

**WATER AND SEWERAGE SYSTEM OF  
DUPAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

An Enterprise Fund of the  
DuPage County, Illinois

COMMUNICATION TO THOSE CHARGED  
WITH GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

As of and for the Year Ended November 30, 2015

# WATER AND SEWERAGE SYSTEM OF DUPAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

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	<u>Page No.</u>
Introductory Letter	1
Required Communication of Internal Control Related Matters Identified in the Audit to Those Charged with Governance	
Financial Reporting	2 – 3
Controls Over Utility Billing and Receipting	3
Other Communications to Those Charged with Governance	
Two Way Communication Regarding Your Audit	4 – 5
Communication of Other Informational Points to Management that are not Material Weaknesses or Significant Deficiencies	
Professional Standards Update	6 – 8
Required Communications by the Auditor to Those Charged with Governance	9 – 12
Management Representations	



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June 28, 2016

To the Honorable Chairman and Members  
of the County Board  
DuPage County, Illinois

Dear Honorable Chairman and Members of the County Board:

This report includes our management letter and SAS No. 114 communication related to the November 30, 2015 financial audit of the Water and Sewerage System of DuPage County, Illinois (System).

#### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

The purpose of this report is to provide information to the County Board and system management in a concise and easy to follow manner. It is intended to focus on what we believe matters most to you.

The report contains our required communications related to internal controls, our SAS No. 114 communications, as well as our management letter comments and recommendations.

If you feel that additions or revisions of this report would help you in your oversight duties, we would be happy to work with you to accomplish these changes.

This report is intended solely for the DuPage County Board and management of the System and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

We would like to again commend the System for their active role in discussing our prior years' recommendations and implementing additional controls to strengthen the internal control system in a cost effective manner. As you will see in the pages to follow the reportable control findings reflect those the System has determined would be cost prohibitive to change and no additional findings have been reported compared to the prior year.

The Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP team members that performed the System's audit this year were Vicki Hellenbrand and Joe Lightcap (Engagement Partners), and Patrick King and Carl Thomas (Managers). If you have any questions on our comments, or if we can offer our services in any other way during the year, please don't hesitate to contact us. Thank you for allowing us to serve you.

Sincerely,

BAKER TILLY VIRCHOW KRAUSE, LLP

*Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP*

Enclosures

**REQUIRED COMMUNICATION OF INTERNAL CONTROL RELATED MATTERS IDENTIFIED IN THE  
AUDIT TO THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE**

To the Honorable Chairman and Members  
of the County Board  
DuPage County, Illinois

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the Water and Sewerage System of DuPage County, Illinois (System) as of and for the year ended November 30, 2015, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered its internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing our auditing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of its internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of its internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and, therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. However, as discussed below, we identified a deficiency in internal control that we consider to be a material weakness and another deficiency that we consider to be a significant deficiency.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency or combination of deficiencies in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. We consider the following deficiency in the System's internal control to be a material weakness:

> Financial Reporting

In theory, a properly designed system of internal control staffed with enough people with sufficient training would provide your organization with the ability to not only process and record monthly transactions, but also to prepare a complete set of annual financial statements including the implementation of new standards and all related disclosures. In practice, very few local governments have the skill or time required to prepare annual financial statements.

To avoid the auditor reporting a material weakness in internal control, your system of controls would need to be able to accomplish the following:

1. Present the books and records to the auditor in such a condition that the auditor is not able to identify any material journal entries as a result of our audit procedures. Accomplishing this is very rare for most of our clients.
2. Prepare a complete set of year-end financial statements with a very high level of accuracy. Auditing standards require that the level of accuracy be such that there is only a remote likelihood that the auditor will discover a material change to the statements or footnotes. While a number of our clients prepare their own statements, it may not be cost beneficial to scrutinize those statements internally to the same degree that the auditor will. If the auditor discovers any material change to the statements, by definition, the system of internal control over financial reporting must have a material weakness.

Honorable Chairman and Members  
of the County Board  
DuPage County, Illinois

> Financial Reporting (cont.)

