



CONTRACT: C22-3222-BCC
Warren Averett, LLC
Professional Auditing Services
EXPIRES:10/01/2025 w/2 1 yr renewals

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AGENDA REQUEST

DATE: September 5, 2023
TO: Honorable Chairman and Distinguished Members of the Board
FROM: Faye Douglas
SUBJECT: Warren Averett
DEPARTMENT: OMB
BCC DISTRICT: All

STATEMENT OF ISSUE: Request approval of Terms of Engagement Letter with Warren Averett for professional auditing services for Fiscal Year 2024.

BACKGROUND & ANALYSIS: In 2022 the Board entered into a contract with Warrant Averett for professional auditing services, which terminates on 09/30/2025, with the option for two one year renewals.

The County and Contractor wish to approve the Terms of Engagement dated August 2, 2023. With this agreement, Warren Averett will audit the financial statements of the Okaloosa County BCC and the Constitutional Offices for the year ended September 30, 2023.

Funding Source:
Department # 0114
Account # 532001
Amount: \$265,302.00

OPTIONS: Approve/Deny

RECOMMENDATION: Request approval of the Terms of Engagement Letter with Warren Averett for professional auditing services for Fiscal Year 2024 in the amount of \$265,302.00


Faye Douglas, Director Office of Management and Budget 8/22/2023

RECOMMENDED BY:


John Hofstad, County Administrator 8/29/2023

APPROVED BY:



OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA
TERMS OF ENGAGEMENT
AUGUST 2, 2023

Warren Averett, LLC is pleased to confirm our understanding of the services we are to provide for Okaloosa County, Florida (the "Client") and any of its affiliated entities. This agreement confirms our understanding of the terms and objectives of our engagement and the nature and limitations of the services we will provide.

Audit Scope and Objectives

We will audit the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information, and the disclosures, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements of the Client as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023. In addition to the basic financial statements noted, and as required by Florida Auditor General, we will also audit the special purpose financial statements of the Clerk of Circuit Court, Sheriff, Tax Collector, Property Appraiser, and Supervisor of Elections. Accounting standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) provide for certain required supplementary information (RSI), such as management's discussion and analysis (MD&A), to supplement the Client's basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. As part of our engagement, we will apply certain limited procedures to The Client's RSI in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). These limited procedures will consist 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 will not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient appropriate evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance. The following RSI is required by GAAP and will be subjected to certain limited procedures, but will not be audited:

- 1) Management's Discussion and Analysis
- 2) Schedule of Changes in Total OPEB Liability and Related Ratios
- 3) Schedule of the County's Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability for the Florida Retirement System and Health Insurance Subsidy
- 4) Schedule of the County's Contributions for the Florida Retirement System and Health Insurance Subsidy
- 5) Schedules of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget to Actual
 - a) General Fund
 - b) Tourist Development Special Revenue Fund
 - c) Natural Disaster Special Revenue Fund

We have also been engaged to report on supplementary information other than RSI that accompanies the Client's financial statements. We will subject the following supplementary information to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS, and we will provide an opinion on it in relation to the financial statements as a whole in a report combined with our auditor's report on the financial statements.

- 1) Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards and State Financial Assistance

Terms of Engagement is a standard firm document signed by the firm and all clients of the firm that ensures both the firm and the client have a clear understanding of the services to be provided and the terms and objectives of the engagement.

- 2) Schedule of Expenditures of Passenger Facility Charges
- 3) Schedule of Receipts and Expenditures Related to the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill
- 4) Combining and Individual Fund Statements and Schedules
- 5) Schedules of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance – Major Capital Project Funds
- 6) Schedules of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance – Non-major Governmental Funds

The following other information accompanying the financial statements will not be subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the financial statements, and our auditor's report will not provide an opinion or any assurance on that other information.

- 1) Introductory Section
- 2) Statistical Section

The objectives of our audit are to obtain reasonable assurance as to whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion about whether your financial statements are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with GAAP; and report on the fairness of the supplementary information referred to in the second paragraph when considered in relation to the financial statements as a whole. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements, including omissions, can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment of a reasonable user made based on the financial statements. The objectives also include reporting on:

- Internal control over financial reporting and compliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and award agreements, noncompliance with which could have a material effect on the financial statements in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.
- Internal control over compliance related to major programs and an opinion (or disclaimer of opinion) on compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards that could have a direct and material effect on each major program in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance), the *Florida Single Audit Act* and Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General.

We will also examine the compliance requirements in accordance with Chapter 10.550, *Rules of the Auditor General*, of the Board of County Commissioners of Okaloosa County, Florida, as of September 30, 2023. Our examination will be conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Accordingly, it will include tests of your records and other procedures we consider necessary to enable us to express an opinion as to whether the Board of County Commissioners of Okaloosa County, Florida, complied, in all material respects, with Chapter 10.550, *Rules of the Auditor General*. If, for any reason, we are unable to complete the examination, we will not issue a report as a result of this engagement. Our examination engagement will not include a detailed inspection of every transaction and cannot be relied on to disclose all material errors, fraud, or other violations of laws or regulations, that may exist. However, we will inform you of any material errors or fraud that comes to our attention. We will also inform you of any other violations of laws or regulations that come to our attention, unless clearly inconsequential.

