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To the Members of the County Board
of Sangamon County, Illinois

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of Sangamon County, Illinois as of and for the year ended November 30, 2008, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered Sangamon County, Illinois' internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. However, as discussed below, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or a combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the entity's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the entity's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control. We believe that the following deficiencies constitute material weaknesses:

Bank Reconciliation

It was noted during the audit that although all bank accounts are being reconciled monthly, the bank balances were not being reconciled to the general ledger. For proper accounting and financial monitoring, we recommend that the bank accounts be reconciled to the general ledger activity each month.

Reconciliation of Interfund Activity

During the reconciliation of interfund transfers, it was noted that transfers are not posted to specific transfer accounts but to revenue accounts. We recommend that transfers be posted to the specific general ledger accounts and that a reconciliation be done monthly.

Accounts Receivable/Accounts Payable Analysis

During our audit, it was noted that detailed schedules of accounts receivable or accounts payable were not maintained. We recommend that such schedules be prepared monthly and compared to the general ledger balances.

Journal Entry Support

Examination of journal entries is required by Statement on Auditing Standards No. 99 to address the risk of management's override of controls. In examining journal entries, it was noted that some entries did not have proper support. We recommend that all journal entries be approved by the County Auditor's office and maintained in the County Auditor's office.

Fixed Assets

Although there is a system in place for the departments to submit documentation to the Auditor's office when new capital assets are purchased, there is not a reconciliation of the purchases to the general ledger capital asset account. We recommend that a reconciliation be done on a quarterly basis to correct any misstatements prior to year end.

Financial Reporting

The County Board and management share the ultimate responsibility for the County's financial statements. While it is acceptable to outsource various accounting functions, the ultimate responsibility of the financial statements cannot be outsourced to external auditors. The County should have personnel possessing an understanding of the accrual basis of accounting to ensure that the preparation of its annual financial statements, that such statements, including disclosures are complete and accurate.

This communication is intended solely for the information and use of management, others within the organization, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Estes, Bridgewater + Ogden
Certified Public Accountants

October 28, 2009