To accomplish such a high level of internal control over financial reporting is a difficult task for most governments. Many large organizations, such as SEC companies, have been required by law to prepare their own statements for years, and are staffed appropriately to do so. Most governments operate with only enough staff to process monthly transactions and reports, and rely on us to prepare certain year-end audit entries and handle the year-end financial reporting. Under the current auditing standards, we must, therefore, inform you that the item above is a material weakness in your internal control.

A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance. We consider the following deficiency in the System's internal control to be a significant deficiency:

> Controls Over Utility Billing and Receipting

An ideal accounting system includes many procedures and controls designed to limit the access of any one individual to assets. However, the size of your entity precludes large administrative staffs or complex controls. This is not unusual for entities of your size but we are required to inform you that this condition exists. Because some of these accounting system controls do not exist, you must rely more heavily on your direct knowledge of the systems' operations and day to day contact with employees to control and safeguard assets.

There should be segregation between receipting and receivables function when possible in order to achieve a higher level of reliability that errors or irregularities in your processes would be discovered by your staff. The System has begun accepting credit card payments which has reduced the instances of payments being received at the public works finance department. However, the department still collected a significant amount of payments during the fiscal year. While accepting credit card payments along with compensating controls implemented in prior years has helped mitigate this risk, complete mitigation of this control weakness has not occurred as the ability to perform the noted functions still exists within the control system. In addition, as you make changes within your organization, and we continue to rotate audit procedures, more controls of this kind may be communicated to you.

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

*Baker Tilly Vuchow Krause, LLP*

Oak Brook, Illinois  
June 28, 2016

**OTHER COMMUNICATIONS TO THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE**

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## TWO WAY COMMUNICATION REGARDING YOUR AUDIT

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As part of our audit of your financial statements, we are providing communications to you throughout the audit process. Auditing requirements provide for two-way communication and are important in assisting the auditor and you with more information relevant to the audit.

As this past audit is concluded, we use what we have learned to begin the planning process for next year's audit. It is important that you understand the following points about the scope and timing of our next audit:

- a. We address the significant risks of material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, through our detailed audit procedures.
- b. We will obtain an understanding of the five components of internal control sufficient to assess the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements whether due to error or fraud, and to design the nature, timing, and extent of further audit procedures. We will obtain a sufficient understanding by performing risk assessment procedures to evaluate the design of controls relevant to an audit of financial statements and to determine whether they have been implemented. We will use such knowledge to:
  - > Identify types of potential misstatements.
  - > Consider factors that affect the risks of material misstatement.
  - > Design tests of controls, when applicable, and substantive procedures.

We will not express an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting or compliance with laws, regulations, and provisions of contracts or grant programs. For audits done in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, our report will include a paragraph that states that the purpose of the report is solely to describe the scope of testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the result of that testing and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting or on compliance and that the report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering internal control over financial reporting and compliance. The paragraph will also state that the report is not suitable for any other purpose.

- c. The concept of materiality recognizes that some matters, either individually or in the aggregate, are important for fair presentation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles while other matters are not important. In performing the audit, we are concerned with matters that, either individually or in the aggregate, could be material to the financial statements. Our responsibility is to plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance that material misstatements, whether caused by errors or fraud, are detected.

We are very interested in your views regarding certain matters. Those matters are listed here:

- a. We typically will communicate with your top level of management unless you tell us otherwise.
- b. We understand that the System and System Board has the responsibility to oversee the strategic direction of your organization, as well as the overall accountability of the entity. Management has the responsibility for achieving the objectives of the entity.
- c. We need to know your views about your organization's objectives and strategies, and the related business risks that may result in material misstatements.
- d. Which matters do you consider warrant particular attention during the audit, and are there any areas where you request additional procedures to be undertaken?
- e. Have you had any significant communications with regulators or grantor agencies?
- f. Are there other matters that you believe are relevant to the audit of the financial statements?



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**TWO WAY COMMUNICATION REGARDING YOUR AUDIT (cont.)**

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Also, is there anything that we need to know about the attitudes, awareness, and actions of the System concerning:

- a. The System's internal control and its importance in the entity, including how those charged with governance oversee the effectiveness of internal control?
- b. The detection or the possibility of fraud?

