



ROGERS, ANDERSON, MALODY & SCOTT, LLP
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS, SINCE 1948

SEPTEMBER 8, 2021

LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

TECHNICAL PROPOSAL
PROFESSIONAL AUDITING SERVICES
FOR THE FISCAL YEARS ENDING JUNE 30, 2022, 2023 AND 2024
(WITH THE OPTION OF TWO ADDITIONAL FISCAL YEARS)

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LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL AUDITING SERVICES

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Attachment A: Government clients served



ROGERS, ANDERSON, MALODY & SCOTT, LLP
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS, SINCE 1948

September 8, 2021

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MEMBERS

American Institute of
Certified Public Accountants

*PCPS The AICPA Alliance
for CPA Firms*

*Governmental Audit
Quality Center*

*Employee Benefit Plan
Audit Quality Center*

California Society of
Certified Public Accountants



Dear Evaluation Committee:

I am pleased to respond, on behalf of Rogers, Anderson, Malody & Scott, LLP, (RAMS) to your request for a proposal regarding professional auditing services. As a recognized industry leader and innovator, our goal for the past 73 years has been to provide honest, objective and high-quality results to all our clients, including governmental organizations such as yours. Our success in these efforts is witnessed by the continued organic growth of our firm and our list of long-term clients, some we have served for over 20 years.

At RAMS, we are committed to achieving the highest quality audit possible. We understand the complexity of performing governmental audits and that is why we have a *dedicated team of auditors* that possess the specialized knowledge and experience to help ensure our audits are planned and executed in a way that maximizes audit efficiency and effectiveness and provides you the highest quality services.

We are aware that the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District (the District) will be reviewing other proposals during this process, but we believe that RAMS would be an exceptional choice for the audit for the following reasons. Our firm:

- Utilizes *Teammate Analytics*, a suite of more than 200 Computer Aided Audit Tools (CAATs). This software empowers our audit teams with the ability to perform powerful, meaningful data analysis which builds upon our other robust, substantive audit procedures. This value-added service also helps to identify specific transactions or amounts which may be indicative of fraud.
- Performs an intelligent, risk-based audit (using our CAAT) which enables us to focus on key audit areas allowing us to become more efficient resulting in a higher quality audit at a reasonable fee.
- Currently provides auditing services to over 70 governmental agencies and not-for-profit organizations, including over 30 special districts and 25 cities, most of which have enterprise activities.
- Developed a comprehensive remote working environment for our audits. All our staff currently have the tools for working remotely in an effective and efficient manner allowing us to still provide a quality audit. Our ultimate goal is to continue to meet your needs, but in a safe environment.
- Has an established reputation in the governmental and not-for-profit accounting and auditing community for providing excellent, timely service with high quality reporting to our clients.
- Is committed to helping you meet all reporting/auditing deadlines, resolving any issues encountered during your audit (e.g., accounting or auditing, new pronouncements, etc.), and providing you with quality audit services.

- Understands the audit process can be a stressful experience for you and your staff; we understand that you will have other commitments and your regular workloads during the audit. We make every effort to ensure the audit process, from the interim fieldwork to the preparation of any required financial reports, will be as trouble-free as possible for you and your staff. We accomplish this by comprehensively planning the audit and utilizing our staff and audit technologies in the most efficient and effective manner while keeping disruptions and miscommunications to a minimum.
- Has audit team members that are personable and easy to work with, yet still focused on the audit. Through open and responsive communication with all parties involved in the audit process, we work to have the most efficient audit possible by minimizing operational distractions of your staff, while maximizing quality service.
- Has an extensive internal quality control review process to ensure your financial reports meet the highest standards. In addition to the preparation of financial reports by the engagement team and reviewed by the engagement manager, *each report is also examined by 2 partners and at least 1 professional proofreader.*
- Has assisted many of our clients with the preparation of their Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports, and all our clients that have submitted their reports for the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) or California Society of Municipal Finance Officers (CSMFO) awards have received the awards. Our participation as a GFOA reviewer also indirectly benefits our clients in the quality review process.
- Believes that our fee estimate provides a fair and reasonable investment, commensurate with level of service provided and the experience of the audit team members. While we may not be the lowest bidder, that is not our objective. We focus on delivering the best value and price our prospective engagements accordingly.
- Is a local Southern California firm. All our employees live, work, and shop in the region, allowing our local cities to benefit from our sales and property taxes.

As you will see from our proposal, it was prepared in a clear, concise and simple manner in accordance with the request for proposal. We feel our firm, staff and reputation as a leader in governmental auditing exceeds the need for the excess information you may see in other proposals.

Rogers, Anderson, Malody & Scott, LLP is properly licensed to practice in California, including all the assigned professional staff to the engagement. Mr. Welebir, Partner, and Mr. Manno, Partner, are authorized to represent the firm, are empowered to submit the bid and authorized to sign a contract with the District. We understand the work to be done as listed in the section of this proposal titled *Services to be provided*. In addition, we will be committed to meeting any agreed upon time frames. This proposal is a firm and irrevocable offer for ninety (90) days.

We can be reached at: 735 E. Carnegie Drive, Suite 100, San Bernardino, CA 92408, (909) 889-0871, bwelebir@ramscpa.net or smanno@ramscpa.net.

Thank you for the opportunity to present our proposal to the District. We will be committed to exceeding your expectations of an auditor and believe this proposal provides you with information about our firm, the service team members and our customized audit approach. We look forward to having a long and mutually beneficial relationship with the District. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions regarding this proposal.

Respectfully yours,

ROGERS, ANDERSON, MALODY & SCOTT, LLP



Scott W. Manno, CPA, CGMA
Partner

LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL AUDITING SERVICES

Independence

Rogers, Anderson, Malody & Scott, LLP is independent of the District and any component units, as defined by general standard number two of the generally accepted auditing standards, and by the second general standard for government auditing in the U.S. Government Accountability Office's *Government Auditing Standards*.

We have not had any professional relationships with the District within the past five (5) years.

License to practice

Rogers, Anderson, Malody & Scott, LLP is licensed to practice in the State of California. Our key professional staff, which includes the partners, managers, and supervisors, are all certified public accountants licensed to practice in the State of California and follow all applicable Board of Accountancy standards.

Firm qualifications and experience

About our firm

We are a local firm founded in 1948 and located at 735 E. Carnegie Drive, Suite 100, San Bernardino, California. We provide a full range of services as expected of a full-service accounting firm. We are one of the oldest, most trusted and respected CPA firms in Southern California, with over 73 years of public practice experience, specializing in governmental agency and not-for-profit organization auditing, accounting, and management advisory services. Over *sixteen thousand hours per year* are devoted to this area of our practice, which includes cities, redevelopment successor agencies, water districts, other special districts, not-for-profit corporations, and joint power authorities. We do not use our government accounting and auditing practice as "fill work" for the firm, it is one of our primary focuses thus allowing us to provide quality services to local governments.



Over *sixteen thousand hours per year* are devoted to this area of our practice, which includes cities, redevelopment successor agencies, water districts, other special districts, not-for-profit corporations, and joint power authorities. We do not use our government accounting and auditing practice as "fill work" for the firm, it is one of our primary focuses thus allowing us to provide quality services to local governments.

We understand your desire engage auditors that have a thorough understanding of the ever-changing complex accounting and compliance issues confronting governments today. Our firm has an extensive history of governmental accounting and auditing. During that time, we have gained valuable experience, acquired an in-depth knowledge of, and obtained the technical expertise needed to perform high quality governmental audits. This expertise has enabled us to provide exceptional, high-quality service and to provide solutions at fees we feel represent our value to our clients. In addition, we use our participation in various industry associations to continuously update our knowledge with respect to issues relating to governmental accounting, auditing, and operations. Any insight we gain is immediately passed on to our clients if we feel they will benefit from it.

