

**Sauk Valley Community College
April 22, 2024**

Action Item 4.7

Topic: Appointment of College Audit Firm

College Health Metric: Planning – The College conducts thoughtful, systematic planning to support future operations. Plans are updated annually or as necessary.

Presented By: Dr. David Hellmich and Kent Sorenson

Presentation:

Wipfli, LLP is a top 20 national tax and accounting firm that specializes in a wide range of services and industries. Wipfli, LLP has been appointed the College’s audit firm since fiscal year 2014, and completed its tenth consecutive audit with fiscal year 2023. The administration found LLP’s performance of the fiscal year 2023 audit to be satisfactory.

The College’s audit is performed by Wipfli staff, managers, and partners based out of the Sterling office. Wipfli’s Sterling office also provides a limited review of the College’s cybersecurity measures in conjunction with the audit services provided. The Sterling office personnel are invested in the communities where they work and live and are involved with the following organizations: Polo Chamber of Commerce, Polo Economic Development Corporation, Rock Falls Chamber of Commerce, Rock River Development Authority, Sauk Valley Area Chamber of Commerce, Sterling Rock Falls Historical Society, and the United Way of Whiteside County.

Wipfli’s fiscal year 2024 engagement letter stipulates a base audit fee of \$45,750. The single audit fee is \$11,000 and an additional \$5,500 for each additional major program. The fee to perform additional procedures over the College’s Consolidated Year End Financial Report (CYEFR) will be between \$2,750.

Recommendation:

The administration recommends the Board retain Wipfli, LLP to perform the College’s annual audit for fiscal year 2024.

April 3, 2024

President and Board of Trustees
Sauk Valley Community College
173 IL Route 2
Dixon, Illinois 61021

Dear President and Board of Trustees:

We are pleased to serve as the independent auditors for Sauk Valley Community College (“Client”) for the year ended June 30, 2024. This letter, together with the attached Terms and Conditions – Attest Engagements, confirms the terms of our engagement and is collectively referred to herein as the “Letter” or the “Engagement Letter.”

Fees

Our fees for this engagement will be billed as work progresses, and progress billings may be submitted. Based upon our discussions with representatives of Client, the fee for this engagement will be \$ 45,750 for the audit, \$11,000 for the single audit, \$5,500 for each additional major program and \$2,750 for the CYFR. Expenses for items such as travel, telephone, postage, clerical time, printing, and reproduction of financial statements are included in the fee. Our fee has been determined based on our understanding obtained through discussions with you regarding your preparation for the engagement and your current business operations. To the extent we encounter circumstances outside of our expectations that warrant additional procedures and time, we will communicate that fact and advise you of options and the additional fees necessary to complete the engagement. We expect payment of our billings within 30 days after submission.

Our fees for the services described below are based upon the value of the services performed and the time required by the individuals assigned to the engagement. Our fee estimate and completion of our work are based upon the following criteria:

1. Anticipated cooperation from Client personnel
2. Timely responses to our inquiries
3. Timely completion and delivery of client assistance requests
4. Timely communication of all significant accounting and financial reporting matters
5. The assumption that unexpected circumstances will not be encountered during the engagement

If any of the aforementioned criteria are not met, then the fees may increase. Interim billings will be submitted as work progresses and as expenses are incurred.

Audit Scope and Objectives

We will audit Client’s financial statements and the disclosures, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements, of the business-type activities, aggregate discretely presented components units of Client.

Accounting standards generally accepted in the United States of America (“GAAP”) provide for certain required supplementary information (“RSI”), such as management’s discussion and analysis (“MD&A”), to supplement Client’s basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. As part of our engagement, we will apply certain limited procedures to Client’s RSI in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (“GAAS”). These limited procedures will consist of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management’s responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We will not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance. The following RSI is required by GAAP and will be subjected to certain limited procedures, but will not be audited:

1. Management’s Discussion and Analysis
2. Schedules of Net Pension Liability and Contributions
3. Schedule of Net OPEB Liability and Contributions

We have also been engaged to report on supplementary information other than RSI that accompanies Client’s financial statements. We will subject the following supplementary information to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS, and will provide an opinion on it in relation to the financial statements as a whole:

1. Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards
2. Illinois Community College Board Uniform Financial Statements and Certification of Chargeback Reimbursement
3. Consolidated Year End Financial Report

The following other information accompanying the financial statements will not be subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the financial statements, and our auditor’s report will not provide an opinion or any assurance on the other information. In connection with our audit of the basic financial statements, we will read the following other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

1. Other Financial information-Combining Statements, Individual Fund Statements and Supporting Schedules

The objectives of our audit are to obtain reasonable assurance as to whether Client's financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion about whether Client's financial statements are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with GAAP; and report on the fairness of the supplementary information, referred to in the second paragraph of this section, when considered in relation to the financial statements as a whole. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not absolute assurance and, therefore, is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements, including omissions, can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they could influence the judgment of a reasonable user made based on the financial statements.

The objectives also include reporting on:

- Internal control over financial reporting and compliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and award agreements, noncompliance with which could have a material effect on the financial statements in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.
- Internal control over compliance related to major programs and an opinion or disclaimer of opinion on compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards that could have a direct and material effect on each major program in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996; and Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* ("CFR") Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* ("Uniform Guidance").

The *Government Auditing Standards* report on internal control over financial reporting and on compliance and other matters will include a paragraph that states that (1) the purpose of the report is solely to describe the scope of testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance, and (2) the report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance.

The Uniform Guidance report on internal control over compliance will include a paragraph that states that the purpose of the report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Both reports will state that the report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

We will conduct our audit in accordance with GAAS, the standards for financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; the Single Audit Act amendments of 1996; and the provisions of the Uniform Guidance; and will include tests of accounting records, a determination of major program(s) in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, and other procedures we consider necessary to enable us to express such opinions. As part of an audit in accordance with GAAS, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

An audit includes an evaluation of the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as an evaluation of the overall presentation of the financial statements, including the disclosures, to assess whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation. To express an opinion, we are required to plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether from (1) errors, (2) fraudulent financial reporting, (3) misappropriation of assets, or (4) violations of laws or governmental regulations that are attributable to the government or to acts by management or employees acting on behalf of the government. Because the determination of waste and abuse is subjective, *Government Auditing Standards* does not expect auditors to provide reasonable assurance of detecting waste or abuse.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, combined with the inherent limitations of internal control, and because we will not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is an unavoidable risk that some material misstatements may not be detected by us, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*. In addition, an audit is not designed to detect immaterial misstatements or violations of laws or governmental regulations that do not have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, we will inform the appropriate level of management of any material errors, fraudulent financial reporting, or misappropriation of assets that come to our attention. We will also inform the appropriate level of management of any violations of laws or government regulations that come to our attention, unless clearly inconsequential. Our responsibility as auditors is limited to the period covered by our audit and does not extend to any later periods for which we are not engaged as auditors.

In performing our audit, we will consider and conclude whether, based on the audit evidence obtained, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, which raise substantial doubt about the government's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Our procedures will include tests of documentary evidence supporting the transactions recorded in the accounts and may include tests of the physical existence of inventories, and direct confirmation of cash, receivables, loan balances, and certain assets and liabilities by correspondence with selected customers, funding sources, creditors, and financial institutions. We may also request written representations from your attorneys as part of the engagement, and they may submit an invoice for responding to this inquiry.

Audit Procedures – Internal Control

In the conduct of our audit, we will obtain an understanding of the government and its environment, including internal control relevant to the audit, sufficient to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and to design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks and obtain evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinions. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentation, or the override of internal control. Tests of controls may be performed to test the effectiveness of certain controls that we consider relevant to preventing and detecting errors and fraud that are material to the financial statements and to preventing and detecting misstatements resulting from illegal acts and other noncompliance matters that have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. Our tests, if performed, will be less in scope than would be necessary to render an opinion on internal control and, accordingly, no opinion will be expressed in our report on internal control issued pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards*.

An audit is not designed to provide assurance on internal control or to identify deficiencies in internal control. Accordingly, we will express no such opinion. However, during the audit, we will communicate to management and those charged with governance internal control-related matters that are required to be communicated under professional standards.

Audit Procedures – Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, we will perform tests of Client's compliance with the provisions of applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and agreements, including grant agreements. However, the objective of our audit will not be to provide an opinion on overall compliance, and we will not express such an opinion in our report on compliance issued pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards*.

