

OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

Timothy M Keller



Hanover Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Association

Independent Accountant's Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures

For the Year Ended December 31, 2014

Hanover Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Association

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Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2014

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Hanover Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Association

Official Roster

Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2014

Board of Directors

Eddie Evatt, President

Gilbert Cruz, Vice President

Jim Cook, Secretary Treasurer

Pauline Dempster, Board member

Robert Lucero, Board Member



State of New Mexico
OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

Independent Accountant's Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures

Members of the Board
Hanover Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Association
P.O. Box 38
Hanover, New Mexico 88041

We have performed the procedures enumerated below for the Hanover Mutual Domestic Water Consumer Association (Association) for the year ended December 31, 2014, solely to assist in determining compliance with the provisions of the Audit Act for a Tier 4 entity per Section 12-6-3(B)(4) NMSA 1978 and Section 2.2.2.16 NMAC. The procedures were agreed to by the Association through the New Mexico Office of the State Auditor. The Association's management is responsible for its accounting records and the subject matter. This agreed upon procedures engagement was conducted in accordance with the attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The sufficiency of these procedures is solely the responsibility of the parties specified in this report. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose. Our procedures and findings are as follows:

1. Cash

Procedures

- a. Determine whether bank reconciliations are being performed in a timely manner and whether all bank and investment statements for the fiscal year are complete and on-hand.
- b. Perform a random test of bank reconciliations for accuracy. Also, trace ending balances to the general ledger, supporting documentation and the financial reports submitted to DFA-Local Government Division.
- c. Determine whether the local public body's financial institutions have provided it with the 50% of pledged collateral on all uninsured deposits as required by Section 6-10-17 NMSA 1978, NM Public Money Act, if applicable.

Findings

Bank reconciliations were not performed for any of the accounts in 2014. The Association did not have any uninsured deposits. See the Schedule of Findings and Responses 2010-001 for items noted.

2. Capital Assets

Procedures

- a. Verify that the local public body is performing a yearly inventory as required by Section 12-6-10 NMSA 1978.

Findings

The Association did not perform an annual physical inventory during calendar year 2014. See the Schedule of Findings and Responses 2010-002 for items noted.

3. Revenue

Procedures

Identify the nature and amount of revenue from sources by reviewing the budget, agreements, rate schedules, and underlying documentation.

- a. Perform an analytical review, test actual revenue compared to budgeted revenue for the year for each type of revenue.

For a sample of revenue based on auditor judgment the following procedures were performed.

- b. Amount recorded in the general ledger agrees to the supporting documentation and the bank statement.
- c. Test for proper recording of classification, amount, and period per review of supporting documentation and the general ledger. Perform this revenue work on the same accounting basis that the local public body keeps its accounting records on, cash basis, modified accrual basis, or accrual basis.

Findings

We noted the activity documented within the general ledger appeared incomplete and did not capture all activity in 2014. Additionally, we noted the general ledger did not include any revenue received for the months of October thru December 2014 for the Association. Furthermore, we noted the Association did not have any supporting documentation for the revenues received in 2014. See the Schedule of Findings and Responses 2010-003 for items noted.

4. Expenditures

Procedures

For a sample of cash disbursements based on auditor judgment the following procedures were performed.

- a. Determine that amount recorded as disbursed agrees to adequate supporting documentation. Verify that amount, payee, date and description agree to the vendor's invoice, purchase order, contract, and canceled check, as appropriate.
- b. Determine that disbursements were properly authorized and approved in compliance with the budget, legal requirements and established policies and procedures.

- c. Determine that the bid process (or request for proposal process if applicable), purchase orders, contracts and agreements were processed in accordance with the New Mexico Procurement Code (Section 13-1-28 through 13-1-199 NMSA 1978) and State Purchasing Regulations (1.4.1 NMAC) and Regulations Governing the Per Diem and Mileage Act (2.42.2 NMAC).

Findings

We noted the activity documented within the general ledger appeared incomplete and did not capture all activity in 2014. Additionally, we noted the general ledger did not include any disbursements for the months of October thru November 2014 for the Association. Therefore, we were unable to select a sample and test for compliance with Section 12-6-3 B (4) NMSA 1978.

Furthermore, we noted the Association did not have any supporting documentation such as invoices or receipts for expenditures in 2014 totaling approximately \$75,000 based on review of the bank statements.

Additionally, per review of the copies of cancelled checks included within the bank statements, we noted a total of 18 checks written in 2014 totaling approximately \$8,500 that the check signer was also the payee or a close relative of the payee. See the Schedule of Findings and Responses 2010-004 for items noted.

5. Journal Entries

Procedures

- a. Journal entries appear reasonable and have supporting documentation.
- b. The local public body has procedures that require journal entries to be reviewed and there is evidence the reviews are being performed.

Findings

The Association did not record non-routine journal entries.

