

411 East Wisconsin Avenue Suite 2400 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202-4428 414.277.5000 Fax 414.271.3552 www.quarles.com Attorneys at Law in Chicago Indianapolis Madison Milwaukee Minneapolis Naples Phoenix Tampa Tucson Washington, D.C.

March 1, 2022

VIA EMAIL

Ms. Kerry P. Beghin Finance Director Sauk County Sauk County West Square Building 505 Broadway Baraboo, WI 53913

Scope of Engagement Re: Proposed Issuance of \$50,000,000 Sauk County (the "County") General Obligation Highway Department Facility Bonds, Series 2022 (the "Securities")

Dear Kerry:

We are pleased to be working with you again as the County's bond counsel and disclosure counsel. Thank you for your confidence in us.

The purpose of this letter is to set forth the role we propose to serve and responsibilities we propose to assume as bond counsel and disclosure counsel in connection with the issuance of the above-referenced Securities. If you have any questions about this letter or the services we will provide, or if you would like to discuss modifications, please contact me.

Role of Bond Counsel

Our bond counsel engagement is a limited, special counsel engagement. Bond counsel is engaged as a recognized independent expert whose primary responsibility is to render an objective legal opinion with respect to the authorization and issuance of municipal obligations. If you desire additional information about the role of bond counsel, we would be happy to provide you with a copy of a brochure prepared by the National Association of Bond Lawyers.

As bond counsel we will: examine applicable law; prepare authorizing and closing documents; consult with the parties to the transaction, including the County's financial advisor or underwriter or placement agent, prior to the issuance of the Securities; review certified proceedings; and undertake such additional duties as we deem necessary to render the bond counsel opinion described below. As bond counsel, we do not advocate the interests of the County or any other party to the transaction. We assume that the parties to the transaction will

retain such counsel as they deem necessary and appropriate to represent their interests in this transaction.

Subject to the completion of proceedings to our satisfaction, we will render our opinion that:

- 1) the Securities are valid and binding general obligations of the County;
- 2) all taxable property in the territory of the County is subject to <u>ad valorem</u> taxation without limitation as to rate or amount to pay the Securities; and
- 3) the interest paid on the Securities will be excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes (subject to certain limitations which may be expressed in the opinion).

The bond counsel opinion will be executed and delivered by us in written form on the date the Securities are exchanged for their purchase price (the "Closing") and will be based on facts and law existing as of its date. In rendering the bond counsel opinion, we will rely upon the certified proceedings and other certifications of public officials and other persons furnished to us without undertaking to verify the same by independent investigation.

A form of our bond counsel opinion and a form of a Continuing Disclosure Certificate (which we may prepare) may be included in the Official Statement or other disclosure document for the Securities.

Role of Disclosure Counsel

Our disclosure counsel engagement is similarly a limited, special counsel engagement. As disclosure counsel, we will review the disclosure document prepared in connection with the sale of the Securities, namely the Official Statement, Private Placement Memorandum, or similar documents (the "County's Offering Document"). It is the County's responsibility to verify the information contained in the materials provided to us or confirmed for us by the County. We will not undertake an independent investigation to verify the accuracy or completeness of this information, beyond reviewing the materials provided to us or confirmed for us by the County. Nor will we render any opinion or make any representation as to the suitability of the Securities for investment by any investor.

In our capacity as the County's disclosure counsel, we will review the County's Offering Document and undertake due diligence with respect to the material representations therein so that we may provide the negative assurance letter described in the following paragraph. Our due diligence will consist of reviewing materials provided to us or confirmed for us by the County;

reviewing the County's responses to questions posed in a due diligence questionnaire; assisting the County in its review of its continuing disclosure compliance in the last five years, if applicable (although the County is ultimately responsible for this review and such compliance); and discussing the County's Offering Document with the County and PMA Securities, LLC, Milwaukee, Wisconsin ("PMA"). We may also maintain the materials provided to us or confirmed for us by the County in our files, and we expect to share certain of those materials with PMA, for its files.

