



DEVELOPMENT PLANNING & FINANCING GROUP, INC.

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***CASCADES AT GROVELAND  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT***

***Advanced Meeting Package***

***Audit Committee Meeting***

***Wednesday  
October 20, 2021  
2:00 p.m.***

***Location:  
Magnolia House Sports Pavilion  
100 Falling Acorn Avenue,  
Groveland, FL 34746***

***Note: The Advanced Meeting Package is a working document and thus all materials are considered DRAFTS prior to presentation and Board acceptance, approval or adoption.***

# Cascades at Groveland Community Development District

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## Development Planning and Financing Group

[X] 250 International Parkway, Suite 280  
Lake Mary FL 32746  
321-263-0132 Ext. 734

Audit Committee Members

### **Cascades at Groveland Community Development District**

Dear Audit Committee Members:

The Audit Committee Meeting of the Cascades at Groveland Community Development District is scheduled for **Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.** at the **Magnolia House Sports Pavilion, located at 100 Falling Acorn Avenue, Groveland, FL 34746**

The advanced copy of the agenda for the meeting is attached along with associated documentation for your review and consideration. Any additional support material will be distributed at the meeting.

The balance of the agenda is routine in nature. Staff will present their reports at the meeting. If you have any questions, please contact me. I look forward to seeing you there.

Sincerely,

*Patricia Thibault*

Patricia Thibault District  
Manager

Cc: Attorney  
Engineer  
District Records

District: **CASCADES AT GROVELAND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

Date of Meeting: Wednesday, October 20, 2021

Time: 2:00 PM

Location: Magnolia House Sports Pavilion,  
located at 100 Falling Acorn  
Avenue, Groveland, FL 34746

Dial-in Number: 267-807-9601  
Guest Access Code: 109-516-380

***Audit Committee Agenda***

**I. Roll Call**

**II. Audience Comments** – *(limited to 3 minutes per individual)*

**III. Business Items**

- A. Consideration for Approval - The Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting Held February 17, 2021 Exhibit 1
- B. Ranking of Audit Proposals
  - Summary & Criteria Evaluation Exhibit 2
  - DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes, PA Exhibit 3
- C. Audit Committees Recommendations for Auditor Services

**IV. Adjournment**

# EXHIBIT 1

MINUTES OF MEETING

Each person who decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the meeting is advised that the person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which such appeal is to be based.

CASCADES AT GROVELAND  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

The **audit review committee** meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Cascades at Groveland Community Development District was held on **Wednesday, February 17, 2021, at 2:01 p.m.** at the **Magnolia House Sports Pavilion, located at 100 Falling Acorn Avenue, Groveland, FL 34736.**

Present and constituting a quorum:

James Pekarek	<b>Board Supervisor, Chairman</b>
Patrick Hession	<b>Board Supervisor, Vice Chair</b>
Alan Martin	<b>Board Supervisor, Assistant Secretary</b>
Hubert "Dusty" Jackson	<b>Board Supervisor, Assistant Secretary</b>
William Houppermans	<b>Board Supervisor, Assistant Secretary</b>

Also present were:

Greg Cox	<b>District Manager, Rizzetta &amp; Company, Inc.</b>
Richard Hernandez	<b>Staff Accountant, Rizzetta &amp; Company, Inc.</b>
Scott Brizendine	<b>VP of Operations, Rizzetta &amp; Company, Inc.</b>
Tucker Mackie	<b>District Counsel, Hopping, Green &amp; Sams, P.A. (phone)</b>
Rey Malave	<b>District Engineer, Dewberry (phone)</b>
Sete Zaire	<b>MBS Capital Markets, LLC</b>
Audience	<b>Present</b>

**SECOND ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Consideration of Auditor Selection  
Evaluation Criteria**

Mr. Cox discussed the auditor selection evaluation criteria with the Audit Review Committee Members. The term for the auditor is for five years (the first year with an option to renew for the following four years). The Board would be soliciting annual auditing services for fiscal years ending September 30, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025. Mr. Cox stated that the criteria for an auditor are as follows: the ability of personnel, experience, understanding of the scope of work, the ability to furnish required services and price. He stated that there is an option to exclude price. The Audit Review Committee Members discussed the criteria and point system. They opted to include price and keep all criteria at 20 points each.

