

BRICKLEY DeLONG

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Board of Commissioners
Muskegon County Road Commission
Muskegon, Michigan

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Muskegon County Road Commission for the year ended September 30, 2023. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information to you during our conference on November 8, 2023. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

Significant Audit Matters

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by Muskegon County Road Commission are described in Note A to the financial statements. During the year ended September 30, 2023, the Road Commission adopted the following new accounting standard: GASB 96—*Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements*. We noted no transactions entered into by the entity during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

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

Management's estimate of depreciation is based on the estimated useful life of capital assets.

Management's estimate of the allocation of fringe and indirect costs to projects is based on the direct labor dollars and total project costs, respectively.

Management's estimate of the compensated absences liability is based on unused compensated absences at year end, union contracts, and past experience.

The estimates used to calculate the net pension liability and related deferred inflows/outflows or resources which were provided by the Municipal Employees Retirement System.

Management's estimate of the net other post-employment benefits liability (OPEB) is based on average life expectancies, age of retirement, net return of invested assets, and expected future healthcare costs.

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

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Significant Audit Matters—Continued

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices—Continued

Certain financial statement disclosures are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. The most sensitive disclosures affecting the financial statements were:

The disclosure of significant pension and other postemployment benefit obligations in Notes G and H to the financial statements to the financial statements and their impact on the government's net position.

The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent and clear.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

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

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements. In addition, none of the misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures and corrected by management were material, either individually or in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Disagreements with Management

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

Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated January 16, 2024.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

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

Other Audit Findings or Issues

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

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Significant Audit Matters—Continued

Other Matters

We applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information (RSI) which are required and supplement the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing and comparing the information for consistency with management’s responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We did not audit the RSI and do not express any opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

We were engaged to report on the Analysis of Changes in Fund Balance, Revenues, and Expenditures, which accompany the financial statements but are not RSI. With respect to the supplementary information accompanying the financial statements, we made certain inquiries of management and evaluated the form, content, and methods of preparing the information to determine that the information complies with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the method of preparing it has not changed from the prior period, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements. We compared and reconciled the supplementary information to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves.

Restriction on Use

This information is intended solely for the use of the Board of Commissioners and management of Muskegon County Road Commission and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Brickley DeLong, P.C. in black ink.

Muskegon, Michigan
January 16, 2024