As required by the Uniform Guidance, we will perform tests of controls over compliance to evaluate the effectiveness of the design and operation of controls that we consider relevant to preventing or detecting material noncompliance with compliance requirements applicable to each major federal awards program. However, our tests will be less in scope than would be necessary to render an opinion on those controls and, accordingly, no opinion will be expressed in our report on internal control issued pursuant to the Uniform Guidance.

The Uniform Guidance requires that we also plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the auditee has complied with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards applicable to major programs. Our procedures will consist of tests of transactions and other applicable procedures described in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* for the types of compliance requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each of Client's major programs. The purpose of these procedures will be to express an opinion on Client's compliance with requirements applicable to each of its major programs in our report on compliance issued pursuant to the Uniform Guidance.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Our audit will be conducted on the basis that management acknowledges and understands its responsibility for (1) designing, implementing, and maintaining internal controls, including internal controls over federal awards, relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, including monitoring ongoing activities to help ensure that appropriate goals and objectives are met; (2) following laws and regulations; (3) ensuring that there is reasonable assurance that government programs are administered in compliance with compliance requirements; and (4) ensuring that management and financial information is reliable and properly reported. Management is also responsible for implementing systems designed to achieve compliance with applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements. Management is also responsible for the selection and application of accounting principles; and for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, in conformity with GAAP, and for compliance with applicable laws and regulations and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements. Management's responsibilities also include identifying significant contractor relationships in which the contractor has responsibility for program compliance and for the accuracy and completeness of that information.

Management is also responsible for making available to us drafts of financial statements, all financial records, and related information and for the accuracy and completeness of that information (including information from outside of the general and subsidiary ledgers). Management is also responsible for providing us with (1) access to all information of which it is aware that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, such as records, documentation, identification of all related parties and all related-party relationships and transactions, and other matters; (2) access to personnel, accounts, books, records, supporting documentation, and other information as needed to perform an audit under the Uniform Guidance; (3) additional information that we may request for the purpose of the audit; and (4) unrestricted access to persons within the government from whom we determine it necessary to obtain audit evidence. At the conclusion of our audit, we will require certain written representations from management about the financial statements and related matters.

Management is responsible for adjusting the financial statements to correct material misstatements and for confirming to us in the management representation letter that the effects of any uncorrected misstatements aggregated by us during the current engagement and pertaining to the latest period presented are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Management is responsible for the design and implementation of programs and controls to prevent and detect fraud and for informing us about all known or suspected fraud affecting the government involving (1) management, (2) employees who have significant roles in internal control, and (3) others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements. Management is also responsible for informing us of its knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the government received in communications from employees, former employees, grantors, regulators, or others. In addition, management is responsible for identifying and ensuring that the government complies with applicable laws and regulations, contracts, and grants. Management is also responsible for taking timely and appropriate steps to remedy fraud and noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, or abuse that we report. Additionally, as required by the Uniform Guidance, it is management's responsibility to evaluate and monitor noncompliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards; take prompt action when instances of noncompliance are identified including noncompliance identified in audit findings; promptly follow up and take corrective action on reported audit findings; and prepare a summary schedule of prior audit findings and a separate corrective action plan. The summary schedule of prior audit findings should be available for our review.

You are responsible for identifying all federal awards received and understanding and complying with the compliance requirements and for the preparation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards (including notes and noncash assistance received) in conformity with the Uniform Guidance. You agree to include our report on the schedule of expenditures of federal awards in any document that contains and indicates that we have reported on the schedule of expenditures of federal awards. You also agree to include the audited financial statements with any presentation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards that includes our report thereon.

Your responsibilities include acknowledging to us in the written representation letter that (1) you are responsible for presentation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards in accordance with the Uniform Guidance; (2) you believe the schedule of expenditures of federal awards, including its form and content, is stated fairly in accordance with the Uniform Guidance; (3) the methods of measurement or presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period (or, if they have changed, the reasons for such changes); and (4) you have disclosed to us any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement or presentation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards.