On a motion by Mr. Pekarek, seconded by Mr. Martin, with all in favor, the Audit Review Committee Members approved to include price in the Auditor Selection Evaluation Criteria, for Cascades at Groveland Community Development District.

**THIRD ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Consideration of Audit Proposal  
Instructions**

Mr. Cox reviewed the proposal instructions with the Audit Review Committee Members. Mr. Cox discussed that the committee would select a proposal due date as well as a date to review proposals.

On a motion by Mr. Pekarek, seconded by Mr. Hession, with all in favor, the Audit Review Committee Members approved the Audit Proposal Instructions, for Cascades at Groveland Community Development District.

**FOURTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Consideration of Advertisement for  
Proposals for Annual Auditing  
Services**

Mr. Cox asked if the Audit Review Committee Members preferred to solely rely on the newspaper advertisement or if they approved Rizzetta & Co. Inc. also soliciting proposals in addition to advertising. The committee agreed.

On a motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Jackson, with all in favor, the Audit Review Committee Members approved the Advertisement for Proposals for Annual Auditing services and authorized Rizzetta and Company to solicit proposals in addition to the advertisements, for Cascades at Groveland Community Development District.

**FIFTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Adjournment**

On a motion by Mr. Pekarek, seconded by Mr. Houppermans with all in favor, the Audit Review Committee Members adjourned the meeting at 2:11 p.m. for Cascades at Groveland Community Development District.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Assistant Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman/Vice Chairman

# EXHIBIT 2

**CASCADES AT GROVELAND - AUDITOR EVALUATION**

	FY 21	FY 22	FY 23	Ability of Personnel 20 Pts.	Proposer Experience 20 Pts	Understanding Scope of Work 20 Pts	Ability to Furnish Required Service 20 Pts	Price 20 Points	TOTAL POINTS
<b>DiBartolomeo</b>	\$3,400	\$3,500	\$3,600						





# EXHIBIT 3

# **Cascades at Groveland Community Development District**

<b>Proposer</b>
-----------------

**DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes, P.A.**  
**Certified Public Accountants**

**2222 Colonial Road, Suite 200  
Fort Pierce, Florida 34950  
(772) 461-8833**

**591 SE Port St. Lucie Boulevard  
Port Saint Lucie, Florida 34984  
(772) 878-1952**

**Contact:**

**Jim Hartley, CPA  
Principal**

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Cascades at Groveland  
Community Development District  
Audit Selection Committee

Dear Committee Members:

We are pleased to have this opportunity to present the qualifications of DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes, P.A. (DMHB) to serve as Cascades at Groveland Community Development District's independent auditors. The audit is a significant engagement demanding various professional resources, governmental knowledge and expertise, and, most importantly, experience serving Florida local governments. DMHB understands the services required and is committed to performing these services within the required time frame. We have the staff available to complete this engagement in a timely fashion. We audit several entities across the State making it feasible to schedule and provide services at the required locations.

***Proven Track Record***— Our clients know our people and the quality of our work. We have always been responsive, met deadlines, and been willing to go the extra mile with the objective of providing significant value to mitigate the cost of the audit. This proven track record of successfully working together to serve governmental clients will enhance the quality of services we provide.

***Experience***—DMHB has a history of providing quality professional services to an impressive list of public sector clients in Florida. We currently serve a large number of public sector entities in Florida, including cities, villages, special districts, as well as a large number of community development districts. Our firm has performed in excess of 100 community development district audits. In addition, our senior management team members have between 25 and 35 years experience in serving Florida governments. DMHB is a recognized leader in providing services to governmental and non-profit agencies within the State of Florida. Through our experience in performing audits, we have been able to increase our audit efficiency and therefore reduce cost. We have continually passed this cost saving on to our clients and will continue to do so in the future. As a result of our experience and expertise, we have developed an effective and efficient audit approach designed to meet or exceed the performance specifications in accordance with audit standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States with minimal disruption to your operations. Our firm has frequent technical updates to keep our personnel informed and up to date on all changes that are occurring within the industry.

