

CONTRACT TO AUDIT ACCOUNTS

Of Jackson County
Primary Governmental Unit

N/A

Discretely Presented Component Unit (DPCU) if applicable

On this 24 day of May, 2016,

Auditor: Dixon Hughes Goodman LLP Auditor Mailing Address: 500 Ridgefield Court

Asheville, NC 28806 Hereinafter referred to as The Auditor

and Board of Commissioners (Governing Board(s)) of Jackson County (Primary Government)

and N/A : hereinafter referred to as the Governmental Unit(s), agree as follows: (Discretely Presented Component Unit)

- 1. The Auditor shall audit all statements and disclosures required by generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) and additional required legal statements and disclosures of all funds and/or divisions of the Governmental Unit (s) for the period beginning July 1, 2015, and ending June 30, 2016. The non-major combining, and individual fund statements and schedules shall be subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and an opinion will be rendered in relation to (as applicable) the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate DPCUs, each major governmental and enterprise fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information (non-major government and enterprise funds, the internal service fund type, and the fiduciary fund types).
2. At a minimum, the Auditor shall conduct his/her audit and render his/her report in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. The Auditor shall perform the audit in accordance with Government Auditing Standards if required by the State Single Audit Implementation Act, as codified in G.S. 159-34. If required by OMB Uniform Administration Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, Final Rule, (Uniform Guidance) and the State Single Audit Implementation Act, the Auditor shall perform a Single Audit. This audit and all associated audit documentation may be subject to review by Federal and State agencies in accordance with Federal and State laws, including the staffs of the Office of State Auditor (OSA) and the Local Government Commission (LGC). If the audit and/or audit documentation are found in this review to be substandard, the results of the review may be forwarded to the North Carolina State Board of CPA Examiners (NC CPA Board).

County and Multi-County Health Departments: The Office of State Auditor will designate certain programs that have eligibility requirements to be considered major programs in accordance with OMB Uniform Guidance for the State of North Carolina. The LGC will notify the auditor and the County and Multi-Health Department of these programs. A County or a Multi-County Health Department may be selected to audit any of these programs as major.

- 3. If an entity is determined to be a component of another government as defined by the group audit standards - the entity's auditor will make a good faith effort to comply in a timely manner with the requests of the group auditor in accordance with AU-6 §600.41 - §600.42.
4. This contract contemplates an unqualified opinion being rendered. The audit shall include such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as are considered by the Auditor to be necessary in the circumstances. Any limitations or restrictions in scope which would lead to a qualification should be fully explained in an attachment to this contract.
5. If this audit engagement is subject to the standards for audit as defined in Government Auditing Standards, 2011 revisions, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, then by accepting this engagement, the Auditor warrants that he has met the requirements for a peer review and continuing education as specified in Government

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Auditing Standards. The Auditor agrees to provide a copy of their most recent peer review report regardless of the date of the prior peer review report to the Governmental Unit and the Secretary of the LGC prior to the execution of the audit contract (See Item 22). **If the audit firm received a peer review rating other than pass**, the Auditor shall not contract with the Governmental Unit without first contacting the Secretary of the LGC for a peer review analysis that may result in additional contractual requirements.

If the audit engagement is not subject to Government Accounting Standards or if financial statements are not prepared in accordance with GAAP and fail to include all disclosures required by GAAP, the Auditor shall provide an explanation as to why in an attachment.

