

# Community Development District

December 2, 2021

Audit Committee
Meeting
Agenda



# OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT MANAGER 250 International Parkway, Suite 280 ● Lake Mary, Florida 32746 Phone: (321) 263-0132 ● Toll-free: (877) 276-0889

November 24, 2021

#### **ATTENDEES:**

Meetings/Workshops are now held in person. During public comments, please state your name and address.

Residents have the option of calling in via Zoom with the call-in information below.

Call-in Number: +1 (929) 205-6099

Meeting ID: 2043596216#

Link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/2043596216

# Board of Supervisors

**Grand Haven Community Development District** 

Dear Board Members:

The Audit Committee of the Grand Haven Community Development District will hold an Audit Committee Meeting on Thursday, December 2, 2021, at 9:00 a.m., in the Grand Haven Room, at the Grand Haven Village Center, located at 2001 Waterside Parkway, Palm Coast, Florida 32137.

#### I. Call to Order/Roll Call

#### II. Business Items

- A. Consideration for Approval The Minutes of the Audit

  Committee Meeting Held October 21, 2021

  Exhibit 1
- B. Ranking of Audit Proposals
  - Summary & Criteria Evaluation
     Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank
     DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes, PA
     Exhibit 3
     Exhibit 4
- C. Audit Committees Recommendations for Audit Services

#### III. Adjournment

Should you have any questions regarding the agenda, please email me at hmac@vestapropertyservices.com

Sincerely,

Howard McGaffney District Manager

	EXHIBIT 1

1		MINI	TTES OF MEETING
2			RAND HAVEN
3			DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
4 5 6		The Audit Committee Meeting of opment District was held on Thursday,	the Board of Supervisors of Grand Haven Community October 21, 2021 at 9:40 a.m. in the Grand Haven Room, at side Parkway, Palm Coast, Florida 32137.
7		ORDER OF BUSINESS – Call to C	
8	11101	Mr. McGaffney called the meeting to	
9	Present	t and constituting a quorum were:	9.301 9.40 99.40000 Feb. 98.41
10 11 12 13 14		Chip Howden Kevin Foley Michael Flanagan John Polizzi (via phone) Dr. Merrill Stass-Isern	Board Supervisor, Chairman Board Supervisor, Vice Chairman Board Supervisor, Assistant Secretary Board Supervisor, Assistant Secretary Board Supervisor, Assistant Secretary
15	Also pi	resent were:	
16 17 18 19 20 21 22		Howard "Mac" McGaffney David McInnes Scott Clark David Sowell (via phone) Barry Kloptosky Vanessa Stepniak John Lucansky	District Manager, DPFG Management & Consulting DPFG Management & Consulting District Counsel, Clark & Albaugh, LLP District Engineer, DRMP, Inc. Operations Manager CDD Office Manager Assistant Amenity Manager
23 24		lowing is a summary of the discussion Board of Supervisors Audit Committee	ns and actions taken at the October 21, 2021 Grand Haven Meeting.
25	SECO	ND ORDER OF BUSINESS – Busin	ess Items
26	A.	Exhibit 1: Consideration of Auditor S	Selection Evaluation Criteria
27 28 29 30 31		actions against the firm. Mr. Clark su amended to include a request for this auditing firms, and Mr. Clark stated t	bould be language asking for auditors to declare any past legal aggested that Section 12 for the RFP and statements could be information. Mr. Flanagan asked who would be scoring the hat it would be the Board of the Audit Committee. Mr. Clark a copy of the rating sheet to apprise them of the criteria.
32 33 34	the Au		D by Mr. Foley, WITH ALL IN FAVOR, the Board accepted proving for the auditor RFP, for the Grand Haven Community
35	В.	Exhibit 2: Consideration of Audit Pro	pposal Instruction
36 37 38 39		advertised, being seven physical copi	proposal instruction should match the number of copies es and one digital copy. Mr. Clark added that Mr. Flanagan's eclare any past legal actions could be added to the language
40 41 42 43		year window. Mr. Foley agreed, stati	ation of past legal actions against firms be limited to a three- ing that he was more in line with a five-year window, which standard. Mr. Clark additionally provided insight as to the

73 74 75 76 77	Meeting minutes were approved at a meeting by vote of the Board of Supervisors at a publicly noticed meeting held on December 2, 2021.  Signature  Signature			
73 74 75 76	Meeting minutes were approved at a meeting by vote of the Board of Supervisors at a publicly noticed meeting held on <u>December 2, 2021</u> .			
73				
71 72	*Each person who decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the meeting is advised that person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which such appeal is to be based.			
68 69 70	On a MOTION by Mr. Howden, SECONDED by Dr. Merrill, WITH ALL IN FAVOR, the Board adjourned the audit committee meeting and reconvened the regular meeting for the Grand Haven Community Development District, at 10:08 a.m.			
64 65 66 67	THIRD ORDER OF BUSINESS – Adjournment  Mr. McGaffney asked for final questions, comments, or corrections before requesting a motion to adjourn the audit committee meeting. There being none, Mr. Howden made a motion to adjourn the audit committee meeting and reconvene the regular meeting.			
61 62 63	On a MOTION by Mr. Howden, SECONDED by Mr. Flanagan, WITH ALL IN FAVOR, the Board approved the Advertisement of Annual Audit Service Proposals, with a date of November 12, 2021, approving for the auditor RFP, for the Grand Haven Community Development District.			
58 59 60	Mr. Polizzi stated that larger firms were likely to have offices located in Florida and that concerns about location would be addressed appropriately. Mr. Clark requested for names of additional offices to be sent to the District Manager.			
51 52 53 54 55 56 57	Mr. Foley observed that there was a small number of in-state entities that the District generally solicited for auditing services, and asked whether the District would consider soliciting bids from regional or national firms outside of the state of Florida. Mr. McGaffney stated that Florida firms were specifically being looked at due to the idiosyncrasies of Florida special districts. Mr. Howden added that the evaluation criteria that the Board had just approved included criteria for geographic location of the firm's permanent office. Mr. Foley suggested that it may be worth considering an auditor for the District that would have fresh eyes.			
48 49 50	Mr. Clark asked for input from the Board for the proposal due date. Mr. McGaffney fielded questions from Mr. Flanagan regarding advertising and expected response times from auditing firms. The Board expressed support for a date of November 12, 2021.			
47	C. Exhibit 3: Consideration of Advertisement of Annual Audit Service Proposals			
46	Development District.			

EXHIBIT 2

	GRAND HAVEN - AUDITOR EVALUATION								
	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	Ability of Personnel 20 Pts.	Proposer Experience 20 Pts	_	Ability to Furnish Required Service 20 Pts		TOTAL POINTS
			0_0	20 1 101	201.63	201.05	20113	20 1 0	
Berger, Toombs,	\$3,425	\$3,425	\$3,425						
DiBartolomeo	\$6,800	\$4,850	\$4,950						

# AUDITOR SELECTION EVALUTION CRITERIA (PRICE FACTORED IN)

#### 1. Ability of Personnel

(20 points)

(E.g., geographic locations of the firm's headquarters or permanent office in relation to the project, capabilities and experience of key personnel, present ability to manage this project, evaluation of existing work load, proposed staffing levels, etc.)

#### 2. Proposer's Experience

(20 points)

(E.g., past record and experience of the Proposer in similar projects; volume of work previously performed by the firm; past performance for other Community Development Districts in other contracts; character, integrity, and reputation of respondent; etc.)

#### 3. Understanding of Scope of Work

(20 points)

Extent to which the proposal demonstrates an understanding of the District's needs for the services requested.

#### 4. Ability to Furnish the Required Services

(20 points)

Extent to which the proposal demonstrates the adequacy of the Proposer's financial resources and stability as a business entity necessary to complete the services required (E.g., the existence of any natural disaster plan for business operations).

5. Price (20 points)

Points will be awarded based upon the price bid for the rendering of the services and reasonableness of the price to the services.

	EXHIBIT 3

# GRAND HAVEN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

PROPOSAL FOR AUDIT SERVICES

#### **PROPOSED BY:**

Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS, PL

600 Citrus Avenue, Suite 200 Fort Pierce, Florida 34950

(772) 461-6120

#### **CONTACT PERSON:**

J. W. Gaines, CPA, Director

#### **DATE OF PROPOSAL:**

November 12, 2021

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Certified Public Accountants PL

600 Citrus Avenue Suite 200 Fort Pierce, Florida 34950

772/461-6120 // 461-1155 FAX: 772/468-9278

November 12, 2021

Grand Haven Community Development District DPFG management & Consulting, LLC 250 International Parkway, Suite 280 Lake Mary, FL 32746

Dear District Manager:

Thank you very much for the opportunity to present our professional credentials to provide audit services for Grand Haven Community Development District.

Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants, PL has assembled a team of governmental and nonprofit specialists second to none to serve our clients. Our firm has the necessary qualifications and experience to serve as the independent auditors for Grand Haven Community Development District. We will provide you with top quality, responsive service.

#### **Experience**

Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants, PL is a recognized leader in providing services to governmental and nonprofit agencies throughout Florida. We have been the independent auditors for a number of local governmental agencies and through our experience in performing their audits, we have been able to increase our audit efficiency and; therefore, reduce costs. We have continually passed this cost savings on to our clients and will continue to do so in the future. As a result of our experience and expertise, we have developed an effective and efficient audit approach designed to meet or exceed the performance specifications in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the standards for financial and compliance audits. We will conduct the audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; "Government Auditing Standards" issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; the provisions of the Single Audit Act, Subpart F of Title 2 US Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, with minimal disruption to your operations. Our firm has frequent technical updates to keep our personnel informed and up-to-date on all changes that are occurring within the industry.



Grand Haven Community Development District November 12, 2021

Our firm is a member of the Government Audit Quality Center, an organization dedicated to improving government audit quality. We also utilize the audit program software of a nationally recognized CPA firm to assure us that we are up to date with all auditing standards and to assist us maintain maximum audit efficiencies.