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements and Single Audit

We will conduct our audit in accordance with GAAS; the standards for financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996; and the provisions of the Uniform Guidance, the Florida Single Audit Act and Chapter 10.550 Rules of the Auditor General and will include tests of accounting records, a determination

of major program(s) in accordance with Uniform Guidance and the Florida Single Audit Act, and other procedures we consider necessary to enable us to express such opinions. As part of an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

We will evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management. We will also evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and determine whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation. We will plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether from (1) errors, (2) fraudulent financial reporting, (3) misappropriation of assets, or (4) violations of laws or governmental regulations that are attributable to the government or to acts by management or employees acting on behalf of the government. Because the determination of waste and abuse is subjective, *Government Auditing Standards* do not expect auditors to perform specific procedures to detect waste or abuse in financial audits nor do they expect auditors to provide reasonable assurance of detecting waste or abuse.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, combined with the inherent limitations of internal control, and because we will not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is an unavoidable risk that some material misstatements or noncompliance may not be detected by us, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*. In addition, an audit is not designed to detect immaterial misstatements or violations of laws or governmental regulations that do not have a direct and material effect on the financial statements or on major programs. However, we will inform the appropriate level of management of any material errors, any fraudulent financial reporting, or misappropriation of assets that come to our attention. We will also inform the appropriate level of management of any violations of laws or governmental regulations that come to our attention, unless clearly inconsequential. We will include such matters in the reports required for a Single Audit. Our responsibility as auditors is limited to the period covered by our audit and does not extend to any later periods for which we are not engaged as auditors.

We will also conclude, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the government's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Our procedures will include tests of documentary evidence supporting the transactions recorded in the accounts, tests of the physical existence of inventories, and direct confirmation of receivables and certain assets and liabilities by correspondence with selected individuals, funding sources, creditors, and financial institutions. We will also request written representations from your attorneys as part of the engagement.

Our audit of financial statements does not relieve you of your responsibilities.

Audit Procedures—Internal Control

We will obtain an understanding of the government and its environment, including the system of internal control, sufficient to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and to design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks and obtain evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinions. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentation, or the override of internal control. Tests of controls may be performed to test the effectiveness of certain controls that we consider relevant to preventing and detecting errors and fraud that are material to the financial statements and to preventing and detecting misstatements resulting from illegal acts and other noncompliance matters that have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. Our tests, if performed, will be less in scope than would be necessary to render an opinion on internal control and, accordingly, no opinion will be expressed in our report on internal control issued pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards*.

As required by the Uniform Guidance, the Florida Single Audit Act and Chapter 10.550, we will perform tests of controls over compliance to evaluate the effectiveness of the design and operation of controls that we consider relevant to preventing or detecting material noncompliance with compliance requirements

applicable to each major federal award program and state project. However, our tests will be less in scope than would be necessary to render an opinion on those controls and, accordingly, no opinion will be expressed in our reports on internal control issued pursuant to the Uniform Guidance, Florida Single Audit Act and Chapter 10.550.

An audit is not designed to provide assurance on internal control or to identify significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. Accordingly, we will express no such opinion. However, during the audit, we will communicate to management and those charged with governance internal control related matters that are required to be communicated under AICPA professional standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance and the Florida Single Audit Act.

Audit Procedures—Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, we will perform tests of the Client's compliance with the provisions of applicable laws, regulations, contracts, agreements, and grants. However, the objective of our audit will not be to provide an opinion on overall compliance and we will not express such an opinion in our report on compliance issued pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards*.

The Uniform Guidance and the Florida Single Audit Act requires that we also plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the auditee has complied with federal and state statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards and state projects applicable to major programs. Our procedures will consist of tests of transactions and other applicable procedures described in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* and *State Projects Compliance Supplement* for the types of compliance requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each of the Client's major programs. For federal programs or state awards that are included in the Compliance Supplements, our compliance and internal control procedures will relate to the compliance requirements that the Compliance Supplements identify as being subject to audit. The purpose of these procedures will be to express an opinion on the Client's compliance with requirements applicable to each of its major programs and state projects in our report on compliance issued pursuant to the Uniform Guidance and Florida Single Audit Act.

Other Services

We will also assist in preparing the financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards and state projects, and related notes of the Client in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and the Uniform Guidance based on information provided by you. These nonaudit services do not constitute an audit under *Government Auditing Standards* and such services will not be conducted in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. We will perform the services in accordance with applicable professional standards. The other services are limited to the financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards and state projects, and related notes services previously defined. We, in our sole professional judgment, reserve the right to refuse to perform any procedure or take any action that could be construed as assuming management responsibilities.

