



Wharton County Junior College

Proposed Agenda Item

Board of Trustees Meeting

Complete this form and submit it to the Office of the President by noon on Friday, 11 days prior to the Tuesday evening meeting of the Board of Trustees. If this form does not provide enough space, you may use an expanded version *as long as you follow the format specified below.*

Date of Board Meeting: May 17, 2016

Date of this Proposal: April 29, 2016

SUBJECT:

Amendment to the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with the Fort Bend County Tax Assessor/Collector for the collection of taxes.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve attached amendment to the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with the Fort Bend County Tax Assessor/Collector for the collection of taxes.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

WCJC Board of Trustees approved the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for the collection of taxes on July 1, 2008. The original agreement was for a one year term. This amendment shall automatically renew annually.

Estimated Cost and Budgetary Support (how will this be paid for?): \$4,000.00 approximately. 2016-2017 Unrestricted Budget. The only cost associated with collection is \$0.35 per parcel for approximately 11,500 parcels in Needville I.S.D.

RESOURCE PERSON(S) [name(s) and title(s)]:

Bryce D. Kocian, Vice President of Administrative Services

SIGNATURES:

B. D. Kocian

Originator

5/2/16

Date

B. D. Kocian

Cabinet-Level Supervisor

5/2/16

Date

PRESIDENT'S APPROVAL:

Betty G. McLeod

reg 113
6-21-95

5-3-16

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
COUNTY OF FORT BEND §

**AMENDMENT TO INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT FOR
THE COLLECTION OF TAXES**

This Amendment of the Interlocal Agreement (hereinafter referred to as "Amendment"), is made and entered into pursuant to the Interlocal Cooperation Act, Chapter 791 of the TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, by and between FORT BEND COUNTY, TEXAS (hereinafter referred to as "County"), acting by and through its governing body, FORT BEND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT, and WHARTON COUNTY JUNIOR COLLEGE (hereinafter referred to as "SCHOOL"), duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Texas, acting by and through its Board of Trustees.

RECITALS

WHEREAS, on or about July 1, 2008 County and SCHOOL entered into an interlocal agreement for the collection of taxes, hereinafter referred to as the "Agreement" attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated by reference herein as if set forth verbatim; and

WHEREAS, the term of the Agreement has expired and the parties desire to renew the Agreement, at the same terms and conditions; and,

WHEREAS, County and SCHOOL believe it is in the best interests of the citizens of Fort Bend County to enter into this Amendment; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing, the Agreement between County and SCHOOL is hereby amended to read:

- A. This Amendment shall be effective on the date the last party executes this Agreement and shall terminate on June 30, 2017.
- B. This Amendment shall automatically renew for an additional one (1) year term thereafter unless sooner terminated as provided in the Agreement.
- C. Except as modified herein, the Agreement remains in full force and effect and has not been modified or amended.
- D. If there is a conflict between this Amendment and the Agreement, the provisions of this Amendment shall prevail.

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EXECUTION

THE UNDERSIGNED OFFICER AND/OR AGENTS OF THE PARTIES HERETO ARE THE PROPERLY AUTHORIZED OFFICIALS AND HAVE THE NECCESARY AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE THIS AMENDMENT ON BEHALF OF THE PARTIES HERETO, AND EACH PARTY HEREBY CERTIFIES TO THE OTHER THAT ANY NECESSARY RESOLUTIONS AND/OR ORDERS EXTENDING SAID AUTHORITY HAVE BEEN DULY PASSED AND ARE NOW IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT.

FORT BEND COUNTY

ATTEST:

Robert E. Hebert, County Judge

Laura Richard, County Clerk

Date

Date

APPROVED:

Patsy Schultz, Tax Assessor/Collector

Date

WHARTON COUNTY JUNIOR COLLEGE

Date

Date

ATTACHMENTS: Exhibit A – Original interlocal agreement

County Copy

COPY

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
COUNTY OF FORT BEND §

**INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT FOR
THE COLLECTION OF TAXES**

This Interlocal Agreement (hereinafter referred to as "Agreement"), is made and entered into pursuant to the Interlocal Cooperation Act, Chapter 791 of the Texas Government Code, by and between FORT BEND COUNTY, TEXAS (hereinafter referred to as "County"), acting through its governing body, FORT BEND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT, and WHARTON COUNTY JUNIOR COLLEGE (hereinafter referred to as "SCHOOL"), duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Texas, acting by and through its Board of Trustees.