To facilitate your evaluation of our qualifications and experience, we have arranged this proposal to include a resume of our firm, including our available staff, our extensive prior governmental and nonprofit auditing experience and clients to be contacted.

You need a firm that will provide an efficient, cost-effective, high-quality audit within critical time constraints. You need a firm with the prerequisite governmental and nonprofit experience to perform your audit according to stringent legal and regulatory requirements, a firm that understands the complex nature of community development districts and their unique compliance requirements. You need a firm with recognized governmental and nonprofit specialists within the finance and governmental communities. And, certainly, you need a firm that will provide you with valuable feedback to enhance your current and future operations. Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants, PL is that firm. J. W. Gaines is the person authorized to make representations for the firm.

Thank you again for the opportunity to submit this proposal to Grand Haven Community Development District.

Very truly yours,

Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank

Certified Public Accountants PL

Fort Pierce, Florida

#### PROFILE OF THE PROPOSER

#### **Description and History of Audit Firm**

Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants, PL is a Treasure Coast public accounting firm, which qualifies as a small business firm, as established by the Small Business Administration (13 CFR 121.38), with offices in Fort Pierce and Stuart. We are a member of the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The firm was formed from the merger of Edwards, Berger, Harris & Company (originated in 1972) and McAlpin, Curtis & Associates (originated in 1949). J. W. Gaines and Associates (originated in 1979) merged with the firm in 2004. Our tremendous growth rate experienced over the last 71 years is directly attributable to the firm's unrelenting dedication to providing the highest quality, responsive professional services attainable to its clients.

We are a member of the Private Companies Practice Section (PCPS) of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) to assure we meet the highest standards. Membership in this practice section requires that our firm meet more stringent standards than standard AICPA membership. These rigorous requirements include the requirement of a triennial peer review of our firm's auditing and accounting practice and annual Continuing Professional Education (CPE) for all accounting staff (whether CPA or non-CPA). For standard AICPA membership, only a quality review is required and only CPAs must meet CPE requirements.

We are also a member of the Government Audit Quality Center ("the Center") of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants to assure the quality of our government audits. Membership in the Center, which is voluntary, requires our firm to comply with additional standards to promote the quality of government audits.

We have been extensively involved in serving local government entities with professional accounting, auditing and consulting services throughout the entire 71 year history of our firm. Our substantial experience over the years makes us uniquely qualified to provide accounting, auditing, and consulting services to these clients. We are a recognized leader in providing services to governmental and nonprofit agencies on the Treasure Coast and in Central and South Florida, with extensive experience in auditing community development districts and water control districts. We were the independent auditors of the City of Fort Pierce for over 37 years and currently, we are the independent auditors for St. Lucie County since 2002, and for 38 of the 42 years that the county has been audited by CPA firms. Additionally, we have performed audits of the City of Stuart, the City of Vero Beach, Indian River County and Martin County. We also presently audit over 75 Community Development Districts throughout Florida.

Our firm was founded on the belief that we are better able to respond to our clients needs through education, experience, independence, quality control, and personal service. Our firm's commitment to quality is reflected in our endeavor of professional excellence via continuing education, the use of the latest computer technology, professional membership in PCPS and peer review.

We believe our approach to audit engagements, intelligence and innovation teamed with sound professional judgment enables us to explore new concepts while remaining sensitive to the fundamental need for practical solutions. We take pride in giving you the assurance that the personal assistance you receive comes from years of advanced training, technical experience and financial acumen.

#### **Professional Staff Resources**

Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants, PL has a total of 32 professional and administrative staff (including 14 professional staff with extensive experience servicing government entities). The work will be performed out of our Fort Pierce office with a proposed staff of one senior accountant and one or two staff accountants supervised by an audit manager and audit partner. With the exception of the directors of the firm's offices, the professional staff is not specifically assigned to any of our individual offices. The professional and administrative staff resources available to you through Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants, PL are as follows:

	<u>l ota</u>
Partners/Directors (CPA's)	5
Principals (CPA)	1
Managers (CPA)	1
Senior/Supervisor Accountants (2 CPA's)	3
Staff Accountants (1 CPA)	9
Computer Specialist	1
Paraprofessional	8
Administrative	$\frac{4}{32}$
Total – all personnel	32

Following is a brief description of each employee classification:

**Staff Accountant –** Staff accountants work directly under the constant supervision of the auditor-in-charge and, are responsible for the various testing of documents, account analysis and any other duties as his/her supervisor believes appropriate. Minimum qualification for a staff accountant is graduation from an accredited university or college with a degree in accounting or equivalent.

**Senior Accountant** – A senior accountant must possess all the qualifications of the staff accountant, in addition to being able to draft the necessary reports and financial statements, and supervise other staff accountants when necessary.

**Managers** – A manager must possess the qualifications of the senior accountant, plus be able to work without extensive supervision from the auditor-in-charge. The manager should be able to draft audit reports from start to finish and to supervise the audit team, if necessary.

**Principal** – A principal is a partner/director in training. He has been a manager for several years and possesses the technical skills to act as the auditor–in-charge. A principal has no financial interest in the firm.

**Partner/Director** – The director has extensive governmental auditing experience and acts as the auditor-in-charge. Directors have a financial interest in the firm.

#### **Professional Staff Resources (Continued)**

**Independence** – Independence of the public accounting firm, with respect to the audit client, is the foundation from which the public gains its trust in the opinion issued by the public accounting firm at the end of the audit process. This independence must be in appearance as well as in fact. The public must perceive that the accounting firm is independent of the audit entity to ensure that nothing would compromise the opinion issued by the public accounting firm. **Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants, PL** is independent of Grand Haven Community Development District, including its elected officials and related parties, at the date of this proposal, as defined by the following rules, regulations, and standards:

AuSection 220 – Statements on Auditing Standards issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants;

ET Sections 101 and 102 – Code of Professional Conduct of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants;

Chapter 21A-1, Florida Administrative Code;

Section 473.315, Florida Statutes; and,

Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

On an annual basis, all members of the firm are required to confirm, in writing, that they have no personal or financial relationships or holding that would impair their independence with regard to the firm's clients.

Independence is a hallmark of our profession. We encourage our staff to use professional judgment in situations where our independence could be impaired or the perception of a conflict of interest might exist. In the governmental sector, public perception is as important as professional standards. Therefore, the utmost care must be exercised by independent auditors in the performance of their duties.

#### Ability to Furnish the Required Services

As previously noted in the Profile of the Proposer section of this document, our firm has been in existence for over 69 years. We have provided audit services to some clients for over 30 years continually. Our firm is insured against physical loss through commercial insurance and we also carry liability insurance. The majority of our audit documentation is stored electronically, both on our office network and on each employee laptop or computer assigned to each specific job. Our office computer network is backed up on tape, so in the event of a total equipment loss, we can restore all data as soon as replacement equipment is acquired. In addition, our field laptop computers carry the same data and can be used in the event of emergency with virtually no delay in completing the required services.

#### ADDITIONAL SERVICES PROVIDED

#### **Arbitrage Rebate Services**

Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants, PL also provides arbitrage rebate compliance and related services to governmental issuers. The Tax Reform Act of 1986 requires issuers of most tax-exempt obligations to pay (i.e., "rebate") to the United States government any arbitrage profits. Arbitrage profits are earnings on the investment of bond proceeds and certain other monies in excess of what would have been earned had such monies been invested at a yield equal to the yield on the bonds.

Federal tax law requires that interim rebate calculations and payments are due at the end of every fifth bond year. Final payment is required upon redemption of the bonds. More frequent calculations may be deemed advisable by an issuer's auditor, trustee or bond counsel or to assure that accurate and current records are available. These more frequent requirements are usually contained in the Arbitrage or Rebate Certificate with respect to the bonds.

Our firm performs a comprehensive rebate analysis and includes the following:

- Verifying that the issue is subject to rebate;
- Calculating the bond yield;
- Identifying, and separately accounting for, all "Gross Proceeds" (as that term is defined in the Code) of the bond issue, including those requiring analysis due to "transferred proceeds" and/or "commingled funds" circumstances;
- Determining what general and/or elective options are available to Gross proceeds of the issue;
- Calculating the issue's excess investment earning (rebate liability), if any;
- Delivering appropriate documentation to support all calculations;
- Providing an executive summary identifying the methodology employed, major assumptions, conclusions, and any other recommendations for changes in recordkeeping and investment policies;
- Assisting as necessary in the event of an Internal Revenue Service inquiry; and,
- Consulting with issue staff, as necessary, regarding arbitrage related matters.

#### **GOVERNMENTAL AUDITING EXPERIENCE**

**Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants, PL** has been practicing public accounting in Florida for 69 years. Our success over the years has been the result of a strong commitment to providing personalized quality service to our clients.

The current members of our firm have performed audits of over 900 community development districts, and over 1,800 audits of municipalities, counties and other governmental entities such as the City of Fort Pierce and St. Lucie County.

Our firm provides a variety of accounting, auditing, tax litigation support, and consulting services. Some of the professional accounting, auditing and management consulting services that are provided by our firm are listed below:

- Performance of annual financial and compliance audits, including Single Audits of state
  and federal financial assistance programs, under the provisions of the Single Audit Act,
  Subpart F of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Uniform
  Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal
  Awards (Uniform Guidance), with minimal disruptions to your operations;
- Performance of special compliance audits to ascertain compliance with the applicable local, state and federal laws and regulations;
- Issuance of comfort letters and consent letters in conjunction with the issuance of taxexempt debt obligations, including compiling financial data and interim period financial statement reviews;
- Calculation of estimated and actual federal arbitrage rebates;
- Assistance in compiling historical financial data for first-time and supplemental submissions for GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting;
- Preparation of indirect cost allocation systems in accordance with Federal and State regulatory requirements;
- Providing human resource and employee benefit consulting;
- Performance of automation feasibility studies and disaster recovery plans:
- Performance feasibility studies concerning major fixed asset acquisitions and utility plant expansion plans (including electric, water, pollution control, and sanitation utilities); and
- Assistance in litigation, including testimony in civil and criminal court.
- Assist clients who utilize QuickBooks software with their software needs. Our Certified QuickBooks Advisor has undergone extensive training through QuickBooks and has passed several exams to attain this Certification.

