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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT’S REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

June 28, 2016

The Honorable Nikki R. Haley, Governor
and
Members of the Panel
South Carolina Procurement Review Panel
Columbia, South Carolina

We have performed the procedures described below, which were agreed to by the governing body and management of South Carolina Procurement Review Panel (the Panel), solely to assist you in evaluating the performance of the Panel for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015, in the areas addressed. The Panel’s management is responsible for its financial records, internal controls and compliance with State laws and regulations. This agreed-upon procedures engagement was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The sufficiency of these procedures is solely the responsibility of the specified parties in this report. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

The procedures and the associated findings are as follows:

1. **Cash Receipts and Revenues**
   - We inspected five selected recorded receipts to determine if these receipts were properly described and classified in the accounting records in accordance with the agency’s policies and procedures and State regulations.
   - We inspected three selected recorded receipts to determine if these receipts were recorded in the proper fiscal year.
   - We made inquiries and performed substantive procedures to determine if revenue collection and retention or remittance were supported by law.
   - We compared current year recorded revenues at the subfund and account level from sources other than State General Fund appropriations to those of the prior year. We investigated changes in the earmarked fund to ensure that revenue was classified properly in the agency’s accounting records. The scope was based on agreed upon materiality levels ($100 – earmarked fund) and ± 10 percent.

   The individual transactions selected were chosen randomly. We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.
2. **Non-Payroll Disbursements and Expenditures**
   - We inspected fifteen selected recorded non-payroll disbursements to determine if these disbursements were properly described and classified in the accounting records in accordance with the agency’s policies and procedures and State regulations, were bona fide disbursements of the Panel, and were paid in conformity with State laws and regulations; if the acquired goods and/or services were procured in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.
   - We inspected five selected recorded non-payroll disbursements to determine if these disbursements were recorded in the proper fiscal year.
   - We compared current year expenditures at the subfund and account level to those of the prior year. We investigated changes in the general and earmarked funds to ensure that expenditures were classified properly in the agency’s accounting records. The scope was based on agreed upon materiality levels ($3,200 – general fund, $0 – earmarked fund) and ±10 percent.

   The individual transactions selected were chosen randomly. Our finding as a result of these procedures is presented in General Ledger Account Coding in the Accountant’s Comments section of this report.

3. **Payroll Disbursements and Expenditures**
   - We inspected five selected recorded payroll disbursements to determine if the selected payroll transactions were properly described, classified, and distributed in the accounting records; persons on the payroll were bona fide employees; and payroll transactions were properly authorized and were in accordance with existing legal requirements and processed in accordance with the agency’s policies and procedures and State regulations.
   - We compared current year payroll expenditures at the subfund and account level to those of the prior year. We investigated changes in the general fund to ensure that expenditures were classified properly in the agency’s accounting records. The scope was based on agreed upon materiality levels ($3,200 – general fund) and ±10 percent.
   - We compared the percentage change in recorded personal service expenditures to the percentage change in employer contributions between the current year and prior year; and computed the percentage distribution of recorded fringe benefit expenditures by fund source and compared the computed distribution to the actual distribution of recorded payroll expenditures by fund source. We investigated changes of ±10 percent to ensure that payroll expenditures were classified properly in the agency’s accounting records.

   The individual transactions selected were chosen randomly. We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.
4. **Journal Entries, Operating Transfers and Appropriation Transfers**
   - We inspected four journal entries and one appropriation transfer to determine if these transactions were properly described and classified in the accounting records; they agreed with the supporting documentation, the purpose of the transactions was documented and explained, the transactions were properly approved, and were mathematically correct; and the transactions were processed in accordance with the agency's policies and procedures and State regulations.

   We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.

5. **Appropriation Act**
   - We inspected agency documents, observed processes, and/or made inquiries of agency personnel to determine the Panel's compliance with Appropriation Act general provisos as listed in the Appropriation Act work program, and agency specific provisos, if applicable.

   We noted no exceptions as a result of the procedures.

6. **Reporting Packages**
   - We obtained copies of all reporting packages as of and for the year ended June 30, 2015, prepared by the Panel and submitted to the State Comptroller General. We inspected them to determine if they were prepared in accordance with the Comptroller General's Reporting Policies and Procedures Manual requirements and if the amounts reported in the reporting packages agreed with the supporting workpapers and accounting records.