Our firm has a total staff of thirty-two people, which includes sixteen certified public accountants. The staff consists of six partners, three managers, eight supervisors/senior accountants, nine staff accountants, and four support staff. The audit staff consists of eighteen members who devote over 80% of their time to municipal engagements. The engagement team assigned to the District's engagement will consist of the following full-time staff: one audit partner, one audit manager, one audit supervisor/senior, and two to three staff auditors. All personnel are located at our San Bernardino office.

LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL AUDITING SERVICES

Firm qualifications and experience (continued)

Range of services

Our firm provides various other services in addition to auditing services to governmental entities, including:

- Internal control agreed upon procedures
- Finance director and accounting support services
- Study and evaluation of financial condition and fiscal policies
- Transient Occupancy Tax agreed upon procedures
- Franchise (refuse, cable) agreed upon procedures
- Accounting policies and procedures
- Cash management studies
- Financing and public bond offering assistance
- Franchise agreement assistance (ambulance, cable, television, refuse, etc.)

In addition, the firm provides accounting, auditing, attest, and consulting services to for profit and not-for-profit entities. We also provide tax preparation and tax consulting services to individuals, corporations, and partnerships. **We provide our municipal audit clients tax consultation at no extra charge.**

Governmental Audit Quality Center

As a member of the American Institute of CPAs *Governmental Audit Quality Center* (Center), we are committed to adhering to the highest quality standards by voluntarily agreeing to the Center membership requirements, which include designating a partner responsible for the quality of our governmental audit practice, establishing quality control programs, performing annual internal inspection procedures, and making our peer review report findings publicly available. At RAMS, our goal is to continue to enhance our quality initiatives within our governmental audit practice to deliver the highest quality audit services possible.

In addition, the *Governmental Audit Quality Center* provides access to comprehensive resources that will assist us in further enhancing the quality of your audit. The Center membership provides us with timely information on a variety of technical, legislative, and regulatory subjects that we can in turn apply to your audit to help ensure compliance with the appropriate standards and changes in regulations which we pass on to our clients.

Single audit experience

Most of our municipal clients, and some of our other governmental and not-for-profit clients, have been subject to an audit in accordance with *Uniform Guidance*. We recently performed single audits for the following entities:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Elsinore Valley Muni. Water District | City of San Bernardino |
| City of El Cajon | City of La Mesa |
| City of San Marcos | City of West Covina |
| City of Poway | City of Twentynine Palms |
| City of Fillmore | City of Woodlake |
| City of Exeter | City of Rosemead |
| City of La Verne | City of Hawthorne |

Our specialized Single Audits Team is led by Managers and Supervisors with Intermediate and Advance Single Audits Certifications issued by the AICPA guaranteeing a successful and thorough engagement.

LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL AUDITING SERVICES

Firm qualifications and experience (continued)

ACFR preparation

We have extensive experience in the preparation of Annual Comprehensive Financial Reports (ACFR). For the fiscal years ended June 30, 2018 and 2019, our staff prepared over 20 ACFR's, with each entity receiving the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the GFOA. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, again, our staff prepared over 20 ACFR's for our clients for submittal to the GFOA. In addition, we have helped many cities and special districts develop their first year's report for submittal. Two of our audit partners and one of our managers are technical reviewers for the GFOA ACFR award program. **In addition, we review all the ACFR's for compliance with the GFOA certificate program checklist, as well as addressing any prior year comments, if applicable, to insure they have been addressed.**

Engagement quality control

We have an extensive internal quality control review process to ensure your audit meets the highest standards. In addition to the preparation of financial reports by a senior member of the engagement team, each report is reviewed by the engagement manager/supervisor and then is examined by the engagement partner. Subsequently, a technical review is then performed by the engagement Quality Control partner along with being proofread by at least one professional staff. In addition, all audit workpapers are reviewed by the in-charge auditor and the partner in-charge of the engagement.

Equal Opportunity Employer

Our firm is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to providing employment opportunities to all qualified persons regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin or handicap. Our staff represents a wide range of cultures and ethnic backgrounds. We provide opportunities for advancement for all staff based on ability, skill and desire to advance.

LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL AUDITING SERVICES

Firm qualifications and experience (continued)

External quality control review

As a member of the AICPA Private Companies Practice Section, our firm has participated in the "Peer Review" program since 1993 and has been examined every three years since that date by an outside, independent firm of certified public accountants. Participation in this program ensures that our engagements, firm policies, and audit procedures meet the standards of the AICPA, the Yellow Book, and the California State Board of Accountancy. Throughout our participation in this program, *the firm has only received pass ratings from the peer reviewers.*

During each review, an independent firm reviews our policies and procedures and then inspects a representative sample of engagement workpapers and reports, including governmental entities and engagements subject to the *Uniform Guidance*. For the year ended November 30, 2020, our firm received a rating of *pass* which indicates our auditing practice is suitably designed and complied with to provide reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with applicable standards. The results provide confirmation that the custom audit approach and procedures we use are technically sound and in compliance with applicable standards.

Disciplinary action

The firm **has never** had any disciplinary action taken or pending against it with state regulatory bodies or professional organizations, nor has it ever had any pending or settled litigation, civil or criminal investigations. In addition, we are not aware of any federal or state desk reviews or field reviews of its audits during the last three years.

Our firm does not have a record of substandard work.

In addition to the external quality control review, our firm performs in-house monitoring procedures, which mirror the outside peer review procedures, over our audit and attest engagements annually.

Grant Bennett Associates

A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

Report on the Firm's System of Quality Control

June 4, 2021

To the Partners of Rogers, Anderson, Malody & Scott, LLP, and the Peer Review Committee of the California Society of CPAs

We have reviewed the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Rogers, Anderson, Malody & Scott, LLP (the firm) in effect for the year ended November 30, 2020. 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 a system of quality control and complying with it to provide the firm with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with 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 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 the system of quality control and the firm's compliance therewith based on our review.

Required Selections and Considerations

Engagements selected for review included engagements performed under *Government Auditing Standards*, including a compliance audit under the Single Audit Act, and an audit of an employee benefit plan.

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 Rogers, Anderson, Malody & Scott, LLP in effect for the year ended November 30, 2020, 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*. Rogers, Anderson, Malody & Scott, LLP has received a peer review rating of *pass*.

Grant Bennett Associates

GRANT BENNETT ASSOCIATES
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Certified Public Accountants



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LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL AUDITING SERVICES

Partner, supervisory, and staff qualifications and experience

The quality of service you receive is dependent on the capabilities of the individuals assigned to the engagement, and the manner in which those personnel resources are organized to efficiently focus their abilities on providing you with the requested audit services. These professionals are highly trained and knowledgeable and have a thorough understanding of the environment in which governmental and not-for-profit entities operate. This experience is a critical component in providing the District with an effective and efficient audit.

Our engagement team will provide significant experience coupled with an extensive, practical understanding of governmental accounting and auditing along with a broad business perspective. Each member will have access to a wide range of technical resources and knowledge bases which will enable them to provide the District with practical observations and effective solutions.

Partner and supervisory staff involvement

All partners and supervisory staff are working professionals and are actively and continually involved in all aspects of their engagements. We believe that partner and supervisory staff involvement in all areas of the audit is a key aspect of the overall audit process. This involvement includes being on-site for interim and year-end fieldwork, thus facilitating a proper, efficient, and effective audit, with minimal disruption of your staff. In addition, the time spent on-site by the partners and supervisory staff ensures they gain an understanding of the entire District's accounting processes and procedures. This understanding will enable them to evaluate and develop opportunities for efficiency, as well as offer practical and functional advice for improving your accounting processes and procedures.