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2222 Colonial Road, Suite 200 • Fort Pierce, Florida 34950 • 772-461-8833 • Fax: 772-461-8872  
591 S.E. Port St. Lucie Blvd., • Port St. Lucie, Florida 34984 • 772-878-1952 • Fax: 772-878-1709

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Private Company Practice Section

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[WWW.DMHB CPA.NET](http://WWW.DMHB CPA.NET)

***Timeliness*** – In order to meet the Districts needs, we will perform interim internal control testing as required by January 31<sup>st</sup> from unaudited preliminary general ledgers provided. The remaining testing will be completed no later than March 15<sup>th</sup>. We will also review all minutes and subsequent needs related to the review of the minutes by January 30<sup>th</sup>. Follow up review will be completed as necessary. Our audit report will be issued no later than April 15, 2022.

***Communication and Knowledge Sharing***— Another driving force behind our service approach is frequent, candid and open communication with management with no surprises. During the course of the audit, we will communicate with management on a regular basis to provide you with a status report on the audit and to discuss any issues that arise, potential management letter comments, or potential audit differences.

In the accompanying proposal, you will find additional information upon which you can evaluate DMHB's qualifications. Our full team is in place and waiting to serve you. Please contact us at 2222 Colonial Road, Suite 200 Fort Pierce, FL 34950. Our phone number is (772) 461-8833. We look forward to further discussion on how our team can work together with you.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes, P.A.

## PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes, P.A. is a local public accounting firm with offices in the cities of Fort Pierce and Port St. Lucie. The firm was formed in 1982.

### ➤ *Professional Staff Resources*

Our services will be delivered through personnel in both our Port St. Lucie and Ft. Pierce offices, located at 591 S.E. Port St. Lucie Blvd., Port St. Lucie, FL 34984 and 2222 Colonial Road, Suite 200, Fort Pierce, Florida 34950, respectively. DMHB has a total of 19 professional staff including 9 with extensive experience serving governmental entities.

<b>Professional Staff Classification</b>	<b>Number of Professionals</b>
Partner	4
Managers	2
Senior	2
Staff	11
	19

DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes provides a variety of accounting, auditing, tax litigation support, estate planning, and consulting services. Some of the governmental, non-profit accounting, auditing and advisory services currently provided to clients include:

- Annual financial and compliance audits including Single Audits of State and Federal financial assistance programs under the OMB A-133 audit criteria
- Issuance of Comfort Letters, consent letters, and parity certificates in conjunction with the issuance of tax-exempt debt obligations, including compiling financial data and interim period financial statement reviews
- Assisting in compiling historical financial data for first-time and subsequent submissions for the GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting

## PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS (CONTINUED)

### ➤ *Professional Staff Resources (Continued)*

- Audits of franchise fees received from outside franchisees
- Preparation of annual reports to the State Department of Banking and Finance
- Audits of Internal Controls – Governmental Special Project
- Assistance with Implementation of current GASB pronouncements

### ➤ *Current and Near Future Workload*

In order to better serve and provide timely and informative financial data, we have comprised an experienced audit team. Our present and future workloads will permit the proposed audit team to perform these audits within the time schedule required and meet all deadlines.

### ➤ *Identification of Audit Team*

The team is composed of people who are experienced, professional, and creative. They fully understand your business and will provide you with reliable opinions. In addition, they will make a point to maintain ongoing dialogue with each other and management about the status of our services.

The auditing firm you select is only as good as the people who serve you. We are extremely proud of the outstanding team we have assembled for your engagement. Our team brings many years of relevant experience coupled with the technical skill, knowledge, authority, dedication, and most of all, the commitment you need to meet your government reporting obligations and the challenges that will result from the changing accounting standards.

A flow chart of the audit team and brief resumes detailing individual team members' experience in each of the relevant areas follow.

**Jim Hartley, CPA** – Engagement Partner (resume attached)  
Will assist in the field as main contact

**Jay McBee, CPA** – Technical Reviewer (resume attached)

**Theresa Goldstein** - Senior (resume attached)

Staff – TBA



# **Jim Hartley**

*Partner – DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes*

## **Experience and Training**

Jim has over 25 years of public accounting experience and would serve as the engagement partner. His experience and training include:

- 25 years of non-profit and governmental experience.
- Specializing in serving entities ranging from Government to Associations and Special District audits.
- Has performed audits and advisory services for a variety of public sector entities.
- Has extensive experience performing audits of federal grant recipients in accordance with the Single Audit Act and the related Office of Management and Budget (OMB) guidelines.
- Experienced in maintaining the GFOA Certificate of Achievement.
- 120 hours of CPE credits over the past 3 years.