We also need to know if you have taken actions in response to developments in financial reporting, laws, accounting standards, governance practices, or other related matters, or in response to previous communications with us.

With regard to the timing of our audit, here is some general information. We will perform preliminary financial audit work during the months of October-December, and sometimes early January. Our final financial audit fieldwork is scheduled during March to best coincide with your readiness and report deadlines. After fieldwork, we wrap up our financial audit procedures at our office and issue drafts of our reports for your review. Final copies of our reports and other communications are issued after approval by your staff. This is typically 6-12 weeks after final fieldwork, but may vary depending on a number of factors.

Keep in mind that while this communication may assist us with planning the scope and timing of the audit, it does not change the auditor's sole responsibility to determine the overall audit strategy and the audit plan, including the nature, timing, and extent of procedures necessary to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence.

We realize that you may have questions or wish to provide other feedback. We welcome the opportunity to talk with you.

**COMMUNICATION OF OTHER INFORMATIONAL POINTS TO MANAGEMENT THAT ARE NOT  
MATERIAL WEAKNESSES OR SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES**

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## PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS UPDATE

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The following is a schedule of GASB projects:

Task or Event	Effective Date	Impact
GASB 72 – Fair Value Measurement and Application	November 30, 2016	Items that are now subject to fair value measurement that weren't before: private equity/hedge funds, real estate investments, many investments that were previously carried at cost or under the equity method, derivatives will now be measured using exit price, donated long term assets. Does not affect money markets, investments in 2a7-like pools, or assets held by the government that enhance the ability to provide services.
GASB 73 – Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions and Related Assets That Are Not within the Scope of GASB 68, and Amendments to Certain Provisions of GASB Statements 67 and 68	November 30, 2017 for pensions that are not within the scope of GASB 68. November 30, 2016 for pensions within the scope of GASB 67 and 68.	Part I extends the approach of GASB 68 to all pensions (with some modifications). Part II clarifies certain requirements of GASB 67 and 68.
GASB 74 – Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans and GASB 75 – Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions	GASB 74: November 30, 2017  GASB 75: November 30, 2018	These standards have similarities to the previous OPEB standards, most notably the definition of an OPEB and the option of the alternative measurement method for small governments. However, the calculation and reporting of the OPEB liability and various required disclosures will change under the new standards, becoming similar to the pension standards.
GASB 76 – The Hierarchy of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles for State and Local Governments	November 30, 2016	Officially established accounting principles – GASB statements (Category A) and GASB Technical Bulletins, implementation guides and literature of the AICPA cleared by the GASB (Category B)

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**PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS UPDATE (cont.)**

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<b>Task or Event</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Impact</b>
GASB 77 – Tax Abatement Disclosures	November 30, 2017	<p>Tax abatements are a reduction in tax revenue that has the following characteristics: (1) An agreement between one or more governments and an individual or entity in which: (a) one or more governments promise to forgo tax revenues to which they are otherwise entitled and; (b) the individual or entity promises to take specific action after the agreement has been entered into that contributes to economic development or otherwise benefits the governments or the citizens of those governments.</p> <p>This definition is limited and excludes many incentive and other programs because they do not meet one or more of the requirements.</p>
GASB 78 – Pensions Provided through Certain Multiple-Employer Defined Benefit Pension Plans	November 30, 2017	<p>This addresses a specific issue regarding the ability of state and local governmental employers to obtain necessary information related to pensions that are provided through certain multiple-employer benefit pension plans that are not a state or local governmental pension plan.</p>
GASB 79 – Certain External Investment Pools and Pool Participants	November 30, 2016, except for certain provisions on portfolio quality, custodial credit risk, and shadow pricing, which are effective November 30, 2017	<p>It establishes criteria for an external investment pool to qualify for making the election to measure all its investments at amortized costs for financial reporting purposes.</p>
GASB 80 – Blending Requirements for Certain Component Units an Amendment of GASB Statement No. 14	November 30, 2017	<p>This Statement amends the blending requirements for the financial statement presentation of component units of all state and local governments. The additional criterion requires blending of a component unit incorporated as a not-for-profit corporation in which the primary government is the sole corporate member. The additional criterion does not apply to component units included in the financial reporting entity pursuant to the provisions of Statement No. 39, Determining Whether Certain Organizations Are Component Units.</p>
GASB 81 – Irrevocable Split-Interest Agreements	November 30, 2018	<p>The objective of this Statement is to improve 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.</p>