6. It is agreed that time is of the essence in this contract. All audits are to be performed and the report of audit submitted to the State and Local Government Finance Division (SLGFD) within four months of fiscal year end. Audit report is due on: October 31, 2016. If it becomes necessary to amend this due date or the audit fee, an amended contract along with a written explanation of the delay must be submitted to the secretary of the LGC for approval.
7. It is agreed that generally accepted auditing standards include a review of the Governmental Unit's systems of internal control and accounting as same relate to accountability of funds and adherence to budget and law requirements applicable thereto; that the Auditor will make a written report, which may or may not be a part of the written report of audit, to the Governing Board setting forth his findings, together with his recommendations for improvement. That written report must include all matters defined as "significant deficiencies and material weaknesses" in AU-C 265 of the *AICPA Professional Standards (Clarified)*. The Auditor shall file a copy of that report with the Secretary of the LGC.
8. All local government and public authority contracts for audit or audit-related work require the approval of the Secretary of the LGC. This includes annual or special audits, agreed upon procedures related to internal controls, bookkeeping or other assistance necessary to prepare the Governmental Unit's records for audit, financial statement preparation, any finance-related investigations, or any other audit-related work in the State of North Carolina. **Invoices for services rendered under these contracts shall not be paid by the Governmental Unit until the invoice has been approved by the Secretary of the LGC.** (This also includes any progress billings.) [G.S. 159-34 and 115C-447] All invoices for Audit work must be submitted by email in PDF format to the Secretary of the LGC for approval. The invoices must be sent via upload through the current portal address: <http://nctreasurer.slgfd.leapfile.net> Subject line should read "Invoice – [Unit Name]. The PDF invoice marked 'approved' with approval date will be returned by email to the Auditor to present to the Governmental Unit for payment. Approval is not required on contracts and invoices for system improvements and similar services of a non-auditing nature.
9. In consideration of the satisfactory performance of the provisions of this contract, the Primary Governmental Unit shall pay to the Auditor, upon approval by the Secretary of the LGC, the fee, which includes any cost the Auditor may incur from work paper or peer reviews or any other quality assurance program required by third parties (Federal and State grantor and oversight agencies or other organizations) as required under the Federal and State Single Audit Acts. (Note: **Fees listed on signature pages.**)
10. If the Governmental Unit has outstanding revenue bonds, the Auditor shall include documentation either in the notes to the audited financial statements or as a separate report submitted to the SLGFD along with the audit report, a calculation demonstrating compliance with the revenue bond rate covenant. Additionally, the Auditor should be aware that any other bond compliance statements or additional reports required in the authorizing bond documents need to be submitted to the SLGFD simultaneously with the Governmental Unit's audited financial statements unless otherwise specified in the bond documents.

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11. After completing the audit, the Auditor shall submit to the Governing Board a written report of audit. This report shall include, but not be limited to, the following information: (a) Management's Discussion and Analysis, (b) the financial statements and notes of the Governmental Unit and all of its component units prepared in accordance with GAAP, (c) supplementary information requested by the client or required for full disclosure under the law, and (d) the Auditor's opinion on the material presented. The Auditor shall furnish the required number of copies of the report of audit to the Governing Board as soon as practical after the close of the accounting period.
12. If the audit firm is required by the NC CPA Board or the Secretary of the LGC to have a pre-issuance review of their audit work, there must be a statement added to the engagement letter specifying the pre-issuance review including a statement that the Governmental Unit will not be billed for the pre-issuance review. The pre-issuance review must be performed **prior** to the completed audit being submitted to the LGC. The pre-issuance report must accompany the audit report upon submission to the LGC.
13. The Auditor shall electronically submit the report of audit to the LGC as a text-based PDF file when (or prior to) submitting the invoice for services rendered. The report of audit, as filed with the Secretary of the LGC, becomes a matter of public record for inspection, review and copy in the offices of the SLGFD by any interested parties. Any subsequent revisions to these reports must be sent to the Secretary of the LGC. These audited financial statements, excluding the Auditors' opinion, may be used in the preparation of official statements for debt offerings, by municipal bond rating services to fulfill secondary market disclosure requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission and other lawful purposes of the Governmental Unit without subsequent consent of the Auditor. If it is determined by the LGC that corrections need to be made to the Governmental Unit's financial statements, they should be provided within three days of notification unless another time frame is agreed to by the LGC.

If the OSA designates certain programs to be audited as major programs, as discussed in item #2, agreed-upon procedures report, a turnaround document and a representation letter addressed to the OSA shall be submitted to the LGC.

The LGC's process for submitting contracts, audit reports and invoices is subject to change. Auditors should use the submission process in effect at the time of submission. The most current instructions will be found on our website: <https://www.nctreasurer.com/slg/Pages/Audit-Forms-and-Resources.aspx>

14. Should circumstances disclosed by the audit call for a more detailed investigation by the Auditor than necessary under ordinary circumstances, the Auditor shall inform the Governing Board in writing of the need for such additional investigation and the additional compensation required therefore. Upon approval by the Secretary of the LGC, this contract may be varied or changed to include the increased time and/or compensation as may be agreed upon by the Governing Board and the Auditor
15. If an approved contract needs to be varied or changed for any reason, the change must be made in writing, on the Amended LGC-205 contract form and pre-audited if the change includes a change in audit fee. This amended contract needs to be completed in full, including a written explanation of the change, signed and dated by all original parties to the contract, and then must be submitted through the audit contract portal to the Secretary of the LGC for approval. The portal address to upload your amended contract is <http://nctreasurer.slgfd.leapfile.net>. No change shall be effective unless approved by the Secretary of the LGC, the Governing Board, and the Auditor.
16. Whenever the Auditor uses an engagement letter with the Governmental Unit, Item #17 is to be completed by referencing the engagement letter and attaching a copy of the engagement letter to the contract to incorporate the engagement letter into the contract. In case of conflict between the terms of the engagement letter and the terms of

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this contract, the terms of this contract will control. Engagement letter terms are deemed to be void unless the conflicting terms of this contract are specifically deleted in Item #24 of this contract. Engagement letters containing indemnification clauses will not be approved by the LGC.

