



Communication with Those Charged with Governance

**To the Honorable Members of the Audit Committee
County of Albemarle, Virginia**

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the County of Albemarle, Virginia for the year ended June 30, 2020. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* and Uniform Guidance, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter dated May 31, 2019. 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 the County of Albemarle, Virginia are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. There were no new accounting principles adopted during 2020. 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 slightly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting the County's financial statements were:

Management's estimate of the estimated lives of capital assets and related depreciation expense and accumulated depreciation is based on management's review and assessment of estimated useful lives of capital assets based on various accounting guidelines related to capital asset lives and depreciation methods. Additionally, management utilized actuarial valuations to report the estimate for the net pension liability and related deferred inflows and outflows reported under GASB 68 and the net OPEB liabilities and related deferred inflows and outflows reported under GASB 75. 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.

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. Our procedures disclosed no misstatements that were not corrected by management.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter a disagreement with management as 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 November 23, 2020.

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 County of Albemarle, Virginia' 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 County of Albemarle, Virginia's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

Other Matters

We applied certain limited procedures to management's discussion and analysis and the schedules related to pension and OPEB funding, 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. Our responsibility with respect to the budgetary comparison information, which also supplements the basic financial statements, is to evaluate the presentation of the schedules in relation to the financial statements as a whole and to report on whether it is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Other Matters: (Continued)

We were engaged to report on combining and individual fund financial statements and schedules, supporting schedules, and the schedule of expenditures of federal awards, which accompany the financial statements but are not RSI. With respect to this supplementary information, 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.

This information is intended solely for the use of the Board of Supervisors and management of the County of Albemarle, Virginia and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates

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November 23, 2020