

MEMORANDUM

TO: Audit Committee

THROUGH: Audit Committee Chair Matthew Dent

FROM: Member At-Large Cliff Dobler
Audit Committee Chair Matthew Dent

SUBJECT: Review, discuss Nevada Revised Statutes and Board Policy as it relates to the annual audit

DATE: April 20, 2021

I. RECOMMENDATION

The Audit Committee has a future agenda item to discuss deliverables with our new auditor.

II. BACKGROUND

At the March 11th Audit Committee Meeting, the members discussed bring back an item to build upon 19/20 CAFR and address the areas for improvement. The Board Policy relating to the annual financial audit is Policy 15.1.0 and the Nevada Revised Statutes relating to the annual financial audit in conjunction with outside auditor are the following:

NRS 354.486, NRS 354.624, NRS 354.624, NRS 354.6245, and NRS 354.625.

It is recommended we specifically focus on the following policy and statutes:

- Policy 15.1 (2.4.7), (2.3.3), (2.3.5), (2.5.1), (2.5.2), (2.5.3), & (2.9)
- NRS 354.486 (4)(7), NRS 354.624 (4)(4b)(5A)(7)(8)(9),
354.6241 (1c), NRS 354.6245 (1), NRS 354.625 (3)



Accounting, Auditing, and Financial Reporting Audit Committee Policy 15.1.0

The Incline Village General Improvement District is committed to be proactive, informed, and providing the highest form of financial accountability to its parcel owners. Achieving this goal requires clear rules and procedures for making decisions and their impact on financial results.

The Government Finance Officers Association encourages the effective use of an audit committee in the public sector and considers this committee an integral element of public accountability and governance. The Audit Committee plays a key role with respect to the integrity of the District's financial information by ensuring those responsible for financial management (management, auditors, and the Board of Trustees) meets their respective responsibilities for internal controls compliance and financial reporting.

To be effective, an audit committee should be formally established by the Board of Trustees, be adequately funded, and properly documented.

POLICY: The Audit Committee ("Committee") is to assist the Board of Trustees fulfill its responsibilities in accordance with Nevada Revised Statutes, District Policies, Practices, Ordinances, and Resolutions by providing oversight over the District's financial reports, the systems of internal controls including the internal audit plans and reports, and the independent external auditor's assessment of financial statements.

The Committee will ensure open communication and maintain strong working relationships with the IVGID Board of Trustees, the General Manager, Director of Finance, and internal/external auditors.

The Audit Committee Charter shall be reviewed periodically with recommended changes submitted to the Board of Trustees for approval.

ORGANIZATION: The Committee shall consist of five (5) voting members. This includes two Board appointed Trustees and three Board appointed qualified At-Large Members. The Committee can be expanded to an odd number. Recommendations for expanding the number of voting members will be approved by the Committee and submitted to the Board of Trustees for approval. The Committee is to retain a financial advisor, potentially a resource from the external audit firm, to attend meetings, provide guidance and training, as needed.

Members of the Audit Committee should obtain an understanding of accounting, auditing, financial reporting, and internal control to be able, with the assistance of



**Accounting, Auditing, and Financial Reporting
Audit Committee
Policy 15.1.0**

a financial advisor, to deliberate on issues for which the Committee is responsible. Therefore, the Board of Trustees may need to budget for an outside financial advisor to assist the Committee with the independent conduct of its work. The financial advisor will be responsible for ensuring the Committee members receive training relative to internal controls, understanding of financial reports, internal audit processes, governmental regulations, and other pertinent information. The advisor should possess the following qualifications:

- A thorough understanding and experience with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), Government Accounting Standard Board (GASB), and financial reporting for the public sector
- Experience either preparing or auditing financial statements for similar entities
- Experience with accounting estimates and accruals
- Experience with financial internal controls
- An understanding of the function of an audit committee

Committee members shall be independent. They shall not accept any consulting, advisory, or other compensatory fee from the District. All members shall not be an affiliated person with the District.

- Annually, the Board of Trustees will appoint two Trustees to be voting members. Appointing Trustees to serve successive years increases the consistency and allows for knowledge retention. In the event a Trustee is removed or resigns, the Board of Trustees shall appoint a new member to the committee.
- At-Large Members shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees from applicants with appropriate expertise with staggering two-year terms.
 - For the first appointment, one member will serve a one-year term and the other two will serve a two-year term.
 - Each subsequent appointment will serve two-year terms.