#### **Continuing Professional Education**

All members of the governmental audit staff of our firm, and audit team members assigned to this engagement, are in compliance with the Continuing Professional Education (CPE) requirements set forth in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. In addition, our firm is in compliance with the applicable provisions of the Florida Statutes that require CPA's to have met certain CPE requirements prior to proposing on governmental audit engagements.

The audit team has extensive experience in performing governmental audits and is exposed to intensive and continuing concentration on these types of audits. Due to the total number of governmental audits our team performs, each member of our governmental staff must understand and be able to perform several types of governmental audits. It is our objective to provide each professional employee fifty hours or more of comprehensive continuing professional education each year. This is accomplished through attending seminars throughout Florida and is reinforced through in-house training.

Our firm has made a steadfast commitment to professional education. Our active attendance and participation in continuing professional education is a major part of our objective to obtain the most recent knowledge on issues which are of importance to our clients. We are growing on the reputation for work that our firm is providing today.

#### **Quality Control Program**

Quality control requires continuing commitment to professional excellence. Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants, PL is formally dedicated to that commitment.

To ensure maintaining the standards of working excellence required by our firm, we joined the Private Companies Practice Section (PCPS) of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). To be a participating member firm of this practice section, a firm must obtain an independent Peer Review of its quality control policies and procedures to ascertain the firm's compliance with existing auditing standards on the applicable engagements.

The scope of the Peer Review is comprehensive in that it specifically reviews the following quality control policies and procedures of the participating firm:

- Professional, economic, and administrative independence;
- · Assignment of professional personnel to engagements;
- Consultation on technical matters;
- Supervision of engagement personnel;
- Hiring and employment of personnel;
- Professional development;
- Advancement:
- Acceptance and continuation of clients; and,
- Inspection and review system.

We believe that our commitment to the program is rewarding not only to our firm, but primarily to our clients.

The external independent Peer Review of the elements of our quality control policies and procedures performed by an independent certified public accountant, approved by the PCPS of the AICPA, provides you with the assurance that we continue to conform to standards of the profession in the conduct of our accounting and auditing practice.

Our firm is also a member of Governmental Audit Quality Center (GAQC), a voluntary membership center for CPA firms that perform governmental audits. This center promotes the quality of governmental audits.

Our firm has completed successive Peer Reviews. These reviews included a representative sample of our firm's local governmental auditing engagements. As a result of these reviews, our firm obtained an unqualified opinion on our quality control program and work procedures. On page 31 is a copy of our most recent Peer Review report. It should be noted that we received a pass rating.

Our firm has never had any disciplinary actions by state regulatory bodies or professional organizations.

As our firm performs approximately one hundred fifty audits each year that are reviewed by federal, state or local entities, we are constantly dealing with questions from these entities about our audits. We are pleased to say that any questions that have been raised were minor issues and were easily resolved without re-issuing any reports.

#### Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting (CAFR)

We are proud and honored to have been involved with the City of Fort Pierce and the Fort Pierce Utilities Authority when they received their first Certificates of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the fiscal years ended September 30, 1988 and 1994, respectively. We were also instrumental in the City of Stuart receiving the award, in our first year of performing their audit, for the year ended September 30, 1999.

We also assisted St. Lucie County, Florida for the year ended September 30, 2003, in preparing their first Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, and St. Lucie County has received their Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting every year since.

As continued commitment to insuring that we are providing the highest level of experience, we have had at least one employee of our firm serve on the GFOA – Special Review Committee since the mid-1980s. This committee is made up of selective Certified Public Accountants throughout the United States who have demonstrated their high level of knowledge and expertise in governmental accounting. Each committee member attends a special review meeting at the Annual GFOA Conference. At this meeting, the committee reports on the Certificate of Achievement Program's most recent results, future goals, and common reporting deficiencies.

We feel that our previous experience in assisting the City of Fort Pierce, the Fort Pierce Utilities Authority and St. Lucie County obtain their first CAFRs, and the City of Stuart in continuing to receive a CAFR and our firm's continued involvement with the GFOA, and the CAFR review committee make us a valued asset for any client in the field of governmental financial reporting.

#### References

Terracina Community Development

District

Gateway Community Development

District

Jeff Walker, Special District Services Stephen Bloom, Severn Trent Management

(561) 630-4922 (954) 753-5841

The Reserve Community Development District Port of the Islands Community Development

Distric

Darrin Mossing, Governmental Management Cal Teague, Premier District Management Services LLC

(407) 841-5524 (239) 690-7100 ext 101

In addition to the above, we have the following additional governmental audit experience:

#### **Community Development Districts**

Aberdeen Community Development District

Alta Lakes Community Development District

Amelia Concourse Community Development Amelia Walk Community Development

District District

Aqua One Community Development District

Arborwood Community Development District

Arlington Ridge Community Development Armstrong Community Development District

District

Avalon Park West Community Development Bartram Springs Community Development

District District

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Baytree Community Development District Beaumont Community Development District

Bella Collina Community Development Boggy Branch Community Development

District District

Boggy Creek Community Development

Bonnet Creek Community Development

District District

Buckeye Park Community Development Candler Hills East Community Development

District District

Capital Region Community Development Cedar Hammock Community Development

District District

Channing Park Community Development Central Lake Community Development District District **Cheval West Community Development** Clearwater Cay Community Development District District Coconut Cay Community Development Colonial Country Club Community **Development District** District Connerton West Community Development Copper Creek Community Development District District Copperstone Community Development Creekside at Twin Creeks Community District Deer Run Community Development **Dowden West Community Development** District District **DP1 Community Development District Durbin Crossing Community Development** District Eagle Point Community Development District East Nassau Stewardship District Eastlake Oaks Community Development Easton Park Community Development District District Eden Hills Community Development District Estancia at Wiregrass Community **Development District Estates at Cherry Lake Community Evergreen Community Development Development District** District Finley Woosd Community Development Gateway Services Community Development District District **Gramercy Farms Community Development Greenway Improvement District** District **Greyhawk Landing Community** Griffin Lakes Community Development **Development District** District Habitat Community Development District Harmony Community Development District

GOVERNMENTAL	<b>AUDIT EXPERIENCE</b>	(CONTINUED)

Harmony West Community Development Hawkstone Community Development District District Heritage Harbor South Community Heritage Isles Community Development **Development District** District Heritage Lake Park Community Development Heritage Landing Community Development District District Heritage Palms Community Development Heron Isles Community Development District District **Highland Meadows II Community** Julington Creek Community Development **Development District** District Laguna Lakes Community Development Lake Ashton Community Development District District Lake Bernadette Community Development Lakeside Plantation Community District **Development District** Landings at Miami Community Development Legends Bay Community Development District District Live Oak No. 2 Community Development Lexington Oaks Community Development District District Lucaya Community Development District Madeira Community Development District Magic Reserve Community Development Magnolia Creek Community Development District District Marhsall Creek Community Development Meadow Pointe IV Community Development District District Midtown Miami Community Development Mira Lago West Community Development District District Myrtle Creek Improvement District Montecito Community Development District Narcoossee Community Development Naturewalk Community Development District District **New Port Tampa Bay Community** Overoaks Community Development District **Development District** 

Paseo Community Development District Pier Park Community Development District Pine Ridge Plantation Community Piney Z Community Development District **Development District** Poinciana West Community Development Port of the Islands Community Development District District Portofino Isles Community Development **Quarry Community Development District** District Renaissance Commons Community District Reserve #2 Community Development District Reserve at Pradera Community Development Reserve Community Development District District River Hall Community Development District River Place on the St. Lucie Community **Development District** Rivers Edge Community Development District Riverwood Estates Community Development Rolling Hills Community Development District Rolling Oaks Community Development District Ryals Creek Community Development District Sampson Creek Community Development District San Simeon Community Development Sandmine Road Community Development District District Six Mile Creek Community Development South Fork Community Development District District South Shore Community Development District South Village Community Development District St. John's Forest Community Development Southern Hills Plantation I Community **Development District** District Stoneybrook South at ChampionsGate Stoneybrook South Community Development Community Development District District Stoneybrook West Community Development Storey Creek Community Development District District Terracina Community Development District Tison's Landing Community Development District

Town of Kindred II Community Development District	TPOST Community Development District
Triple Creek Community Development District	TSR Community Development District
Turnbull Creek Community Development District	Twin Creeks North Community Development District
Urban Orlando Community Development District	Venetian Community Development District
Verano #2 Community Development District	Viera East Community Development District
VillaMar Community Development District	Vizcaya in Kendall Community Development District
Waterset North Community Development District	West Port Community Development District
Westside Community Development District	WildBlue Community Development District
Willow Creek Community Development District	Willow Hammock Community Development District
Wiregrass Community Development District	Wiregrass II Community Development District
Zephyr Ridge Community Development District	

#### Other Governmental Organizations

Office of the Medical Examiner. City of Westlake

District 19

Florida Inland Navigation District Rupert J. Smith Law Library

of St. Lucie County

Fort Pierce Farms Water Control

St. Lucie Education Foundation District

Indian River Regional Crime

Laboratory, District 19, Florida

Troup Indiantown Water

Seminole Improvement District

**Control District** Viera Stewardship District

#### Current or Recent Single Audits,

St. Lucie County, Florida Early Learning Coalition, Inc. Treasure Coast Food Bank, Inc. Gateway Services Community Development

District

Members of our audit team have acquired extensive experience from performing or participating in over 2,100 audits of governments, independent special taxing districts, school boards, and other agencies that receive public money and utilize fund accounting.

