Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates

Certified Public Accountants | A Professional Limited Liability Company

DATE: November 30, 2017

MEMORANDUM TO: Mary T. Price, County Administrator
County of Shenandoah, Virginia

FROM: Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the County of Shenandoah, Virginia for the year ended June 30, 2017, we considered the County's internal controls to plan our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal controls.

However, during our audit, we noted certain matters involving the internal controls and other operational matters that are presented for your consideration. This letter does not affect our report dated November 30, 2017, on the financial statements of the County of Shenandoah, Virginia. Our comments and recommendations, all of which have been discussed with appropriate members of management, are intended to improve the internal controls or result in other operating efficiencies. We will be pleased to discuss these comments in further detail at your convenience, to perform any additional study of these matters, or to assist you in implementing the recommendations.

Public Hearing Publication-School Board Budget

Virginia Code Section 22.1-92, requires that the Component Unit School Board publicize notice of its public hearing regarding its 2017 proposed budget at least 10 days prior to the public hearing. During our audit, we were unable to document that the public hearing had been advertised with the local media in accordance with the Code. The FY 18 budget was advertised in accordance with the Virginia Code. However, the School Board budget was advertised as part of the County Board of Supervisors' public hearing on the overall budget of the locality.

Reconciliation of Monthly Landfill Billings to General Ledger

During our audit it was determined that due to turnover in the County Administration office, monthly reconciliations between the County's landfill collections per its general ledger and the billings per the landfill's software were not being performed. As a result, certain internal control mechanisms previously put in place were not being performed in a timely manner. The absence of this procedure increases the risk that billings per the landfill's system are not properly accounted for in the County's general ledger both for collections and outstanding balances. We recommend that the County initiate procedures to insure that landfill revenues per the County's general ledger are consistent with the billings recorded in the landfill billing system.

Revenue Recovery Payments to Volunteer Fire and Rescue Agencies

During our audit it was determined that due to turnover in the County Administration office, that payments of revenue recovery fees had not been remitted to the participating volunteer fire and rescue agencies for the last six months of the fiscal year until October 2017. We recommend that payments to the volunteer fire and rescue agencies be remitted at a minimum on a quarterly basis.

Governmental Accounting Standards Board Pronouncements

In order to assist your staff in preparing for upcoming accounting changes, we have included the following summaries of Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements that will affect the County in upcoming years.

Statement No. 75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pension,* improves accounting and financial reporting by state and local governments for postemployment benefits other than pensions (other postemployment benefits or OPEB). This Statement replaces the requirements of Statements No. 45, *Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*, as amended, and No. 57, *OPEB Measurements by Agent Employers and Agent Multiple Employer Plans*, for OPEB. Statement No. 74, *Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans*, establishes new accounting and financial reporting requirements for OPEB plans. This Statement is effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2017.

Statement No. 81, Irrevocable Split-Interest Agreements, improves accounting and financial reporting for irrevocable split-interest agreements by providing recognition and measurement guidance for situations in which a government is a beneficiary of the agreement. The requirements in this Statement are effective for financial statements for periods beginning after December 15, 2016, and should be applied retroactively.

Statement No. 83, Certain Asset Retirement Obligations, addresses accounting and financial reporting for certain asset retirement obligations (AROs). An ARO is a legally enforceable liability associated with the retirement of a tangible capital asset. A government that has legal obligations to perform future asset retirement activities related to its tangible capital assets should recognize a liability based on the guidance in this Statement. This Statement establishes criteria for determining the timing and pattern of recognition of a liability and a corresponding deferred outflow of resources for AROs. The requirements of this Statement are effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2018.

Statement No. 84, Fiduciary Activities, establishes criteria for identifying fiduciary activities of all state and local governments. The focus of the criteria generally is on (1) whether a government is controlling the assets of the fiduciary activity and (2) the beneficiaries with whom a fiduciary relationship exists. Separate criteria are included to identify fiduciary component units and postemployment benefit arrangements that are fiduciary activities. This Statement describes four fiduciary funds that should be reported, if applicable: (1) pension (and other employee benefit) trust funds, (2) investment trust funds, (3) private-purpose trust funds, and (4) custodial funds. This Statement also provides for recognition of a liability to the beneficiaries in a fiduciary fund when an event has occurred that compels the government to disburse fiduciary resources. The requirements of this Statement are effective for reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2018.

Statement No. 86, Certain Debt Extinguishment Issues, improves consistency in accounting and financial reporting for in-substance defeasance of debt by providing guidance for transactions in which cash and other monetary assets acquired with only existing resources—resources other than the proceeds of refunding debt—are placed in an irrevocable trust for the sole purpose of extinguishing debt. This Statement also improves accounting and financial reporting for prepaid insurance on debt that is extinguished and notes to financial statements for debt that is defeased in substance. The requirements of this Statement are effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2017.

Statement No. 87, Leases, increases the usefulness of governments' financial statements by requiring recognition of certain lease assets and liabilities for leases that previously were classified as operating leases and recognized as inflows of resources or outflows of resources based on the payment provisions of the contract. It establishes a single model for lease accounting based on the foundational principle that leases are financings of the right to use an underlying asset. Under this Statement, a lessee is required to recognize a lease liability and an intangible right-to-use lease asset, and a lessor is required to recognize a lease receivable and a deferred inflow of resources, thereby enhancing the relevance and consistency of information about governments' leasing activities. The requirements of this Statement are effective for reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2019.