One voting member of the Committee shall be appointed by the Committee to be the Chair. The Chair will schedule all Committee meetings and provide Committee members with a written agenda for each meeting. Committee Members may request agenda items for the Chair's consideration and approval.

The voting Committee members are limited to two 2-year terms which may be extended in the event there are no interested and qualified applicants.



**Accounting, Auditing, and Financial Reporting
Audit Committee
Policy 15.1.0**

1.0 Independent auditor reports directly to the Audit Committee

The independent auditor reports directly to the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee is expected to maintain free and open communication with the independent auditor and District Staff. This communication may include periodic executive sessions with each of these parties. The independent auditor is to bring to the attention of the Committee any additional work required, beyond the scope of work contained in the engagement agreement, to fulfill their responsibilities.

2.0 Scope of Audit Committee's Authority and Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of the Committee to provide independent review and oversight of:

1. Financial reporting
2. Internal controls
3. The independent audit of financial statements

To fulfill these responsibilities, the Committee must:

- 2.1 Be independent, effectively communicate, and reinforce accountability.
- 2.2 Manage the external independent audit procurement process.
 - 2.2.1 Ascertain that the Request For Proposal (RFP) for a firm to be retained by the District for the annual financial audit is no more than five fiscal years with those directly supervising audit staff rotating at least every two years and audit engagement partners rotating at least every three years.
 - 2.2.2 Select the independent external auditor.
- 2.3 Make recommendations to the Board of Trustees and take subsequent action to engage an external auditor for the District's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR)
 - 2.3.1 Make recommendations on the scope of work including the identification of funds to be audited.



**Accounting, Auditing, and Financial Reporting
Audit Committee
Policy 15.1.0**

- 2.3.2 If deemed necessary, identify and recommend additional services to be performed.
- 2.3.3 By March 31st of each year, the Board of Trustees is to formally designate an external audit firm and inform the Nevada Department of Taxation.
- 2.3.4 When appropriate replace the independent external auditors or auditing firms doing work for the District and initiate the procurement process (2.2).
- 2.3.5 Approve the scope of work and audit plans by June of each year.

- 2.4 Facilitate the external audit process.
 - 2.4.1 Review and approve formal reports or letters to be submitted to the external auditor.
 - 2.4.2 Provide an independent forum for (external and/or internal resources) auditors to report findings or difficulties encountered during the audit.
 - 2.4.3 Review the auditors' report of findings and recommendations with management and the auditor.
 - 2.4.4 Review the CAFR in its entirety, including unaudited sections and letters.
 - 2.4.5 Follow -up on any corrective action identified.
 - 2.4.6 Submit a written annual Audit Committee Report to the District's Board of Trustees in conjunction with the presentation of the annual audit.
 - 2.4.7 Assess the performance of the independent auditors.

- 2.5 Review the financial statements; quarterly and annually for fair and accurate reporting.
 - 2.5.1 Review any changes in accounting policy.
 - 2.5.2 Ensure accounting policies are followed.
 - 2.5.3 Review any off-balance sheet financings.

- 2.6 Review the framework of internal controls; ensuring management establishes, implements and reviews internal controls on a regular basis for functionality and effectiveness.



**Accounting, Auditing, and Financial Reporting
Audit Committee
Policy 15.1.0**

- 2.6.1 Review the annual internal control audit plan(s).
- 2.6.2 Review management's annual assessment of their internal controls for prior year's audit plan.
- 2.6.3 Evaluate management's identification of fraud risks, ensure the implementation of anti-fraud measures and that management is setting the tone at the top that fraud will not be accepted in any form.
- 2.6.4 The Committee may identify a need to engage an external Internal Auditor to address a specific area of concern.
 - 2.6.4.1 The Committee will review and approve or modify Management's proposal for the scope of work and selection of the resource.
 - 2.6.4.2 Management is responsible for engaging the resource to perform the scope of work and overseeing contract deliverables.
 - 2.6.4.3 Management will have the responsibility for implementation of identified internal control changes or enhancements.
 - 2.6.4.4 Management will report the findings and resolutions to the Committee.
- 2.7 Periodically review the District's code of conduct that promotes honest and ethical conduct; full, fair, accurate, timely, and understandable disclosure in periodic reports; and compliance with applicable policies to ensure it is adequate and up-to-date.
- 2.8 To review and refine as necessary the procedures for the receipt, retention, and treatment of complaints received by the District, from the public or anonymous submissions by employees of the District, regarding accounting, internal accounting controls, auditing matters, or suspected fraud.
 - 2.8.1 Review and refine as needed the procedures for educating employees on their individual role in ensuring the District's financial integrity.
 - 2.8.2 Ensure employees of the District have an anonymous method for concerns to be submitted.
 - 2.8.3 Publicize the means for the public and employees to submit concerns to the Audit Committee.