You agree to assume all management responsibilities for the financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, and related notes, and any other nonaudit services we provide. You will be required to acknowledge in the management representation letter our assistance with preparation of the financial statements, the schedule of expenditures of federal awards, and related notes and that you have reviewed and approved the financial statements, the schedule of expenditures of federal awards, and related notes prior to their issuance and have accepted responsibility for them. Further, you agree to oversee the nonaudit services by designating an individual, preferably from senior management, with suitable skill, knowledge, or experience; evaluate the adequacy and results of those services; and accept responsibility for them.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements and Single Audit

Our audit will be conducted on the basis that you acknowledge and understand your responsibility for (1) designing, implementing, establishing, and maintaining effective internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, including internal controls over federal awards, and for evaluating and monitoring ongoing activities to help ensure that appropriate goals and objectives are met; (2) following laws and regulations; (3) ensuring

that there is reasonable assurance that government programs are administered in compliance with compliance requirements; and (4) ensuring that management and financial information is reliable and properly reported. Management is also responsible for implementing systems designed to achieve compliance with applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements. You are also responsible for the selection and application of accounting principles; for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, and all accompanying information in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; and for compliance with applicable laws and regulations (including federal statutes), rules, and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements (including award agreements). Your responsibilities also include identifying significant contractor relationships in which the contractor has responsibility for program compliance and for the accuracy and completeness of that information.

You are also responsible for making drafts of financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, all financial records, and related information available to us and for the accuracy and completeness of that information (including information from outside of the general and subsidiary ledgers). You are also responsible for providing us with (1) access to all information of which you are aware that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, such as records, documentation, identification of all related parties and all related-party relationships and transactions, and other matters; (2) access to personnel, accounts, books, records, supporting documentation, and other information as needed to perform an audit under the Uniform Guidance; (3) additional information that we may request for the purpose of the audit; and (4) unrestricted access to persons within the government from whom we determine it necessary to obtain audit evidence.¹¹ At the conclusion of our audit, we will require certain written representations from you about the financial statements; schedule of expenditures of federal awards; federal award programs; compliance with laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements; and related matters.

Your responsibilities include adjusting the financial statements to correct material misstatements and confirming to us in the management representation letter that the effects of any uncorrected misstatements aggregated by us during the current engagement and pertaining to the latest period presented are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements of each opinion unit taken as a whole.

You are responsible for the design and implementation of programs and controls to prevent and detect fraud, and for informing us about all known or suspected fraud affecting the government involving (1) management, (2) employees who have significant roles in internal control, and (3) others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements. Your responsibilities include informing us of your knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the government received in communications from employees, former employees, grantors, regulators, or others. In addition, you are responsible for identifying and ensuring that the government complies with applicable laws, regulations, contracts, agreements, and grants. You are also responsible for taking timely and appropriate steps to remedy fraud and noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements that we report. Additionally, as required by the Uniform Guidance, it is management's responsibility to evaluate and monitor noncompliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards; take prompt action when instances of noncompliance are identified including noncompliance identified in audit findings; promptly follow up and take corrective action on reported audit findings; and prepare a summary schedule of prior audit findings and a separate corrective action plan.

You are responsible for identifying all federal awards and state projects received and understanding and complying with the compliance requirements and for the preparation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards and state projects (including notes and noncash assistance received, and COVID-19-related concepts, such as lost revenues, if applicable) in conformity with the Uniform Guidance and Florida Single Audit Act. You agree to include our report on the schedule of expenditures of federal awards and state projects in any document that contains, and indicates that we have reported on, the schedule of expenditures of federal awards and state projects. You also agree to include the audited financial statements with any presentation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards and state projects that includes our report thereon. Your responsibilities include acknowledging to us in the written representation letter that (1) you are responsible for presentation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards and

state projects in accordance with the Uniform Guidance and Florida Single Audit Act; (2) you believe the schedule of expenditures of federal awards and state projects, including its form and content, is stated fairly in accordance with the Uniform Guidance; (3) the methods of measurement or presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period (or, if they have changed, the reasons for such changes); and (4) you have disclosed to us any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement or presentation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards.

You are also responsible for the preparation of the other supplementary information, which we have been engaged to report on, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). You agree to include our report on the supplementary information in any document that contains, and indicates that we have reported on, the supplementary information. You also agree to include the audited financial statements with any presentation of the supplementary information that includes our report. Your responsibilities include acknowledging to us in the written representation letter that (1) you are responsible for presentation of the supplementary information in accordance with GAAP; (2) you believe the supplementary information, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with GAAP; (3) the methods of measurement or presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period (or, if they have changed, the reasons for such changes); and (4) you have disclosed to us any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement or presentation of the supplementary information.

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining a process for tracking the status of audit findings and recommendations. Management is also responsible for identifying and providing report copies of previous financial audits, attestation engagements, performance audits, or other studies related to the objectives discussed in the Audit Scope and Objectives section of this letter. This responsibility includes relaying to us corrective actions taken to address significant findings and recommendations resulting from those audits, attestation engagements, performance audits, or studies. You are also responsible for providing management's views on our current findings, conclusions, and recommendations, as well as your planned corrective actions for the report, and for the timing and format for providing that information.