## **Recent Engagements**

Has provided audit services on governmental entities including towns, villages, cities, counties, special districts and community development districts. Jim has assisted with financial statement preparation, system implementation, and a variety of services to a wide range of non-profit and governmental entities. Jim currently provides internal audit and consulting services to governmental entities and non-profit agencies to assist in implementing and maintaining “best practice” accounting policies and procedures. Jim provides auditing services to the Fort Pierce Utilities Authority, St. Lucie County Fire District, City of Port St. Lucie, Tradition CDD #1 – 10, Southern Groves CDD #1-6, Multiple CDD audits, Town of St. Lucie Village, Town of Sewall’s Point, Town of Jupiter Island along with several other entities, including Condo and Homeowner Associations.

## **Education and Registrations**

- Bachelor of Science in Accounting – Sterling College.
- Certified Public Accountant

## **Professional Affiliations**

- Member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- Member of the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- Member of the Florida Government Finance Officers Association

## **Volunteer Service**

- Treasurer & Executive Board - St. Lucie County Chamber of Commerce
- Budget Advisory Board - St. Lucie County School District
- Past Treasurer - Exchange Club for Prevention of Child Abuse & Exchange Foundation Board
- Board of Directors – State Division of Juvenile Justice

## **Jay L. McBee**

*Partner – DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes*

### **Experience and Training**

Jay has over 35 years of public accounting experience and would serve as the technical reviewer on the audit. His experience and training include:

- 35 years of government experience.
- Specializing in serving local government entities.
- Has performed audits and advisory services for a variety of public sector entities including counties, cities, special districts, and school districts.
- Has experience performing audits of federal grant recipients in accordance with the Single Audit Act and the related Office of Management and Budget (OMB) guidelines, including Circular A-133 and the Rules of the Auditor General.
- Has extensive experience in performing pension audits.
- Experienced in developing and maintaining the GFOA Certificate of Achievement.
- 120 Hours of relevant government CPE credits over the past 3 years.
- Experience in municipal bond and other governmental-financing options and offerings.

### **Recent Engagements**

Has provided auditing services on local governmental entities including towns, villages, cities, counties, special district and community development districts. Jay has assisted with financial preparation, system implementation, and a variety of government services to a wide range of governmental entities. Jay currently provides auditing services to the City of Port St. Lucie, City of Okeechobee Pension Trust Funds, St. Lucie County Fire District Pension funds, along with several other non-profit and governmental entities.

### **Education and Registrations**

- Bachelor of Science in Accounting and Quantitative Business Management – West Virginia University.
- Certified Public Accountant

### **Professional Affiliations**

- Member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- Member of the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- Member of the Florida Government Finance Officers Association

### **Volunteer Service**

- Member of the St. Lucie County Citizens Budget Committee
- Finance committee for the First United Methodist Church
- Treasurer of Boys & Girls Club of St. Lucie County

## **Theresa Goldstein**

*Supervisor – DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes*

### **Experience and training**

Theresa has over 15 years of public accounting experience and would serve as the supervisor for the Constitutional Officers. Her experience and training include:

- 15 years of government experience.
- Specializing in serving local government entities.
- Has performed audits and advisory services for a variety of public sector entities including counties, cities, towns and special districts.
- Has extensive experience performing audits of federal grant recipients in accordance with the Single Audit Act and the related Office of Management and Budget (OMB) guidelines, including Circular A-133 and the Rules of the Auditor General.
- Experienced in maintaining the GFOA Certificate of Achievement.
- 100 hours of relevant government CPE credits over the past 3 years.