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**PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS UPDATE / INFORMATIONAL POINTS (cont.)**


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<b>Task or Event</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Impact</b>
GASB 82 – Pension Issues – an amendment of GASB Statements No. 67, No. 68, and No. 73	November 30, 2017	The objective of this statement is to address certain issues that have been raised with respect to the recently issued pension standards. Specifically, this Statement addresses issues regarding (1) the presentation of payroll-related measures in required supplementary information, (2) the selection of assumptions and the treatment of deviations from the guidance in an Actuarial Standard of Practice for financial reporting purposes, and (3) the classification of payments made by employers to satisfy employee (plan member) contribution requirements.
Current Agenda Project: Pension Issues	Proposed effective date – June 30, 2017 (Exposure Draft issued in December 2015)	The object of this project is to consider the need for revisions to certain of the requirements in GASB 67 and 68, as a result of issues raised by stakeholders.
Current Agenda Project: Fiduciary Activities	Proposed effective date – December 31, 2018 (Exposure draft issued December 2015)	This project is to develop guidance regarding whether and how governments should report fiduciary activities in their general purpose external financial reports.
Current Agenda Project: Asset Retirement Obligations	Proposed effective date – December 31, 2018 (Exposure Draft issued in December 2015)	The objective of this project is to improve financial reporting by developing requirements on recognition and measurement for asset retirement obligations, other than landfills.
Current Agenda Project: Leases	The GASB Board is scheduled to issue an Exposure Draft in January 2016	The objective of this project is to reexamine issues associated with lease accounting, considering improvements to existing guidance.
Current Agenda Project: Certain Extinguishments Using Existing Resources	The GASB Board is scheduled to issue an Exposure Draft in August 2016	The project will consider improvements to the existing guidance related to debt extinguishments using existing resources. Debt extinguishments connected with troubled debt restructurings and bankruptcy, which are addressed in other pronouncements, are not included.

The GASB has a project on hold (conceptual framework for recognition) pending the reexamination of the financial reporting model.

The GASB revisits GASB standards ten (10) years after issuance. The GASB is currently revisiting GASB Statement No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements – and Management’s Discussion and Analysis for State and Local Governments*, as well as reporting model-related pronouncements including Statements Nos. 37, 41, and No. 46 and Interpretation No. 6, *Recognition and Measurement of Certain Liabilities and Expenditures in Governmental Fund Financial Statements*. The GASB has indicated that they are revisiting the following major provisions of these standards: management’s discussion and analysis, government-wide financial statements, fund financial statements, capital asset reporting, budgetary comparisons, special purpose government reporting, and related notes to financial statements. In addition, the GASB is revisiting debt extinguishments, which includes a reexamination of GASB Statement Nos. 7, 23, and 62. We will share updates with you as they become available. Full lists of projects, as well as many resources, are available on GASB’s website which is located at [www.gasb.org](http://www.gasb.org).

**REQUIRED COMMUNICATIONS BY THE AUDITOR TO THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE**



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To the Honorable Chairman and Members  
of the County Board  
DuPage County, Illinois

Thank you for using Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP as your auditor.

We have completed our audit of the financial statements of the Water and Sewerage System of DuPage County, Illinois (System) for the year ended November 30, 2015 and have issued our report thereon dated June 28, 2016. This letter presents communications required by our professional standards.

***OUR RESPONSIBILITY UNDER AUDITING STANDARDS GENERALLY ACCEPTED  
IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA***

The objective of a financial statement audit is the expression of an opinion on the financial statements. We conducted the audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. These standards require that we plan and perform our audit to obtain reasonable, rather than absolute, assurance about whether the financial statements prepared by management with your oversight are free of material misstatement, whether caused by error or fraud. Our audit included examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. Our audit does not relieve management or those charged with governance of their responsibilities.