Management is responsible for the preparation of the supplementary information in conformity with GAAP. Management agrees to include our report on the supplementary information in any document that contains, and indicates that we have reported on, the supplementary information. Management also agrees to include the audited financial statements with any presentation of the supplementary information that includes our report thereon. Management's responsibilities include acknowledging to us in the representation letter that (1) you are responsible for presentation of the supplementary information in accordance with GAAP; (2) you believe the supplementary information, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with GAAP; (3) the methods of measurement or presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period (or, if they have changed, the reasons for such changes); and (4) you have disclosed to us any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement or presentation of the supplementary information.

We cannot perform management functions or make management decisions on behalf of Client. However, we may provide advice and recommendations to assist management in performing its functions and fulfilling its responsibilities. We may advise management about appropriate accounting principles and their application, but the responsibility for the financial statements remains with management.

Reporting

We will issue written reports, as listed in the following paragraph, upon completion of our audit of Client's financial statements. Our reports will be addressed to the president and board of trustees. Circumstances may arise in which our report may differ from its expected form and content based on the results of our audit. Depending on the nature of these circumstances, it may be necessary for us to modify our opinions, add a separate section, or add an emphasis-of-matter or other-matter paragraph to our auditor's report or, if necessary, withdraw from this engagement. If our opinions are other than unmodified, we will discuss the reasons with you in advance. If, for any reason, we are unable to complete the audit or are unable to form or have not formed opinions, we may decline to express opinions or withdraw from this engagement.

We expect to issue the following reports:

- A report on the financial statements including an opinion as to whether the schedule of expenditures of federal awards is presented fairly, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.
- A report on internal control over financial reporting and compliance based on an audit of financial statements performed in accordance with the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*.
- A report on compliance with requirements applicable to each major program and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance.

- A schedule of findings and questioned costs.

If Client intends to reproduce or publish these financial statements or any portion thereof, whether in paper or electronic form, subsequent to anticipated year-end filings, and make reference to our firm name in connection therewith, management agrees to provide us with proofs in sufficient time for our review and written approval before printing. If in our professional judgment the circumstances require, we may withhold our approval. Client agrees to compensate Wipfli for the time associated with such review.

Client acknowledges and agrees that any advice, recommendations, information, or work product provided to Client by Wipfli in connection with this engagement is for the sole use of Client and may not be relied upon by any third party. Wipfli has no liability or responsibility to any third parties as a result of this engagement.

Management Assistance

Assistance to be supplied by Client personnel, including the preparation of schedules and analysis of accounts, will be discussed with your personnel. Timely completion of this work will facilitate the completion of our engagement.

Engagement Administration

Matt Schueler will be your audit engagement partner and Sara McKenna will be your senior manager.

Professional and certain regulatory standards require us to be independent in both fact and appearance. Any discussions that you have with Wipfli personnel regarding employment could pose a threat to our independence. Therefore, we request that you inform us immediately prior to any such discussions so that we can implement appropriate safeguards to maintain our independence.

Other Services

We may prepare a draft of your financial statements and related notes. In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, management will be required to review and approve those financial statements prior to their issuance and have a responsibility to be in a position in fact and appearance to make an informed judgment on those financial statements. Further, you are required to designate a qualified management-level individual to be responsible and accountable for overseeing our services.

Management agrees to assume all management responsibilities for these services; oversee the services by designating an individual, preferably from senior management, with suitable skill, knowledge, or experience; evaluate the adequacy and results of the services; and accept responsibility for them.

Annual Information Filings

Our engagement will include the preparation of the Federal Data Collection Form. The full and timely completion of requested client assistance and provision of any adjusting entries known by you are critical in meeting the prescribed due dates for these forms. Penalties may be imposed if the filing deadlines are not met. If during the course of our engagement we become aware of additional state filing requirements, we will prepare those filings. Preparation of any additional filings and reports and accounting assistance as directed by management are not part of the fees for this engagement and will be billed at our standard hourly rates.

You are responsible for making all management decisions and performing all management functions and for designating an individual with suitable skill, knowledge, and/or experience, preferably within senior management, to oversee these services. You are responsible for evaluating the adequacy and results of the services performed and accepting responsibility for the results. You are also responsible for establishing and maintaining internal controls, including monitoring ongoing activities.