Engagement Administration

We understand that your employees will prepare all cash, accounts receivable, or other confirmations we request and will locate any documents selected by us for testing.

At the conclusion of the engagement, we will complete the appropriate sections of the Data Collection Form that summarizes our audit findings. It is management's responsibility to electronically submit the reporting package (including financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, summary schedule of prior audit findings, auditor's reports, and corrective action plan) along with the Data Collection Form to the federal audit clearinghouse. We will coordinate with you the electronic submission and certification. The Data Collection Form and the reporting package must be submitted within the earlier of 30 calendar days after receipt of the auditor's reports or nine months after the end of the audit period.

We will provide copies of our reports to the Okaloosa County, Florida Board of County Commissioners; however, management is responsible for distribution of the reports and the financial statements. Unless restricted by law or regulation, or containing privileged and confidential information, copies of our reports are to be made available for public inspection.

The audit documentation for this engagement is the property of Warren Averett, LLC and constitutes confidential information. However, subject to applicable laws and regulations, audit documentation and appropriate individuals will be made available upon request and in a timely manner to cognizant or oversight agencies or its designee, a federal agency providing direct or indirect funding, or the U.S. Government Accountability Office for purposes of a quality review of the audit, to resolve audit findings, or to carry out oversight responsibilities. We will notify you of any such request. If requested, access to such audit documentation will be provided under the supervision of Warren Averett, LLC personnel. Furthermore, upon request, we may provide copies of selected audit documentation to the aforementioned parties. These parties may intend, or decide, to distribute the copies or information contained therein to others, including other governmental agencies.

The audit documentation for this engagement will be retained for a minimum of five years after the report release date or for any additional period requested by any Cognizant Agency, Oversight Agency for Audit, or Pass-through Entity. If we are aware that a federal awarding agency, pass-through entity, or auditee is contesting an audit finding, we will contact the party(ies) contesting the audit finding for guidance prior to destroying the audit documentation.

Angela D. Balent, CPA is the engagement partner and is responsible for supervising the engagement and signing the reports or authorizing another individual to sign them.

Fees

Our fees for these services will be \$260,100. Our fee for these services will not exceed the fee limitations established in accordance with the auditing contract with Okaloosa County, unless the scope of the engagement is changed, the assistance which the Client has agreed to furnish is not provided, or unexpected conditions are encountered, in which case we will discuss the situation with Management before proceeding. We are currently under contract with Okaloosa County, Florida to provide audit services for the years ending September 30, 2022, 2023, and 2024, unless earlier terminated by either party by providing at least ninety (90) days written notice. The fees for the addition contract years are found in Attachment I. Annual engagement letters will be issued to ensure compliance with auditing standards in effect at the time the services are provided. The agreement may be renewed for an additional three (3) one year renewals.

Reporting

We will issue written reports upon completion of our Single Audits. Our reports will be addressed to the Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board of Okaloosa County Commissioners and Other Elected Officials. Circumstances may arise in which our report may differ from its expected form and content based on the results of our audit. Depending on the nature of these circumstances, it may be necessary for us to modify our opinions, add a separate section, or add an emphasis-of-matter or other-matter paragraph to our auditors' report, or if necessary, withdraw from this engagement. If our opinions are other than unmodified, we will discuss the reasons with you in advance. If, for any reason, we are unable to complete the audit or are unable to form or have not formed opinions, we may decline to express opinions or issue reports, or we may withdraw from this engagement.

The *Government Auditing Standards* report on internal control over financial reporting and on compliance and other matters will state that (1) the purpose of the report is solely to describe the scope of testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance, and (2) the report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. The Uniform Guidance, State of Florida Single Audit Act, Rules of the Florida Auditor General, and Passenger Facility Charge Program report on internal control over compliance will state that the purpose of the report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance, Florida Single Audit Act, Rules of the Florida Auditor General and Passenger Facility Program. Both reports will state that the report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Additional Services

The Client (to include other elected officials of Okaloosa County) may request additional services relating to accounting, auditing and other special projects of Warren Averett, LLC as specified in the original request for proposal. The hourly rates for any additional services requested can be found in Attachment I.

Billing

Invoices are issued as work is performed and we will progress bill during the period of August to March. The final 10% of our fee will be invoiced upon delivery of our opinions for inclusion in the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. Invoices are due upon receipt. In the event that payment is not received within 30 days of the due date, the Client will be assessed interest charges of one percent per month on the unpaid balance. We reserve the right to suspend or terminate our work due to nonpayment. In the event that our work is suspended or terminated as a result of nonpayment, the Client agrees that we will not be responsible for the Client's failure to meet government and other filing deadlines, or for penalties or interest that may be assessed against the Client resulting from the Client's failure to meet such deadlines.

Detection

This engagement will not include any procedures designed to detect theft or illegal acts that are immaterial to the financial statements and the Client agrees that we will have no responsibility to do so.

Employment

In the event you desire to employ a current employee of Warren Averett, LLC or a previous employee of Warren Averett, LLC whose termination date is within 6 months of the date services were provided to you by us, you agree to consult with us concerning such employment. In addition, if you employ such employee, you agree Warren Averett, LLC has the option to receive a reasonable placement fee from you, in an amount determined by us not exceeding 25% of employee's annual compensation at the time of termination.

