

**COUNTY OF MARIN**

**Management Report  
with Required Communication**

**For the Year Ended June 30, 2014**

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To the Honorable Members of the  
Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin  
San Rafael, California

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the County of Marin (County) for the year ended June 30, 2014. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards* and OMB Circular A-133, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our engagement letter dated May 20, 2014. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit as discussed in the pages following this introductory letter.

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the County of Marin for the year ended June 30, 2014, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the County's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the County'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 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.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. In addition, because of inherent limitations in internal control, including the possibility of management override of controls, misstatements due to error or fraud may occur and not be detected by such controls.

We previously reported on the County's internal control in our Single Audit report dated January 30, 2015, which contains our report on significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the County's internal control. This letter does not affect our report dated January 30, 2015, on the basic financial statements of the County of Marin.

This report is intended for the use of management, the Board of Supervisors, the Grand Jury and officials of the federal and state grantor agencies.

Roseville, California  
March 23, 2015

## COUNTY OF MARIN

### Management Report With Required Communication For the Year Ended June 30, 2014

#### **Our Responsibilities under U.S. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards and OMB Circular A-133**

As stated in our engagement letter dated May 20, 2014, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to plan and perform our audit to obtain reasonable, but not absolute assurance that the financial statements are free of material misstatement and are fairly presented in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles and to express opinions based on the assurance obtained. Because an audit is designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute assurance, and because we did not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is a risk that material misstatements may exist and not be detected by us. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of your responsibilities.

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the County's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. We also considered internal control over compliance with requirements that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133.

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the County's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, 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. Also, in accordance with OMB Circular A-133, we examined, on a test basis, evidence about the County's compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the OMB Circular A-133 Compliance Supplement that could have a direct and material effect on each of the County's major federal programs for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the County's compliance with those requirements. While our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion, it does not provide a legal determination on the County's compliance with those requirements.

#### **Planned Scope of Audit**

We performed the audit according to the planned scope and timing previously communicated to you in our engagement letter dated May 20, 2014.

#### **Significant Accounting Policies**

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the County are described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

As described in Note 12 to the financial statements, the County changed its accounting policy related to debt issuance costs by adopting GASB Statement No. 65, (Items Previously Reported as Assets and Liabilities), which requires debt issuance costs to be recognized as an expense in the period incurred. Prior to GASB No. 65, the County was recognizing the debt issuance costs related to its long-term debt as an expense in a systematic manner over the duration of the related debt. Accordingly, the cumulative effect of the accounting change as of the beginning of the year is reported in the statement of net position.

Other than the new accounting policy described in the previous paragraph, no new accounting policies were adopted, and the application of existing policies was not changed during the year ended June 30, 2014. We noted no transactions entered into by the County during the 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.

## COUNTY OF MARIN

### Management Report With Required Communication For the Year Ended June 30, 2014

#### **Significant Accounting Estimates**

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 estimate(s) affecting the financial statements were:

- *Claims liability:* Management's estimate is derived from actuarial valuations obtained from experts. We compared the claims liability reported in the financial statements to those reported in actuarial reports prepared and issued during the year being audited.
- *Liability for other post-employment benefits (OPEB):* Management's estimate is derived from actuarial valuations obtained from experts. We compared the liability reported in the financial statements to the actuarial report prepared and issued for the year under audit.

We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop these estimates in determining that they were reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

#### **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 our 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.

#### **Immaterial Misstatements Not Corrected by Management**

Management posted all proposed adjustments.

#### **Disagreements with Management**

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, concerning a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter 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 January 30, 2015, for the financial statements and an updated representation letter dated March 20, 2015 for the compliance testing related to the County's major federal programs.

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### **Management Consultations with Other Independent Auditors**

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 governmental unit’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 governmental unit’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 management’s discussion and analysis, budgetary comparison information, and schedules of funding progress for the Defined Pension Benefits Pension Plan and the Other Post Employment Benefits Plan, which is required supplementary information (RSI) that supplements 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.

We were engaged to report on the combining and individual nonmajor fund statements and schedules, which accompany the financial statements but are not RSI. With respect to this supplementary information, we made certain inquiries of management and evaluated the form, content, and methods of preparing the information to determine that the information complies with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the method of preparing it has not changed from the prior period, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements. We compared and reconciled the supplementary information to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves.

We were not engaged to report on the introductory and statistical sections, which accompany the financial statements but are not RSI. We did not audit or perform other procedures on this other information and we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on it

### Restriction on Use

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