Conclusion and Approval to Proceed

If the terms above of this Engagement Letter are acceptable to you and the services outlined are in accordance with your requirements, please return a signed copy of this Letter to us.

We look forward to our continued association with you and your staff and appreciate the opportunity to serve you. Please do not hesitate to call us if you have any questions about the work we are to perform or any other aspect of the services we can provide.

Wipfli LLP

Wipfli LLP

ACCEPTED: SAUK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

By: _____

(Print Name and Title)

Date: _____

SM/th

Enc.

Revision Date (08/08/23)

1. **Entire Agreement**

These Terms and Conditions, together with the engagement letter (“Engagement Letter”) to which these Terms and Conditions are attached, and the Engagement Letter’s other appendixes and applicable Change Orders, if any, constitute the entire agreement between the parties on the subject matter thereof and supersede and merge all prior proposals (including prior proposals of Wipfli regarding the engagement), understandings, and agreements (oral or written) between the parties relating to the subject matter, including, without limitation, the terms of any request for proposal issued to Client or the standard printed terms on any purchase order issued by Client and any non-disclosure or confidentiality agreement between Wipfli and Client dated prior to the date of the Engagement Letter. No modification, amendment, supplement to, or waiver of these Terms and Conditions or Engagement Letter shall be binding upon the parties unless made in writing and duly signed by both parties. To the greatest extent reasonably possible, the provisions of the Engagement Letter, its Appendixes (including these Terms and Conditions), Implementation Plan, Change Orders, and any other exhibit, attachment, schedule, or other document referenced in or by the Engagement Letter shall be read together and harmonized to give effect to the parties’ intent. In the event of a direct conflict among the express provisions of the foregoing, the Engagement Letter shall be given controlling effect. No provision of these terms and conditions will apply to any attest services that may be performed by Wipfli for Client if such provision would impair Wipfli’s independence from Client required pursuant to applicable professional standards, such services being governed exclusively by the Engagement Letters issued with respect thereto. Wipfli may be referred to herein as “we” or “us” or in a similar manner, and Client may be referred to as “you” or in a similar manner, and such references shall be read in context.

2. **Commencement and Term**

The Engagement Letter shall become effective when signed by duly authorized representatives of both parties and shall remain in full force and effect until the services to be delivered under the Engagement Letter are complete (as reasonably determined by Wipfli) unless earlier terminated by either party as provided in the Engagement Letter or these Terms and Conditions. Each person executing an Engagement Letter on behalf of a party represents and warrants to the other that he or she has all power and authority to bind the party on whose behalf he or she is executing same.

3. **Termination of Agreement**

The Engagement Letter may be terminated as follows: (i) by either party immediately upon written notice to the other if either party hereto becomes the subject of voluntary or involuntary bankruptcy or other insolvency proceeding, (ii) by Wipfli or Client if either party defaults in the performance of any of its covenants and agreements set forth in the Engagement Letter or Change Order (except when such default is due to a cause beyond the control of the party) and such default is not cured within thirty (30) days after notice from either party specifying the nature of such default, and (iii) by Wipfli or Client with or without cause upon providing thirty (30) days written notice. Termination of the Engagement Letter shall have no effect on either party’s obligation to pay any amount due and owing with respect to such periods prior to the effective date of such termination.

Wipfli has the right to withdraw from this engagement with immediate effect if Client does not provide us with the information we request in a timely manner, refuses to cooperate with our reasonable requests, or misrepresents any facts. Our withdrawal will release us from any obligation to complete the engagement and will constitute completion of our engagement. Client agrees to compensate us for our time and out-of-pocket expenses through the date of our withdrawal.

4. **Fee Estimates and Change Orders**

Wipfli’s Engagement Letter may set forth certain ranges for Wipfli’s fees charged on any project or services. Wipfli provides fee estimates as an accommodation to Client. These estimates depend on certain assumptions, including: (a) anticipated cooperation from Client personnel, (b) timely responses to our inquiries, (c) timely completion and delivery of Client assistance requests, (d) timely communication of all significant accounting and financial reporting matters, (e) the assumption that unexpected circumstances will not be encountered during the engagement, and (f) where applicable, the assumption that Client’s hardware platform/computer system will, at the commencement of the services, be fully operable as intended and designed, functioning as necessary and available to Wipfli without material restriction for the duration of the services. Unless otherwise indicated in the Engagement Letter, fee estimates shall not be construed as or deemed to be a minimum or maximum fee quotation. Although Wipfli reasonably believes suggested fee ranges are accurate, Wipfli’s actual fees may vary from its fee estimates.