Much of our firm's auditing experience is with compliance auditing, which is required for publicly financed agencies. In this type of audit, we do a financial examination and also confirm compliance with various statutory and regulatory guidelines.

Following is a summary of our other experience, including Auditor General experience, as it pertains to other governmental and fund accounting audits.

#### Counties

(Includes elected constitutional officers, utilities and dependent taxing districts)

Indian River Martin Okeechobee Palm Beach

#### Municipalities

City of Port St. Lucie City of Vero Beach Town of Orchid

#### **Special Districts**

Boggy Creek Community Development District Capron Trail Community Development District Celebration Pointe Community Development District

Bannon Lakes Community Development District

Coquina Water Control District

Diamond Hill Community Development District

**Dovera Community Development District** 

**Durbin Crossing Community Development District** 

Golden Lakes Community Development District

Lakewood Ranch Community Development District

Martin Soil and Water Conservation District

Meadow Pointe III Community Development District

Myrtle Creek Community Development District

St. Lucie County – Fort Pierce Fire District

The Crossings at Fleming Island

St. Lucie West Services District

Indian River County Mosquito Control District

St. John's Water Control District

Westchase and Westchase East Community Development Districts

Pier Park Community Development District

Verandahs Community Development District

Magnolia Park Community Development District

#### Schools and Colleges

Federal Student Aid Programs – Indian River Community College Indian River Community College Okeechobee County District School Board St. Lucie County District School Board

#### State and County Agencies

Central Florida Foreign-Trade Zone, Inc. (a nonprofit organization affiliated with the St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners)

Florida School for Boys at Okeechobee

Indian River Community College Crime Laboratory

Indian River Correctional Institution

#### **FEE SCHEDULE**

We propose the fee for our audit services described below to be \$10,275 for the years ended September 30, 2021, 2022, and 2023. The fee is contingent upon the financial records and accounting systems of Grand Haven Community Development District being "audit ready" and the financial activity for the District is not materially increased. If we discover that additional preparation work or subsidiary schedules are needed, we will consult with your authorized representative. We can assist with this additional work at our standard rates should you desire.

#### SCOPE OF WORK TO BE PERFORMED

If selected as the District's auditors, we will perform a financial and compliance audit in accordance with Section 11.45, Florida Statutes, in order to express an opinion on an annual basis on the financial statements of Grand Haven Community Development District as of September 30, 2021, 2022, and 2023. The audits will be performed to the extent necessary to express an opinion on the fairness in all material respects with which the financial statements present the financial position, results of operations and changes in financial position in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles and to determine whether, for selected transactions, operations are properly conducted in accordance with legal and regulatory requirements. Reportable conditions that are also material weaknesses shall be identified as such in the Auditors' Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters. Other (non-reportable) conditions discovered during the course of the audit will be reported in a separate letter to management, which will be referred to in the Auditors' Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters.

Our audit will be performed in accordance with standards for financial and compliance audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, as well as in compliance with rules and regulations of audits of special districts as set forth by the State Auditor General in Chapter 10.550, Local Governmental Entity Audits, and other relevant federal, state and county orders, statutes, ordinances, charter, resolutions, bond covenants, Administrative Code and procedures, or rules and regulations which may pertain to the work required in the engagement.

The primary purpose of our audit will be to express an opinion on the financial statements discussed above. It should be noted that such audits are subject to the inherent risk that errors or irregularities may not be detected. However, if conditions are discovered which lead to the belief that material errors, defalcations or other irregularities may exist or if other circumstances are encountered that require extended services, we will promptly notify the appropriate individual.

# **Personnel Qualifications and Experience**

#### J. W. Gaines, CPA, CITP

Director – 41 years

#### **Education**

◆ Stetson University, B.B.A. – Accounting

#### Registrations

- ◆ Certified Public Accountant State of Florida, State Board of Accountancy
- Certified Information Technology Professional (CITP) American Institute of Certified Public Accountants

#### **Professional Affiliations/Community Service**

- Member of the American and Florida Institutes of Certified Public Accountants
- ♦ Affiliate member Government Finance Officers Association
- Past President, Vice President-Campaign Chairman, Vice President and Board Member of United Way of St. Lucie County, 1989 - 1994
- Past President, President Elect, Secretary and Treasurer of the Treasure Coast Chapter of the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants, 1988 - 1991
- Past President of Ft. Pierce Kiwanis Club, 1994 95, Member/Board Member since 1982
- ◆ Past President, Vice President and Treasurer of St. Lucie County Chapter of the American Cancer Society, 1980 -1986
- Member of the St. Lucie County Chamber of Commerce, Member Board of Directors, Treasurer, September 2002 - 2006, Chairman Elect 2007, Chairman 2008, Past Chairman 2009
- Member Lawnwood Regional Medical Center Board of Trustees, 2000 Present, Chairman 2013 - Present
- ♦ Member of St. Lucie County Citizens Budget Committee, 2001 2002
- ♦ Member of Ft. Pierce Citizens Budget Advisory Committee, 2010 2011
- ♦ Member of Ft. Pierce Civil Service Appeals Board, 2013 Present

#### **Professional Experience**

- ♦ Miles Grant Development/Country Club Stuart, Florida, July 1975 October 1976
- ◆ State Auditor General's Office Public Accounts Auditor November 1976 through September 1979
- ◆ Director Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants PL, responsible for numerous government and nonprofit audits.
- Over 40 years experience in all phases of public accounting and auditing experience, with a concentration in financial and compliance audits. Mr. Gaines has been involved in all phases of the audits listed on the preceding pages.

# **Personnel Qualifications and Experience**

## J. W. Gaines, CPA, CITP (Continued)

Director

#### **Continuing Professional Education**

♦ Has participated in numerous continuing professional education courses provided by nationally recognized sponsors over the last two years to keep abreast of the latest developments in accounting and auditing such as:

Governmental Accounting Report and Audit Update

Analytical Procedures, FICPA

Annual Update for Accountants and Auditors

Single Audit Sampling and Other Considerations

## **Personnel Qualifications and Experience**

#### David S. McGuire, CPA, CITP

Accounting and Audit Principal – 18 years Accounting and Audit Manager – 4 years Staff Accountant – 11 years

#### **Education**

- ♦ University of Central Florida, B.A. Accounting
- Barry University Master of Professional Accountancy

#### Registrations

- Certified Public Accountant State of Florida, State Board of Accountancy
- Certified Information Technology Professional (CITP) American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- Certified Not-For-Profit Core Concepts 2018

#### **Professional Affiliations/Community Service**

- Member of the American and Florida Institutes of Certified Public Accountants
- Associate Member, Florida Government Finance Office Associates
- ◆ Assistant Coach St. Lucie County Youth Football Organization (1994 2005)
- ◆ Assistant Coach Greater Port St. Lucie Football League, Inc. (2006 2010)
- ◆ Board Member Greater Port St. Lucie Football League, Inc. (2011 2017)
- ◆ Treasurer, AIDS Research and Treatment Center of the Treasure Coast, Inc. (2000 2003)
- ◆ Board Member/Treasurer, North Treasure Coast Chapter, American Red Cross (2004 – 2010)
- Member/Board Member of Port St. Lucie Kiwanis (1994 − 2001)
- ◆ President (2014/15) of Sunrise Kiwanis of Fort Pierce (2004 2017)
- St. Lucie District School Board Superintendent Search Committee (2013 present)
- ♦ Board Member Phrozen Pharoes (2019-2021)

#### **Professional Experience**

- Twenty-eight years public accounting experience with an emphasis on nonprofit and governmental organizations.
- Audit Manager in-charge on a variety of audit and review engagements within several industries, including the following government and nonprofit organizations:

St. Lucie County, Florida

19th Circuit Office of Medical Examiner

Troup Indiantown Water Control District

Exchange Club Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse, Inc.

Healthy Kids of St. Lucie County

Mustard Seed Ministries of Ft. Pierce, Inc.

Reaching Our Community Kids, Inc.

Reaching Our Community Kids - South

St. Lucie County Education Foundation, Inc.

Treasure Coast Food Bank, Inc.

North Springs Improvement District

♦ Four years of service in the United States Air Force in computer operations, with a top secret (SCI/SBI) security clearance.

# **Personnel Qualifications and Experience**

#### David S. McGuire, CPA, CITP (Continued)

Accounting and Audit Principal

#### **Continuing Professional Education**

Mr. McGuire has attended numerous continuing professional education courses and seminars taught by nationally recognized sponsors in the accounting auditing and single audit compliance areas. He has attended courses over the last two years in those areas as follows:

Not-for-Profit Auditing Financial Results and Compliance Requirements Update: Government Accounting Reporting and Auditing

Annual Update for Accountants and Auditors

## **Personnel Qualifications and Experience**

#### David F. Haughton, CPA

Accounting and Audit Manager - 30 years

#### **Education**

♦ Stetson University, B.B.A. – Accounting

#### Registrations

◆ Certified Public Accountant – State of Florida, State Board of Accountancy

#### **Professional Affiliations/Community Service**

- Member of the American and Florida Institutes of Certified Public Accountants
- Former Member of Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants Committee on State and Local Government
- ◆ Affiliate Member Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for over 10 years
- Affiliate Member Florida Government Finance Officers Association (FGFOA) for over 10 vears
- ♦ Technical Review 1997 FICPA Course on State and Local Governments in Florida
- ◆ Board of Directors Kiwanis of Ft. Pierce, Treasurer 1994-1999; Vice President 1999-2001

#### **Professional Experience**

- Twenty-seven years public accounting experience with an emphasis on governmental and nonprofit organizations.
- ◆ State Auditor General's Office West Palm Beach, Staff Auditor, June 1985 to September 1985
- Accounting and Audit Manager of Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants PL, responsible for audit and accounting services including governmental and not-for-profit audits.
- Over 20 years of public accounting and governmental experience, specializing in governmental and nonprofit organizations with concentration in special districts, including Community Development Districts which provide services including water and sewer utilities. Governmental and non-profit entities served include the following:

#### Counties:

St. Lucie County

#### Municipalities:

City of Fort Pierce City of Stuart

# **Personnel Qualifications and Experience**

#### **David F. Haughton, CPA (Continued)**

Accounting and Audit Manager

#### **Professional Experience (Continued)**

#### **Special Districts:**

Bluewaters Community Development District

Country Club of Mount Dora Community Development District

Fiddler's Creek Community Development District #1 and #2

Indigo Community Development District

North Springs Improvement District

Renaissance Commons Community Development District

St. Lucie West Services District

Stoneybrook Community Development District

Summerville Community Development District

Terracina Community Development District

Thousand Oaks Community Development District

Tree Island Estates Community Development District

Valencia Acres Community Development District

#### Non-Profits:

The Dunbar Center, Inc.