Subject to satisfactory completion of our due diligence, we will provide the County with a negative assurance letter that:

based on our review of the County's Offering Document, our examination of certain materials provided by the County and its representatives, and our participation in conferences and conversations with the County and its representatives, no information has come to the attention of the attorneys in our firm rendering legal services in connection with the matter that has caused them to believe that the Preliminary Official Statement contained as of its date or the Final Official Statement contained as of its date or contains as of the date hereof any untrue statement of a material fact or omits to state any material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements made therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading; provided, however, we do not express any belief with respect to any financial and statistical data and forecasts, projections, numbers, estimates, assumptions and expressions of opinion, information about bond insurers, or any information regarding the Depository Trust Company and the book-entry system for the Securities contained or incorporated by reference in the County's Offering Document and its appendices, which we expressly exclude from the scope of this paragraph.

If requested, we may also provide PMA with a separate letter allowing it to rely on the above-described negative assurance letter.

Please note that our negative assurance letter is not a guarantee; although we expect our above-described due diligence review to assist the County in identifying, confirming and presenting potentially material information, neither our participation in the financing nor our provision of the above-described negative assurance letter will relieve the County of its obligations under the federal securities laws. As noted above, ultimate responsibility for disclosing to potential purchasers of the Securities all County information material to their investment decision rests with the County.

<u>Limitations on Scope of Engagement; No Financial Advice; Conclusion of Representation</u>

All matters and responsibilities other than those expressly set forth above are outside the scope of our engagement as the County's bond counsel and disclosure counsel. These include, without limitation, any obligation to any underwriter, placement agent or financial advisor involved with the issuance of the Securities, other than providing a reliance letter as described above, if applicable. In particular we wish to note that this engagement does not entail any responsibility for us to review matters or provide advice to any party with respect to such matters as the rules promulgated by the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board ("MSRB"), "blue sky" securities law matters, or other general securities law matters pertaining to any party's status as a broker-dealer or municipal advisor.

Further, we are neither qualified nor engaged to provide financial advice, and hence we will make no representation whatsoever about the suitability of the Securities for purchase by investors, the desirability of the proposed plan of finance, the feasibility of the project(s) financed or refinanced by the Securities, or any such related matters.

Our responsibilities as bond counsel and disclosure counsel will be concluded with respect to this financing upon the delivery of our bond counsel opinion and negative assurance letter, respectively. Please note that, unless separately engaged, we will not provide any advice to the County on post-closing matters including, without limitation, (i) actions necessary to ensure that interest paid on the Securities will continue to be excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes, (ii) regulatory surveys or audits of the Securities, (iii) actions necessary to comply with the continuing disclosure requirements applicable to the Securities.

Diversity of Practice; Consent to Unrelated Engagements

Because of the diversity of practice of our firm, members of our firm other than those who serve you may be asked to represent other clients who have dealings with the County regarding such matters as zoning, licensing, land division, real estate, property tax or other matters which are unrelated to our bond counsel and disclosure counsel work. Ethical requirements sometimes dictate that we obtain the County's consent to such situations even though our service to you is limited to the specialized area of bond counsel and disclosure counsel. We do not represent you in legal matters regularly, although we may be called upon for special representation occasionally, and our bond counsel and disclosure counsel work does not usually provide us information that will be disadvantageous to you in other representations. We do not believe that such representations of others would adversely affect our relationship with you, and we have found that local governments generally are agreeable to the type of unrelated representation described above. We would like to have an understanding with you that the County consents to our firm undertaking representations of this type. Your approval of this letter

will serve to confirm that the County has no objection to our representation of other clients who have dealings with the County, unrelated to the borrowing and finance area or any other area in which we have agreed to serve it. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this consent further, please call us.

We also want to advise you that from time to time we represent underwriters and purchasers of municipal obligations, as well as other bond market participants. In past transactions or matters that are not related to the issuance of the Securities and our role as bond counsel, we may have served as counsel to the financial institution that has or will underwrite, purchase or place the Securities or that is serving as the County's financial advisor. We may also be asked to represent financial institutions and other market participants, including the underwriter, purchaser or placement agent of the Securities or the County's financial advisor, in future transactions or matters that are not related to the issuance of the Securities or our role as bond counsel. By engaging our services under the terms of this letter, the County consents to our firm undertaking representations of this type.