Services that fall outside the agreed-upon scope of Wipfli’s engagement shall be covered by a Change Order, or, if the nature and amount of such services are not material to the overall engagement, shall be delineated and included on Wipfli’s invoice for such services. A “Change Order” means a mutually agreed-upon change in the schedule or the time for Wipfli’s performance of the services on a project, the scope of specifications of a project, and/or the fees chargeable by Wipfli to Client, which is reduced to writing using an agreed-upon form that is executed by an authorized representative of each for Wipfli and Client.

Unless otherwise agreed in the Engagement Letter, miscellaneous expenses incurred by Wipfli in the course of performing the service will be charged in addition to Wipfli’s professional fees. Miscellaneous expenses may include, but are not limited to: travel, lodging, transportation, and meals for projects requiring travel; clerical processing; telecommunications charges; technology fees; delivery expenses; and all sales, use, ad valorem, excise, or other taxes or other governmental charges.

5. **Payment of Fees**

Unless otherwise agreed, all invoices are due and payable within thirty (30) days of the invoice date. All business or commercial accounts will be charged interest at the lesser of one percent (1%) per month or the maximum rate permitted by law, except where prohibited by law, on Client’s balance due to Wipfli that is outstanding over thirty (30) days. At our discretion, services may be suspended if Client’s account becomes overdue and will not be resumed until Client’s account is paid in full. Client acknowledges and agrees that we are not required to continue services in the event of a failure to pay on a timely basis for services rendered as required. Client further acknowledges and agrees that in the event Wipfli stops services or withdraws from this engagement as a result of Client’s failure to pay on a timely basis for services rendered as required by this Engagement Letter, Wipfli shall not be liable to Client for any damages that occur whether direct or indirect, foreseen or unforeseen, and whether or not the parties have been advised of the possibility of such damages.

In the event Wipfli is required to respond to a subpoena, court order, government regulatory inquiries, or other legal process related to Client or its management (other than a matter in which Wipfli is named as a party) for the production of documents and/or testimony relative to information we obtained and/or prepared during the course of this or any prior engagements, Client agrees to compensate us for all time we expend in connection with such response, at our regular rates, and to reimburse us for all related out-of-pocket costs, including attorney’s fees, that we incur. Any services under this paragraph will be deemed a separate engagement and, to the extent permitted by law and applicable professional standards, we will promptly notify you of the matter.

6. **Privacy and Engagement Staffing**

Wipfli expressly reserves the right to replace, in its sole discretion, any of our professional project team members, as necessary, to provide quality and timely service to Client. From time to time, and depending upon circumstances, Wipfli may use third-party service providers, such as independent contractors, specialists, or vendors to assist us in providing professional services, including tax services. These parties and their personnel may be located within or outside the United States. We may also use personnel from affiliates of Wipfli and other Wipfli-related entities (including our wholly-owned subsidiary based in India and contractors in the Philippines) or any of their respective affiliates. In addition, Wipfli may utilize third-party service providers, including cloud-based service providers, who may collect, use, transfer, transmit, store, or otherwise process Client information in connection with the delivery of certain services. Wipfli is committed to maintaining the confidentiality and security of Client's information, and accordingly, Wipfli maintains policies, procedures and safeguards to protect the confidentiality of Client information. In addition, our agreements with all service providers appropriately maintain and protect the confidentiality of Client information, provided we may use electronic media to transmit Client information and such use in itself will not constitute a breach of any confidentiality obligation. We remain responsible to Client for the supervision of all service providers, entities, and personnel who assist us in rendering professional services hereunder and for protecting the confidentiality of Client information. Client hereby consents and authorizes us to disclose Client information to the foregoing entities and parties for the purpose of providing professional services, including tax services, to Client.