RECITALS

WHEREAS, SCHOOL has the authority to authorize County to act as tax assessor/collector for SCHOOL, and County has the authority to so act; and,

WHEREAS, the Fort Bend County Tax Assessor/Collector has approved this Agreement; and,

WHEREAS, SCHOOL and County believe it is in the best interests of the citizens of Fort Bend County to enter into this Agreement; and,

NOW THEREFORE, County and SCHOOL for the mutual consideration hereinafter stated, agree as follows:

ARTICLE I
PURPOSE

The purpose of this Agreement is to designate and allow the Fort Bend County Tax Assessor/Collector as the tax assessor/collector for SCHOOL for the collection of ad valorem taxes, including penalties, interest and attorney's fees for the collection of taxes owed SCHOOL in Fort Bend County.

ARTICLE II
TERM

- 2.01 This Agreement shall be effective on the date the last party executes this Agreement and shall terminate on June 30, 2009.
- 2.02 This Agreement shall automatically renew for an additional one (1) year term thereafter unless sooner terminated as provided herein.
- 2.03 SCHOOL may terminate this agreement at any time by providing ninety (90) days advanced written notice to County.

- 2.04 County may terminate this agreement by providing written notice to SCHOOL no later than six (6) months in advance of the expiration of the initial term of this Agreement or any renewal term.
- 2.05 In the event of termination of this Agreement by SCHOOL, SCHOOL shall assume all contractual obligations entered into with County for services rendered to SCHOOL for the duration of the term of the Agreement and any renewal, and County shall be relieved of all contractual obligations under this agreement.

ARTICLE III OBLIGATION OF COUNTY

- 3.01 For the purposes and consideration herein stated and contemplated, County shall provide tax collection services for SCHOOL for tax accounts within the jurisdiction of SCHOOL.
- 3.02 SCHOOL hereby designates the County Tax Assessor/Collector as its Tax Assessor/Collector for purposes of compliance with Chapter 26 of the Texas Property Tax code, as amended.
- 3.03 County shall perform all the duties required by law of the Tax Assessor-Collector of SCHOOL with regard to assessing and collection of ad valorem taxes.
- 3.04 SCHOOL shall adopt a tax rate by October 1 of each year. In the event the tax rate is adopted subsequent to October 1 of any year, SCHOOL shall reimburse County for any additional costs incurred, in accordance with Article IV of this Agreement.
- 3.05 SCHOOL hereby expressly authorizes County to do and perform all acts necessary and proper to collect taxes for SCHOOL, including but not limited to:
 - A. Calculation of taxes, preparation of current and delinquent tax rolls, pro-ration of taxes, correction of clerical errors in tax rolls, collection of current liabilities, collection of delinquent taxes, issuance of refunds, and calculation of the effective and rollback tax rates as required by Section 26.04 of the Property Tax Code.
 - B. County shall assess and collect the ad valorem property taxes owing to the SCHOOL. The term "assess" does not include those functions defined as "appraisal" by the Property Tax Code.
 - C. The county shall produce a consolidated tax statement for both County and SCHOOL taxes.
 - D. County shall prepare consolidated tax statements for each parcel on the tax rolls of SCHOOL.
 - E. County shall mail statements.
 - F. County shall mail notices of delinquent service charges in accordance with Section 33.07 of the Texas Property Tax Code.
 - G. County shall perform for SCHOOL all duties provided by law of the State of Texas for the collection of taxes.
 - H. County shall perform any additional, reasonable services which may be requested by SCHOOL. All additional services shall be billed to SCHOOL by County at actual costs.

- 3.06 County shall provide the following reports, upon request, by SCHOOL:
- A. Report of the current year tax levy, showing taxable value, exemptions, abatements, net taxable values, tax rate, and tax levy for each parcel of property;
 - B. Remittance report with each remittance to SCHOOL showing the taxes paid by year, amount paid, principal and interest paid, service charge paid, etc.;
 - C. Monthly report of tax activity showing the amount of initial levy, collections during month for both current and delinquent taxes, adjustments during the month, and the year-to-date collections percentage of current levy; and
 - D. Any additional reports which may be requested by the District.
- 3.07 The taxes collected by County for SCHOOL shall be remitted as follows:
- A. by ACH; or
 - B. by wire to SCHOOL designated depository or agent; or
 - C. by check mailed to SCHOOL.
- 3.08 SCHOOL shall provide written notification to County of the manner in which taxes shall be remitted, as described in Section 3.07 above.
- 3.09 The taxes collected by County shall be remitted to SCHOOL on a daily basis for the period beginning December 15th and ending February 15th of each year. Remittance at other times during the year shall be made at least once per week.
- 3.10 Wire transfers shall incur a charge of five dollars (\$5.00) for each transfer.
- 3.11 Refunds to taxpayers and taxpayer checks returned from banks shall be deducted from the County's remittance to SCHOOL.