6. Budget

Procedures

- a. Verify, through a review of the minutes and correspondence, that the original budget and subsequent budget adjustments were approved by the local public body's governing body and DFA-LGD.
- b. Determine if the total actual expenditures exceeded the final budget at the legal level of budgetary control; if so, report a compliance finding.
- c. From the original and final approved budgets and general ledger, prepare a schedule of revenues and expenditures – budget and actual on the budgetary basis used by the local public body (cash, accrual or modified accrual basis) for each individual fund.

Findings

We noted the activity documented within the general ledger appeared incomplete and did not capture all activity in 2014. Additionally, we noted the general ledger did not include any activity for the months of October thru November 2014 and only some expenses for December 2014 for the Association. Therefore, we were unable to determine if total actual expenditures exceeded the final budget at the legal level of budgetary control. Furthermore, we were unable to prepare a schedule of revenues and expenditures – budget and actual on the budgetary basis used by the Association as we did not have all of the actual activity for 2014. See the Schedule of Findings and Responses 2010-005 for items noted.

7. Other

Procedures

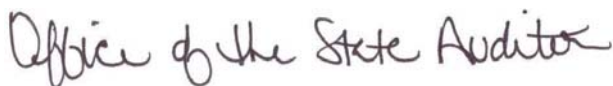
- a. If information comes to the IPA's attention (regardless of materiality) indicating any fraud, illegal acts, noncompliance, or any internal control deficiencies, such instances must be disclosed in the report as required by Section 12-6-6 NMSA 1978. The findings must include the required content per Section 2.2.2.10(I)(3)(C) NMAC.

Findings

See findings noted above.

We were not engaged to and did not conduct an examination, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion on the Tier 4 agreed upon procedures. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management of the Association, the NM Office of the State Auditor, the NM Office of the State Engineer, the NM Department of Finance and Administration – Local Government Division, and the NM State Legislature and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.



Office of the State Auditor
Santa Fe, New Mexico
June 1, 2015

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO
HANOVER MUTUAL DOMESTIC WATER CONSUMERS ASSOCIATION
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES
DECEMBER 31, 2014**

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS

2010-001 Controls over Cash – Repeated
2010-002 Capital Asset Inventory – Repeated
2010-003 Controls over Revenue – Modified and Repeated
2010-004 Controls over Expenditures – Modified and Repeated
2010-005 Controls over Budget – Modified and Repeated
2010-006 Failure to File Agreed Upon Procedures Report by the Required Due Date - Resolved

CURRENT FINDINGS

2010-001 Controls over Cash

Condition:

During our testwork over bank reconciliations we noted that none of the three Association bank accounts were being reconciled in any form throughout calendar year 2014.

Criteria:

Per Section 6-10-2 NMSA 1978, it is the duty of every public official or agency of this state that receives or disburses public money to maintain a cash record in which is entered daily, in detail, all items of receipts and disbursements of public money. The cash record shall be balanced daily so as to show the balance of public money on hand at the close of each day's business.

Effect:

The Association is not maintaining adequate controls over cash to safeguard cash and provide prompt and accurate reporting. In addition, unreconciled bank accounts could increase the risk of fraud going undetected and cash balances could be misstated which could lead to expenditures in excess of the budget.

Cause:

The Association was unaware of this requirement.

Recommendation:

The Association should ensure they are performing monthly reconciliations on each individual bank account.

Agency Response:

The Association has taken every precaution to ensure the current two bank accounts are reconciled every month.

The Association has implemented procedures to ensure cash and check payments are applied accordingly with all supporting documents.

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO
HANOVER MUTUAL DOMESTIC WATER CONSUMERS ASSOCIATION
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES
DECEMBER 31, 2014**

2010-002 Capital Assets Inventory

Condition:

The Association did not perform an annual physical inventory for calendar year 2014.

Criteria:

Section 12-6-10 NMSA 1978 requires each agency to conduct an annual physical inventory of movable chattels and equipment on the inventory list at the end of each fiscal year.

Effect:

The lack of an annual inventory count increases the risk of theft being perpetrated and going undetected. Additionally, capital asset balances could be materially misstated.

Cause:

The Association was unaware of this requirement.

Recommendation:

The Association should ensure a complete physical inventory of all assets is performed annually.

Agency Response:

The Association has performed a physical inventory for calendar year 2015.

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO
HANOVER MUTUAL DOMESTIC WATER CONSUMERS ASSOCIATION
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES
DECEMBER 31, 2014**

2010-003 Controls over Revenue

Condition:

During testwork performed over revenues, we noted the activity documented within the general ledger appeared incomplete and did not capture all activity. Additionally, we noted the general ledger did not include any revenue received for the months of October thru December 2014 for the Association. Furthermore, we noted the Association did not have any supporting documentation for the revenues received in calendar year 2014.

Criteria:

Section 6-10-2 NMSA 1978, states "It is the duty of every public official or agency of this state that receives or disburses public money to maintain a cash record in which is entered daily, in detail, all items of receipts and disbursements of public money. The cash record shall be balanced daily so as to show the balance of public money on hand at the close of each day's business."