**Accounting, Auditing, and Financial Reporting
Audit Committee
Policy 15.1.0**

2.8.4 Review any submissions received, monitor the status of all submissions, ensure their timely resolution, and the document handling or disposition.

2.9 The Audit Committee is to submit an annual report to the Board of Trustees assessing the results of its fulfillment of its duties and responsibilities.

3.0 Meetings

3.1 Meetings are to be conducted in accordance with the state's Open Meeting Law NRS 241. The Board of Trustees will be emailed a copy of the meeting minutes. Meeting minutes will be posted on the District website.

3.2 The committee will hold meetings at a minimum of once per quarter. All members are expected to attend on a regular basis.

3.3 Review correspondence to determine if any action is to be taken. If needed, assign the responsibility to investigate and resolve the concern/question to the appropriate organizational leader. Communicate with the submitter, if known, regarding their submitted concern.

3.4 Review all past correspondence with action outstanding. Ensure responses and/or corrective action is taken in a timely manner.

3.5 The committee may ask members of management or others to attend meetings and provide pertinent information as necessary.

3.6 The committee Chair shall establish the agenda for meetings and provide all briefing materials to members and the public in advance.

3.7 An annual meeting is to be held with the independent external auditors, the General Manager, the Director of Finance, legal counsel and anyone else as desired by the Committee to review the audited annual financial statements including the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and the auditor's letter of findings.

**NEVADA REVISED STATUTES RELATING TO THE ANNUAL
FINANCIAL AUDIT IN CONJUNCTION WITH OUTSIDE AUDITOR.**

NRS 354.486 “Audit” defined. “Audit” means the examination and analysis of financial statements, accounting procedures and other evidence made in conformity with generally accepted auditing standards in the United States for one or more of the following purposes:

1. Determining the propriety and mathematical accuracy of material financial transactions;

2. Ascertaining whether financial transactions have been properly recorded;

3. Ascertaining whether the financial statements prepared from the accounting records fairly present in all material respects the financial position and the results of financial operations and cash flows of the governmental unit in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States and **on a basis which is consistent with that of the preceding year;**

4. **Evaluating internal accounting controls over financial reporting of the handling of the public money and public property;**

5. Determining whether the fiscal controls established by law and administrative regulations are being properly applied;

6. Determining whether there is any evidence that fraud or dishonesty has occurred in the handling of funds or property;

7. **Determining whether the acquisition, depreciation and disposition of property and equipment are accounted for in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States; and**

8. Determining whether the removal of the uncollectible accounts receivable from the records of a governmental unit is done in accordance with the procedure established by law and administrative regulations.

(Added to NRS by 1965, 726; A 1981, 1760; 1993, 1199; 2001, 1796)

NRS 354.624 Annual audit: Requirements; designation of auditor; scope and disposition; dissemination; prohibited provision in contract with auditor.

1. Each local government shall provide for an annual audit of all of its financial statements. A local government may provide for more frequent audits as it deems necessary. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, each annual audit must be concluded and the report of the audit submitted to the governing body as provided in subsection 6 not later than 5 months after the close of the fiscal year for which the audit is conducted. An extension of this time may be granted by the Department of Taxation to any local government that submits an application for an extension to the Department. If the local government fails to provide for an audit in accordance with the provisions of this section, the Department of Taxation shall cause the audit to be

**NEVADA REVISED STATUTES RELATING TO THE ANNUAL
FINANCIAL AUDIT IN CONJUNCTION WITH OUTSIDE AUDITOR.**

made at the expense of the local government. All audits must be conducted by a certified public accountant or by a partnership or professional corporation that is registered pursuant to chapter 628 of NRS.

2. The annual audit of a school district must:

(a) Be concluded and the report submitted to the board of trustees as provided in subsection 6 not later than 4 months after the close of the fiscal year for which the audit is conducted.

(b) If the school district has more than 150,000 pupils enrolled, include an audit of the expenditure by the school district of public money used:

(1) To design, construct or purchase new buildings for schools or related facilities;

(2) To enlarge, remodel or renovate existing buildings for schools or related facilities; and

(3) To acquire sites for building schools or related facilities, or other real property for purposes related to schools.

