

# Eckert & Company

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

A Limited Liability Partnership

Michael E. Oliphant, CPA  
Wayne Barr, CPA  
Cathryn A. Pitcock, CPA  
Megan Solsbery, CPA

(325) 944-3571  
FAX: (325) 942-1093  
www.eckertcpa.com

Members of  
American Institute of CPAs  
Texas Society of CPAs

May 30, 2024

The Honorable County Judge  
and Commissioners' Court  
County of Runnels  
P.O. Box 310  
Ballinger, TX 76821-0310

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the County of Runnels, Texas, for the year ended September 30, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated May 30, 2024. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated July 28, 2023. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

## Significant Audit Findings

### *Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices*

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the County are described in Section I. of the notes to the financial statements. The provisions of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 96, "*Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements*," were adopted during the year ended September 30, 2023. The application of other existing policies was not changed. We noted no transactions entered into by the County during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimate affecting the County's financial statements was:

The estimated useful lives of depreciable assets, which are based on projections of the productive lives of the assets. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop this estimate in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

### *Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit*

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

*Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements*

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements.

*Disagreements with Management*

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

*Management Representations*

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated May 30, 2024.

*Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants*

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the County's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

*Other Audit Findings or Issues*

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the County's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

Other Matters

We applied certain limited procedures to the management's discussion and analysis, budgetary comparison information, and net pension liability and contributions information and total OPEB liability information for the Texas County & District Retirement System, which are presented as supplementary information related to the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted 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 did not audit this information, and we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on this information.

Restriction on Use

This information is intended solely for the information and use of management and the Commissioners' Court of the County of Runnels, Texas, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.