ARTICLE IV OBLIGATIONS OF SCHOOL

- 4.01 SCHOOL agrees to promptly deliver to County all records necessary to perform its duties under the terms of this Agreement.
- 4.02 For services rendered pursuant to this Agreement, SCHOOL agrees to pay County the following amounts:
- A. Thirty-five cents (\$0.35) per parcel per year;
 - B. One dollar (\$1.00) per account to add delinquent accounts to County's records; and
 - C. Other costs for which SCHOOL will reimburse the County for actual costs incurred for any additional services requested SCHOOL or mandated by state statute.
 - D. One dollar and fifty-two cents (\$1.52) for parcels located in Harris County, Texas, for costs associated with separate billing.
- 4.03 SCHOOL shall pay to County the cost of assessment and collection as provided in Section 4.02. The payment shall be remitted to County after the mailing of consolidated tax statements and no more than 30 days after receipt of County invoice.

ARTICLE V
ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

- 5.01 All records necessary to be maintained by County for the assessment and collections of taxes shall be kept clearly on the books and records of County, and a designated representative of SCHOOL, including District auditors, is authorized to examine the records maintained by County at such reasonable time and interval as SCHOOL deems necessary. Such books and records will be kept in the offices of County.
- 5.02 SCHOOL shall maintain a Public Fidelity Bond covering all offices, officials and employees in the amount of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00).
- 5.03 SCHOOL shall transfer to the possession and control of County, without charge, copies of all records necessary for the performance of the duties and responsibilities of County pursuant to this Agreement, which shall include all tax records, including the delinquent tax rolls.
- 5.04 County shall not be legally responsible to SCHOOL for any failure to collect taxes, nor shall the County Tax Assessor-Collector be legally responsible unless the failure to collect taxes results from failure to perform the duties imposed by law and by this Agreement.
- 5.05 SCHOOL reserves the right to institute such suits for the collection of delinquent taxes as SCHOOL deems necessary and to contract with an attorney for collection of delinquent taxes.
- 5.06. County shall comply with all provisions of the Texas Property Tax Code, as amended, and any policies and procedures regarding collection of ad valorem property taxes which SCHOOL may adopt.
- 5.07 In the event County waives any penalty and/or interest on any parcel, pursuant to Section 33.011 of the Property Tax Code, SCHOOL consents to the waiver of the penalty and/or interest on the same parcel(s), and hereby authorizes County to waive such penalty and/or interest on behalf of SCHOOL.

ARTICLE VI
LIABILITY

Each party to this Agreement agrees that it shall have no liability whatsoever for the actions or omissions of an individual employed by another party, regardless of where the individual's actions occurred. Each party is solely responsible for the actions and/or omissions of its employees and officers.

ARTICLE VII
MISCELLANEOUS

- 7.01 This Agreement may be amended by the mutual agreement of the parties hereto in writing to be attached to and incorporated into this Agreement.
- 7.02 Venue for any litigation involving this Agreement shall be in Fort Bend County,

7.03 If any one or more of the provisions contained in this Agreement shall be held to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability shall not affect any other provision thereof and this Agreement shall be construed as if such invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provision had never been contained herein.

7.04 This Agreement supersedes any and all other agreements, either oral or in writing between the parties hereto with respect to the subject matter hereof, and no other agreement, statement, or promise relating to the subject matter of this Agreement which is not contained herein shall be valid or binding.

7.05 This Agreement may no be assigned by either party.

Any notice required to be given under the provisions of this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be duly served when it shall have been deposited, enclosed in a wrapper with the proper postage prepaid thereon, and duly registered or certified, return receipt requested, in a United States Post Office, addressed to the Owner at the mailing address as hereinafter set out. If mailed, any notice of communication shall be deemed to be received three (3) days after the date of deposit in the United States Mail. Unless otherwise provided in this Agreement, all notices shall be delivered to the Owner or the County at the following addresses:

To: Pat Kubala, TAC
Wharton County Junior College
P.O. Box 189
Wharton, TX 77488

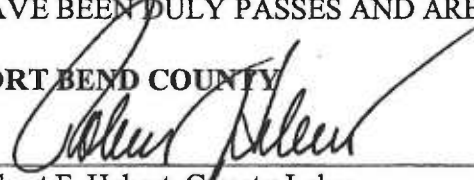
Either party may designate a different address by giving the other party ten (10) days written notice thereof.