All professionals on this engagement have worked on audits similar in nature to the District's, therefore, the District will not have to train our engagement team.

Staff continuity

Continuity of audit staff is a principal concern with our firm. To retain our staff, we offer extremely competitive wages, opportunities for advancement, generous medical packages, a retirement plan, bonus opportunities, as well as educational benefits. Even with the benefits we provide, we realize we may lose staff at any given time. Knowing this, we plan to provide staff continuity from year to year, which is in the best interest of the District and our firm. Continuity ensures an orderly, efficient, and less disruptive audit experience. Since we cannot guarantee staff will remain with us, principal supervisory and management staff, including engagement partners, managers, other supervisory staff, and specialists, may be changed if those personnel leave the firm or are promoted. **However, the District reserves the right to accept or reject replacements.**

We believe that due to the significant involvement of the partners on all our engagements, any staff transition would have a minimal effect on the audit efficiency and effectiveness of subsequent years.

Continuing professional education

Our team of auditor specialists stays current in this highly technical practice area by adhering to, and typically exceeding, the continuing professional education requirements of *Government Auditing Standards* as well as the State Board of Accountancy guidelines. All professionals at our firm participate in continuing professional education (CPE) programs, which are sponsored by various organizations including the Government Finance Officers Association, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the California State Society of Certified Public Accountants, the California Society of Municipal Finance Officers and the Association of Government Accountants. Participation in these programs helps us to ensure that our clients are serviced with the best trained and most proficient government auditors and accountants available. In addition, we periodically provide in-house training taught by our partners and senior level staff using published resources. All staff are required to attend fraud and ethics training. It is our goal to provide our professional staff continuing education which exceeds the minimum standard of 80 hours over two years.

LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL AUDITING SERVICES

Partner, supervisory, and staff qualifications and experience (continued)

In accordance with our firm's Quality Control document and *Government Auditing Standards (GAS)*, all staff members who work on audits subject to GAS are required to complete CPE in accordance with GAS standards which require 24 hours directly related to governmental accounting and auditing.

In addition to the required CPE, we also use the following to increase our technical knowledge: view the Governmental Audit Quality Center Annual Webcast Update and other relevant seminars and review monthly publications from the AICPA, the GFOA, and various other resources. We also attend conferences and seminars sponsored by the GFOA, California Society of Municipal Finance Officers, California State Society of Certified Public Accountants and the California Special Districts Association.

Assigned personnel

It is our goal to provide you with capable, competent, and personable individuals who offer an extensive background, not only in governmental accounting and auditing, but also in general business practices. By doing so, it allows us to offer practical solutions, as well as provide technical support. This enables you to stay at the forefront of governmental accounting and provides you with the support you need in dealing with the complex issues confronting entities such as yours.

In addition, our engagement team has the managerial and supervisory experience to provide the District with a comprehensive audit of the highest quality, while still focusing on personal service. The resumes of the key engagement personnel assigned to the audit are presented below. The following individuals will be assigned to the engagement for the entire contract period (see staff *Continuity section* of this proposal):

Scott W. Manno, CPA, CGMA - Partner, Engagement Partner

Scott is a municipal audit partner with the firm and will be the engagement partner. He is licensed to practice as a certified public accountant in the State of California. He has been in public accounting for over 25 years specializing in serving local governments such as yours. As the engagement partner, he will be responsible for overall engagement quality, as well as ensuring that the engagement is performed in the most effective and efficient manner. Scott will directly oversee all engagement staff while assisting in planning and performing the engagement, as well as reviewing all work-papers prepared during the engagement, in addition to all required reports. Scott is a working partner and will be actively and continually involved in all aspects of the engagement.

Terry Shea, CPA - Partner, Concurring Partner

Terry is also a municipal audit partner with the firm. He is licensed to practice as a certified public accountant in the State of California. Terry has over 40 years of public accounting experience and has provided accounting, auditing, and consulting services for municipalities, special districts, water agencies, and various not-for-profit organizations. As the concurring partner, Terry will work directly with Scott in planning and performing the engagement. In addition, he will provide technical consultation for the engagement team.

Brad A. Welebir, CPA, CGMA, MBA - Partner, Quality Control Reviewer

Brad will be the Quality Control Reviewer. He is licensed to practice as a certified public accountant in the State of California. He has over 17 years of practical, governmental accounting and auditing experience. Brad will be responsible for the final quality control review of all released opinions and related reports.

LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL AUDITING SERVICES

Partner, supervisory and staff qualifications and experience (continued)

Brianna Schultz, CPA, CGMA - Engagement Manager

Brianna is a manager with the firm and is licensed to practice as a certified public accountant in the State of California. Brianna has over eleven years of experience in providing accounting and auditing services for municipalities, special districts, and various nonprofit organizations. As the engagement manager, she will work directly with the audit in-charge and partner, while supervising the engagement team during all phases of the engagement. In conjunction with the audit in-charge, she will also oversee the preparation of any required reports.

Veronica Hernandez, CPA - Audit Supervisor

Veronica is a supervisor with the firm. She is licensed to practice as a certified public accountant in the State of California. Veronica has over 5 years' experience in providing accounting and auditing services for municipalities, special districts and various not-for-profit organizations. As an audit supervisor, Veronica will work closely with the engagement partner and manager and be responsible for planning the audit, supervising the staff assigned to the engagement, and performing reviews of all work-papers prepared for the engagement. In addition, she will also be responsible for the preparation of any required reports.

Staff level accountants

All staff accountants employed by us and working on governmental audits are qualified to perform such audits. Prior to "audit season", our staff are subject to a rigorous training regimen in which we go over all aspects of our audit process and audit programs ensuring staff members have a solid foundation prior to starting fieldwork. Each staff member is encouraged to take on increased responsibility for engagements previously worked on. This enables our staff to grow on each engagement and allows them to continue to gain the skills and knowledge required to perform the audits.

In summary, we want to emphasize the credentials of the above professionals who will be directly responsible for the quality of service that you will receive. Additionally, our audit team has another attribute that is very important, even though it is intangible -- the professionals assigned to the audits have previously worked together as a multi-disciplined team, thus ensuring a smooth, efficient, and effective audit. We are committed to allocating the necessary resources to ensure that we provide continuity of personnel throughout the term of our relationship with the District.

Full engagement team resumes are provided as follows.

LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL AUDITING SERVICES

Partner, supervisory, and staff qualifications and experience (continued)

Engagement team resumes



Scott W. Manno, CPA, CGMA
Engagement Partner

Professional experience

Mr. Manno began his career with Thomas, Bigbie and Smith in 1995 after serving in the United States Army. He spent six years with the firm primarily working on audits of municipalities, special districts and redevelopment agencies as well as various not-for-profit organizations. He joined Rogers, Anderson, Malody & Scott, LLP in July 2001. Currently, Mr. Manno serves as a technical reviewer for the GFOA CAFR Award program. Since 2010, Mr. Manno has been serving as a technical volunteer on the California Special Districts Association Audit Committee and is also on the Association's fiscal committee providing accounting and fiscal program guidance. Also, Mr. Manno has done presentations on fraud.

In addition, he is part of the California State Society of Certified Public Accountants Governmental Accounting and Auditing Committee which meets periodically to discuss current events, pronouncements, etc.