Wipfli is committed to protecting personal information that can be linked to specific individuals, including health information ("Personal Data") and will maintain such Personal Data in confidence in accordance with professional standards and governing laws. Client will not provide any Personal Data to Wipfli unless necessary to perform professional services described in the Engagement Letter. When providing any Personal Data to us, Client will comply with all applicable laws (both foreign and domestic) and will anonymize, mask, obfuscate, and/or de-identify, if reasonably possible, all Personal Data that is not necessary to perform the professional services described in the Engagement Letter. Any Personal Data provided to us by Client will be kept confidential and not disclosed to any third party not described above (parties providing us assistance in rendering professional services) unless expressly permitted by Client or required by law, regulation, legal process, or to comply with professional standards applicable to Wipfli. Client is responsible for obtaining, pursuant to law or regulation, consents from parties that provided Client with their personal information, which will be obtained, used, and disclosed by Wipfli for its required purposes, and Wipfli may rely on the representation that Client has obtained such consents.

Please see Wipfli's Privacy Statement located at www.wipfli.com/privacy-statement for further information.

Applicable rules in some states require that we advise you that some persons who own an interest in Wipfli may not be licensed as Certified Public Accountants and may provide services related to this engagement.

7. **Intellectual Property Rights**

Client acknowledges that Wipfli owns all intellectual property rights, title, and interest to all materials and information produced or developed by Wipfli throughout the duration of this engagement, excluding any pre-existing ownership right of Client and without implying any ownership interest in any Client materials, data or other information, all of which shall remain the property of Client. Upon completion of the services contemplated by the Engagement Letter, Wipfli grants to Client a perpetual paid-up license to use or modify, for internal purposes only, any deliverable produced by Wipfli and actually delivered to Client, provided that any use or modification of such deliverable, other

than for the stated purposes in the Engagement Letter, is not authorized. In addition, Client shall not alter or remove any of Wipfli's trademarks, copyright registration marks, patent, or other intellectual property notices applicable to any of Wipfli's goods, marketing material, or advertising media, and shall not in any way alter any of Wipfli's products. Client shall promptly notify Wipfli in writing of any infringement of Wipfli's intellectual property by third parties of which Client becomes aware. Neither party shall acquire any right, title, or interest in or to the other party's code, data, business processes, or other information to which such party may have access during the term of the engagement hereunder. All such code, data, business process and other information shall be solely and exclusively the property of the originating party.

8. **Mutual Confidentiality**

During the course of performing services, the parties may have access to information that is confidential to one another, including, without limitation, source code, documentation, specifications, databases, system design, file layouts, tool combinations, development methods, or business or financial affairs, which may incorporate business methods, marketing strategies, pricing, competitor information, product development strategies and methods, customer lists, customer information, and financial results (collectively "Confidential Information"). Confidential Information may include information received from third parties, both written and oral, that each party is obligated to treat as confidential.

Confidential Information shall not include any information that (i) is already known by the recipient party or its affiliates, free of any obligation to keep it confidential, (ii) is or becomes publicly known through no wrongful act of the receiving party or its affiliates, (iii) is received by the receiving party from a third party without any restriction on confidentiality, (iv) is independently developed by the receiving party or its affiliates, (v) is disclosed to third parties by the disclosing party without any obligation of confidentiality, or (vi) is approved for release by prior written authorization of the disclosing party.

Without the advance written consent of the other party, except as required by law, regulation, or to comply with professional standards applicable to a party or for the performance of the services, neither party shall disclose to a third party Confidential Information of the other party. Each party agrees to maintain at least the same procedures regarding Confidential Information that it maintains with respect to its own Confidential Information. Each party may use the Confidential Information received from the other party only in connection with fulfilling its obligations under this Agreement. The parties further agree that expiration or termination of this Agreement, for any reason, shall not relieve either party, nor minimize their obligations with respect to Confidential Information, as set forth herein.

9. **Independent Contractor**

The relationship between Wipfli and Client is solely and exclusively that of independently contracting parties.

10. **Non-Exclusivity**

No right of exclusivity is granted, guaranteed, or implied by Wipfli and Client entering into any engagement letter. Client acknowledges that Wipfli regularly performs the same or similar services as are being provided hereunder to third parties.