Hibiscus Children's Foundation, Inc.

Hope Rural School, Inc.

Maritime and Yachting Museum of Florida, Inc.

Tykes and Teens, Inc.

United Way of Martin County, Inc.

Workforce Development Board of the Treasure Coast, Inc.

- While with the Auditor General's Office he was on the staff for the state audits of the Martin County School District and Okeechobee County School District.
- During 1997 he performed a technical review of the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants state CPE course on Audits of State and Local Governments in Florida. His comments were well received by the author and were utilized in future updates to the course.

#### **Continuing Professional Education**

◆ During the past several years, he has participated in numerous professional development training programs sponsored by the AICPA and FICPA, including state conferences on special districts and governmental auditing in Florida. He averages in excess of 100 hours bi-annually of advanced training which exceeds the 80 hours required in accordance with the continuing professional education requirements of the Florida State Board of accountancy and the AICPA Private Companies Practice Section. He has over 75 hours of governmental CPE credit within the past two years.

# **Personnel Qualifications and Experience**

#### Matthew Gonano, CPA

Senior Staff Accountant - 10 years

#### **Education**

- ◆ University of North Florida, B.B.A. Accounting
- University of Alicante, Spain International Business
- ◆ Florida Atlantic University Masters of Accounting

#### **Professional Affiliations/Community Service**

- ♦ American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- ♦ Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants

#### **Professional Experience**

- ♦ Senior Accountant with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank providing professional services to nonprofit and governmental entities.
- ♦ Performed audits of nonprofit and governmental organizations in accordance with Governmental Accounting Auditing Standards (GAAS)
- ♦ Performed Single Audits of nonprofit organizations in accordance with OMB Circular A-133, Audits of State, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations.

#### **Continuing Professional Education**

• Mr. Gonano has participated in numerous continuing professional education courses.

# **Personnel Qualifications and Experience**

#### **Paul Daly**

Staff Accountant – 9 years

#### **Education**

◆ Florida Atlantic University, B.S. – Accounting

#### **Professional Experience**

• Staff Accountant with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank providing professional services to nonprofit and governmental entities.

#### **Continuing Professional Education**

• Working to attain the requirements to take the Certified Public Accounting (CPA) exam.

# **Personnel Qualifications and Experience**

# Melissa Marlin, CPA

Senior Staff Accountant - 8 years

#### Education

- ◆ Indian River State College, A.A. Accounting
- ◆ Florida Atlantic University, B.B.A. Accounting

### **Professional Experience**

• Staff accountant with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank providing professional services to nonprofit and governmental entities.

### **Continuing Professional Education**

 Mrs. Marlin participates in numerous continuing professional education courses provided by nationally recognized sponsors to keep abreast of the latest developments.

# **Personnel Qualifications and Experience**

# **Bryan Snyder**

Staff Accountant - 5 years

### **Education**

◆ Florida Atlantic University, B.B.A. – Accounting

# **Professional Experience**

- Accountant beginning his professional auditing career with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank.
- Mr. Snyder is gaining experience auditing governmental & nonprofit entities.

- Mr. Snyder participates in numerous continuing education courses and plans on working to acquire his CPA certificate.
- Mr. Snyder is currently studying to pass the CPA exam.

# **Personnel Qualifications and Experience**

# Maritza Stonebraker, CPA

Staff Accountant – 4 years

#### **Education**

♦ Indian River State College, B.S.A. – Accounting

### **Professional Experience**

◆ Staff Accountant beginning her professional auditing career with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank.

# **Continuing Professional Education**

• Mrs. Stonebraker participates in numerous continuing professional education courses provided by nationally recognized sponsors to keep abreast of the latest developments.

# **Personnel Qualifications and Experience**

# Jonathan Herman, CPA

Senior Staff Accountant - 7 years

#### **Education**

- ♦ University of Central Florida, B.S. Accounting
- Florida Atlantic University, MACC

### **Professional Experience**

♦ Accounting graduate with five years experience with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank providing professional services to nonprofit and governmental entities.

### **Continuing Professional Education**

 Mr. Herman participates in numerous continuing professional education courses provided by nationally recognized sponsors to keep abreast of the latest developments.

# **Personnel Qualifications and Experience**

# Sean Stanton, CPA

Staff Accountant - 4 years

### **Education**

- ◆ University of South Florida, B.S. Accounting
- ◆ Florida Atlantic University, M.B.A. Accounting

### **Professional Experience**

♦ Staff accountant with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank auditing governmental and non-profit entities.

### **Continuing Professional Education**

• Mr. Stanton participates in numerous continuing professional education courses provided by nationally recognized sponsors to keep abreast of the latest developments.

# **Personnel Qualifications and Experience**

# **Taylor Nuccio**

Staff Accountant – 3 years

#### **Education**

♦ Indian River State College, B.S.A. – Accounting

# **Professional Experience**

• Staff Accountant with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank providing professional services to nonprofit and governmental entities.

- Ms. Nuccio participates in numerous continuing professional education courses provided by nationally recognized sponsors to keep abreast of the latest developments.
- Ms. Nuccio is currently working towards completing an additional 30 hours of education to qualify to sit for CPA exam.

# **Personnel Qualifications and Experience**

#### **Tifanee Terrell**

Staff Accountant

#### **Education**

♦ Florida Atlantic University, M.B.A. – Accounting

# **Professional Experience**

• Staff Accountant with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank providing professional services to nonprofit and governmental entities.

- Ms. Terrell participates in numerous continuing professional education courses provided by nationally recognized sponsors to keep abreast of the latest developments.
- Ms. Terrell is currently working towards completing an additional 30 hours of education to qualify to sit for CPA exam.

# **Personnel Qualifications and Experience**

# **Mathew Spinosa**

Staff Accountant

#### **Education**

◆ Indian River State College, B.S.A. – Accounting

### **Professional Experience**

• Staff Accountant with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank providing professional services to nonprofit and governmental entities.

- Mr. Spinosa participates in numerous continuing professional education courses provided by nationally recognized sponsors to keep abreast of the latest developments.
- Mr. Spinosa is currently working towards completing an additional 30 hours of education to qualify to sit for CPA exam.

# **Personnel Qualifications and Experience**

# **Dylan Dixon**

Staff Accountant

#### **Education**

♦ Indian River State College, A.A. – Accounting

### **Professional Experience**

♦ Staff Accountant with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank providing professional services to nonprofit and governmental entities.

- Mr. Dixon is currently pursuing a bachelor's degree in Accounting.
- Mr. Dixon participates in numerous continuing professional education courses provided by nationally recognized sponsors to keep abreast of the latest developments.
- Mr. Dixon is currently working towards completing an additional 30 hours of education to qualify to sit for CPA exam.



Judson B. Baggett MBA, CPA, CVA, Partner Marci Reutimann CPA, Partner

\*\* 6815 Dairy Road Zephyrhills, FL 33542 \*\* (813) 788-2155 \*\* (813) 782-8606

#### Report on the Firm's System of Quality Control

To the Partners

October 30, 2019

Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, CPAs, PL

and the Peer Review Committee of the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants

We have reviewed the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, CPAs, PL, (the firm), in effect for the year ended May 31, 2019. 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 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 a compliance audit under the Single Audit Act.

As a part of our peer 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 Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, CPAs, PL, in effect for the year ended May 31, 2019, 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. Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, CPAs, PL has received a peer review rating of pass.

Baggett, Reutinan & apociates, CPAs PA BAGGETT, REUTIMANN & ASSOCIATES, CPAS, PA

Member American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) and Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants (FICPA)

National Association of Certified Valuation Analysts (NACVA)

# GRAND HAVEN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

# **District Auditing Services for Fiscal Year 2021 - 2023**

#### **INSTRUCTIONS TO PROPOSERS**

- **SECTION 1. DUE DATE.** Sealed proposals must be received no later than <u>November 12, 2021 at 12:00 p.m.</u> at the offices of Howard McGaffney, District Manager, c/o DPFG Management & Consulting, LLC, 250 International Parkway, Suite 280, Lake Mary, Florida 32746. Proposals will be publicly opened at that time.
- **SECTION 2. FAMILIARITY WITH THE LAW.** By submitting a proposal, the Proposer is assumed to be familiar with all federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, rules and regulations that in any manner affect the work. Ignorance on the part of the Proposer will in no way relieve it from responsibility to perform the work covered by the proposal in compliance with all such laws, ordinances and regulations.
- **SECTION 3. QUALIFICATIONS OF PROPOSER.** The contract, if awarded, will only be awarded to a responsible Proposer who is qualified by experience and licensing to do the work specified herein. The Proposer shall submit with its proposal satisfactory evidence of experience in similar work and show that it is fully prepared to complete the work to the satisfaction of the District.
- **SECTION 4. PROPOSAL DOCUMENTS.** The proposal documents shall consist of the notice announcing the request for proposals, these instructions, the Evaluation Criteria Sheet and a proposal with all required documentation pursuant to Section 12 of these instructions (the "Proposal Documents").
- **SECTION 5. SUBMISSION OF ONLY ONE PROPOSAL.** Proposers shall be disqualified and their proposals rejected if the District has reason to believe that collusion may exist among the Proposers, the Proposer has defaulted on any previous contract or is in arrears on any previous or existing contract, or for failure to demonstrate proper licensure and business organization.
- **SECTION 6. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL DOCUMENTS.** Submit seven (7) copies and one (1) digital copy of the Proposal Documents and other requested attachments as at the time and place indicated herein, which shall be enclosed in an opaque sealed envelope, marked with the title "Auditing Services Grand Haven Community Development District".
- **SECTION 7. MODIFICATION AND WITHDRAWAL.** Proposals may be modified or withdrawn by an appropriate document duly executed and delivered to the place where proposals are to be submitted at any time prior to the time and date the proposals are due. No proposal may be withdrawn after opening for a period of ninety (90) days.
- **SECTION 8. PROPOSAL.** In making its proposal, each Proposer represents that it has read and understands the Proposal Documents and that the proposal is made in accordance therewith.