3. The governing body may, without requiring competitive bids, designate the auditor or firm annually. The auditor or firm must be designated, and notification of the auditor or firm designated must be sent to the Department of Taxation not later than 3 months before the close of the fiscal year for which the audit is to be made.

4. Each annual audit must cover the business of the local government during the full fiscal year. It must be a financial audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards in the United States, **including findings on compliance with statutes and regulations** and an expression of opinion on the financial statements. **The Department of Taxation shall prescribe the form of the financial statements**, and the chart of accounts must be as nearly as possible the same as the chart that is used in the preparation and publication of the annual budget. The report of the audit must include:

(a) A schedule of all fees imposed by the local government which were subject to the provisions of NRS 354.5989; (Business Licenses not applicable)

(b) A comparison of the operations of the local government with the approved budget, **including a statement from the auditor that indicates whether the governing body has taken action on the audit report for the prior year**;

(c) If the local government is subject to the provisions of NRS 244.186, a report showing that the local government is in compliance with the provisions of paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection 1 of NRS 244.186; and

(d) If the local government is subject to the provisions of NRS 710.140 or 710.145, (outside of boundaries) a report showing that the local government is in compliance with the provisions of those sections with regard to the

**NEVADA REVISED STATUTES RELATING TO THE ANNUAL
FINANCIAL AUDIT IN CONJUNCTION WITH OUTSIDE AUDITOR.**

facilities and property it maintains and the services it provides outside its territorial boundaries.

5. Each local government shall provide to its auditor:

(a) A statement indicating whether each of the following funds established by the local government is being used expressly for the purposes for which it was created, in the form required by NRS 354.6241:

(1) An enterprise fund.

(2) An internal service fund.

(3) A fiduciary fund.

(4) A self-insurance fund.

(5) A fund whose balance is required by law to be:

(I) Used only for a specific purpose other than the payment of compensation to a bargaining unit, as defined in NRS 288.134; or

(II) Carried forward to the succeeding fiscal year in any designated amount. (Use of Special Revenue Fund resources for capital projects not in accordance with GAAP)

(b) A list and description of any property conveyed to a nonprofit organization pursuant to NRS 244.287 or 268.058.

(c) If the local government is subject to the provisions of NRS 244.186, a declaration indicating that the local government is in compliance with the provisions of paragraph (c) of subsection 1 of NRS 244.186.

(d) If the local government is subject to the provisions of NRS 710.140 or 710.145, a declaration indicating that the local government is in compliance with the provisions of those sections with regard to the facilities and property it maintains and the services it provides outside its territorial boundaries.

6. The opinion and findings of the auditor contained in the report of the audit must be presented at a meeting of the governing body held not more than 30 days after the report is submitted to it. Immediately thereafter, the entire report, together with the management letter required by generally accepted auditing standards in the United States or by regulations adopted pursuant to NRS 354.594, must be filed as a public record with:

(a) The clerk or secretary of the governing body;

(b) The county clerk;

(c) The Department of Taxation; and

(d) In the case of a school district, the Department of Education.

7. After the report of the audit is filed by the local government, the report of the audit, including, without limitation, the opinion and **findings of the auditor contained in the report of the audit, may be disseminated by or on behalf of the**

**NEVADA REVISIED STATUTES RELATING TO THE ANNUAL
FINANICAL AUDIT IN CONJUNCTION WITH OUTSIDE AUDITOR.**

local government for which the report was prepared by inclusion, without limitation, in or on:

- (a) An official statement or other document prepared in connection with the offering of bonds or other securities;
- (b) A filing made pursuant to the laws or regulations of this State;
- (c) A filing made pursuant to a rule or regulation of the Securities and Exchange Commission of the United States; or
- (d) A website maintained by a local government on the Internet or its successor, ↪ without the consent of the auditor who prepared the report of the audit. A provision of a contract entered into between an auditor and a local government that is contrary to the provisions of this subsection is against the public policy of this State and is void and unenforceable.

8. If an auditor finds evidence of fraud or dishonesty in the financial statements of a local government, the auditor shall report such evidence to the appropriate level of management in the local government.

9. The governing body shall act upon the recommendations of the report of the audit within 3 months after receipt of the report, unless prompter action is required concerning violations of law or regulation, by setting forth in its minutes its intention to adopt the recommendations, to adopt them with modifications or to reject them for reasons shown in the minutes.

