restricted; and unrestricted) and classifications of fund balance are properly classified and, if applicable, approved.
- 33) Provisions for uncollectible receivables have been properly identified and recorded none.
- 34) Deposits and investment securities and derivative instruments are properly classified as to risk and are properly disclosed.
- 35) Capital assets, including infrastructure and intangible assets, are properly capitalized, reported, and, if applicable, depreciated.
- 36) We have appropriately disclosed the District's policy regarding whether to first apply restricted or unrestricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available and have determined that net position is properly recognized under the policy.
- 37) We are following our established accounting policy regarding which resources (that is, restricted, committed, assigned, or unassigned) are considered to be spent first for expenditures for which more than one resource classification is available. That policy determines the fund balance classifications for financial reporting purposes.
- 38) We acknowledge our responsibility for the required supplementary information (RSI). The RSI 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.
- 39) With respect to the schedule of user fees revenue, schedule of operating expenses, budget comparison and reconciliation of statement of activities to the budget:

- a) We acknowledge our responsibility for presenting the above supplementary information in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and we believe the above supplementary information, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The methods of measurement and presentation of the above supplementary information have not changed from those used in the prior period, and we have disclosed to you any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement and presentation of the supplementary information.
- b) If the schedule of user fees revenue, schedule of operating expenses, budget comparison and reconciliation of statement of activities to the budget is not presented with the audited financial statements, we will make the audited financial statements readily available to the intended users of the supplementary information no later than the date we issue the supplementary information and the auditor's report thereon.
- 40) In regards to the following non-attest services performed by you proposing adjusting or correcting entries and preparation of financial statements we have:
  - a) Made all management decision and performed all management functions.
  - b) Designated an individual who possesses suitable skill, knowledge, or experience to oversee the services.
  - c) Evaluated the adequacy and results of the services performed.
  - d) Accepted responsibility for the results of the services.

As part of your audit, you prepared the draft 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.

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: Brian Helrung Signature: Dawn Bartel

Title: District Director Title: Office Manager