### **Recent Engagements**

Has provided audit services on governmental entities including towns, villages, cities, counties, special districts and community development districts. Theresa has assisted with financial statement preparation, system implementation, and a variety of services to a wide range of non-profit and governmental entities. Theresa currently provides internal audit and consulting services to multiple agencies to assist in implementing and maintaining “best practice” accounting policies and procedures. Engagements include City of Port St. Lucie, St. Lucie County Fire District, Town of Sewall’s Point, Town of Jupiter Island, Multiple CDD audits, Tradition CDD #1-10, Southern Groves CDD #1-6 and Town of St. Lucie Village.

### **Education and Registrations**

- Bachelor of Science in Finance – University of Central Florida
- Masters of Business Administration with concentration in Accounting – Bryant College

### **Professional Affiliations**

- Associate Member of the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- Member of the Florida Government Finance Officers Association

## PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS (CONTINUED)

### ➤ *Governmental Audit Experience*

DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes, P.A., through its principals and members, has provided continuous in-depth professional accounting, auditing, and consulting services to local government units, nonprofit organizations, and commercial clients. Our professionals have developed considerable expertise in performing governmental audits and single audits and in preparing governmental financial statements in conformance with continually evolving GASB pronouncements, statements, and interpretations. All of the public sector entities we serve annually are required to be in accordance with GASB pronouncements and government auditing standards. We currently perform several Federal and State single audits in compliance with OMB Circular A-133 and under the Florida Single Audit Act. Our professionals are also experienced in assisting their clients with preparing Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports (GFOA).

All work performed by our firm is closely supervised by experienced certified public accountants. Only our most seasoned CPA's perform consulting services. Some of the professional accounting, auditing, and management consulting services currently provided to our local governmental clients include:

- Annual financial and compliance audits including Single Audits of State and Federal financial assistance programs under OMB A-133 audit criteria and the Florida Single Audit Act
- Assisting in compiling historical financial data for first-time and supplemental submissions for GFOA Certificate of Achievement of Excellence in Financial Reporting
- Audits of franchise fees received from outside franchisees
- Assistance with Implementation of GASB-34
- Internal audit functions
- Fixed assets review and updating cost/depreciation allocations and methods

## ADDITIONAL DATA

### ➤ *Procedures for Ensuring Quality Control & Confidentiality*

Quality control in any CPA firm can never be taken for granted. It requires a continuing commitment to professional excellence. DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes is formally dedicated to that commitment.

In an effort to continue to maintain the standards of working excellence required by our firm, DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes, P.A. joined the Quality Review Program of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. To be a participating member firm, a firm must obtain an independent compliance review of its quality control policies and procedures to ascertain the firm's compliance with existing auditing standards on the applicable engagements. The scope of peer review is comprehensive in that it specifically reviews the following quality control policies and procedures of the participating firm:

- Professional, economic, and administrative independence
- Assignment of professional personnel to engagements
- Consultation on technical matters
- Supervision of engagement personnel
- Hiring and employment of personnel
- Professional development
- Advancement
- Acceptance and continuance of clients
- Inspection and review system

### ➤ *Independence*

Independence is a hallmark of our profession. We encourage our staff to use professional judgment in situations where our independence could be impaired or the perception of a conflict of interest might exist. In the governmental sector, public perception is as important as professional standards. Therefore, independent auditors must exercise utmost care in the performance of their duties.

Our firm has provided continuous certified public accounting services in the government sector for 31 years, and we are independent of the Community Development Districts as defined by the following rules, regulations, and standards:

## ADDITIONAL DATA (CONTINUED)

### ➤ *Independence (Continued)*

- Au Section 220 – Statements on Auditing Standards issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- ET Sections 101 and 102 – Code of Professional Conduct of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- Chapter 21A-21, Florida Administrative Code
- Section 473.315, Florida Statutes
- Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States

### ➤ *Computer Auditing Capabilities*

DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes' strong computer capabilities as demonstrated by our progressive approach to computer auditing and extensive use of microcomputers. Jay McBee is the MIS partner for DMHB. Jay has extensive experience in auditing and evaluating various computer systems and would provide these services in this engagement.