As part of the audit we obtained an understanding of the entity and its environment, including internal control, sufficient to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements and to design the nature, timing and extent of further audit procedures. The audit was not designed to provide assurance on internal control or to identify deficiencies in internal control.

***OTHER INFORMATION IN DOCUMENTS CONTAINING AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS***

Our responsibility does not extend beyond the audited financial statements identified in this report. We do not have any obligation to and have not performed any procedures to corroborate other information contained in client prepared documents, such as official statements related to debt issues.

***PLANNED SCOPE AND TIMING OF THE AUDIT***

We performed the audit according to the planned scope and timing previously communicated to you in our prior year Report on Internal Control dated June 30, 2015.

Honorable Chairman and Members  
of the County Board  
DuPage County, Illinois

## ***QUALITATIVE ASPECTS OF THE ENTITY'S SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING PRACTICES***

### ***Accounting Policies***

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter, we will advise management about the appropriateness of accounting policies and their application. The significant accounting policies used by the System are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. As described in Note 1 to the financial statements, the System changed accounting policies related to financial reporting for pensions by adopting Statement of Governmental Accounting Standards (GASB) Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions – an Amendment of GASB Statement No. 27* and GASB Statement No. 71, *Pension Transition for Contributions Made Subsequent to the Measurement Date – an Amendment of GASB Statement No. 68* in 2015. Beginning net position has been restated as a result of adopting these pronouncements.

We noted no transactions entered into by the System during the year that were both significant and unusual, and of which, under professional standards, we are required to inform you, or transactions for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.

### ***Accounting Estimates***

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. Particularly sensitive accounting estimates utilized by management in its financial statement process include depreciation expense, total pension liabilities, and the other post employment benefit obligation.

We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the expense in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

### ***Financial Statement Disclosures***

The disclosures in the financial statements are neutral, consistent, and clear.

## ***DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED IN PERFORMING THE AUDIT***

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing 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. During our audit we proposed a material audit adjustment to reclassify the System's allocation adjustment to the proper objects for financial reporting. Management has corrected all such misstatements.

A listing of uncorrected financial statement misstatements is included in the management representation letter that follows this required communication. Management has determined that their effects are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.



Honorable Chairman and Members  
of the County Board  
DuPage County, Illinois

#### ***DISAGREEMENTS WITH MANAGEMENT***

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, concerning a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter 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.

#### ***CONSULTATIONS WITH OTHER INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS***

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the governmental unit's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditors' 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.

#### ***MANAGEMENT REPRESENTATIONS***

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter. This letter follows this required communication.

#### ***INDEPENDENCE***

We are not aware of any relationships between Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP and the System that, in our professional judgment, may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence.

Relating to our audit of the financial statements of for the year ended November 30, 2015, Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP hereby confirms that we are, in our professional judgment, independent with respect to the System in accordance with the Code of Professional Conduct issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. We provided no services to the System other than audit services provided in connection with the audit of the current year's financial statements and nonaudit services which in our judgment do not impair our independence.

- > Financial statement preparation
- > Adjusting journal entries
- > Trial balance formatting from general ledger data

None of these nonaudit services constitute an audit under generally accepted auditing standards, including *Government Auditing Standards*.

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

Honorable Chairman and Members  
of the County Board  
DuPage County, Illinois

***OTHER MATTERS***

We applied certain limited procedures to the 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.

We were engaged to report on the supplementary information which accompanies the financial statements but is not required supplementary information. With respect to the 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.

We were not engaged to report on the other information, which accompanies the financial statements but is not required supplementary information. We did not audit or perform other procedures on this other information and we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on it.

***RESTRICTION ON USE***

This information is intended solely for the use of the DuPage County Board, the public works and finance committees, and management and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

The Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP team members that performed the System's audit this year were Vicki Hellenbrand and Joe Lightcap (Engagement Partners), and Patrick King and Carl Thomas (Managers). We welcome the opportunity to discuss the information included in this letter and any other matters. Thank you for allowing us to serve you.

*Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP*

Oak Brook, Illinois  
June 28, 2016

## **MANAGEMENT REPRESENTATIONS**



**DUPAGE  
COUNTY**

Wastewater

Water

Drainage

Permitting

## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

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June 28, 2016

Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP  
1301 W. 22nd Street  
Suite 400  
Oak Brook, IL 60523

Dear Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP:

We are providing this letter in connection with your audit of the financial statements of the Water and Sewage System of DuPage County as of November 30, 2015 and for the year then ended for the purpose of expressing an opinion as to whether the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Water and Sewage System of DuPage County and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We confirm that we are responsible for the fair presentation of the previously mentioned financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We are also responsible for adopting sound accounting policies, establishing and maintaining internal control over financial reporting, and preventing and detecting fraud.

Certain representations in this letter are described as being limited to matters that are material. Items are considered material, regardless of size, if they involve an omission or misstatement of accounting information that, in the light of surrounding circumstances, makes it probable that the judgment of a reasonable person relying on the information would be changed or influenced by the omission or misstatement. An omission or misstatement that is monetarily small in amount could be considered material as a result of qualitative factors.

We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the following representations made to you during your audit.

### Financial Statements

1. We have fulfilled our responsibilities, as set out in the terms of the audit engagement letter.
2. The financial statements referred to above are fairly presented in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have engaged you to advise us in fulfilling that responsibility. The financial statements include all properly classified funds of the primary government required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America to be included in the financial reporting entity.
3. We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.



4. We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud.

5. Significant assumptions we used in making accounting estimates, if any, are reasonable.

6. Related party relationships and transactions, including revenues, expenditures/expenses, loans, transfers, leasing arrangements, and guarantees, and amounts receivable from or payable to related parties have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the requirements of accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

7. All events subsequent to the date of the financial statements and for which accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require adjustment or disclosure have been adjusted or disclosed. No other events, including instances of noncompliance, have occurred subsequent to the balance sheet date and through the date of this letter that would require adjustment to or disclosure in the aforementioned financial statements.

8. All material transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements.

9. We believe the effects of the uncorrected financial statement misstatements listed here are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the basic financial statements as a whole. In addition, you have recommended adjusting journal entries, and we are in agreement with those adjustments. The uncorrected financial statement misstatements are as follows:

a. Two payments totaling \$91,778 were transferred out of the System's bank accounts but were not recorded on the general ledger. Cash should be reduced and expenses increased by \$91,778.

b. There is an unidentified variance between the accounts payable balance on the System's general ledger and the detail that comprises the balance. To correct the account balance, the System should reduce accounts payable and expenses by \$72,278.

c. In the reports provided to the County by IMRF, the value of net position utilized by the actuary in determining the net pension liability for the County's pension systems (IMRF, SLEP and ECO) were greater than the amount reported on by the pension plan auditors as of December 31, 2013 and December 31, 2014. The System's estimated portion of these issues resulted in the following errors:

i. Net position is overstated by \$42,819 as of December 1, 2014.

ii. Net position is overstated and net pension liability is understated by \$72,058 as of November 30, 2015.

iii. Expenses are understated by \$29,239 for the year ended November 30, 2015.

iv. The resulting differences to other aspects of the actuarial reports are unable to be determined.

10. There are no known or possible litigation, claims, and assessments whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements. There are no unasserted claims or assessments that our lawyer has advised us are probable of assertion and must be disclosed in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

11. Guarantees, whether written or oral, under which the Water and Sewage System of DuPage County is contingently liable, if any, have been properly recorded or disclosed.



## Information Provided

12. We have provided you with:

a. Access to all information, of which we are aware, that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, such as financial records and related data, documentation, and other matters.

b. Additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit.

c. Unrestricted access to persons within the entity from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.

d. Minutes of the meetings of our governing body or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared.

13. We have disclosed to you results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.

14. We have no knowledge of any fraud or suspected fraud that affects the entity and involves:

a. Management,

b. Employees who have significant roles in internal control, or

c. Others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.

15. We have no knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the entity received in communications from employees, former employees, regulators, or others.

16. We have disclosed to you all known instances of noncompliance or suspected noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, or grant agreements, or abuse, whose effects should be considered when preparing financial statements.

17. There are no known related parties or related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware.

## Other

18. There have been no communications from regulatory agencies concerning noncompliance with, or deficiencies in, financial reporting practices.