Education/licenses

Bachelor of Science degree from California State University, San Bernardino
Certified Public Accountant - State of California
Chartered Global Management Accountant - American Institute of Certified Public Accountants

Related professional experience

Partial listing of relevant governmental agencies served (*includes enterprise fund accounting):

Western Municipal Water District	East Valley Water District	Crestline Village Water District	Pine Cove Water District
Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District	Upper San Gabriel Muni. Water District	Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency	Triunfo Water and Sanitation District
West Basin Water District	Helix Water District	Mojave Water Agency	Idyllwild Water District
Chino Basin Desalter Authority	Running Springs Water District	Ventura Regional Sanitary District	Rubidoux Community Services District

Mr. Manno has completed over 200 hours of continuing professional education courses over the past three years of which the following select courses are relevant to this engagement:

- ◆ Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, *Fraud Related Internal Controls*
- ◆ American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, *Governmental Accounting and Auditing Update*
- ◆ San Diego County Treasurer, *Fraud Prevention and Ethics Symposium*

Professional affiliations

Mr. Manno is a member of the following organizations:

- ◆ American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA)
- ◆ California Society of Certified Public Accountants (CalCPA)
- ◆ Association of Government Accountants (AGA)
- ◆ Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE)
- ◆ Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA)
- ◆ California Special Districts Association (CSDA)
- ◆ California Society of Municipal Finance Officers (CSMFO)

LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL AUDITING SERVICES

Partner, supervisory, and staff qualifications and experience (continued)



Terry P. Shea, CPA
Concurring Partner

Professional experience

Mr. Shea began his career with Thomas, Byrne and Smith in 1981. He spent five years with the firm primarily working on audits of municipalities, special districts, redevelopment and other governmental agencies. He joined Rogers, Anderson, Malody & Scott, LLP in 1987 where he has completed governmental audits including municipalities and provided financial consulting services for various cities.

Education/licenses

Bachelor of Arts degree from California State University, Fullerton
Certified Public Accountant - State of California

Related professional experience

Partial listing of relevant governmental agencies served (*includes enterprise fund accounting):

Twentynine Palms Water District	East Valley Water District	Crestline Village Water District	Pine Cove Water District
Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District	Upper San Gabriel Muni. Water District	Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency	Triunfo Water and Sanitation District
West Valley Water District	Helix Water District	Vista Irrigation District	Idyllwild Water District
Crestline-Lake Arrowhead Water Agency	Running Springs Water District	Ventura Regional Sanitary District	Rubidoux Community Services District

Mr. Shea served as the Interim Finance Director for the City of Perris from July 1998 to October 2001. He currently serves as the Contract Finance Director for one Riverside County city and one Los Angeles County city.

Continuing professional education

Mr. Shea has completed over 120 hours of continuing professional education courses in the past three years, of which, the following select courses are relevant to this engagement:

- ◆ American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, *Foundations in Governmental Accounting*
- ◆ American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, *Governmental and Not-for-Profit Conference*
- ◆ California Society of CPAs Education Foundation, *Governmental Auditing Skills*
- ◆ Thomson Reuters, *Audits of State and Local Governments*

Professional affiliations

Mr. Shea is a member of the following professional organizations:

- ◆ American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA)
- ◆ California Society of Certified Public Accountants (CalCPA)
- ◆ Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA)
- ◆ California Society of Municipal Finance Officers (CSMFO)

LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL AUDITING SERVICES

Partner, supervisory, and staff qualifications and experience (continued)



Brad A. Welebir, CPA, CGMA, MBA
Quality Control Partner

Professional experience

Mr. Welebir joined Rogers, Anderson, Malody & Scott, LLP in 2004. He primarily provides audits and advisory services to governmental agencies, small to mid-sized businesses, and not-for-profit organizations. Mr. Welebir serves as a technical reviewer for the GFOA CAFR Award program. He also serves as the CalCPA Inland Empire chapter chair of the governmental accounting and auditing committee and as the representative for the chapter at the state committee.

Education/licenses

Master of Business Administration - Accounting Emphasis from California State University, Fullerton
Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration from La Sierra University
Certified Public Accountant - State of California
Chartered Global Management Accountant - American Institute of Certified Public Accountants

Related professional experience

Partial listing of relevant governmental agencies served (*includes enterprise fund accounting):

Riverside County Parks and Open Space District	Helendale Community Services District	Crestline Village Water District	Running Springs Water District
Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District	Upper San Gabriel Muni. Water District	Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency	Rubidoux Community Services District
Crestline-Lake Arrowhead Water Agency	San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District	West Valley Water District	Idyllwild Water District
			Mojave Water Agency

Continuing professional education

Mr. Welebir has completed over 120 hours of continuing professional education courses in the past three years of which the following select courses are relevant to this engagement:

- ◆ California Society of CPAs Education Foundation, *Governmental Accounting and Auditing Update*
- ◆ American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, *OMB A-133 Single Audit Update*
- ◆ California Society of Municipal Finance Officers, *Annual Conference Sessions*
- ◆ Government Finance Officers Association, *GAAP Update*
- ◆ CCH, *Yellow Book Update*

Professional affiliations

Mr. Welebir is a member of the following professional organizations:

- ◆ American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA)
- ◆ California Society of Certified Public Accountants (CalCPA)
- ◆ Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA)
- ◆ California Society of Municipal Finance Officers (CSMFO)
- ◆ California Special Districts Association (CSDA)

LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL AUDITING SERVICES

Partner, supervisory, and staff qualifications and experience (continued)



Brianna Schultz, CPA, CGMA
Audit Manager

Professional Experience

Ms. Schultz began her career with Rogers, Anderson, Malody & Scott, LLP in July 2014, and had over three years' experience with another public accounting firm serving the same industry. During her time with the firm, she has worked primarily on audits of municipalities, special districts and redevelopment agencies, as well as various non-profit organizations.

Education

Bachelor of Science degree from California State University, San Bernardino
Certified Public Accountant – State of California
Chartered Global Management Accountant – American Institute of Certified Public Accountants

Related Professional Experience

Partial listing of relevant governmental agencies served (*includes enterprise fund accounting):

Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District	Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District	Rubidoux Community Services District	Costa Mesa Sanitary District
Meeks and Delay Water Company	Sativa Los Angeles County Water District	Rossmoor Community Services District	Rosamond Community Services District
Mojave Water Agency	Vallecitos Water District	Valley Water Company	City of West Covina*
City of La Mesa*	Pine Cove Water District	City of El Cajon*	City of Hawthorne*

Ms. Schultz obtained the AICPA's *Advanced Single Audit Certificate* in 2019 and the *Intermediate Single Audit Certificate* in 2017. She served as the contract Interim Accounting Manager for the City of Glendora in 2016 and the Senior Accountant for the City of Rancho Cucamonga in 2015. Additionally, she is a reviewer for the GFOA CAFR Program.

Continuing Professional Education

Ms. Schultz has completed over 100 hours of continuing professional education courses over the past two years of which the following select courses are relevant to this engagement:

- ◆ Wolters Kluwer CPE Link, *OMB Supplement Addendum and the Latest COVID-19 Single Audit Implications*
- ◆ American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, *Impact of COVID-19 on Financial Reporting and Single Audit*
- ◆ Wolters Kluwer CPE Link, *2020 GAAP, GAAS & SSARS Update*
- ◆ California Society of Municipal Finance Officers, *Lease Accounting*

Professional Affiliations

Ms. Schultz is a member of the following organizations:

- ◆ American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA)
- ◆ California Society of Certified Public Accountants (CalCPA)
- ◆ Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA)
- ◆ California Society of Municipal Finance Officers (CSMFO)

LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL AUDITING SERVICES

Partner, supervisory, and staff qualifications and experience (continued)



Veronica Hernandez, CPA
Audit Supervisor

Professional Experience

Ms. Hernandez is an Audit Supervisor with the firm. She has over 5 years' experience in providing accounting and auditing services for municipalities, special districts and various nonprofit organizations.