ARTICLE IX
ENTIRE AGREEMENT AND ATTACHMENT

This Agreement contains the entire Agreement among the parties and supercedes all other negotiations and agreements, whether written or oral. Attached hereto is Exhibit A – Documentation Required From Taxing Entities, which is made a part of this Agreement.

THE UNDERSIGNED OFFICER AND/OR AGENTS OF THE PARTIES HERETO ARE THE PROPERLY AUTHORIZED OFFICIALS AND HAVE THE NECESSARY AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE THIS AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE PARTIES HERETO, AND EACH PARTY HEREBY CERTIFIES TO THE OTHER THAT ANY NECESSARY RESOLUTIONS AND/OR ORDERS EXTENDING SAID AUTHORITY HAVE BEEN DULY PASSED AND ARE NOW IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT.

FORT BEND COUNTY


Robert E. Hebert, County Judge


Dianne Wilson, County Clerk

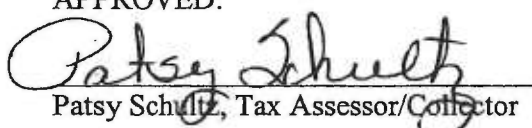
Date

July 1 2008

Date

7-1-08

APPROVED:



Patsy Schultz, Tax Assessor/Collector

Date

6/23/08

NAME OF JURISDICTION

Wharton County Junior College


Rick Davis

Date

May 20, 2008

Date

5/20/08

MER:Interlocal Agreement.Tax Collection:1396(040506)



Wharton County Junior College

Proposed Agenda Item Board of Trustees Meeting

Complete this form and submit it to the Office of the President by noon on Friday, 11 days prior to the Tuesday evening meeting of the Board of Trustees. If this form does not provide enough space, you may use an expanded version *as long as you follow the format specified below.*

Date of Board Meeting: May 17, 2016 Date of This Proposal: May 2, 2016

SUBJECT:

Engagement Letter for the fiscal year 2016 external audit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the engagement letter from Lott, Vernon & Company, P.C. dated April 22, 2016.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

Annual renewal of audit service engagement required, with work to begin in July, 2016.

Estimated Cost & Budgetary Support (how will this be paid for?): not to exceed \$36,000.00

Current Unrestricted Operating Budget for 2015-2016

RESOURCE PERSON(S) [name(s) and title(s)]:

Bryce D. Kocian, Vice President of Administrative Services
Gus Wessels, Jr., Dean of Financial and Business Services

SIGNATURES:

Bryce D. Kocian
Originator

Gus Wessels, Jr.
Cabinet-Level Supervisor

May 2, 2016
Date

5/2/16
Date

PRESIDENT'S APPROVAL:

Betty A. Malachuk

5-3-16
Date



LOTT, VERNON & COMPANY, P.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

20 SOUTH FOURTH STREET 254/778/4783
POST OFFICE BOX 160 800/460/4783
TEMPLE, TEXAS 76503 FAX 254/778/4792

KILLEEN • COPPERAS COVE • TEMPLE

Member of
American Institute & Texas Society of
Certified Public Accountants

April 22, 2016

Board of Trustees
Wharton County Junior College
911 Boling Highway
Wharton, Texas 77488

We are pleased to confirm our understanding of the services we are to provide Wharton County Junior College for the year ended August 31, 2016. We will audit the financial statements of Wharton County Junior College as of and for the year ended August 31, 2016. Accounting standards generally accepted in the United States of America provide for certain required supplementary information (RSI), such as management's discussion and analysis (MD&A), to supplement Wharton County Junior College's basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. As part of our engagement, we will apply certain limited procedures to Wharton County Junior College's RSI in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. These limited procedures will consist 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 will not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance. The following RSI is required by generally accepted accounting principles and will be subjected to certain limited procedures, but will not be audited:

- 1) Management's Discussion and Analysis.
- 2) Schedule of College's Share of Net Pension Liability
- 3) Schedule of College's Contributions
- 4) Statistical Section.

We have also been engaged to report on supplementary information other than RSI that accompanies Wharton County Junior College's financial statements. We will subject the following supplementary information to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and will provide an opinion on it in relation to the financial statements as a whole:

- 1) Supplemental Schedules.
- 2) Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards.
- 3) Schedule of Expenditures of State Awards.

Audit Objectives

The objective of our audit is the expression of opinions as to whether your basic financial statements are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles and to report on the fairness of the supplementary information referred to in the second paragraph when considered in relation to the financial statements as a whole. The objective also includes reporting on—

- Internal control related to the financial statements and compliance with the provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a material effect on the financial statements in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.
- Internal control related to major programs and an opinion (or disclaimer of opinion) on compliance with laws, regulations, and the provisions of contracts or grant agreements that could have a direct and material effect on each major program in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*.

