



SAUK COUNTY ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT

LYNN M HORKAN, FINANCE DIRECTOR

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July 30, 2025

Baker Tilly US, LLP
4807 Innovate Ln
P.O. Box 7398
Madison, WI 53707-7398

Dear Baker Tilly US, LLP:

We are providing this letter in connection with your audit of the financial statements of Sauk County as of December 31, 2024 and for the year then ended for the purpose of expressing opinions as to whether the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Sauk 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 (GAAP). 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 dated March 15, 2022, including our responsibility for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
- 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, including those measured at fair value, if any, are reasonable in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
- 6) 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 financial statement date and through the date of this letter that would require adjustment to or disclosure in the aforementioned financial statements or in the schedule of findings and questioned costs.
- 7) All material transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements and the schedule of expenditures of federal and state awards.
- 8) All known audit and bookkeeping adjustments have been included in our financial statements, and we are in agreement with those adjustments.
- 9) We are in agreement with the adjusting journal entries you have proposed, and they have been posted to the appropriate accounts.
- 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 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 and all audit or relevant monitoring reports, if any, received from funding sources.
 - 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 the County Board of Supervisors or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared.
- 13) We have not completed an 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 no knowledge of 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 related parties or related party relationships and transactions, including side agreements, 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 County has no plans or intentions that may materially affect the carrying value or classification of assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources or fund balance or net position.
- 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) Nonspendable, restricted, committed, or assigned fund balances that were not properly authorized and approved.
 - d) Rates being charged to customers other than the rates as authorized by the applicable authoritative body.
 - e) 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 acknowledge our responsibility related to these nonattest services and 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

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

26) Sauk 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) Sauk 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) The financial statements properly disclose all joint ventures and other related organizations, if any. There are no component units that have been omitted.

29) The financial statements include all fiduciary activities required by GASB No. 84.

30) The financial statements properly classify all funds and activities.

31) All funds that meet the quantitative criteria in GASB Statement No. 34 and No. 37 for presentation as major are identified and presented as such and all other funds that are presented as major are particularly important to financial statement users.

32) 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.

33) Sauk 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.

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

35) Expenses have been appropriately classified in or allocated to functions and programs in the statement of activities, and allocations have been made on a reasonable basis.

36) Revenues are appropriately classified in the statement of activities within program revenues and general revenues.

37) Interfund, internal, and intra-entity activity and balances have been appropriately classified and reported.

38) Deposits and investments are properly classified, valued, and disclosed (including risk disclosures, collateralization agreements, valuation methods, and key inputs, as applicable).

39) Capital assets, including infrastructure and intangible assets, are properly capitalized, reported, and, if applicable, depreciated/amortized. Any known impairments have been recorded and disclosed.

- 40) Tax-exempt bonds issued have retained their tax-exempt status.
- 41) We have appropriately disclosed Sauk County's policy regarding whether to first apply restricted or unrestricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position are available and have determined that net position were properly recognized under the policy. We have also disclosed our policy regarding which resources (that is, restricted, committed, assigned or unassigned) are considered to be spent first for expenditures for which more than one resource classification is available.
- 42) We acknowledge our responsibility for the required supplementary information (RSI). The RSI is measured and presented within 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.
- 43) 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.
- 44) We assume responsibility for, and agree with, the findings of specialists in evaluating the landfill, self-insurance, and OPEB liabilities and have adequately considered the qualifications of the specialists in determining the amounts and disclosures used in the financial statements and underlying accounting records. We did not give or cause any instructions to be given to specialists with respect to the values or amounts derived in an attempt to bias their work, and we are not otherwise aware of any matters that have had impact on the independence or objectivity of the specialists.
- 45) We assume responsibility for, and agree with, the information provided by the Wisconsin Retirement System as audited by the Legislative Audit Bureau relating to the net pension asset/liability and related deferred outflows and deferred inflows and have adequately considered the reasonableness of the amounts and disclosures used in the financial statements and underlying accounting records. We also assume responsibility for the census data that has been reported to the plan.
- 46) We have identified any leases or other contracts that are required to be reported as leases or subscription-based IT arrangements and are in agreement with the key assumptions used in the measurement of any lease related assets, liabilities or deferred inflows of resources.
- 47) We have implemented GASB Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences*, and believe that all required disclosures and accounting considerations have been identified and properly classified in the financial statements in compliance with the Standard.
- 48) We have implemented GASB Statement No. 84, *Fiduciary Activities*, and believe that all required disclosures and accounting considerations have been identified and properly classified in the financial statements in accordance with the Standard.