Education

Bachelor of Science degree from California State University, San Bernardino
Certified Public Accountant – State of California

Related professional experience

Partial listing of relevant governmental agencies served (*includes enterprise fund accounting):

Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District	Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency	Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District	Rubidoux Community Services District
Sativa Los Angeles County Water District	United Water Conservation District	Capistrano Bay Comm. Services District	Valley Water Company
City of Hawthorne*	City of Fillmore*	City of Beaumont*	City of Poway*
City of San Marcos*	City of Moreno Valley*	City of Redondo Beach*	City of Fillmore*

Continuing Professional Education

Ms. Hernandez has completed over 100 hours of continuing professional education courses over the past two years of which the following select courses are relevant to this engagement:

- ◆ California Society of Municipal Finance Officers, *Lease Accounting*
- ◆ California Society of Municipal Finance Officers, *Fiduciary Activities*
- ◆ California Society of Municipal Finance Officers, *Blue Book has been updated*
- ◆ California Society of Municipal Finance Officers, *Lease Accounting of tomorrow*
- ◆ California Society of Municipal Finance Officers, *GASB Update*
- ◆ American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, *Governmental Accounting and Auditing Update*

Professional affiliations

Ms. Hernandez is a member of the following professional organizations:

- ◆ American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA)
- ◆ California Society of Certified Public Accountants (CaICPA)
- ◆ California Society of Municipal Finance Officers (CSMFO)

LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL AUDITING SERVICES

Similar engagements with other governmental entities

Entity: *Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District*
Scope of work: Financial Audit/ACFR*
Date: Year ending June 30, 2015 - present
Engagement partner: Mr. Scott Manno
Total hours: 350 hours
Contact person: Mr. Robert Hartwig, Asst General Manager Admin Services, (951) 674-3146, rhartwig@evmwd.net
Address: 31315 Chaney Street, Lake Elsinore, CA 92530

Entity: *Crestline-Lake Arrowhead Water Agency*
Scope of work: Financial Audit
Date: Years ending June 30, 1996 - present
Engagement partner: Mr. Terry Shea
Total hours: 350
Contact person: Ms. Roxanne Holmes, General Manager, (909) 338-1779, clawa@verizon.net
Address: 24116 Crest Forest Drive, Crestline, CA 92325

Entity: *Ventura Regional Sanitation District*
Scope of work: Financial Audit/ACFR*
Date: Years ending June 30, 2007 - 2019
Engagement partner: Mr. Scott Manno
Total hours: 275
Contact person: Ms. Tina Rivera, Director of Finance & Admin, (805) 658-4646, Tinarivera@vrzd.com
Address: 1001 Partridge Drive, Suite 150, Ventura, CA 93003

Entity: *San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District*
Scope of work: Financial Audit
Date: Years ending June 30, 2004 - present
Engagement partner: Mr. Terry Shea
Total hours: 225
Contact person: Mrs. Cindy Saks, Finance Manager, (909) 387-9224, cindys@sbumwd.com
Address: 380 East Vanderbilt Way, San Bernardino, CA 92408

Entity: *Crestline Village Water District*
Scope of work: Financial Audit
Date: Years ending June 30, 1996 - present
Engagement partner: Mr. Scott Manno/Mr. Brad Welebir
Total hours: 200
Contact person: Mrs. Larrie Ann Davis, Office Manager (909) 338-1727, ladavis@cwwater.com
Address: 777 Cottonwood Drive, Crestline, CA 92325

* = received GFOA/CSMFO award.

See Attachment A for a listing of current and recent government clients served.

LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL AUDITING SERVICES

Proposed audit approach

Services to be provided

The District desires the auditor to express an opinion(s) on the fair presentation of the financial statements for the following: the District and the JPA of Las Virgenes Municipal Water District and Triunfo Sanitation District in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

In addition, we shall:

- Prepare the financial statements, if requested.
- Apply certain limited procedures related to Management's Discussion and Analysis and Required Supplementary Information and provide an "in-relation-to" report on the combining and individual fund financial statements and supporting schedules, if applicable.
- Provide opinions as to the compliance with the *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (OMB Uniform Guidance). RAMS is to provide an "in-relation-to" report on the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards based on the auditing procedures applied during the audit of the financial statements.
- Test compliance with Article XIII B pertaining to the District's appropriation limit and prepare an Agreed-Upon Procedures report to the governing board regarding compliance.

Our audit(s) will be in accordance with:

- Generally Accepted Auditing Standards as promulgated by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, including requirements found in the new AICPA audit guide *Audits of State and Local Governments*.
- *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller of the United States of America.
- Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (OMB Uniform Guidance).
- *Minimum Audit Requirements and Reporting Guidelines for Special Districts* as prescribed by the State Controllers Office.
- Any other applicable standards for other items outlined in the Scope of Work to be performed and/or reports to be issued.

Reports to be issued:

- A report on the fair presentation of the financial statements in conformity with GAAP.
- A 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* (material weaknesses or significant deficiencies).
- A report in compliance with requirements applicable to each major federal program and internal control over compliance in accordance with the *Uniform Guidance*.
- Prepare Management Letter that includes significant and less significant (i.e., reportable and non-reportable) recommendations for improvements to internal control.
- We will issue reports to those charged with governance (SAS 114 letters) as required by auditing standards.

RAMS will also perform the following:

- Make an immediate, written notification of all irregularities and illegal acts or indication of illegal acts of which we become aware to the following: District Manager and District Attorney.

LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL AUDITING SERVICES

Proposed audit approach (continued)

Engagement approach

Our engagement approach for your audit will be developed, in part, by using established goals which will enable measurement of the audits progress by the engagement partner and lead auditor. This involves frequent communication between the partner and the engagement team to ensure that all audit objectives are achieved in accordance with our goals and that any issues which may arise are communicated and dealt with on a timely basis. In addition, our in-depth knowledge and expertise in governmental accounting and auditing has allowed us to identify key audit and accounting risks in the government environment. More importantly, the approach provides for a complete reassessment of the control environment in each year's audit and thus enables us to respond to any needed risk assessment changes.

Our engagement approach has been developed and refined over many years. The foundation of our approach revolves around the following fundamentals:

- **Knowledge and experience.** We have been auditing governmental entities like the District, both large and small, for over 73 years. This experience has allowed us to gain in-depth knowledge of the governmental environment which in turn allows us to perform a more efficient and effective audit. It also enables us to perform detailed risk assessment procedures allowing us to identify significant audit risk areas within the District and its control environment.
- **Intelligent design:** As discussed later in our proposal, all our audits are designed to be intelligent using our powerful audit software tools (Engagement and *Teammate Analytics*). This allows us to analyze large amounts of data in seconds increasing both the efficiency and, more importantly, the effectiveness of all our audit engagements.
- **Oversight.** Professional judgment is not developed overnight. Our partners, managers and supervisors have been deeply involved in governmental audits on a continuous basis for most of their professional careers. By having direct partner and manager oversight, we can design audit strategies that result in effective and efficient audits.
- **Timeliness.** Deadlines are not just “dates” to us, they are professional commitments. All required deadlines will be met.
- **Open communication.** Open lines of communication with all parties (the engagement team members and District Management and staff) throughout the audit process helps to eliminate “surprises.” Proper planning and proper use of experienced engagement personnel tend to provide for an effective and efficient audit process. Consequently, inefficiencies, disruptions, and lack of understanding are kept to a minimum.
- **Availability.** All engagement team members are available throughout the year for any questions or additional consultation. District staff will have direct access to the partner, manager, and other supervisory staff at all times during the engagement, as well as after.
- **Cost effectiveness.** Our customized audit approach and procedures and our experienced auditors help to reduce your overall audit costs while still providing an effective audit and high-quality reports.

LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL AUDITING SERVICES

Proposed audit approach (continued)

As indicated in the previous section of the proposal, the overall objective of the engagement with the District is to conduct an audit of the financial statements in accordance with required auditing standards and the expression of an opinion(s) on those financial statements. Beyond that initial objective, we believe that our engagement approach provides certain other value-added characteristics, at no additional cost, that will benefit the District over the long-term:

- All our audits are designed to be performed in an efficient and effective way to minimize disruption to the office operations.
- We offer practical observations and recommendations relating to internal control issues, implementation of accounting standards and the policies and procedures regarding both.
- We identify opportunities for operating efficiencies which can be used to decrease operating costs of the District.

Audit approach and proposed audit segmentation

The following is a summary of the audit team's audit approach for the engagement. The audit will be divided into the following segments:

Segment 1 - Interim testing - planning, pre-audit administration, and internal control testing

During this phase of the audit, our principal objectives will be to gather information about the District and its environment, including its internal control over financial reporting.

To achieve the desired objectives of this phase of the audit, we will:

- Meet with the District's staff to determine convenient dates in which we can begin our audit and to discuss the assistance to be provided by the District's staff.
- Hold brainstorming sessions with engagement team members to discuss the susceptibility of the District's financial statements to material misstatement and fraud.
- Review and evaluate the District's accounting and reporting processes by reviewing the prior year's audit workpapers, any District-prepared documents such as budgets, in-house financial reports, policies and procedures manuals, minutes of governance meetings, etc., and by using various analytical procedures. Analytical procedures will enhance our understanding of the District and will help us identify areas that may need further assessment and additional testing.
- Review and retain copies of any pertinent local, state and federal statutes, regulations, or charters that apply to the District.
- Evaluate the design of controls that are relevant to the audit by obtaining a thorough understanding of the District's internal controls over financial reporting and compliance by documenting key internal control components, utilizing questionnaires, walkthroughs, inquiring of the District's personnel, and observing and reviewing key supporting documentation (a more thorough explanation of this process is discussed later in the technical proposal).
- Test controls, if control risk is to be assessed below maximum, by selecting a sample of transactions within the audit area being tested and reviewing supporting documentation to determine whether the relevant controls are in place and functioning properly.
- Document and review with management, any findings noted during the testing of internal controls and provide a preliminary management letter that will include our recommendations for improving any weaknesses in operations. The letter will also include suggestions for improving the efficiency of the District's operations.

LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL AUDITING SERVICES

Proposed audit approach (continued)

- Utilize our powerful audit data analytic software allowing us to analyze large amounts of data in seconds and focusing on areas/transactions that are red flagged.

In addition, we will perform the following procedures related to IT General Controls that “touch” financial data:

- *Security access (including physical) controls:* evaluate the general system security settings and password parameters; evaluate the process for adding, deleting, and changing security access; evaluate the access capabilities of various types of users; evaluate access controls to networks and financial applications; evaluate access controls related to data files; and evaluate physical access to networks, servers, etc.
- *Computer operations:* Evaluate backup and recovery processes and review processes of identifying and handling operational problems.
- *System development and system changes:* Evaluate processes related to system development and system changes (if applicable).
- *Application testing:* We will determine if the testing of application controls is deemed necessary based on our professional judgment in the planning stages of the engagement.

This phase of the engagement for the audit will be performed by the audit senior and two/three staff accountants with direct supervision by the audit manager and partner.

Segment 2 - Year-end testing - substantive testing

During this phase of the audit, our principal objectives will be to assess the risk of material misstatement at the financial statement level and specific assertions, design overall responses to assessed risks and further audit procedures, perform substantive tests, and complete the audit and evaluate audit findings, if applicable.

To achieve the desired objectives of this phase of the audit, we will:

- Identify significant risks and develop a detailed audit plan using the results in Segment 1.
- Design substantive tests of account balances designed and modified specifically for the District’s operations and assessed level of risk. Substantive procedures will consist of testing material balance sheet accounts, material revenue and expenditure/expense accounts along with various analytical procedures as deemed necessary. In addition, various accounts may be confirmed with outside parties (cash, investments, etc.).
- Determine whether our testing supports the assessed level of risk initially assigned at the financial statement level and at the assertion level.

If any proposed audit adjustments are noted during this phase, we will discuss and explain them, in detail, with the appropriate level of management prior to posting.

This phase of the engagement for the audit will be performed by the senior accountant and two/three staff accountants with direct supervision by the audit manager and partner.

LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL AUDITING SERVICES

Proposed audit approach (continued)

Segment 3 - Reporting - report preparation/audit conclusion (workpaper review)

During this phase of the audit, our principal objectives will be to evaluate whether the financial statements, taken as a whole, are free from material misstatement and form an opinion(s) and issue our report.

To achieve the desired objectives of this phase of the audit, we will:

- Determine whether, based on our substantive testing and other procedures, the financial statements, taken as a whole, are free of material misstatement. This will provide the basis for our opinion(s).
- Review all audit workpapers to ensure that the audit was performed in accordance with the required standards (GAAS, GAGAS, etc.) and prepare drafts of all required reports by the agreed-upon dates.
- Conduct an independent review of the financial statement draft by the engagement's quality control partner and issue all reports by the agreed-upon dates.

This phase of the engagement will be performed by the audit senior and one staff accountant with direct supervision by the audit manager and partner. In addition, the engagement's quality control partner will perform a detailed quality control review of the financial statements.

The above procedures are a general list of procedures to be performed. After our initial review of the District and our detailed risk assessment, we will customize the engagement and gear it towards the needs of the District and the audit itself. In doing so, we will determine which procedures to perform relative to our risk assessment. All our audits are customized to each entity, helping to ensure a complete, effective, and efficient audit. The foundation of the above approach is based on open communication coupled with a strong knowledge of the District's operations and detailed planning at the initial stages of the audit.

Our firm is dedicated to performing a timely audit engagement. Prior to the start of the audit, we will meet with District staff and decide on adequate timeframes, agreed upon by both the District and us, for the performance of the audit and the release of the financial statements. *We will dedicate the necessary resources to meet any agreed upon time frames.*

Level of staff and approximate number of hours assigned to each segment:

Segment	Partner	Supervisor	Senior	Staff	Total
Segment 1	8	8	23	49	88
Segment 2	14	14	42	79	149
Segment 3	9	9	28	12	58
Totals	31	31	93	140	295

LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL AUDITING SERVICES

Proposed audit approach (continued)

Intelligent audit technology

Our audits are designed to be intelligent using our powerful audit software tools (Engagement and Teammate Analytics). In addition, all audit team members are linked to each other using wireless connections which enables them to share information at an almost real-time speed. Below are some of the benefits of our audit technologies:

- ***We utilize Teammate Analytics, a suite of more than 200 dynamic Computer Aided Audit Tools (CAATs). This allows us to analyze large amounts of data in seconds. Using data received directly from the District, we can perform the following: search for duplicate checks, detect transactions occurring on holidays/weekends or during unusual hours, perform Benford's Law analysis, and identify instances when a vendor has issued multiple invoices with sequential references along with many other tests. The software empowers our audit teams with the ability to perform powerful, meaningful data analysis which will build upon our other value-added services.***
- We can create our own analytical schedules allowing for easy analysis of current balances to prior year balance, current vs budget balance, thus reducing significant District staff time.
- Once your trial balances and financial statements are entered into our software, we can observe your financial statements in the field allowing us to notice any variances and address them immediately.
- We link the financial statement schedules directly to our audit software trial balances, and as a result, we can provide the District with fund financial statements almost immediately after importing the trial balances.
- We can provide the District with our audited trial balances which show the coding of the financial statement schedules for ease of review for District staff. These reports show each account coded to a specific financial statement line item/function as well as journal entries posted during the audit.
- We have the capability to perform effective and efficient audits remotely as well.