Liability

Warren Averett, LLC's maximum liability to the Client for any reason shall be limited to the fees paid by the Client for the services or work product giving rise to the liability except and to the extent finally determined to have resulted from our willful misconduct. Without limiting the foregoing, Warren Averett, LLC's liability under this agreement is limited to the actual and direct damages incurred by the Client arising out of or related to Warren Averett, LLC's performance hereunder. In no event shall Warren Averett, LLC be liable for any incidental, consequential, special, indirect, punitive or third-party damages or claims, including, without limitation, lost profits or revenue, lost savings, lost productivity, loss of data, loss of use of equipment and loss from interruption of business, regardless of whether the form of action is based upon breach of warranty, breach of contract, negligence, strict liability in tort or any other legal theory even if Warren Averett, LLC has been advised about the possibility of such damages.

Dispute Resolution

The parties shall attempt to resolve any dispute arising under this Agreement by participating in mediation. The parties agree to share equally in the costs of such mediation. In the event the parties are unable to resolve the dispute through the mediation process, each party shall be free to pursue any other legal remedies.

Invalidation

In the event that any portion of this agreement is deemed invalid or unenforceable, said finding shall not operate to invalidate the remainder of this agreement.

Disclosure

By signing this letter, you consent to allow us to disclose your tax return information, if applicable, or other information to our service providers. If you want to limit the amount of information that may be disclosed to any third-party service provider, please notify us in writing as an attachment to this letter.

Warren Averett Connect

Warren Averett Connect is a tool for the sharing of information between the Client and Warren Averett. Warren Averett Connect is not designed to store Client information and documents. Client is responsible for maintaining backup to all Client data provided to and by Warren Averett, LLC.

Term

This agreement shall survive the termination of the Client's engagement of Warren Averett, LLC.

Amendment

The terms and conditions of this agreement (i) apply exclusively to the services specifically set forth in the "Services Provided" section herein (the "Current Specified Services") and do not apply to any other services specifically addressed in a separate Terms of Engagement entered into between Warren Averett, LLC and the Client. This agreement replaces and amends all previous Terms of Engagement entered into between Warren Averett, LLC and the Client for the services specifically set forth in the "Services Provided" section herein (the "Current Specified Services"). This agreement does not impose upon Warren Averett, LLC any additional obligations or responsibilities with respect to any other Terms of Engagement entered into between Warren Averett, LLC and the Client.

Public Records: Warren Averett, LLC, will

- Keep and maintain public records required by the County to perform the service.
- Upon request from the County's custodian of public records, provide the County with a copy of the requested records or allow the records to be inspected or copied within a reasonable time at a cost that does not exceed the cost provided in chapter 119 Florida Statutes or as otherwise provided by law.
- Ensure that public records that are exempt or confidential and exempt from public records disclosure requirements are not disclosed except as authorized by law for the duration of the contract term and following completion of the contract if the contractor does not transfer the records to the County. The audit working papers shall remain the property of Warren Averett, LLC.
- Upon completion of the contract, transfer, at no cost, to the County all public records in possession of the contractor or keep and maintain public records required by the County to perform the service. If the contractor transfers all public records to the public agency upon completion of the contract, the contractor shall destroy any duplicate public records that are exempt or confidential and exempt from public records disclosure requirements. If the contractor keeps and maintains public records upon completion of the contract, the contractor shall meet all applicable requirements for retaining the public records. All records stored electronically must be provided to the public agency, upon the request from the public agency's custodian of public records, in a format that is compatible with the information technology systems of the public agency.

Audit

The Client shall have the right from time to time at its sole expense to audit the compliance by Warren Averett, LLC with the terms, conditions, obligations, limitations, restrictions and requirements of this Agreement and such right shall extend for a period of three (3) years after termination of this Agreement. If the Client should choose to invoke this provision, the Client shall engage a CPA firm or a CPA, with recent peer review experience specific to governmental entities in Florida, to perform the function.

Third Party Beneficiaries

It is specifically agreed between the parties executing this Agreement that is not intended by any of the provisions of any part of the Agreement to create in the public or any member thereof, a third party beneficiary under this Agreement, or to authorize anyone not a party to this Agreement to maintain a suit for personal injuries or property damage pursuant to the terms for provisions of this Agreement.

Governing Law & Venue

This Agreement shall be interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of Florida without regard to its principles of conflicts of laws. Venue for any legal proceedings arising out of this Agreement shall be in Okaloosa County, Florida.

Insurance

The Client's insurance requirements are contained in Attachment II to this Agreement. Warren Averett, LLC has insurance to meet the requirements.