19. We have a process to track the status of audit findings and recommendations.

20. We have identified to you any previous financial audits, attestation engagements, and other studies related to the audit objectives and whether related recommendations have been implemented.

21. We have provided our views on reported findings, conclusions, and recommendations, as well as our planned corrective actions, for our report.

22. The Water and Sewage System of DuPage County has no plans or intentions that may materially affect the carrying value or classification of assets, liabilities, or equity.

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23. We are responsible for compliance with federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and provisions of contracts and grant agreements applicable to us, including tax or debt limits, debt contracts, and IRS arbitrage regulations; and we have identified and disclosed to you all federal, state, and local laws, regulations and provisions of contracts and grant agreements that we believe have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts or other financial data significant to the audit objectives, including legal and contractual provisions for reporting specific activities in separate funds.

24. There are no:

a. Violations or possible violations of budget ordinances, federal, state, and local laws or regulations (including those pertaining to adopting, approving and amending budgets), provisions of contracts and grant agreements, tax or debt limits, and any related debt covenants whose effects should be considered for disclosure in the financial statements or as a basis for recording a loss contingency, or for reporting on noncompliance, except those already disclosed in the financial statement, if any.

b. Other liabilities or gain or loss contingencies that are required to be accrued or disclosed by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

c. Rates being charged to customers other than the rates as authorized by the applicable authoritative body.

d. Violations of restrictions placed on revenues as a result of bond resolution covenants such as revenue distribution or debt service funding.

25. In regards to the nonattest services performed by you listed below, we have 1) accepted all management responsibility; 2) designated an individual with suitable skill, knowledge, or experience to oversee the services; 3) evaluated the adequacy and results of the services performed, and 4) accepted responsibility for the results of the services.

a. Financial statement preparation

b. Adjusting journal entries

c. Trial balance formatting from general ledger data

None of these nonattest services constitute an audit under generally accepted auditing standards, including Government Auditing Standards.

26. The Water and Sewage System of DuPage County has satisfactory title to all owned assets, and there are no liens or encumbrances on such assets nor has any asset been pledged as collateral.

27. The Water and Sewage System of DuPage County has complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that would have a material effect on the financial statement in the event of noncompliance.

28. Components of net position (net investment in capital assets; restricted; and unrestricted) and components of fund balance (nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned and unassigned) are properly classified and, if applicable, approved.

29. The Water and Sewage System of DuPage County has no derivative financial instruments such as contracts that could be assigned to someone else or net settled, interest rate swaps, collars or caps.

30. Provisions for uncollectible receivables, if any, have been properly identified and recorded.

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31. Interfund, internal, and intra entity activity and balances have been appropriately classified and reported.
32. Deposits and investment securities are properly classified as to risk, and investments are properly valued. Collateralization agreements with financial institutions, if any, have been properly disclosed.
33. Capital assets, including infrastructure and intangible assets, are properly capitalized, reported, and, if applicable, depreciated/amortized. Any known impairments have been recorded and disclosed.
34. The operations and rate setting process meet the condition for application of accounting for regulated operations as outlined in GASB No. 62. All regulatory items included in the financial statements have been approved and are being accounted for in accordance with specific action taken by the regulatory body and as such the expectation of future recovery or refund is reasonable.
35. We acknowledge our responsibility for the required supplementary information (RSI). The RSI is measured and presented with in prescribed guidelines and the methods of measurement and presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period. We have disclosed to you any significant assumptions and interpretations underlying the measurement and presentation of the RSI.
36. With respect to the supplementary information, (SI):
- a. We acknowledge our responsibility for presenting the SI in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and we believe the SI, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The methods of measurement and presentation of the SI have not changed from those used in the prior period, and we have disclosed to you any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement and presentation of the supplementary information.
  - b. If the SI is not presented with the audited financial statements, we will make the audited financial statements readily available to the intended users of the supplementary information no later than the date we issue the supplementary information and the auditor's report thereon.
37. We agree with the restatement presented in the current year's financial statements.

Sincerely,

Water and Sewage System of DuPage County

Signed: 

Title: Director of Public Works and Operations

Signed: 

Title: Financial Services Administrator