We view the computer operation as an integral part of its accounting systems. We would evaluate the computer control environment to:

- Understand the computer control environment's effect on internal controls
- Conclude on whether aspects of the environment require special audit attention
- Make preliminary determination of comments for inclusion in our management letter

*This evaluation includes:*

- System hardware and software
- Organization and administration
- Access

## Contracts of Similar Nature within References

Client	Years	Annual Audit In Accordance With GAAS	Engagement Partner	Incl. Utility Audit/ Consulting	GFOA Cert.	GASB 34 Implementation & Assistance	Total Hours
St. Lucie County Fire District Patty Marston-Duva, Clerk-Treasurer (772)462-2300	1984 - Current	√	<b>Jim Hartley</b>			√	<b>250-300</b>
City of Fort Pierce Johnna Morris, Finance Director (772)-460-2200	2005-current	√	<b>Mark Barnes</b>		√	√	<b>800</b>
Fort Pierce Utilities Authority Barbara Mika, Finance Director (772)-466-1600	2005-current	√	<b>Jim Hartley</b>	√	√	√	<b>600</b>
Town of Jupiter Island Mike Ventura (772)-545-0104	2010		<b>Jim Hartley</b>	√			<b>200</b>
Town of Sewall's Point Michelle Berger, Town Manager (772) 287-2455	2010	√	<b>Jim Hartley</b>			√	<b>225</b>
Town of St. Lucie Village Donna Dennis, Town Clerk (772) 466-6900	1999 – current	√	<b>Jim Hartley</b>			√	<b>100</b>
Tradition Community Development District 1-10 Andrew Karmeris, District Accountant (561)630-4922	2002 - current	√	<b>Jim Hartley</b>			√	<b>350</b>
Solterra Resort Community Development District Patricia Comings-Thibault (321)263-0132	2016-current	√	<b>Jim Hartley</b>				<b>50</b>
Union Park Community Development District Patricia Comings-Thibault (321)263-0132	2013-current	√	<b>Jim Hartley</b>				<b>50</b>
Anthem Park Community Development District Patricia Comings-Thibault (321)263-0132	2017-current	√	<b>Jim Hartley</b>				<b>50</b>
Stonebrier Community Development District Patricia Comings-Thibault (321)263-0132	2016-current	√	<b>Jim Hartley</b>				<b>50</b>
Waterleaf Community Development District Patricia Comings-Thibault (321)263-0132	2013-current	√	<b>Jim Hartley</b>				<b>50</b>

## TECHNICAL APPROACH

### a. *An Express Agreement to Meet or Exceed the Performance Specifications.*

1. The audit will be conducted in compliance with the following requirements:
  - a. Rules of the Auditor General for form and content of governmental audits
  - b. Regulations of the State Department of Banking and Finance
  - c. Audits of State and Local Governmental Units-American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.
2. The audit report shall contain the opinion of the auditor in reference to all financial statements, and an opinion reflecting compliance with applicable legal provisions.
3. We will also provide the required copies of the audit report, the management letter, any related reports on internal control weaknesses and one copy of the adjusting journal entries and financial work papers.
4. The auditor shall, at no additional charge, make all related work papers available to any Federal or State agency upon request in accordance with Federal and State Laws and Regulations.
5. We will work in cooperation with the District, its underwriters and bond council in regard to any bond issues that may occur during the term of the contract.
6. The financial statements shall be prepared in conformity with Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement Number 34, 63 and 65.

We will commit to issuing the audit for each Fiscal year by April 15<sup>th</sup> of the following year. In order to ensure this we will perform interim internal control testing as required by January 31<sup>st</sup> from unaudited preliminary general ledgers provided. The remaining testing will be completed no later than March 15<sup>th</sup>. We will also review all minutes and subsequent needs related to the review of the minutes by January 30<sup>th</sup>. Follow up review will be completed as necessary.