**SECTION 9. BASIS OF AWARD/RIGHT TO REJECT.** The District reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, make modifications to the work, and waive any informalities or irregularities in proposals as it is deemed in the best interests of the District.

**SECTION 10. CONTRACT AWARD.** Within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the Notice of Award from the District, the Proposer shall enter into and execute a Contract (engagement letter) with the District.

**SECTION 11. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY.** Nothing herein shall be construed as or constitute a waiver of District's limited waiver of liability contained in section 768.28, Florida Statutes, or any other statute or law.

**SECTION 12. MISCELLANEOUS.** All proposals shall include the following information in addition to any other requirements of the proposal documents.

- A. List position or title of all personnel to perform work on the District audit. Include resumes for each person listed; list years of experience in present position for each party listed and years of related experience.
- B. Describe proposed staffing levels, including resumes with applicable certifications.
- C. Three references from projects of similar size and scope. The Proposer should include information relating to the work it conducted for each reference as well as a name, address and phone number of a contact person.
- D. The lump sum cost of the provision of the services under the proposal.
- E. Provide a list of any litigation initiated or pending in the last five years against the firm involving a dispute about auditing or accounting services provided by the firm.

**SECTION 13. PROTESTS.** Any protest regarding the Proposal Documents, must be filed in writing, at the offices of the District Manager, within seventy-two (72) hours after the receipt of the proposed contract documents. The formal protest setting forth with particularity the facts and law upon which the protest is based shall be filed within seven (7) calendar days after the initial notice of protest was filed. Failure to timely file a notice of protest or failure to timely file a formal written protest shall constitute a waiver of any right to object or protest with respect to aforesaid contract award.

**SECTION 14. EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS.** The criteria to be used in the evaluation of proposals are presented in the Evaluation Criteria Sheet, contained within the Proposal Documents.

# AUDITOR SELECTION EVALUATION CRITERIA (PRICE FACTORED IN)

# 1. Ability of Personnel.

(20 Points)

(e.g., geographic locations of the firm's headquarters or permanent office in relation to the project; capabilities and experience of key personnel; present ability to manage this project; evaluation of existing work load; proposed staffing levels, etc.)

# 2. Proposer's Experience.

(20 Points)

(e.g. past record and experience of the Proposer in similar projects; volume of work previously performed by the firm; past performance for other Community Development Districts in other contracts; character, integrity, reputation, of respondent, etc.)

#### 3. Understanding of Scope of Work.

(20 Points)

Extent to which the proposal demonstrates an understanding of the District's needs for the services requested.

### 4. Ability to Furnish the Required Services.

(20 Points)

Extent to which the proposal demonstrates the adequacy of Proposer's financial resources and stability as a business entity necessary to complete the services required (e.g. the existence of any natural disaster plan for business operations).

5. Price (20 Points)

Points will be awarded based upon the price bid for the rendering of the services and reasonableness of the price to the services.

	EXHIBIT 4

# The Grand Haven Community Development District

# **Proposer**

DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes, P.A. Certified Public Accountants

> 2222 Colonial Road, Suite 200 Fort Pierce, Florida 34950 (772) 461-8833

591 SE Port St. Lucie Boulevard Port Saint Lucie, Florida 34984 (772) 878-1952

**Contact:** 

Jim Hartley, CPA Principal

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# DIBARTOLOMEO, McBEE, HARTLEY & BARNES, P.A.

**CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS** 

The Grand Haven Community Development District Audit Selection Committee

Dear Committee Members:

We are pleased to have this opportunity to present the qualifications of DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes, P.A. (DMHB) to serve as The Grand Haven Community Development District's independent auditors. The audit is a significant engagement demanding various professional resources, governmental knowledge and expertise, and, most importantly, experience serving Florida local governments. DMHB understands the services required and is committed to performing these services within the required time frame. We have the staff available to complete this engagement in a timely fashion. We audit several entities across the State making it feasible to schedule and provide services at the required locations.

**Proven Track Record**— Our clients know our people and the quality of our work. We have always been responsive, met deadlines, and been willing to go the extra mile with the objective of providing significant value to mitigate the cost of the audit. This proven track record of successfully working together to serve governmental clients will enhance the quality of services we provide.

**Experience**—DMHB has a history of providing quality professional services to an impressive list of public sector clients in Florida. We currently serve a large number of public sector entities in Florida, including cities, villages, special districts, as well as a large number of community development districts. Our firm has performed in excess of 100 community development district audits. In addition, our senior management team members have between 25 and 35 years experience in serving Florida governments. DMHB is a recognized leader in providing services to governmental and non-profit agencies within the State of Florida. Through our experience in performing audits, we have been able to increase our audit efficiency and therefore reduce cost. We have continually passed this cost saving on to our clients and will continue to do so in the future. As a result of our experience and expertise, we have developed an effective and efficient audit approach designed to meet or exceed the performance specifications in accordance with audit standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States with minimal disruption to your operations. Our firm has frequent technical updates to keep our personnel informed and up to date on all changes that are occurring within the industry.

2222 Colonial Road, Suite 200 • Fort Pierce, Florida 34950 • 772-461-8833 • Fax: 772-461-8872 591 S.E. Port St. Lucie Blvd., • Port St. Lucie, Florida 34984 • 772-878-1952 • Fax: 772-878-1709

Member AICPA

Member AICPA Division for CPA Firms Private Company Practice Section Member AICPA

**Timeliness** – In order to meet the Districts needs, we will perform interim internal control testing from unaudited preliminary general ledgers provided. The remaining testing will be completed no later than May 1<sup>st</sup>. We will also review all minutes and subsequent needs related to the review of the minutes. Follow up review will be completed as necessary.

**Communication and Knowledge Sharing**— Another driving force behind our service approach is frequent, candid and open communication with management with no surprises. During the course of the audit, we will communicate with management on a regular basis to provide you with a status report on the audit and to discuss any issues that arise, potential management letter comments, or potential audit differences.

In the accompanying proposal, you will find additional information upon which you can evaluate DMHB's qualifications. Our full team is in place and waiting to serve you. Please contact us at 2222 Colonial Road, Suite 200 Fort Pierce, FL 34950. Our phone number is (772) 461-8833. We look forward to further discussion on how our team can work together with you.

Very truly yours,

DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes, P.A.

DiBartolomeo, U. Bee, Hartley : Barred

# PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes, P.A. is a local public accounting firm with offices in the cities of Fort Pierce and Port St. Lucie. The firm was formed in 1982.

# > Professional Staff Resources

Our services will be delivered through personnel in both our Port St. Lucie and Ft. Pierce offices, located at 591 S.E. Port St. Lucie Blvd., Port St. Lucie, FL 34984 and 2222 Colonial Road, Suite 200, Fort Pierce, Florida 34950, respectively. DMHB has a total of 19 professional staff including 9 with extensive experience serving governmental entities.

Professional Staff Classification	Number of <b>Professionals</b>
Partner	4
Managers	2
Senior	2
Staff	11
	19

DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes provides a variety of accounting, auditing, tax litigation support, estate planning, and consulting services. Some of the governmental, non-profit accounting, auditing and advisory services currently provided to clients include:

- ➤ Annual financial and compliance audits including Single Audits of State and Federal financial assistance programs under the OMB A-133 audit criteria
- ➤ Issuance of Comfort Letters, consent letters, and parity certificates in conjunction with the issuance of tax-exempt debt obligations, including compiling financial data and interim period financial statement reviews
- Assisting in compiling historical financial data for first-time and subsequent submissions for the GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting

### PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS (CONTINUED)

# Professional Staff Resources (Continued)

- > Audits of franchise fees received from outside franchisees
- Preparation of annual reports to the State Department of Banking and Finance
- ➤ Audits of Internal Controls Governmental Special Project
- ➤ Assistance with Implementation of current GASB pronouncements

#### > Current and Near Future Workload

In order to better serve and provide timely and informative financial data, we have comprised an experienced audit team. Our present and future workloads will permit the proposed audit team to perform these audits within the time schedule required and meet all deadlines.

# > Identification of Audit Team

The team is composed of people who are experienced, professional, and creative. They fully understand your business and will provide you with reliable opinions. In addition, they will make a point to maintain ongoing dialogue with each other and management about the status of our services.

The auditing firm you select is only as good as the people who serve you. We are extremely proud of the outstanding team we have assembled for your engagement. Our team brings many years of relevant experience coupled with the technical skill, knowledge, authority, dedication, and most of all, the commitment you need to meet your government reporting obligations and the challenges that will result from the changing accounting standards.

A flow chart of the audit team and brief resumes detailing individual team members' experience in each of the relevant areas follow.