(Added to NRS by 1965, 735; A 1967, 939; 1969, 800; 1971, 1344; 1973, 184; 1975, 451, 1688, 1801; 1977, 547; 1981, 313, 1768; 1987, 1043; 1989, 620; 1995, 1896, 1935; 1997, 574, 1611, 1739; 1999, 472, 2945; 2001, 1810; 2003, 1231; 2005, 292, 1344)

NRS 354.6241 Contents of statement provided by local government to auditor; expenditure of excess reserves in certain funds; restrictions on use of budgeted ending fund balance in certain circumstances. [Effective through June 30, 2021.]

1. The statement required by paragraph (a) of subsection 5 of NRS 354.624 must indicate for each fund set forth in that paragraph:

(a) Whether the fund is being used in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

(b) Whether the fund is being administered in accordance with **generally accepted accounting procedures**.

(c) Whether the reserve in the fund is limited to an amount that is **reasonable and necessary to carry out the purposes of the fund**.

**NEVADA REVISIED STATUTES RELATING TO THE ANNUAL
FINANICAL AUDIT IN CONJUNCTION WITH OUTSIDE AUDITOR.**

(d) The sources of revenues available for the fund during the fiscal year, including transfers from any other funds.

(e) The statutory and regulatory requirements applicable to the fund.

(f) The balance and retained earnings of the fund.

2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3 and NRS 354.59891 and 354.613, to the extent that the reserve in any fund set forth in paragraph (a) of subsection 5 of NRS 354.624 exceeds the amount that is reasonable and necessary to carry out the purposes for which the fund was created, the reserve may be expended by the local government pursuant to the provisions of chapter 288 of NRS.

3. For any local government other than a school district, for the purposes of chapter 288 of NRS, a budgeted ending fund balance of not more than 16.67 percent of the total budgeted expenditures, less capital outlay, for a general fund:

(a) Is not subject to negotiations with an employee organization; and

(b) Must not be considered by a fact finder or arbitrator in determining the financial ability of the local government to pay compensation or monetary benefits.

(Added to NRS by 1995, 1934; A 2001, 387, 1812; 2011, 1690; 2015, 2967; 2019, 3608)

NRS 354.6245 Review of annual audits by Department of Taxation; referral of accountant who issued noncompliant audit to Nevada State Board of Accountancy; plan of correction of violations.

1. The Department of Taxation shall review each annual audit to determine whether it complies with regulations adopted pursuant to NRS 354.594. **Any independent auditor's report, whether upon financial position and results of operations or upon internal financial controls, which the Department believes may not comply with those regulations must be referred by the Department to the Nevada State Board of Accountancy for investigation and such action in respect to the issuing accountant as the Board may find appropriate in the circumstances.**

2. In its review of the annual audits submitted, the Department shall identify all violations of statute and regulation reported therein. Within 60 days after the delivery of the annual audit to the local government, the governing body shall advise the Department what action has been taken to prevent recurrence of each violation of law or regulation or to correct each continuing violation. The Department shall evaluate the local government's proposed plan of correction and, if the plan is satisfactory, shall so advise the governing body. If the plan is not satisfactory, the

***NEVADA REVISED STATUTES RELATING TO THE ANNUAL
FINANICAL AUDIT IN CONJUNCTION WITH OUTSIDE AUDITOR.***

Department shall advise the governing body that it deems the plan inadequate and propose an alternative plan. Within 30 days thereafter the governing body shall report its assent to the Department's plan or request a hearing before the Nevada Tax Commission. This hearing must be held at the next meeting of the Commission, but the hearing must not be held more than 90 days after such a request is received. The determination of the Nevada Tax Commission is final.

3. If the governing body fails to submit a proposed plan of correction pursuant to subsection 2, or the Executive Director of the Department of Taxation determines that the plan established is not being complied with, he or she must, through the Office of the Attorney General, seek a writ from a court of competent jurisdiction to compel compliance.

(Added to NRS by 1981, 310; A 1983, 252)

NRS 354.625 Records relating to property and equipment; control of inventory. The governing body of every local government shall:

1. Cause to be established and maintained adequate property and equipment records and, where appropriate, adequate inventory controls. Any local government created after July 1, 1975, shall establish such records and controls within 1 year after its creation unless the Department of Taxation grants an extension of time.

2. Require that all such property, equipment and inventory records clearly indicate specific ownership.

3. Designate, by entry in the minutes of the governing body, the officer, employee or officers or employees responsible for the maintenance of property and equipment records and, where appropriate, inventory records, and notify the Department of Taxation of such designation.

(Added to NRS by 1967, 940; A 1975, 157, 1689)