



February 17, 2026

Members of the County Board
Shelby County
Shelbyville, Illinois

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Shelby County (the County), Illinois for the fifteen months ended November 30, 2023. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards (and, if applicable, *Government Auditing Standards* and the Uniform Guidance), as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information to you in our engagement letter. 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 the Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during the fifteen months ended November 30, 2023. 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 estimates affecting the governmental activities' financial statements are noted below.

Management's estimates of the:

- Depreciation expense on capital assets is based on estimated useful lives of the underlying capital assets
- Acquisition value of donated capital assets is based on estimated fair value for the assets in question

We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the above estimates in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Certain financial statement disclosures are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. The most sensitive disclosure affecting the financial statements was:

- Net pension related accounts are based on estimated assumptions used by the actuary in Note 3 to the financial statements.

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.

Significant Audit Findings - Continued

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Any material misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures were corrected by management.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is 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 February 17, 2026.

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 were engaged to report on the other supplementary information, as listed in the table of contents, which accompanies the financial statements but is not RSI. With respect to this supplementary information, we made certain inquiries of management and evaluated the form, content, and methods of preparing the information to determine that the information complies with the modified cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the method of preparing it has not changed from the prior period, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements. We compared and reconciled the supplementary information to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves.

Restrictions on Use

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

We wish to express our gratitude to the County Board and staff (in particular the Finance Department) of the Shelby County, Illinois for their valuable cooperation throughout the audit engagement.

Lauterbach & Amen, LLP
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