Jim Hartley, CPA – Engagement Partner (resume attached) Will assist in the field as main contact

Jay McBee, CPA – Technical Reviewer (resume attached)

Theresa Goldstein - Senior (resume attached)

Staff - TBA

# **Jim Hartley**

# Partner – DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes

# **Experience and Training**

Jim has over 25 years of public accounting experience and would serve as the engagement partner. His experience and training include:

- 25 years of non-profit and governmental experience.
- Specializing in serving entities ranging from Government to Associations and Special District audits.
- Has performed audits and advisory services for a variety of public sector entities.
- Has extensive experience performing audits of federal grant recipients in accordance with the Single Audit Act and the related Office of Management and Budget (OMB) guidelines.
- Experienced in maintaining the GFOA Certificate of Achievement.
- 120 hours of CPE credits over the past 3 years.

#### **Recent Engagements**

Has provided audit services on governmental entities including towns, villages, cities, counties, special districts and community development districts. Jim has assisted with financial statement preparation, system implementation, and a variety of services to a wide range of non-profit and governmental entities. Jim currently provides internal audit and consulting services to governmental entities and non-profit agencies to assist in implementing and maintaining "best practice" accounting policies and procedures. Jim provides auditing services to the Fort Pierce Utilities Authority, St. Lucie County Fire District, City of Port St. Lucie, Tradition CDD #1 – 10, Southern Groves CDD #1-6, Multiple CDD audits, Town of St. Lucie Village, Town of Sewall's Point, Town of Jupiter Island along with several other entities, including Condo and Homeowner Associations.

### **Education and Registrations**

- Bachelor of Science in Accounting Sterling College.
- Certified Public Accountant

#### **Professional Affiliations**

- Member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- Member of the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- Member of the Florida Government Finance Officers Association

### **Volunteer Service**

- Treasurer & Executive Board St. Lucie County Chamber of Commerce
- Budget Advisory Board St. Lucie County School District
- Past Treasurer Exchange Club for Prevention of Child Abuse & Exchange Foundation Board
- Board of Directors State Division of Juvenile Justice

# Jay L. McBee

# Partner – DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes

### **Experience and Training**

Jay has over 35 years of public accounting experience and would serve as the technical reviewer on the audit. His experience and training include:

- 35 years of government experience.
- Specializing in serving local government entities.
- Has performed audits and advisory services for a variety of public sector entities including counties, cities, special districts, and school districts.
- Has experience performing audits of federal grant recipients in accordance with the Single Audit Act and the related Office of Management and Budget (OMB) guidelines, including Circular A-133 and the Rules of the Auditor General.
- Has extensive experience in performing pension audits.
- Experienced in developing and maintaining the GFOA Certificate of Achievement.
- 120 Hours of relevant government CPE credits over the past 3 years.
- Experience in municipal bond and other governmental-financing options and offerings.

# **Recent Engagements**

Has provided auditing services on local governmental entities including towns, villages, cities, counties, special district and community development districts. Jay has assisted with financial preparation, system implementation, and a variety of government services to a wide range of governmental entities. Jay currently provides auditing services to the City of Port St. Lucie, City of Okeechobee Pension Trust Funds, St. Lucie County Fire District Pension funds, along with several other non-profit and governmental entities.

### **Education and Registrations**

- Bachelor of Science in Accounting and Quantitative Business Management West Virginia University.
- Certified Public Accountant

#### **Professional Affiliations**

- Member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- Member of the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- Member of the Florida Government Finance Officers Association

### **Volunteer Service**

- Member of the St. Lucie County Citizens Budget Committee
- Finance committee for the First United Methodist Church
- Treasurer of Boys & Girls Club of St. Lucie County

# Theresa Goldstein

Supervisor – DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes

# **Experience and training**

Theresa has over 15 years of public accounting experience and would serve as the supervisor for the Constitutional Officers. Her experience and training include:

- 15 years of government experience.
- Specializing in serving local government entities.
- Has performed audits and advisory services for a variety of public sector entities including counties, cities, towns and special districts.
- Has extensive experience performing audits of federal grant recipients in accordance with the Single Audit Act and the related Office of Management and Budget (OMB) guidelines, including Circular A-133 and the Rules of the Auditor General.
- Experienced in maintaining the GFOA Certificate of Achievement.
- 100 hours of relevant government CPE credits over the past 3 years.

### **Recent Engagements**

Has provided audit services on governmental entities including towns, villages, cities, counties, special districts and community development districts. Theresa has assisted with financial statement preparation, system implementation, and a variety of services to a wide range of non-profit and governmental entities. Theresa currently provides internal audit and consulting services to multiple agencies to assist in implementing and maintaining "best practice" accounting policies and procedures. Engagements include City of Port St. Lucie, St. Lucie County Fire District, Town of Sewall's Point, Town of Jupiter Island, Multiple CDD audits, Tradition CDD #1-10, Southern Groves CDD #1-6 and Town of St. Lucie Village.

### **Education and Registrations**

- Bachelor of Science in Finance University of Central Florida
- Masters of Business Administration with concentration in Accounting Bryant College

#### **Professional Affiliations**

- Associate Member of the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- Member of the Florida Government Finance Officers Association

# PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS (CONTINUED)

# ➤ Governmental Audit Experience

DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes, P.A., through its principals and members, has provided continuous in-depth professional accounting, auditing, and consulting services to local government units, nonprofit organizations, and commercial clients. Our professionals have developed considerable expertise in performing governmental audits and single audits and in preparing governmental financial statements in conformance with continually evolving GASB pronouncements, statements, and interpretations. All of the public sector entities we serve annually are required to be in accordance with GASB pronouncements and government auditing standards. We currently perform several Federal and State single audits in compliance with OMB Circular A-133 and under the Florida Single Audit Act. Our professionals are also experienced in assisting their clients with preparing Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports (GFOA).

All work performed by our firm is closely supervised by experienced certified public accountants. Only our most seasoned CPA's perform consulting services. Some of the professional accounting, auditing, and management consulting services currently provided to our local governmental clients include:

- ➤ Annual financial and compliance audits including Single Audits of State and Federal financial assistance programs under OMB A-133 audit criteria and the Florida Single Audit Act
- Assisting in compiling historical financial data for first-time and supplemental submissions for GFOA Certificate of Achievement of Excellence in Financial Reporting
- > Audits of franchise fees received from outside franchisees
- ➤ Assistance with Implementation of GASB-34
- > Internal audit functions
- Fixed assets review and updating cost/depreciation allocations and methods

#### ADDITIONAL DATA

# > Procedures for Ensuring Quality Control & Confidentiality

Quality control in any CPA firm can never be taken for granted. It requires a continuing commitment to professional excellence. DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes is formally dedicated to that commitment.

In an effort to continue to maintain the standards of working excellence required by our firm, DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes, P.A. joined the Quality Review Program of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. To be a participating member firm, a firm must obtain an independent compliance review of its quality control policies and procedures to ascertain the firm's compliance with existing auditing standards on the applicable engagements. The scope of peer review is comprehensive in that it specifically reviews the following quality control policies and procedures of the participating firm:

- Professional, economic, and administrative independence
- Assignment of professional personnel to engagements
- Consultation on technical matters
- Supervision of engagement personnel
- ➤ Hiring and employment of personnel
- Professional development
- > Advancement
- Acceptance and continuance of clients
- Inspection and review system

### > Independence

Independence is a hallmark of our profession. We encourage our staff to use professional judgment in situations where our independence could be impaired or the perception of a conflict of interest might exist. In the governmental sector, public perception is as important as professional standards. Therefore, independent auditors must exercise utmost care in the performance of their duties.

Our firm has provided continuous certified public accounting services in the government sector for 31 years, and we are independent of the Community Development Districts as defined by the following rules, regulations, and standards:

### ADDITIONAL DATA (CONTINUED)

# ➤ Independence (Continued)

- Au Section 220 Statements on Auditing Standards issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- ➤ ET Sections 101 and 102 Code of Professional Conduct of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- ➤ Chapter 21A-21, Florida Administrative Code
- Section 473.315, Florida Statutes
- ➤ Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States

# > Computer Auditing Capabilities

DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes' strong computer capabilities as demonstrated by our progressive approach to computer auditing and extensive use of microcomputers. Jay McBee is the MIS partner for DMHB. Jay has extensive experience in auditing and evaluating various computer systems and would provide these services in this engagement.

We view the computer operation as an integral part of its accounting systems. We would evaluate the computer control environment to:

- > Understand the computer control environment's effect on internal controls
- Conclude on whether aspects of the environment require special audit attention
- Make preliminary determination of comments for inclusion in our management letter

This evaluation includes:

- System hardware and software
- Organization and administration
- Access

# **Contracts of Similar Nature within References**

Client	Years	Annual Audit In Accordance With GAAS	Engagement Partner	Incl. Utility Audit/ Consulting	GFOA Cert.	GASB 34 Implementation & Assistance	Total Hours
St. Lucie County Fire District Karen Russell, Clerk-Treasurer (772)462-2300	1984 - Current	٧	Jim Hartley			1	250-300
City of Fort Pierce Johnna Morris, Finance Director (772)-460-2200	2005- current	1	Mark Barnes		1	1	800
Fort Pierce Utilities Authority Nina Hurtubise, Finance Director (772)-466-1600	2005- current	1	Jim Hartley	1	٧	1	600
Town of Jupiter Island Mike Ventura (772)-545-0104	2010		Jim Hartley	1			200
Town of Sewall's Point Pamela Walker (772) 287-2455	2010	1	Jim Hartley			1	225
Town of St. Lucie Village Diane Robertson, Town Clerk (772) 595-0663	1999 – current	٧	Jim Hartley			1	100
City of Okeechobee Pension Trust Funds Marita Rice, Supervisor of Finance (863)763-9460	1998 – current	٧	Jay McBee				60
St. Lucie County Fire District 175 Pension Trust Fund Chris Bushman, Captain (772) 462-2300	1990 – current	4	Jay McBee				60
Tradition Community Development District 1-10 Alan Mishlove, District Finance Manager (407)382-3256	2002 - current	٧	Jim Hartley			1	350
Union Park Community Development District Patricia Comings-Thibault (321)263-0132	2013- current	1	Jim Hartley				50
Deer Island Community Development District Patricia Comings-Thibault (321)263-0132	2013- current	٧	Jim Hartley				50
Park Creek Community Development District Patricia Comings-Thibault (321)263-0132	2013- current	٧	Jim Hartley				50
Waterleaf Community Development District Patricia Comings-Thibault (321)263-0132	2013- current	4	Jim Hartley				50

