

## CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

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July 1, 2016

# COMMUNICATION WITH THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE AUDIT

To the Township Board Crystal Lake Township Benzie County Frankfort, Michigan

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Crystal Lake Township for the year ended March 31, 2016. 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 in our letter to you dated May 2, 2016. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

#### Significant Audit Findings

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by Crystal Lake Township are described in Note I to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and application of existing policies was not changed during 2015-16. We noted no transactions entered into by the governmental unit 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 estimate affecting the governmental activities financial statements was:

Management's estimates of the useful lives of capital assets which is based on previous history. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the estimate in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

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 trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements. The majority of these misstatements were a result of converting the Township's records from cash to accrual basis.

# 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 July 1, 2016.

## Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about audit and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to Crystal Lake Township'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

During the course of our audit of the basic financial statements of Crystal Lake Township for the year ended March 31, 2016, we noted the following items which we feel deserve comment:

## **Budgeting**

Some expenditures exceeded appropriated amounts in the General Fund. The Township should monitor its budgets on an ongoing basis and make budget amendments prior to incurring expenditures in excess of budgeted amounts. Budget amendments need to be made prior to the end of the fiscal year.

## Tax Collection Fund

There were some issues with disbursements in the Tax Collection Fund during the close of the tax year. We have suggested some procedures that if implemented should mitigate such issues in future years.

# Condition of Accounting Records and Accounting Controls

We would like to thank the accounting personnel for their efforts in accumulating the information needed for our audit. We encourage you to review your internal and accounting controls on an annual basis to ensure they are adequate and operating as intended.

# Other Matters

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

## Restriction on Use

This information is intended solely for the use of the Township Board and others within the organization and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

BAIRD, COTTER AND BISHOP, P.C.

Baird, Cottle & Bishop, P.C.