11. **Dispute Resolution**

If any dispute arises among the parties regarding the subject matter hereof and such dispute cannot be resolved through informal negotiations and discussion, the parties agree to try in good faith to settle the dispute by mediation administered by the American Arbitration Association under its applicable rules for resolving professional accounting and related services disputes before resorting to arbitration or litigation. Costs of any mediation proceeding shall be shared equally by all parties. Except for an action by us to collect payment of our invoices, Wipfli and Client

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agree that no claim arising out of services rendered pursuant to the Engagement Letter or any Change Order shall be filed: (i) in the case of any report or deliverable issued by Wipfli under the Engagement Letter, no later than two years from the date of such report or deliverable (or if no report or deliverable is issued, two years from the date of the Engagement Letter), or (ii) in the case of any tax form or similar governmental filing, no later than two years after the initial due date of such tax form or filing.

of Wipfli; provided that in no event shall such assignment relieve Wipfli of its obligations under this Engagement Letter.

12. **Governing Law**

Any and all claims relating to agreements between Wipfli and Client for any service shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the internal laws of the state in which the Wipfli office which issues the Engagement Letter related to the services is located.

13. **Severability**

In the event that any term or provision of the Engagement Letter or these Terms and Conditions shall be held to be invalid, void, or unenforceable, then the remainder shall not be affected and each remaining term or condition shall be valid and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.

14. **Notices**

All notices required to be given to either party under the Engagement Letter shall be in writing and sent by traceable carrier to each party's address indicated on the Engagement Letter, or such other address as a party may indicate by at least ten (10) business days' prior written notice to the other party. Notices shall be effective upon receipt. A copy of such notice should be provided to Wipfli's General Counsel at wipfli-legal@wipfli.com.

15. **Electronic Signature**

Each party hereto agrees that any electronic signature of a party to the Engagement Letter or any electronic signature to a document contemplated hereby is intended to authenticate such writing and shall be as valid, and have the same force and effect, as a manual signature. Any such electronically signed document shall be deemed (i) to be "written" or "in writing," (ii) to have been signed, and (iii) to constitute a record established and maintained in the ordinary course of business and an original written record when printed from electronic files. Each party hereto also agrees that electronic delivery of a signature to any such document (via email or otherwise) shall be as effective as manual delivery of a manual signature. For purposes hereof, "electronic signature" includes, but is not limited to: (i) a scanned copy (as a "pdf" (portable document format) or other replicating image) of a manual ink signature, (ii) an electronic copy of a traditional signature affixed to a document, (iii) a signature incorporated into a document utilizing touchscreen capabilities, or (iv) a digital signature. Neither party shall contest the admissibility of true and accurate copies of electronically signed documents on the basis of the best evidence rule or as not satisfying the business records exception to the hearsay rule.

16. **Record Retention**

We will retain records related to this engagement pursuant to our record retention policy. At the end of the relevant time period, we will destroy our records related to this engagement. However, Client's original records will be returned to Client upon the completion of the engagement. When records are returned, it is Client's responsibility to retain and protect the records for possible future use, including potential examination by governmental or regulatory agencies.

17. **Assignment**

The Engagement Letter to which these Terms and Conditions are attached shall be binding on the parties hereto and their respective successors and assigns. Neither party may assign this Engagement Letter without prior written consent of the other, except that Wipfli may assign its rights and obligations under this Engagement Letter without the approval of Client to an entity that acquires all or substantially all of the assets of Wipfli or to any subsidiary or affiliate or successor in a merger, acquisition, or change of control

18. **Force Majeure**

Either party may suspend (or if such suspension continues for more than thirty (30) days, terminate) its obligations (except the obligation to pay for services previously rendered) under the Engagement Letter or any amendment or Change Order, if such obligations are delayed, prevented, or rendered impractical or impossible due to circumstances beyond its reasonable control, including, without limitation, fires, floods, storms, washouts, tsunamis, earthquakes, wars (declared or undeclared), civil disturbances, accidents, terrorist acts (including biochemical attacks), health pandemics, acts of any governmental body, damage to its plants and equipment, computer network problems caused by any Internet Service Provider or telecommunications company servicing Wipfli and/or Client, or acts of God or events beyond a party's control (collectively referred to herein as "Force Majeure"). Each party will use reasonable efforts to promptly minimize the duration and consequences of any failure of or delay in performance resulting from a Force Majeure event. In such event, the affected party will not be liable to the other for delay or failure to perform its obligations under this Engagement Letter.