#### TECHNICAL APPROACH

- a. An Express Agreement to Meet or Exceed the Performance Specifications.
  - 1. The audit will be conducted in compliance with the following requirements:
    - **a.** Rules of the Auditor General for form and content of governmental audits
    - **b.** Regulations of the State Department of Banking and Finance
    - **c.** Audits of State and Local Governmental Units-American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.
  - 2. The audit report shall contain the opinion of the auditor in reference to all financial statements, and an opinion reflecting compliance with applicable legal provisions.
  - 3. We will also provide the required copies of the audit report, the management letter, any related reports on internal control weaknesses and one copy of the adjusting journal entries and financial work papers.
  - 4. The auditor shall, at no additional charge, make all related work papers available to any Federal or State agency upon request in accordance with Federal and State Laws and Regulations.
  - 5. We will work in cooperation with the District, its underwriters and bond council in regard to any bond issues that may occur during the term of the contract.
  - 6. The financial statements shall be prepared in conformity with Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement Number 34, 63 and 65.

We will commit to issuing the audit for each Fiscal year by June 1<sup>st</sup> of the following year. In order to ensure this we will perform interim internal control testing as required by January 31<sup>st</sup> from unaudited preliminary general ledgers provided. The remaining testing will be completed no later than May 1<sup>st</sup>. We will also review all minutes and subsequent needs related to the review of the minutes by January 30<sup>th</sup>. Follow up review will be completed as necessary.

# b. A Tentative Schedule for Performing the Key phases of the Audit – proposed for FYE 2021 and 2022 (initial year, 2021, will be scheduled based on receipt of information)

Audit Phase and Tasks	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.
I. Planning Phase:							
Meetings and discussions with Epperson Ranch Community Development District personnel regarding operating, accounting and reporting matters							
Discuss management expectations, strategies and objectives							
Review operations  Develop engagement plan							
Study and evaluate internal controls							
Conduct preliminary analytical review							
II. Detailed Audit Phase:  Conduct final risk assessment							
Finalize audit approach plan							
Perform substantive tests of account balances							
Perform single audit procedures (if applicable)							
Perform statutory compliance testing							
III. Closing Phase:							
Review subsequent events, contingencies and commitments							
Complete audit work and obtain management representations							
Review proposed audit adjustments with client							
IV. Reporting Phase:							
Review or assist in preparation of financial statement for Epperson Ranch Community Development District							
Prepare management letter and other special reports							
Exit conference with Epperson Ranch Community Development District officials and management							
Delivery of final reports					i I		

#### b. SPECIFIC AUDIT APPROACH

Our partners are not strangers who show up for an entrance conference and an exit conference. We have developed an audit plan that allows the partners to directly supervise our staff in the field. By assigning two partners to the audit, we will have a partner on-site for a significant portion of the fieldwork. This also gives the District an additional contact individual for questions or problems that may arise during the audit.

The scope of our services will include a financial, as well as, a compliance audit of the District's financial statements. Our audit will be conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Additionally, our audit will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General, which govern the conduct of local government entity audits performed in the State of Florida.

Our audit approach places emphasis on the accounting information system and how the data is recorded, rather than solely on the verification of numbers on a financial statement. This approach enables us to:

- Maximize our understanding of the District's operating environment
- Minimize time required conducting the audit since we start with broad considerations and narrow to specific audit objectives in critical areas

Our audit approach consists of four phases encompassing our audit process:

- ➤ Planning Phase
- ➤ Detailed Audit Phase
- **➤**Closing Phase
- **≻**Reporting

# **Planning Phase**

### **Meetings and Expectations:**

Our first step in this phase will be to set up a planning meeting with the financial and operating management of The Grand Haven Community Development District. Our goal here is to eliminate "surprises." By meeting with responsible officials early on we can discuss significant accounting policies, closing procedures and timetables, planned timing of our audit procedures and expectations of our work. This will also be the starting point for our discussions with management related to SAS No. 99-Consideration of Fraud in a Financial Statement Audit. Inquiries will be made regarding managements knowledge of fraud and on management's views regarding the risk of fraud.

### **Review Operations and Develop Engagement Plan**

It is critical that we understand the District's operating environment. To do this we will obtain and review such items as, organizational charts, recent financial statements, budget information, major contracts and lease agreements. We will also gather other information necessary to increase our understanding of the District's operations, organization, and internal control.

### Study and Evaluate Internal Control

As part of general planning, we will obtain an understanding and assessment of the District's control environment. This assessment involves a review of management's operating style, written internal control procedures, and the District's accounting system. The assessment is necessary to determine if we can rely on control procedures and thus reduce the extent of substantive testing.

We then test compliance with established control procedures by ascertaining that the significant strengths within the system are functioning as described to us. Generally, transactions are selected and reviewed in sufficient detail to permit us to formulate conclusions regarding compliance with control procedures and the extent of operation compliance with pertinent laws and regulations. This involves gaining an understanding of the District's procedures, laws and regulations, and testing systems for compliance by examining contracts, invoices, bid procedures, and other documents. After testing controls, we then evaluate the results of those tests and decide whether we can rely on controls and thus reduce other audit procedures.

# **Conduct Preliminary Analytical Review**

Also during the planning stage, we undertake analytical procedures that aid us in focusing our energies in the right direction. We call these analytical reviews.

A properly designed analytical review can be a very effective audit procedure in audits of governmental units. Analytical reviews consist of more than just a comparison of current-year actual results to prior-year actual results. Very effective analytical review techniques include trend analysis covering a number of years and comparisons of information not maintained totally within the financial accounting system, such as per capita information, prevailing market interest rates, housing statistics, etc.

Some examples of effective analytical reviews performed together and/or individually include:

- Comparison of current-year actual results with current-year budget for the current and past years with investigation of significant differences and/or trends
- > Trend analysis of the percentage of current-year revenues to current-year rates for the current and previous years with investigation of significant changes in the collection percentage
- > Trend analysis of the percentage of expenditures by function for the current and previous years with investigation of significant changes in percentages by department
- Monthly analysis of receipts compared to prior years to detect trends that may have audit implications

Conclusions reached enable us to determine the nature, timing and extent of other substantive procedures.

### **Detailed Audit Phase**

# **Conduct Final Risk Assessment and Prepare Audit Programs**

Risk assessment requires evaluating the likelihood of errors occurring that could have a material affect on the financial statements being audited. The conclusions we reach are based on many evaluations of internal control, systems, accounts, and transactions that occur throughout the audit. After evaluating the results of our tests of control and our final risk assessment we can develop detailed audit programs.

#### **Perform Substantive Tests of Account Balances**

These tests are designed to provide reasonable assurance as to the validity of the information produced by the accounting system. Substantive tests involve such things as examining invoices supporting payments, confirmation of balances with independent parties, analytical review procedures, and physical inspection of assets. All significant accounts will be subjected to substantive procedures. Substantive tests provide direct evidence of the completeness, accuracy, and validity of data.

# **Perform Single Audit Procedures (if applicable)**

During the planning phase of the audit we will request and review schedules of expenditures of federal awards and state financial assistance. These schedules will be the basis for our determination of the specific programs we will test.

In documenting our understanding of the internal control system for the financial statement audit, we will identify control activities that impact major federal and state programs as well. This will allow us to test certain controls for the financial audit and the single audit concurrently. We will then perform additional tests of controls for each federal and state program selected for testing. We will then evaluate the results of the test of controls to determine the nature, timing and extent of substantive testing necessary to determine compliance with major program requirements.

# **Perform Statutory Compliance Testing**

We have developed audit programs for The Grand Haven Community Development District designed to test Florida Statutes as required by the Auditor General. These programs include test procedures such as general inquiries, confirmation from third parties, and examination of specific documents.

### Closing Phase

During the closing phase we perform detail work paper reviews, request legal letters, review subsequent events and proposed audit adjustments. Communication with the client is critical in this phase to ensure that the information necessary to prepare financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States has been obtained.

# **Reporting Phase**

# **Financial Statement Preparation**

As a local firm, we spend a considerable amount of time on financial statement preparation and support. With this in mind, we can assist in certain portions of the preparation of financial statements or simply review a draft of financials prepared by your staff. We let you determine our level of involvement.

### **Management Letters**

#### We want to help you solve problems before they become major.

Our management letters go beyond citing possible deficiencies in the District's internal control structures. They identify opportunities for increasing revenues, decreasing costs, improving management information, protecting assets and improving operational efficiency.

The diversity of experience of our personnel and their independent and objective viewpoints make the comments, observations, and conclusions presented in our management letters a valuable source of information. We have provided positive solution-oriented objective recommendations to our governmental clients regarding investments, accounting accuracy, data processing, revenue bonds, payroll, utility billing, purchasing, budgeting, risk management, and internal auditing.

This review ensures the integrity of the factual data in the management letter but does not influence or impair our independence.

# **Exit Conferences and Delivery of Reports**

We anticipate meeting with appropriate District personnel in February and issuing the final required reports by the May meeting of each year.

# PROPOSED AUDIT FEE FOR EACH YEAR OF THE THREE YEARS

DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes P.A. will perform the annual audit of The Grand Haven Community Development District for the three years as follows:

September 30, 2021	*\$6,800
September 30, 2022	\$4,850
September 30, 2023	\$4,950

<sup>\*</sup>Anticipated additional time with turnover