

BALDWIN HILLS REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

**MANAGEMENT REPORT
AND
AUDITOR'S COMMUNICATION LETTER**

June 30, 2021

BALDWIN HILLS REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
June 30, 2021

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To the Honorable Board of Directors of
Baldwin Hills Regional Conservation Authority
Los Angeles, California

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and the major fund of the Baldwin Hills Regional Conservation Authority (Authority) as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021. Professional standards require that we provide you with the information about our responsibilities under auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and *Government Auditing Standards*, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit which we have previously communicated to you. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

Significant Audit Findings

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the Authority are described in Note 1 of the notes to the basic financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted, and the application of existing policies was not changed during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021. We noted no transactions entered into by the Authority during the fiscal year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting the financial statements were:

Management's estimates of the estimated historical cost and useful lives of capital assets. These estimates are based on historical data and industry guidelines for capital assets. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the estimates above in determining that they are reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements. In addition, none of the misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures and corrected by management were material, either individually or in the aggregate, to each opinion unit's financial statements taken as a whole.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated May 4, 2022.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the Authority's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the Authority's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

Other Matters

We applied certain limited procedures to the Management's Discussion and Analysis, and the Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual which are required supplementary information (RSI) that supplement the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

Restriction on Use

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

Very truly yours,

Moss, Levy & Hartzheim

MOSS, LEVY & HARTZHEIM, LLP
Culver City, CA
May 4, 2022



MOSS, LEVY & HARTZHEIM LLP

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

To the Board of Directors and Management of
The Baldwin Hills Regional Conservation Authority
Los Angeles, California

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the Baldwin Hills Regional Conservation Authority (Authority) as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Authority's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated May 4, 2022.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Authority's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Authority's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Authority's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We did identify a deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of finding as item 2021-001 that we consider to be a material weakness.

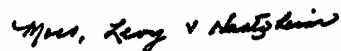
Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Authority's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our 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. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Very truly yours,



MOSS, LEVY & HARTZHEIM, LLP
Culver City, CA
May 4, 2022

CURRENT YEAR FINDING

Material Weakness

2021-001 Grant project accounts payable were not accrued to the proper fiscal year.

Criteria:

The Authority should track awarded grants and record estimated accounts payable for these projects at the end of each fiscal year.

Condition:

The Authority received request for payments totaling \$2,363,376 for two grants awarded to the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation for work performed in previous fiscal years. The Authority was not tracking outstanding grant awards and was unaware of the ongoing projects.

Effect:

Tracking awarded grants and their ongoing costs would result in expenditures being recorded in the proper fiscal year.

Recommendation:

We recommend that the Authority prepares a listing of grants as they are awarded to track awards granted and that the list is utilized as part of the year end closing process to estimate accounts payable. This list should be maintained and shared with various individuals in the Authority to ensure that the list is accurate and is not lost due to employee turnover.

Management's Response:

We agree with the finding. The Authority has established procedures to ensure a grant listing is maintained and reviewed periodically. The outstanding costs will be tracked so that they can be recorded in the financial statements.

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR RECOMMENDATIONS

NONE