- 49) We are responsible for the estimation methods and assumptions used in measuring assets and liabilities reported or disclosed at fair value, including information obtained from brokers, pricing services or third parties. Our valuation methodologies have been consistently applied from period to period. The fair value measurements reported or disclosed represent our best estimate of fair value as the measurement date in accordance with the requirements of GASB 72 – *Fair Value Measurement*. In addition our disclosures related to fair value measurements are consistent with the objectives outlined in GASB 72. We have evaluated the fair value information provided to us by brokers, pricing services or other parties that has been used in the financial statements and believe this information to be reliable and consistent with the requirements.
- 50) The auditing standards define an annual report as “a document, or combination of documents, typically prepared on an annual basis by management or those charged with governance in accordance with law, regulation, or custom, the purpose of which is to provide owners (or similar stakeholders) with information on the entity’s operations and the financial results and financial position as set out in the financial statements.” Among other items, an annual report contains, accompanies, or incorporates by reference the financial statements and the auditors’ report thereon. Our annual report is comprised of the Other Information included in the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. We have provided you with the final version of the annual report. There are no material inconsistencies between the financial statements and any other information contained within the annual report.
- 51) With respect to federal and state award programs:
- a) We are responsible for understanding and complying with and have complied with the requirements of the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996, *OMB's Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance), *State Single Audit Guidelines*, including requirements relating to preparation of the schedule of expenditures of federal and state awards (SEFSA).
 - b) We acknowledge our responsibility for preparing and presenting the SEFSA and related disclosures in accordance with the requirements of the Uniform Guidance and the State Single Audit Guidelines, and we believe the SEFSA, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with the Uniform Guidance and the *State Single Audit Guidelines*. The methods of measurement and presentation of the SEFSA have not changed from those used in the prior period and we have disclosed to you any significant assumptions and interpretations underlying the measurement and presentation of the SEFSA.
 - c) If the SEFSA is not presented with the audited financial statements, we will make the audited financial statements readily available to the intended users of the SEFSA no later than the date we issue the SEFSA and the auditors’ report thereon.
 - d) We have identified and disclosed to you all of our government programs and related activities subject to the Uniform Guidance and the *State Single Audit Guidelines* and included in the SEFSA, expenditures made during the audit period for all awards provided by federal agencies in the form of grants, federal cost reimbursement contracts, loans, loan guarantees, property (including donated surplus property), cooperative agreements, interest subsidies, insurance, food commodities, direct appropriations, and other direct assistance.
 - e) We are responsible for understanding and complying with, and have complied with the requirements of laws, regulations, and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements related to each of our federal and state programs and have identified and disclosed to you the requirements of laws, regulations, and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements that are considered to have a direct and material effect on each major federal and state program.

- f) We are responsible for establishing and maintaining, and have established and maintained, effective internal control over compliance for federal and state programs that provide reasonable assurance that we are administering our federal and state awards in compliance with laws, regulations, and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements that could have a material effect on our federal and state programs. We believe the internal control system is adequate and is functioning as intended. Also, no changes have been made in the internal control over compliance or other factors to the date of this letter that might significantly affect internal control, including any corrective action taken with regard to control deficiencies reported in the schedule of findings and questioned costs.
- g) We have made available to you all contracts and grant agreements (including amendments, if any) and any other correspondence with federal or state agencies or pass-through entities relevant to the programs and related activities.
- h) We have received no requests from a federal or state agency to audit one or more specific programs as a major program.
- i) We have complied with the direct and material compliance requirements including when applicable, those set forth in the OMB Compliance Supplement and the State Single Audit Guidelines, relating to federal and state awards.
- j) We have disclosed any communications from grantors and pass-through entities concerning possible noncompliance with the direct and material compliance requirements, including communications received from the end of the period covered by the compliance audit to the date of the auditors' report.
- k) We have disclosed to you the findings received and related corrective actions taken for previous audits, attestation agreements, and internal or external monitoring that directly relate to the objectives of the compliance audit, if any, including findings received and corrective actions taken from the end of the period covered by the compliance audit to the date of the auditors' report.
- l) Amounts claimed or used for matching were determined in accordance with relevant guidelines in the Uniform Guidance.
- m) We have disclosed to you our interpretation of compliance requirements that may have varying interpretations.
- n) We have made available to you all documentation related to the compliance with the direct and material compliance requirements, including information related to federal and state program financial reports and claims for advances and reimbursements.
- o) We have disclosed to you the nature of any subsequent events that provide additional evidence about conditions that existed at the end of the reporting period affecting noncompliance during the reporting period.
- p) We are not aware of any instances of noncompliance with direct and material compliance requirements that occurred subsequent to the period covered by the auditors' report.q) No changes have been made in internal control over compliance or other factors that might significantly affect internal control, including any corrective action we have taken regarding significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in internal control over compliance, subsequent to the date as of which compliance was audited.
- r) Federal and state program financial reports and claims for advances and reimbursements are supported by the books and records from which the financial statements have been prepared.

- s) The copies of federal and state program financial reports provided you are true copies of the reports submitted, or electronically transmitted, to the respective federal and state agency or pass-through entity, as applicable.
- t) We have monitored subrecipients to determine that they have expended pass-through assistance in accordance with applicable laws and regulations and have met the requirements of the Uniform Guidance and the *State Single Audit Guidelines*.
- u) We have taken appropriate action, including issuing management decisions, on a timely basis after receipt of subrecipients' auditors' reports that identified noncompliance with laws, regulations, or the provisions of contracts or grant agreements to ensure that subrecipients have taken the appropriate and timely corrective action on findings.
- v) We have considered the results of subrecipient audits and made any necessary adjustments to our books and records.
- w) We have charged costs to federal and state awards in accordance with applicable cost principles.
- x) We are responsible for and have accurately prepared the summary schedule of prior audit findings to include all findings required to be included by the Uniform Guidance and the *State Single Audit Guidelines* and we have provided you with all information on the status of the follow-up on prior audit findings by federal and state awarding agencies and pass-through entities, including all management decisions.
- y) We are responsible for and have ensured the reporting package does not contain protected personally identifiable information.
- z) We are responsible for and have accurately prepared the auditee section of the Data Collection Form as required by the Uniform Guidance.
- aa) We are responsible for preparing and implementing a corrective action plan for each audit finding.
- ab) We have disclosed to you all contracts or other agreements with our service organizations, and we have disclosed to you all communications from the service organization relating to noncompliance at the service organizations.

Sincerely,

Sauk County

Signed:



Lisa Wilson, Administrator

Signed:



Lynn Horkan, Finance Director