Fees

Based upon: (i) our current understanding of the terms, structure, size and schedule of the financing, (ii) the duties we will undertake pursuant to this letter, (iii) the time we anticipate devoting to the financing, and (iv) the responsibilities we assume, we estimate that our fee will be \$50,700 for our services as bond counsel, and \$32,900 for our services as disclosure counsel. Such fee and expenses may vary: (i) if the principal amount of Securities actually issued differs significantly from the amount stated above, (ii) if material changes in the structure of the financing occur, or (iii) if unusual or unforeseen circumstances arise which require a significant increase in our time, expenses or responsibility. If at any time we believe that circumstances require an adjustment of our original fee estimate, we will consult with you. It is our understanding that our fee will be paid out of proceeds of the Securities at Closing.

If, for any reason, the financing is not consummated or is completed without the rendition of our opinion as bond counsel, we will expect to be compensated at our normal hourly rates for time actually spent, plus out-of-pocket expenses. Our fee is usually paid either at the Closing out of proceeds of the Securities or pursuant to a statement rendered shortly thereafter. We customarily do not submit any statement until the Closing unless there is a substantial delay in completing the financing.

Terms of Engagement

Either the County or Quarles & Brady may terminate the engagement at any time for any reason by written notice, subject on our part to applicable rules of professional conduct. If the County terminates our services, the County is responsible for promptly paying us for all fees,

charges, and expenses incurred before the date we receive termination. We reserve the right to withdraw from representing the County if, among other things, the County fails to honor the terms of this engagement letter – including the County's failing to pay our bills, the County's failing to cooperate or follow our advice on a material matter, or our becoming aware of any fact or circumstance that would, in our view, render our continuing representation unlawful or unethical.

Unless previously terminated, our representation will terminate when we send to the County (or its representative) our final bill for services rendered. If the County requests, we will promptly return the County's original papers and property to you, consistent with our need to ensure payment of any outstanding bills. We may retain copies of the documents. We will keep our own files, including attorney work product, pertaining to our representation of the County. For various reasons, including the minimization of unnecessary storage expenses, we may destroy or otherwise dispose of documents and materials a reasonable time after termination of the engagement.

County Responsibilities

We will provide legal counsel and assistance to the County in accordance with this letter and will rely upon information and guidance the County and its personnel provide to us. We will keep the County reasonably informed of progress and developments, and respond to the County's inquiries. To enable us to provide the services set forth in this letter, the County will disclose fully and accurately all facts and keep us apprised of all developments relating to this matter. The officers and agents of the County will review the County's Offering Document, participate in a due diligence conference to review the County's Offering Document and provide a certificate as to the accuracy and completeness of the County's Offering Document stating that it does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements therein not misleading. The County agrees to pay our bills for services and expenses in accordance with this engagement letter. The County will also cooperate fully with us and be available to attend meetings, conferences, hearings and other proceedings on reasonable notice, and stay fully informed on all developments relating to this matter.

Limited Liability Partnership

Our firm is a limited liability partnership ("LLP"). Because we are an LLP, no partner of the firm has personal liability for any debts or liabilities of the firm except as otherwise required by law, and except that each partner can be personally liable for his or her own malpractice and for the malpractice of persons acting under his or her actual supervision and control. As an LLP we are required by our code of professional conduct to carry at least \$10,000,000 of malpractice insurance; currently, we carry coverage with limits substantially in excess of that amount. Please call me if you have any questions about our status as a limited liability partnership.

Conclusion and Request for Signed Copy

If the foregoing terms of this engagement are acceptable to you, please so indicate by returning a copy of this letter dated and signed by an appropriate officer, retaining the original for your files. If we do not hear from you within thirty (30) days, we will assume that these terms are acceptable to you, but we would prefer to receive a signed copy of this letter from you.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at any time. We are looking forward to working with you and the County in this regard.

Very truly yours,

QUARLES & BRADY LLP

Brian G. Lanser / ben

BGL/SMW/bea #830392.00020 #830392.00021

cc:

Brent Miller (via email)

Lynn Horkan (via email) Brian Della (via email)

Phil Hohlweck (via email)
Dominic Sabbarese (via email)

Alex Gore (via email)

Elisabeth Platt (via email)

Jess Kaye (via email)

Accep	ted and Approved:
SAUK COUNTY	
By:	
Its:	Title
D /	