

Santa Margarita Groundwater Agency

Management Report

June 30, 2018



Fedak & Brown LLP
Certified Public Accountants

Santa Margarita Groundwater Agency

Management Report

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Board of Directors
 Santa Margarita Groundwater Agency
 Scotts Valley, California

Dear Members of the Board:

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of Santa Margarita Groundwater Agency (Agency) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2018, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Agency's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Agency's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited period described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weakness. Given these limitations during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

Our comments, all of which have been discussed with the appropriate members of management, are summarized as follows:

Summary of Current Year Comments and Recommendations

None

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management and the Board of Directors of the Agency. This restriction is not intended to limit the distribution of this letter, which is a matter of public record.

We appreciate the courtesy and cooperation extended to us during our examination. We would be pleased to discuss the contents of this letter with you at your convenience. Please do not hesitate to contact us.

Fedak & Brown LLP

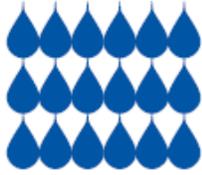
Fedak & Brown LLP
 Cypress, California
 December 20, 2018

APPENDIX

Santa Margarita Groundwater Agency

Audit/Finance Committee Letter

June 30, 2018



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Board of Directors
Santa Margarita Groundwater Agency
Scotts Valley, California

We have audited the basic financial statements of the Santa Margarita Groundwater Agency (Agency) for the year ended June 30, 2018, and have issued our report thereon dated December 20, 2018. Generally accepted auditing standards require that we provide the Governing Board and management with the following information related to our audit of the Agency's basic financial statements.

Auditor's Responsibility under United States Generally Accepted Auditing Standards

As stated in our Audit Engagement Letter dated August 21, 2018, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to express an opinion about whether the basic financial statements prepared by management with your oversight are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with United States generally accepted accounting principles. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of its responsibilities.

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Agency'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 and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Governmental Auditing Standards*.

We are responsible for communicating significant matters related to the audit that are, in our professional judgment, relevant to your responsibilities in overseeing the financial reporting process. However, we are not required to design procedures specifically to identify such matters.

Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit

We performed the audit according to the planned scope and timing requirements previously communicated to management. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

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

We noted no transactions entered into by the Agency during fiscal year 2018 for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. There are no significant transactions that have been recognized in the financial statements in a different period than when the transaction occurred.

Management’s Judgments, Accounting Estimates and Financial Disclosures

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the basic financial statements prepared by management and are based upon 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 basic financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimate affecting the net position in the basic financial statements was:

Management’s estimate of the fair value of investments is based on information provided by financial institutions. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the fair value of cash and investments in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Certain basic financial statement disclosures are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. The most sensitive disclosure affecting the basic financial statements was:

The disclosure of fair value of investments in Note 2 to the basic financial statements represents amounts susceptible to market fluctuations.

The disclosures in the basic financial statements are neutral, consistent and clear.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

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

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional Standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, except those that are considered trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management.

Disagreements with Management

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

Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the Management Representational Letter to the Auditor dated December 20, 2018.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a “second opinion” on certain situations. If a consultation involves the application of an accounting principal to the Agency’s basic 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 Agency’s auditor. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

Conclusion

We appreciate the cooperation extended us by Stephanie Hill, Treasurer, in the performance of our audit testwork.

We will be pleased to respond to any questions you have about the foregoing. We appreciate the opportunity to continue to be of service to the Agency.

Restriction on Use

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Directors and management and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than the specified, parties. This restriction is not intended to limit the distribution of this letter, which is a matter of public record.

Fedak & Brown LLP

Fedak & Brown LLP
Cypress, California
December 20, 2018