***b. A Tentative Schedule for Performing the Key phases of the Audit – proposed for FYE 2021 and 2022***

<b>Audit Phase and Tasks</b>	<b>Oct.</b>	<b>Nov.</b>	<b>Dec.</b>	<b>Jan.</b>	<b>Feb.</b>	<b>Mar.</b>	<b>Apr.</b>
<b><i>I. Planning Phase:</i></b>							
Meetings and discussions with Cascades at Groveland Community Development District personnel regarding operating, accounting and reporting matters			[Shaded bar from Dec to Apr]				
Discuss management expectations, strategies and objectives			[Shaded bar from Dec to Apr]				
Review operations			[Shaded bar from Dec to Apr]				
Develop engagement plan			[Shaded bar from Dec to Apr]				
Study and evaluate internal controls			[Shaded bar from Dec to Apr]				
Conduct preliminary analytical review			[Shaded bar from Dec to Apr]				
<b><i>II. Detailed Audit Phase:</i></b>							
Conduct final risk assessment			[Shaded bar from Dec to Apr]				
Finalize audit approach plan			[Shaded bar from Dec to Apr]				
Perform substantive tests of account balances			[Shaded bar from Jan to Apr]				
Perform single audit procedures (if applicable)			[Shaded bar from Jan to Apr]				
Perform statutory compliance testing		[Shaded bar from Nov to Apr]					
<b><i>III. Closing Phase:</i></b>							
Review subsequent events, contingencies and commitments			[Shaded bar from Jan to Apr]				
Complete audit work and obtain management representations			[Shaded bar from Dec to Apr]				
Review proposed audit adjustments with client			[Shaded bar from Jan to Apr]				
<b><i>IV. Reporting Phase:</i></b>							
Review or assist in preparation of financial statement for Cascades at Groveland Community Development District			[Shaded bar from Jan to Apr]				
Prepare management letter and other special reports			[Shaded bar from Jan to Apr]				
Exit conference with Cascades at Groveland Community Development District officials and management			[Shaded bar from Jan to Apr]				
Delivery of final reports			[Shaded bar from Feb to Apr]				

**b. SPECIFIC AUDIT APPROACH**

**Our partners are not strangers who show up for an entrance conference and an exit conference.** We have developed an audit plan that allows the partners to directly supervise our staff in the field. By assigning two partners to the audit, we will have a partner on-site for a significant portion of the fieldwork. This also gives the District an additional contact individual for questions or problems that may arise during the audit.

The scope of our services will include a financial, as well as, a compliance audit of the District's financial statements. Our audit will be conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Additionally, our audit will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General, which govern the conduct of local government entity audits performed in the State of Florida.

Our audit approach places emphasis on the accounting information system and how the data is recorded, rather than solely on the verification of numbers on a financial statement. This approach enables us to:

- Maximize our understanding of the District's operating environment
- Minimize time required conducting the audit since we start with broad considerations and narrow to specific audit objectives in critical areas

Our audit approach consists of four phases encompassing our audit process:

- Planning Phase
- Detailed Audit Phase
- Closing Phase
- Reporting

*Planning Phase*

**Meetings and Expectations:**

Our first step in this phase will be to set up a planning meeting with the financial and operating management of Cascades at Groveland Community Development District. Our goal here is to eliminate "surprises." By meeting with responsible officials early on we can discuss significant accounting policies, closing procedures and timetables, planned timing of our audit procedures and expectations of our work. This will also be the starting point for our discussions with management related to *SAS No. 99-Consideration of Fraud in a Financial Statement Audit*. Inquiries will be made regarding managements knowledge of fraud and on management's views regarding the risk of fraud.

## **Review Operations and Develop Engagement Plan**

It is critical that we understand the District's operating environment. To do this we will obtain and review such items as, organizational charts, recent financial statements, budget information, major contracts and lease agreements. We will also gather other information necessary to increase our understanding of the District's operations, organization, and internal control.

## **Study and Evaluate Internal Control**

As part of general planning, we will obtain an understanding and assessment of the District's control environment. This assessment involves a review of management's operating style, written internal control procedures, and the District's accounting system. The assessment is necessary to determine if we can rely on control procedures and thus reduce the extent of substantive testing.

We then test compliance with established control procedures by ascertaining that the significant strengths within the system are functioning as described to us. Generally, transactions are selected and reviewed in sufficient detail to permit us to formulate conclusions regarding compliance with control procedures and the extent of operation compliance with pertinent laws and regulations. This involves gaining an understanding of the District's procedures, laws and regulations, and testing systems for compliance by examining contracts, invoices, bid procedures, and other documents. After testing controls, we then evaluate the results of those tests and decide whether we can rely on controls and thus reduce other audit procedures.

## **Conduct Preliminary Analytical Review**

Also during the planning stage, we undertake analytical procedures that aid us in focusing our energies in the right direction. We call these analytical reviews.