   We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.

7. **Status of Prior Findings**
   - We inquired about the status of the finding reported in the Accountant’s Comments section of the State Auditor’s Report on the South Carolina Procurement Review Panel resulting from our engagement for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014, to determine if the Panel had taken corrective action.

   We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.
The concept of materiality does not apply to findings to be reported in an agreed-upon procedures engagement. Therefore, all findings from the application of the agreed-upon procedures must be reported unless the definition of materiality is agreed to by the specified parties. Management of the Panel has agreed that the following deficiencies will not be included in the State Auditor’s Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures:

- Clerical errors of less than $100 related to processing cash receipts and cash disbursements transactions unless the errors occur in ten percent or more of the transaction class tested.
- Clerical errors of less than $100 related to reporting packages.
- Errors in applying account coding definitions to accounting transactions unless it is determined that ten percent or more of the accounting transactions tested were found to be in error.
- Reporting packages which are submitted less than three business days after the due date unless it is determined that more than two of the reporting packages were submitted late.
- Submission of the Schedule of Federal Financial Assistance less than three business days late.

We were not engaged to and did not conduct an examination, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion on the specified elements, accounts, or items. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Governor and of the governing body and management of the South Carolina Procurement Review Panel and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

George L. Kennedy, III, CPA
State Auditor
ACCOUNTANT’S COMMENTS
SECTION A – VIOLATION OF STATE LAWS, RULES OR REGULATIONS

Management of each State agency is responsible for establishing and maintaining internal controls to ensure compliance with State Laws, Rules or Regulations. The procedures agreed to by the agency require that we plan and perform the engagement to determine whether any violations of State Laws, Rules or Regulations occurred.

The condition described in this section has been identified as a violation of State Laws, Rules or Regulations.
GENERAL LEDGER ACCOUNT CODING

Condition:

During our testing of non-payroll disbursements and expenditures, we noted the following errors in general ledger account coding during transaction processing:

- During our review of the expenditure and disbursement analyticals for the Panel, we noted a refund coded to G/L account 5130010000 Retirement SRS instead of coding the refund to G/L account 4520010000 Refund of Prior Year Expenditures.

- We noted that the agency made a purchase of office supplies and coded the purchase to G/L account 5030010005 Controllable Office Supplies instead of coding the purchase to G/L account 5030010000 Office Supplies.

- We noted two mileage reimbursements made to two panel members which were coded to G/L account 5050040001 In-State Auto Mileage Reduced instead of coding the disbursements to G/L account 5050040000 HR-In-State Auto Mileage.

- We noted two disbursements for monthly copier service that were coded to G/L account 5030010000 Office Supplies instead of G/L account 5040050000 Rental-Contingent Rental Payments.

- We noted two instances where the agency made disbursements for database charges and coded the disbursements to G/L account 5020090000 Telephone and Telegraph instead of coding the disbursements to G/L account 5020070000 Data Process Services – Other.

Cause:

Agency oversight.

Effect:

The above general ledger account balances were not accurate at year-end.

Criteria:

Effective internal controls require safeguards to ensure that transactions are properly recorded. The Comptroller General’s Office Policies and Procedures include the specific definitions for coding transactions to the proper revenue and expenditure accounts.

Recommendation:

We recommend the Panel implement procedures to ensure that personnel responsible for preparing account transactions use proper general ledger account codes and that transactions are reviewed to ensure accuracy.

Management’s Response:

The Administrative Coordinator will strive to become more familiar with general ledger accounts in an effort to ensure coding accuracy. When in doubt, she will solicit the assistance of the Comptroller General’s Office.
SECTION B - STATUS OF PRIOR FINDINGS

During the current engagement, we reviewed the status of corrective action taken on the finding reported in the Accountant's Comments section of the State Auditor's Report on the South Carolina Procurement Review Panel for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014, and dated July 2, 2015. We determined that the Panel has taken adequate corrective action on the finding and we will not repeat the finding.
4 copies of this document were published at an estimated printing cost of $1.32 each, and a total printing cost of $5.28. Section 1-11-425 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended, requires this information on printing costs be added to the document.