17. Special provisions should be limited. Please list any special provisions in an attachment.

The attached engagement letter is part of this contract.

18. A separate contract should not be made for each division to be audited or report to be submitted. If a DPCU is subject to the audit requirements detailed in the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act and a separate audit report is issued, a separate audit contract is required. If a separate report is not to be issued and the DPCU is included in the primary government audit, the DPCU must be named along with the parent government on this audit contract. Signatures from the DPCU Board chairman and finance officer also must be included on this contract.
19. The contract must be executed, pre-audited, physically signed by all parties including Governmental Unit and Auditor signatures and submitted in PDF format to the Secretary of the LGC. The current portal address to upload your contractual documents is <http://nctreasurer.slgfd.leapfile.net> Electronic signatures are not accepted at this time. Included with this contract are instructions to submit contracts and invoices for approval as of October 2015. These instructions are subject to change. Please check the NC Treasurer's web site at www.nctreasurer.com for the most recent instructions.
20. The contract is not valid until it is approved by the LGC Secretary. The staff of the LGC shall notify the Governmental Unit and Auditor of contract approval by email. **The audit should not be started before the contract is approved.**
21. There are no other agreements between the parties hereto and no other agreements relative hereto that shall be enforceable unless entered into in accordance with the procedure set out herein and approved by the Secretary of the LGC.
22. **E-Verify.** Auditor **shall comply** with the requirements of NCGS Chapter 64 Article 2. Further, if Auditor utilizes any subcontractor(s), Auditor **shall require** such subcontractor(s) to comply with the requirements of NCGS Chapter 64, Article 2.
23. Contractor hereby certifies that Contractor, and all subcontractors, are not on the Iran Final Divestment List ("List") created by the North Carolina State Treasurer pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-6A-4. Contractor shall not utilize any subcontractor that is identified on the List.
24. All of the above paragraphs are understood and shall apply to this contract, except the following numbered paragraphs shall be deleted: (See Item 16 for clarification).

SIGNATURE PAGES FOLLOW

Contract to Audit Accounts (cont.)

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- FEES

Year-end bookkeeping assistance – [For audits subject to Government Auditing Standards, this is limited to bookkeeping services permitted by revised Independence Standards] as outlined on page 8 of the engagement letter

Audit \$58,000

Preparation of the annual financial Statements \$18,000

Prior to submission of the completed audited financial report, applicable compliance reports and amended contract (if required) the Auditor may submit invoices for approval for services rendered, not to exceed 75% of the total of the stated fees above. If the current contracted fee is not fixed in total, invoices for services rendered may be approved for up to 75% of the prior year audit fee.

The 75% cap for interim invoice approval for this audit contract is \$57,000

** NA if there is to be no interim billing

Communication regarding audit contract requests for modification or official approvals will be sent to the email addresses provided in the spaces below.

Audit Firm Signature:

Dixon Hughes Goodman LLP

Name of Audit Firm

By Brian Broom, Director

Authorized Audit firm representative name: Type or print

Signature of authorized audit firm representative

Date

brian.broom@dhgllp.com

Email Address of Audit Firm

Governmental Unit Signatures:

Jackson County

Name of Primary Government

By Brian McMahan, Chairman

Mayor / Chairperson: Type or print name and title

Signature of Mayor/Chairperson of governing board

Date

By N/A

Chair of Audit Committee - Type or print name

**

Signature of Audit Committee Chairperson

Date

** If Governmental Unit has no audit committee, mark this section "N/A"

Jackson County

PRE-AUDIT CERTIFICATE: Required by G.S. 159-28 (a)

This instrument has been pre-audited in the manner required by The Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act or by the School Budget and Fiscal Control Act. Additionally, the following date is the date this audit contract was approved by the governing body.

By Darlene Fox, Finance Officer

Primary Governmental Unit Finance Officer:

Type or print name

Primary Government Finance Officer Signature

Date

(Pre-audit Certificate must be dated.)

darlenefox@jacksonnc.org

Email Address of Finance Officer

Date Primary Government Governing Body Approved Audit Contract - G.S. 159-34(a)