Analytical procedures

In order to properly utilize analytical procedures, industry background and knowledge are needed. With our firm's long history and qualified staff, we believe we have the necessary knowledge and experience to effectively apply analytical procedures. We will utilize analytical review procedures throughout our audit of the District.

- During the *interim* phase of our audit, we will compare current and prior year unadjusted balances to determine which areas may need additional analysis; we will also compare current year actual amounts to the District's annual budget (both original and adopted).
- During the *final* phase of our audit, we will perform procedures like those mentioned above, as well as compare certain financial ratios for current and prior years. We will also conduct certain "reasonableness" tests. Any significant variances are investigated further through inquiry and other substantive testing as deemed necessary until resolved to our satisfaction.
- Finally, after we have completed our fieldwork, we will compare current and prior year audited balances, keeping in mind expected relationships obtained from our knowledge of the District, similar entities and the general economic environment. In addition, we may choose to use various other analytical techniques such as trend analysis, etc.

Unlike other audit firms, we use analytical procedures to supplement our substantive testing, not supplant them.

LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL AUDITING SERVICES

Proposed audit approach (continued)

Understanding of internal control over financial reporting

Our approach to obtaining an understanding of the District's internal control over financial reporting will be performed in accordance with professional standards as promulgated by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants -- our understanding will include the *Control Environment, Risk Assessment, Control Activities, Information and Communication, and Monitoring*. We will use customized procedures which we have developed internally to evaluate your internal control systems. By combining our customized procedures and our detailed knowledge of the District and its environment, we will be able to provide constructive feedback in areas we feel need improvement. In addition to our customized procedures, we will also perform the following:

Control Environment. Through inquiry of the District's personnel, prompted by questionnaires, personal knowledge, and review of the minutes of the governing body meetings, we will obtain an understanding of management's and the governing body's attitudes, awareness, and actions concerning the control environment, focusing on the substance of the controls rather than their form.

Risk Assessment. Through inquiry of the District's personnel and the use of questionnaires, we will obtain sufficient knowledge of the District's risk assessment process to understand how management considers risks relevant to financial reporting objectives and decides upon actions to address those risks. This will include understanding how management identifies risks, estimates the significance of these risks, assesses the likelihood of their occurrence, and relates them to financial reporting.

Control Activities. Certain control procedures will be documented during our analysis of the control environment and the accounting system. However, many specific control procedures will still need to be documented that will focus primarily on the District's major transaction cycles. As mentioned above, we will test the District's control procedures on which we intend to rely on for safeguarding assets from unauthorized use or disposition and detecting/preventing unauthorized transactions. Any flow charts, organizational charts and any other manuals, programs, and financial and management information systems will be analyzed during this process.

Information and Communication. Through inquiry of the District's personnel, we will identify the major types of transactions engaged in by the District. We will become familiar with the treatment of those transactions, including how the transactions are initiated, the related accounting records, and the manner of processing the transactions. Finally, we will obtain an understanding of the District's financial reporting process used to prepare financial reports, including the approaches used in making accounting estimates and disclosures.

Monitoring. Through inquiry of the District's personnel and the use of questionnaires, we will obtain sufficient knowledge of the major types of activities the District uses to monitor internal control over financial reporting. We will also determine how those activities are used to initiate corrective actions.

LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL AUDITING SERVICES

Proposed audit approach (continued)

Approach in determining applicable laws and regulations

We understand the importance of laws and regulations in planning an audit of a local governmental entity and design all our audits to ensure we test transactions for compliance. As part of our audit process, our audit team will obtain an understanding of the laws and regulations that will have a direct and material effect on the District's financial statements. In determining which laws and regulations are applicable to the District's financial statement audit, we will consult the following sources:

- AICPA Audit and Accounting Guide, *Audits of State and Local Governments*
- California Government Code (investments, GANN limit requirements, etc.)
- Applicable State of California laws
- U.S. Government Accountability Office's *Government Auditing Standards* (The Yellow Book), latest revision
- Applicable contracts/grants of the District
- *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (OMB Uniform Guidance)

After consulting the applicable sources, we will design our audit to provide reasonable assurance of detecting material instances of noncompliance while continuing to refer to the applicable compliance guideline to ensure changes in compliance are not missed.

Effect of COVID-19 on our audits

The COVID-19 pandemic led to most of our audits being performed remotely in 2020 and a hybrid in 2021. We were highly flexible with our clients and were able to perform almost all our audits remotely unless the clients requested a limited staff presence on-site. No matter how the pandemic continues to develop in California, we are prepared and able to continue serving our clients remotely, and even on-site with the appropriate precautions.

Auditing in a remote environment

The availability and use of technology has had a significant impact on the accounting and auditing profession, allowing us to provide professional services across longer distances and more timely than ever before. We have continued to evolve our ability to serve our clients remotely throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and have experienced new efficiencies for both auditor and auditee. We anticipate continuing to perform substantially all our audit work remotely and will work with the District to maximize the remote efficiencies using technology. If the District would like members of the audit team on-site, we will work with District management on determining an acceptable staffing level.