IF THE CONTRACTOR HAS QUESTIONS REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF CHAPTER 119, FLORIDA STATUTES, TO THE CONTRACTOR'S DUTY TO PROVIDE PUBLIC RECORDS RELATING TO THIS CONTRACT, CONTACT THE CUSTODIAN OF PUBLIC RECORDS AT OKALOOSA COUNTY RISK MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT 5479 OLD BETHEL ROAD CRESTVIEW, FL 32536 PHONE: (850) 689-5977

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to the Client and believe this letter accurately summarizes the significant terms of our engagement. If you have any questions, please let us know. If you agree with the terms of our engagement as described in this letter, please sign the attached copy and return it to us.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have made and executed this Contract on the respective dates under each signature.

WARREN AVERETT
BY: Angela D. Balent

PRINT NAME: Angela D. Balent

DATE: August 2, 2023

OKALOOSA COUNTY
BY: Robert A. "Trey" Goodwin III
Okaloosa County Chairman of the Board

PRINT NAME: Robert A. "Trey" Goodwin III

DATE: September 5, 2023

OKALOOSA COUNTY
BY: John Hofstad
Okaloosa County Administrator
PRINT NAME: John Hofstad

DATE: August 10, 2023



**ATTACHMENT I
OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA
AUGUST 2, 2023**

Audit Fees

FY 2024	\$265,302
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Hourly Rates for Additional Professional Services

Partners & Specialists	\$300
Managers	\$255
Supervisory Staff	\$205
Staff	\$175



CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Report on the Firm's System of Quality Control

January 4, 2023

To The Owners of Warren Averett, LLC and the National Peer Review Committee of the AICPA.

We have reviewed the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Warren Averett, LLC (the firm) applicable to engagements not subject to PCAOB permanent inspection in effect for the year ended July 31, 2022. Our peer review was conducted in accordance with the Standards for Performing and Reporting on Peer Reviews established by the Peer Review Board of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (Standards). A summary of the nature, objectives, scope, limitations of, and the procedures performed in a System review as described in the standards may be found at www.aicpa.org/prsummary. The summary also includes an explanation of how engagements identified as not performed or reported in conformity with applicable professional standards, if any, are evaluated by a peer reviewer to determine a peer review rating.

Firm's Responsibility

The firm is responsible for designing and complying with a system of quality control to provide the firm with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with the requirements of applicable professional standards in all material respects. The firm is also responsible for evaluating actions to promptly remediate engagements deemed as not performed or reported in conformity with the requirements of applicable professional standards, when appropriate, and for remediating weaknesses in its system of quality control, if any.

Peer Reviewer's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the design of and compliance with the firm's system of quality control based on our review.

Required Selections and Considerations

Engagements selected for review included engagements performed under *Government Auditing Standards*, including compliance audits under the Single Audit Act; audits of an employee benefit plans; an audit performed under FDICIA; and examinations of service organizations (SOC 1® and SOC 2® engagements).

As a part of our peer review, we considered reviews by regulatory entities as communicated by the firm, if applicable, in determining the nature and extent of our procedures.

Opinion

In our opinion, the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Warren Averett, LLC applicable to engagements not subject to PCAOB permanent inspection in effect for the year ended July 31, 2022, has been suitably designed and complied with to provide the firm with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with applicable professional standards in all material respects. Firms can receive a rating of *pass*, *pass with deficiency(ies)* or *fail*. Warren Averett, LLC has received a peer review rating of *pass*.

Henderson Hutcherson
& McCullough, PLLC

1200 Market Street, Chattanooga, TN 37402 | T 423.756.7771 | F 423.265.8125

AN INDEPENDENT MEMBER OF THE BDO ALLIANCE USA

GENERAL SERVICES INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY

CONTRACTORS INSURANCE

1. The Contractor shall not commence any work in connection with this Agreement until he has obtained all required insurance and the certificate of insurance has been approved by the Okaloosa County Risk Manager or designee.
2. All insurance policies shall be with insurers authorized to do business in the State of Florida and having a minimum rating of A, Class X in the Best Key Rating Guide published by A.M. Best & Co. Inc.
3. All insurance shall include the interest of all entities named and their respective officials, employees & volunteers of each and all other interests as may be reasonably required by Okaloosa County. The coverage afforded the Additional Insured under this policy shall be primary insurance. If the Additional Insured have other insurance that is applicable to the loss, such other insurance shall be on an excess or contingent basis. The amount of the company's liability under this policy shall not be reduced by the existence of such other insurance.
4. With the exception of Workers' Compensation policies, the County shall be shown as an Additional Insured with Endorsement for each policy on the Certificate of Insurance.
5. The County shall retain the right to reject all insurance policies that do not meet the requirement of this Agreement. Further, the County reserves the right to change these insurance requirements with 60-day notice to the Contractor.
6. The County reserves the right at any time to require the Contractor to provide copies (redacted if necessary) of any insurance policies to document the insurance coverage specified in this Agreement.
7. Any subsidiaries used shall also be required to obtain and maintain the same insurance requirements as are being required herein of the Contractor.
8. Any exclusions or provisions in the insurance maintained by the Contractor that excludes coverage for work contemplated in this agreement shall be deemed unacceptable and shall be considered breach of contract.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE

1. The Contractor shall secure and maintain during the life of this Agreement Workers' Compensation insurance for all of his employees employed for the project or any site connected with the work, including supervision, administration or management, of this project and in case any work is sublet, with the approval of the County, the Contractor shall require the Subcontractor similarly to provide Workers' Compensation insurance for all employees employed at the site of the project, and such evidence of insurance shall be furnished to the County not less than ten (10) days prior to the commencement of any and all sub-contractual Agreements which have been approved by the County.
2. Contractor must be in compliance with all applicable State and Federal workers' compensation laws, including the U.S. Longshore Harbor Workers' Act or Jones Act, if applicable.
3. No class of employee, including the Contractor himself, shall be excluded from the Workers' Compensation insurance coverage. The Workers' Compensation insurance shall also include Employer's Liability coverage and a Waiver of Subrogation in favor of the County on the Certificate of Insurance. If there is an existing approved State of Florida Exemption for Workers' Compensation it must be provided to Okaloosa County.

BUSINESS AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY

Coverage must be afforded for all Owned, Hired, Scheduled, and Non-Owned vehicles for Bodily Injury and Property Damage. If the contractor does not own vehicles, the contractor shall maintain coverage for Hired & Non-Owned Auto Liability, which may be satisfied by way of endorsement to the Commercial General Liability policy or separate Business Auto Policy. Contractor must maintain this insurance coverage throughout the life of this Agreement.

COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE

1. The Contractor shall carry Commercial General Liability insurance against all claims for Bodily Injury, Property Damage and Personal and Advertising Injury liability caused by the Contractor.
2. Commercial General Liability coverage shall include the following:
 - 1.) Premises & Operations Liability
 - 2.) Bodily Injury and Property Damage Liability
 - 3.) Independent Contractors Liability
 - 4.) Contractual Liability
 - 5.) Products and Completed Operations Liability
3. Contractor shall agree to keep in continuous force Commercial General Liability coverage for the length of the contract.

PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY and/or ERRORS AND OMISSIONS LIABILITY

Coverage must be afforded for Wrongful Acts, errors or omissions committed by the Contractor or its employees in performing its professional services under this contract. Contractor must keep insurance in force until the third anniversary of expiration of this agreement or the third anniversary of acceptance of work by the County.

INSURANCE LIMITS OF LIABILITY

The insurance required shall be written for not less than the following, or greater if required by law and shall include Employer's liability with limits as prescribed in this contract:

	<u>LIMIT</u>
1. Workers' Compensation	
1.) State	Statutory
2.) Employer's Liability	\$500,000 each accident
2. Business Automobile	\$1M each accident (A combined single limit)
3. Commercial General Liability	\$1M each occurrence for Bodily Injury & Property Damage \$1M each occurrence Products and completed operations
4. Personal and Advertising Injury	\$1M each occurrence
5. Professional Liability (E&O)	\$1M each claim

NOTICE OF CLAIMS OR LITIGATION

The Contractor agrees to report any incident or claim that results from performance of this Agreement. The County representative shall receive written notice in the form of a detailed written report describing the incident or claim within ten (10) days of the Contractor's knowledge. In the event such incident or claim involves injury and/or property damage to a third party, verbal notification shall be given the same day the Contractor becomes aware of the incident or claim followed by a written detailed report within ten (10) days of verbal notification.

INDEMNIFICATION & HOLD HARMLESS

To the fullest extent permitted by law, Contractor shall indemnify and hold harmless the County, its officers and employees from liabilities, damages, losses, and costs including but not limited to reasonable attorney fees, to the extent caused by the negligence, recklessness, or wrongful conduct of the Contractor and other persons employed or utilized by the Contractor in the performance of this contract.

CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE

1. Certificates of Insurance indicating the project name, number, evidencing all required coverage, and if applicable any State of Florida approved Workers' Compensation Exemption must be submitted not less than 10 days prior to the commencement of any of the work. The certificate holder(s) shall be as follows: Okaloosa County BCC, 5479-A Old Bethel Road, Crestview, Florida, 32536.
2. The contractor shall provide a Certificate of Insurance to the County with a thirty (30) day prior written notice of cancellation; ten (10 days' prior written notice if cancellation is for nonpayment of premium).
3. In the event that the insurer is unable to accommodate the cancellation notice Requirement, it shall be the responsibility of the contractor to provide the proper notice. Such notification shall be in writing by registered mail, return receipt requested, and Addressed to the Okaloosa County Purchasing Department at 5479-A Old Bethel Road, Crestview, FL 32536.
4. In the event the contract term goes beyond the expiration date of the insurance policy, the contractor shall provide the County with an updated Certificate of insurance no later than ten (10) days prior to the expiration of the insurance currently in effect. The County reserves the right to suspend the contract until this requirement is met.
5. The certificate shall indicate if coverage is provided under a claims-made or occurrence form. If any coverage is provided on a claims-made form, the certificate will show a retroactive date, which should be the same date of the initial contract or prior.
6. All certificates shall be subject to Okaloosa County's approval of adequacy of protection.
7. All deductibles or SIRs, whether approved by Okaloosa County or not, shall be the Contractor's full responsibility.
8. In no way will the entities listed as Additional Insured be responsible for, pay for, be damaged by, or limited to coverage required by this schedule due to the existence of a deductible or SIR.

