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Communications with the Administrative Committee

Monterey County
457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan

December 31, 2023

Communications with the Administrative Committee

The Administrative Committee
Monterey County 457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan

We have audited the financial statements of Monterey County 457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan (the Plan) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023. We have issued our report on the financial statements dated August , 2024.

Our Responsibility under Auditing Standards Generally Accepted in the United States of America

As stated in our engagement letter dated March 7, 2024, we are responsible for forming and expressing an opinion about whether the financial statements that have been prepared by management, with your oversight, are prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP). Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of your responsibilities.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAS) and *Government Auditing Standards*. As part of an audit conducted in accordance with U.S. GAAS, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

An audit of financial statements includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Plan's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we considered the Plan's internal control solely for the purposes of determining our audit procedures and not to provide assurance concerning such internal control.

We are also responsible for communicating significant matters related to the financial statement audit that, in our professional judgment, are relevant to your responsibilities in overseeing the financial reporting process. However, we are not required to design procedures for the purpose of identifying other matters to communicate to you.

Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit

We performed the audit according to the planned scope and timing previously communicated to you in the engagement letter and planning discussions.

Significant Audit Findings and Issues

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

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

No new accounting policies were adopted and there were no changes in the application of existing accounting policies during the year. We noted no transactions entered into by the Plan during the year 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.

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.

We did not note any significant accounting estimates in the financial statements. Significant accounting estimates are not commonly inherent in a defined contribution plan with investments that are readily marketable.

Financial Statement Disclosures

The disclosures in the financial statements are consistent, clear and understandable. Certain financial statement disclosures are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. We did not note any disclosures in the financial statements which we consider sensitive to potential users.

Significant Unusual Transactions

We encountered no significant unusual transactions during our audit of the Plan's financial statements.

Significant Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

Professional standards require us to inform you of any significant difficulties encountered in performing the audit. No significant difficulties were encountered during our audit of the Plan's financial statements.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. No such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Circumstances that Affect the Form and Content of the Auditor's Report

There may be circumstances in which we would consider it necessary to include additional information in the auditor's report in accordance with U.S. GAAS. There were no circumstances that affected the form and content of the auditor's report.

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all factual and judgmental misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management.

Corrected Misstatements: None of the misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures and corrected by management were material, either individually or in the aggregate, to the financial statements as a whole.

Uncorrected Misstatements: We did not note any uncorrected misstatements during the engagement.

Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated August __, 2024.

Management Consultation 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 application of an accounting principle to the Plan’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 Significant Audit Findings or Issues

We are required to communicate to you other findings or issues arising from the audit that are, in our professional judgment, significant and relevant to your oversight of the financial reporting process. There are no items to report.

This information is intended solely for the use of the Administrative Committee and management of the Plan and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Salinas, California
August __, 2024