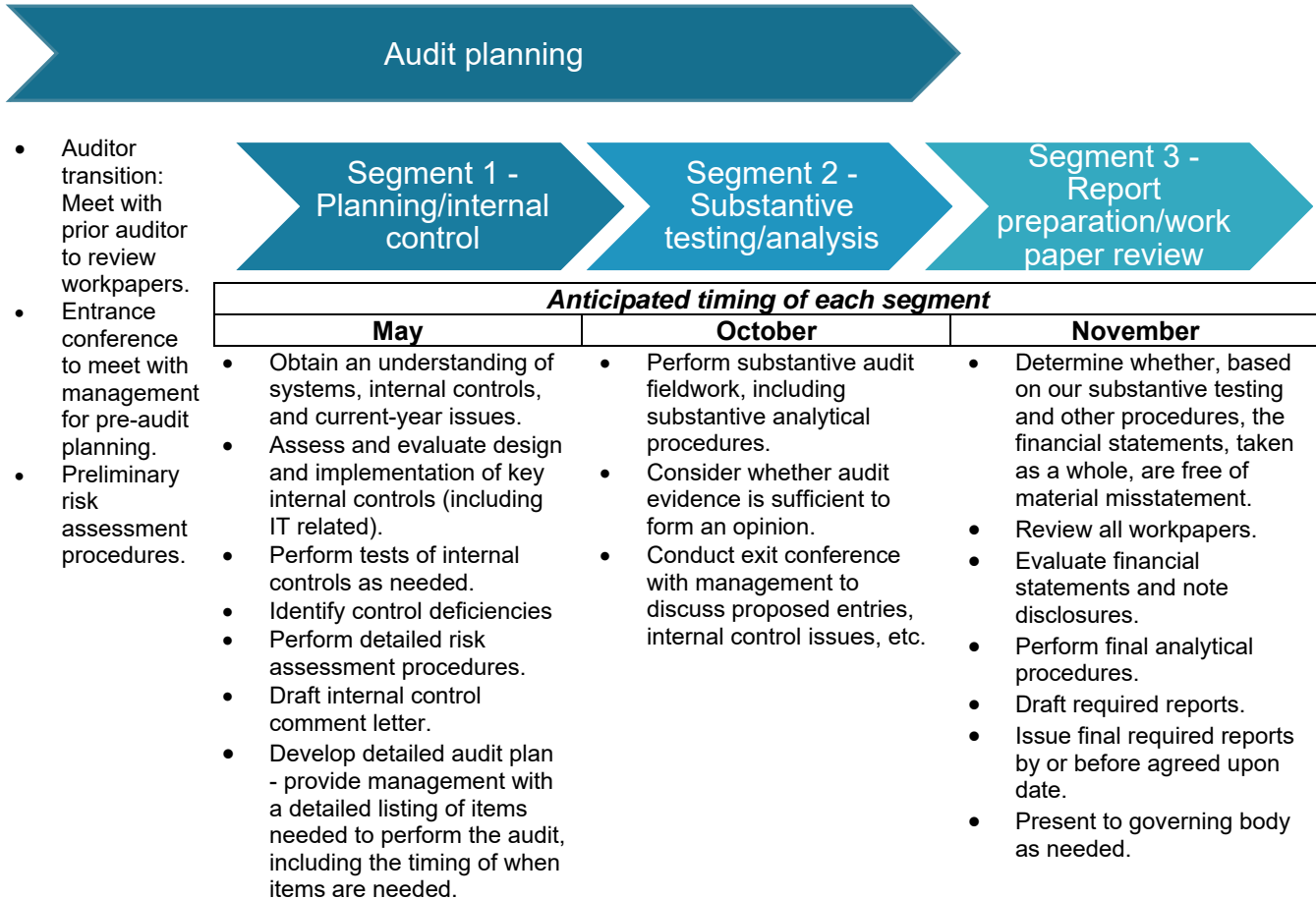
We maintain regular and routine contact with our clients throughout the audit planning, fieldwork, and conclusion phases of the audit with the use of email, phone calls, secure portals, video conferencing, project tracking schedules, and any other means necessary to ensure the timely completion of the audit by any agreed-upon deadlines. Our audit team is very responsive to our clients and we encourage our clients to connect with us throughout the year for any matters that may affect the audit or of a general accounting nature. We have found this to be mutually beneficial for both our clients and the annual audit work.

LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL AUDITING SERVICES

Proposed audit approach (continued)

Proposed audit timing



Covid-19 considerations

In addition, we will consider the following items related to the pandemic:

- Any changes in internal control procedures due to District staff working remotely, staff reductions, including related IT changes.
- Valuation issues related to investments as well as accounts receivable balances.
- Pandemic related grant funding (FEMA grants and CARES act funding received directly from the Federal government and amounts passed through from the State and/or counties).
- The effects of reduced revenues, staffing, etc. on budget vs. actual comparisons.

GOVERNMENT CLIENTS SERVED

<u>Government Client</u>	<u>Years Served</u>	<u>GFOA Awards</u>
Crestline Village Water District	04/30/96 to 04/30/21	
Crestline-Lake Arrowhead Water	06/30/98 to 06/30/21	
San Bernardino Valley Muni Water District	06/30/04 to 06/30/21	
Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District	06/30/15 to 06/30/21	Yes
Pine Cove Water District	06/30/10 to 06/30/21	
Idyllwild Water District	06/30/11 to 06/30/21	
Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater	06/30/12 to 06/30/21	Yes
Mojave Water Agency	06/30/19 to 06/30/21	
Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District	12/31/17 to 12/31/20	Yes
Rosamond Community Services District	06/30/15 to 06/30/21	
Rossmoor Community Services District	06/30/05 to 06/30/21	
Rim of the World Park & Rec. District	06/30/06 to 06/30/21	
Heartlands Communications Fac Auth	06/30/07 to 06/30/21	
Heartlands Fire Training Authority	06/30/07 to 06/30/21	
Consolidated Fire Agencies	06/30/14 to 06/30/21	
Successor Agency to the County of SB	06/30/14 to 06/30/21	
Riverside County Habitat Con. Agency	06/30/15 to 06/30/21	
Mission Springs Water District	06/30/20 to 06/30/21	
Santa Ana Watershed Association	12/31/09 to 12/31/20	
Capistrano Bay Community Services District	06/30/13 to 06/30/21	
Ventura County Public Fin Authority	06/30/12 to 06/30/21	
San Bernardino Water Conservation	06/30/16 to 06/30/21	
Nipomo Community Services District	06/30/16 to 06/30/21	Yes
SBIAA	06/30/17 to 06/30/21	
WRCOG	06/30/17 to 06/30/21	
San Diego Workforce Partnership	06/30/16 to 06/30/21	
Rubidoux Community Services District	06/30/16 to 06/30/21	
Triunfo Sanitation District	06/30/20 to 06/30/21	
Conejo Recreation and Park District	06/30/19 to 06/30/21	
Upper San Gabriel Valley MWD	06/30/19 to 06/30/21	Yes
March Joint Powers Authority	06/30/19 to 06/30/21	
Chino Basin Desalter Authority	06/30/19 to 06/30/21	Yes
Mountains Recreation and Conservation	06/30/19 to 06/30/21	
Palos Verdes Peninsula Transit Authority	06/30/19 to 06/30/21	
Yucca Valley Airport District	06/30/19 to 06/30/20	
West Basin Municipal Water District	06/30/20 to 06/30/21	Yes
City of Canyon Lake	Accounting support	
City of Rolling Hills	Accounting support	
Running Springs Water District	Accounting support	
Phelan Pinon Hills Community Services District	Accounting support	

GOVERNMENT CLIENTS SERVED

<u>Government Client</u>	<u>Years Served</u>	<u>CSMFO/ GFOA</u>	<u>Successor</u>	<u>Housing</u>
		<u>Awards</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Authority</u>
City of El Cajon	06/30/07 to 06/30/21	Yes	Yes	Yes
City of Exeter	06/30/17 to 06/30/21			
City of Woodlake	06/30/17 to 06/30/21			
Town of Yucca Valley	06/30/08 to 06/30/21	Yes	Yes	Yes
City of La Verne	06/30/11 to 06/30/21	Yes	Yes	Yes
City of San Jacinto	06/30/11 to 06/30/21		Yes	Yes
City of Twentynine Palms	06/30/11 to 06/30/21	Yes	Yes	Yes
City of La Mesa	06/30/11 to 06/30/21		Yes	Yes
City of Menifee	06/30/14 to 06/30/21	Yes		
City of San Marcos	06/30/14 to 06/30/21	Yes	Yes	Yes
City of Loma Linda	06/30/13 to 06/30/21	Yes	Yes	Yes
City of Sierra Madre	06/30/12 to 06/30/21	Yes	Yes	Yes
City of Hawthorne	06/30/16 to 06/30/21	Yes	Yes	Yes
City of West Covina	06/30/16 to 06/30/20	Yes	Yes	Yes
City of Aliso Viejo	06/30/16 to 06/30/21	Yes	No	No
City of Claremont	06/30/16 to 06/30/21	Yes	Yes	Yes
City of Thousand Oaks	06/30/18 to 06/30/21	Yes	Yes	Yes
City of South Pasadena	06/30/18 to 06/30/20		Yes	Yes
City of Rolling Hills Estates	06/30/19 to 06/30/21	Yes		
City of Calabasas	06/30/20 to 06/30/20			
City of San Bernardino	06/30/20 to 06/30/20			
City of Ojai	06/30/20 to 06/30/20			
City of Beaumont	06/30/20 to 06/30/20			
City of Moreno Valley	06/30/20 to 06/30/20			
City of Lawndale	06/20/20 to 06/30/20			
Town of Windsor				06/30/19