GENERAL TERMS

Any type of insurance or increase of limits of liability not described above which, the Contractor required for its own protection or on account of statute shall be its own responsibility and at its own expense.

Any exclusions or provisions in the insurance maintained by the contractor that excludes coverage for work contemplated in this contract shall be deemed unacceptable and shall be considered breach of contract.

The carrying of the insurance described shall in no way be interpreted as relieving the Contractor of any responsibility under this contract.

Should the Contractor engage a subcontractor or sub-subcontractor, the same conditions will apply under this Agreement to each subcontractor and sub-subcontractor.

The Contractor hereby waives all rights of subrogation against Okaloosa County and its employees under all the foregoing policies of insurance.

EXCESS/UMBRELLA INSURANCE

The Contractor shall have the right to meet the liability insurance requirements with the purchase of an EXCESS/UMBRELLA insurance policy. In all instances, the combination of primary and EXCESS/UMBRELLA liability coverage must equal or exceed the minimum liability insurance limits stated in this Agreement.

**PROCUREMENT/CONTRACT/LEASE
INTERNAL COORDINATION SHEET**

Procurement/Contract/Lease Number: <u>C 22-3222-BCC</u>	Tracking Number: <u>4912-23</u>
Procurement/Contractor/Lessee Name: <u>Warren Arreth, LLC</u>	Grant Funded: YES ___ NO <u>X</u>
Purpose: <u>Renewal #1</u>	
Date/Term: <u>9-30-2024</u>	1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GREATER THAN \$100,000
Department #: <u>0114</u>	2. <input type="checkbox"/> GREATER THAN \$50,000
Account #: <u>582001</u>	3. <input type="checkbox"/> \$50,000 OR LESS
Amount: <u>\$ 265,302.00</u>	
Department: <u>BCC</u>	Dept. Monitor Name: <u>Hofstad</u>

Purchasing Review	
Procurement or Contract/Lease requirements are met: <u>[Signature]</u>	Date: <u>8-3-23</u>
Purchasing Manager or designee: _____	DeRita Mason, Erin Poole, Amber Hammonds

2CFR Compliance Review (if required)	
Approved as written: <u>no federal mat</u>	Grant Name: _____
Grants Coordinator: _____	Suzanne Ulloa
Date: _____	

Risk Management Review	
Approved as written: <u>see email attached</u>	Date: <u>8-9-23</u>
Risk Manager or designee: _____	Lydia Garcia

County Attorney Review	
Approved as written: <u>see email attached</u>	Date: <u>8-9-23</u>
County Attorney: _____	Lynn Hoshihara, Kerry Parsons or Designee

Department Funding Review	
Approved as written: _____	Date: _____

IT Review (if applicable)	
Approved as written: _____	Date: _____

DeRita Mason

From: Odessa Cooper-Pool
Sent: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 12:07 PM
To: DeRita Mason
Cc: Jacqueline Matichuk
Subject: RE: Urgent RE: C22-3222-BCC-Renewal

Hello DeRita,

With the change, the Renewal of C22-3222-BCC has been reviewed and is approved by Risk Management for insurance purposes.

Thank you,

Odessa Cooper-Pool
Public Records & Contracts Specialist
Okaloosa County BCC
302 N. Wilson Street
Crestview, FL 32536
Office: 1-850-689-4111



"And, when you want something, all the universe conspires in helping you to achieve it."— **Paulo Coelho**, *The Alchemist*

Please note: Due to Florida's very broad public records laws, most written communications to or from County employees regarding County business are public records, available to the public and media upon request. Therefore, this written e-mail communication, including your e-mail address, may be subject to public disclosure.

From: DeRita Mason <dmason@myokaloosa.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 11:58 AM
To: Odessa Cooper-Pool <ocooperpool@myokaloosa.com>
Cc: Jacqueline Matichuk <jmatichuk@myokaloosa.com>
Subject: RE: Urgent RE: C22-3222-BCC-Renewal

Is it approved or do you need to see again?

DeRita Mason

DeRita Mason

From: Hoshihara, Lynn <lhoshihara@ngn-tally.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 11:08 AM
To: DeRita Mason; Sheila Fitzgerald
Cc: Faye Douglas; Angela Balent
Subject: RE: engagement letter

I didn't realize you were waiting on approval from us. Since nothing has changed from last year, this is approved without any further revisions.

Lynn

Lynn M. Hoshihara

**Nabors
Giblin &
Nickerson**
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 200
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
(850) 224-4070 Tel.
(850) 224-4073 Fax
Lhoshihara@ngnlaw.com

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From: DeRita Mason <dmason@myokaloosa.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 11:45 AM
To: Sheila Fitzgerald <sfitzgerald@myokaloosa.com>
Cc: Hoshihara, Lynn <lhoshihara@ngn-tally.com>; Faye Douglas <fdouglas@myokaloosa.com>; Angela Balent <Angela.Balent@warrenaverett.com>
Subject: RE: engagement letter

No, it was not approved by legal in time to make the meeting.

DeRita Mason