Effect:

Failing to properly preserve the audit trail related to revenues could lead to misstatements and misappropriation going unnoticed by the Association's management.

Cause:

The Association experienced turnover during this time period.

Recommendation:

We recommend the Association implement a process to create and maintain adequate accounting records.

Agency Response:

The Association has accounted for the annual budget effective for 2015 and can ensure supporting documents for all revenue and expenditures for 2015. Each deposit will have the date of deposit, customer name, and method of payment (cash, money order, or check). Each check written will have the date of the check, name, and line item used.

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO
HANOVER MUTUAL DOMESTIC WATER CONSUMERS ASSOCIATION
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES
DECEMBER 31, 2014**

2010-004 Controls over Expenditures

Condition:

During testwork performed over expenditures, we noted the activity documented within the general ledger appeared incomplete and did not capture all activity. Additionally, we noted the general ledger did not include any disbursements for the months of October thru November 2014 for the Association. Therefore, we were unable to select a sample that was representative of the population in order to test for compliance with Section 12-6-3 B (4) NMSA 1978.

Furthermore, we noted the Association did not have any supporting documentation such as invoices or receipts for expenditures in calendar year 2014 totaling approximately \$75,000 based on review of the bank statements.

Additionally, per review of the copies of cancelled checks included within the bank statements, we noted a total of 18 checks written in calendar year 2014 totaling approximately \$8,500 that the check signer was also the payee or a close relative of the payee.

Criteria:

Per section 6-5-8 NMSA 1978, all purchase vouchers for goods and services, other than personnel, shall be accompanied by supporting invoices and documentation required by the division.

Also, good internal controls require that those signing checks are not going to personally benefit from the check bearing their signature.

Effect:

Failing to properly track expenditures and practice segregation of duties could lead to unauthorized disbursements increasing the risk of theft or expenditures in excess of the budget. Also, when sufficient controls over expenditures are not designed, implemented and operating effectively, it increases the risk of financial statement misstatements going undetected.

Cause:

The Association did not have any segregation of duties controls implemented.

Recommendation:

We recommend the Association implement a process to create and maintain adequate accounting control and records, which includes proper segregation of duties.

Agency Response:

The Association has implemented as of October 15, 2014, a two signature requirement for check signing.

The Association has also implemented resolution 2015-5 to ensure the following:

- Any documents being submitted by other agencies must have five board member signatures for prior approval.
- Board members will review and approve/deny tasks of operations associated with the Association.
- The Association secretary/treasurer will review bank statements to ensure accountability.

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO
HANOVER MUTUAL DOMESTIC WATER CONSUMERS ASSOCIATION
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES
DECEMBER 31, 2014**

2010-005 Controls over Budget

Condition:

During testwork we noted the activity documented within the general ledger appeared incomplete and did not capture all activity. Additionally, we noted the general ledger did not include any activity for the months of October thru November 2014 and only some expenses for December 2014 for the Association. Therefore, we were unable to determine if total actual expenditures exceeded the final budget at the legal level of budgetary control. Furthermore, we were unable to prepare a schedule of revenues and expenditures – budget and actual on the budgetary basis used by the Association as we did not have all of the actual activity for calendar year 2014.

Criteria:

All Association funds, with the exception of agency funds, are to be budgeted by the local governing body and submitted to the State of New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration – Local Government Division for approval. Once adopted, any claims or warrants in excess of budget are a violation of Section 6-6-6 NMSA 1978, as the fund level has been established as the legal level of budgetary control.

Tier 4 of the Audit Act – Section 12-6-3 B (4) NMSA 1978 requires, “from the original and final approved budgets and general ledger, prepare a schedule of revenues and expenditures – budget and actual on the budgetary basis used by the local public body (cash, accrual or modified accrual basis) for each individual fund.”

Effect:

The Association is unable to comply with state statute as they do not have the documentation to complete the required schedule of revenues and expenditures – budget and actual.

Budget-to-actual expenditure comparison is a basic internal control in governmental entities. The lack of this internal control tool is a material weakness in the Association’s internal controls.

Cause:

The Association experienced turnover during this time period.

Recommendation:

We recommend the Association implement a process to create and maintain adequate accounting records.

Agency Response:

The Association hired a part time secretary to reorganize the structure of the Association. The Secretary, with the exception of agency funds, has the responsibility of advising the Association president and its board of funds available, and to stay within budget. The Association Secretary has structured a filing system to account for all expenditures/invoices/reimbursements to ensure each check written is accounted for accordingly.

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO
HANOVER MUTUAL DOMESTIC WATER CONSUMERS ASSOCIATION
EXIT CONFERENCE
DECEMBER 31, 2014**

On June 1, 2015 an exit conference was held with the following individuals to discuss the results of the agreed upon procedures and the contents of this report:

Hanover Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Association

Jim Cook, President
Millie Soto, Secretary

Office of the State Auditor

Miranda Mascarenas, Audit Supervisor