A properly designed analytical review can be a very effective audit procedure in audits of governmental units. Analytical reviews consist of more than just a comparison of current-year actual results to prior-year actual results. Very effective analytical review techniques include trend analysis covering a number of years and comparisons of information not maintained totally within the financial accounting system, such as per capita information, prevailing market interest rates, housing statistics, etc.

Some examples of effective analytical reviews performed together and/or individually include:

- Comparison of current-year actual results with current-year budget for the current and past years with investigation of significant differences and/or trends
- Trend analysis of the percentage of current-year revenues to current-year rates for the current and previous years with investigation of significant changes in the collection percentage
- Trend analysis of the percentage of expenditures by function for the current and previous years with investigation of significant changes in percentages by department
- Monthly analysis of receipts compared to prior years to detect trends that may have audit implications

Conclusions reached enable us to determine the nature, timing and extent of other substantive procedures.

## Detailed Audit Phase

### **Conduct Final Risk Assessment and Prepare Audit Programs**

Risk assessment requires evaluating the likelihood of errors occurring that could have a material affect on the financial statements being audited. The conclusions we reach are based on many evaluations of internal control, systems, accounts, and transactions that occur throughout the audit. After evaluating the results of our tests of control and our final risk assessment we can develop detailed audit programs.

### **Perform Substantive Tests of Account Balances**

These tests are designed to provide reasonable assurance as to the validity of the information produced by the accounting system. Substantive tests involve such things as examining invoices supporting payments, confirmation of balances with independent parties, analytical review procedures, and physical inspection of assets. All significant accounts will be subjected to substantive procedures. Substantive tests provide direct evidence of the completeness, accuracy, and validity of data.

### **Perform Single Audit Procedures (if applicable)**

During the planning phase of the audit we will request and review schedules of expenditures of federal awards and state financial assistance. These schedules will be the basis for our determination of the specific programs we will test.

In documenting our understanding of the internal control system for the financial statement audit, we will identify control activities that impact major federal and state programs as well. This will allow us to test certain controls for the financial audit and the single audit concurrently. We will then perform additional tests of controls for each federal and state program selected for testing. We will then evaluate the results of the test of controls to determine the nature, timing and extent of substantive testing necessary to determine compliance with major program requirements.

## **Perform Statutory Compliance Testing**

We have developed audit programs for Cascades at Groveland Community Development District designed to test Florida Statutes as required by the Auditor General. These programs include test procedures such as general inquiries, confirmation from third parties, and examination of specific documents.

### **Closing Phase**

During the closing phase we perform detail work paper reviews, request legal letters, review subsequent events and proposed audit adjustments. Communication with the client is critical in this phase to ensure that the information necessary to prepare financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States has been obtained.

### **Reporting Phase**

#### **Financial Statement Preparation**

As a local firm, we spend a considerable amount of time on financial statement preparation and support. With this in mind, we can assist in certain portions of the preparation of financial statements or simply review a draft of financials prepared by your staff. We let you determine our level of involvement.

#### **Management Letters**

*We want to help you solve problems before they become major.*

Our management letters go beyond citing possible deficiencies in the District's internal control structures. They identify opportunities for increasing revenues, decreasing costs, improving management information, protecting assets and improving operational efficiency.

The diversity of experience of our personnel and their independent and objective viewpoints make the comments, observations, and conclusions presented in our management letters a valuable source of information. We have provided positive solution-oriented objective recommendations to our governmental clients regarding investments, accounting accuracy, data processing, revenue bonds, payroll, utility billing, purchasing, budgeting, risk management, and internal auditing.

This review ensures the integrity of the factual data in the management letter but does not influence or impair our independence.

#### **Exit Conferences and Delivery of Reports**

We anticipate meeting with appropriate District personnel in February and issuing the final required reports by the May meeting of each year.

**PROPOSED AUDIT FEE FOR EACH YEAR OF THE THREE YEARS**

DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes P.A. will perform the annual audit of Cascades at Groveland Community Development District for a lump sum fee as follows:

September 30, 2021	\$3,400
September 30, 2022	\$3,500
September 30, 2023	\$3,600
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