The reports on internal control and compliance will each include a statement that the report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the body or individuals charged with governance, others within the entity specific legislative or regulatory bodies, federal awarding agencies, and if applicable, pass-through entities and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Our audit will be conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards for financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996; and the provisions of OMB Circular A-133, and will include tests of accounting records, a determination of major program(s) in accordance with OMB Circular A-133, and other procedures we consider necessary to enable us to express such opinions and to render the required reports. If our opinions on the financial statements or the Single Audit compliance opinions are other than unqualified (unmodified), we will discuss the reasons with you in advance. If, for any reason, we are unable to complete the audit or are unable to form or have not formed opinions, we may decline to express opinions or to issue a report as a result of this engagement.

Management Responsibilities

Management is responsible for the basic financial statements and all accompanying information as well as all representations contained therein. Management is also responsible for identifying government award programs and understanding and complying with the compliance requirements, and for preparation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards in accordance with the requirements of OMB Circular A-133. As part of the audit, we will assist with preparation of your financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, and related notes. You are responsible for making all management decisions and performing all management functions relating to the financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, and related notes and for accepting full responsibility for such decisions. You will be required to acknowledge in the written representation letter our assistance with preparation of the financial statements and schedule of expenditures of federal awards and that you have reviewed and approved the financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, and related notes prior to their issuance and have accepted responsibility for them. Further, you are required to designate an individual with suitable skill, knowledge, or experience to oversee any non-audit services we provide and for evaluating the adequacy and results of those services and accepting responsibility for them.

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal controls, including internal controls over compliance, and for evaluating and monitoring ongoing activities, to help ensure that appropriate goals and objectives are met and that there is reasonable assurance that government programs are administered in compliance with compliance requirements. You are also responsible for the selection and application of accounting principles; for the fair presentation in the financial statements of the respective financial position of the governmental activities of the Wharton County Junior College and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles; and for compliance with applicable laws and regulations and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements.

Management is also responsible for making all financial records and related information available to us and for ensuring that management is reliable and financial information is reliable and properly recorded. You are also responsible for providing us with (1) access to all information of which you are aware that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, (2) additional information that we may request for the purpose of the audit, and (3) unrestricted access to persons from whom we determine it necessary to obtain audit evidence.

Your responsibilities also include identifying significant vendor relationships in which the vendor has responsibility for program compliance and for the accuracy and completeness of that information. Your responsibilities include adjusting the financial statements to correct material misstatements and confirming to us in the written representation letter that the effects of any uncorrected misstatements aggregated by us during the current

engagement and pertaining to the latest period presented are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.

You are responsible for the design and implementation of programs and controls to prevent and detect fraud, and for informing us about all known or suspected fraud or illegal acts affecting the government involving (1) management, (2) employees who have significant roles in internal control, and (3) others where the fraud or illegal acts could have a material effect on the financial statements. Your responsibilities include informing us of your knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the government received in communications from employees, former employees, grantors, regulators, or others. In addition, you are responsible for identifying and ensuring that the entity complies with applicable laws, regulations, contracts, agreements, and grants. Additionally, as required by OMB Circular A-133, it is management's responsibility to follow up and take corrective action on reported audit findings and to prepare a summary schedule of prior audit findings and a corrective action plan.

You are responsible for preparation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards in conformity with OMB Circular A-133. You agree to include our report on the schedule of expenditures of federal awards in any document that contains and indicates that we have reported on the schedule of expenditures of federal awards. You also agree to include the audited financial statements with any presentation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards that includes our report thereon. Your responsibilities include acknowledging to us in the written representation letter that (1) you are responsible for presentation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards in accordance with OMB Circular A-133; (2) that you believe the schedule of expenditures of federal awards, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with OMB Circular A-133; (3) that the methods of measurement or presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period (or, if they have changed, the reasons for such changes); and (4) you have disclosed to us any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement or presentation of the supplementary information.

You are also responsible for the preparation of the other supplementary information, which we have been engaged to report on, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. You agree to include our report on the supplementary information in any document that contains and indicates that we have reported on the supplementary information. You also agree to include the audited financial statements with any presentation of the supplementary information that includes our report thereon. Your responsibilities include acknowledging to us in the written representation letter that (1) you are responsible for presentation of the supplementary information in accordance with GAAP; (2) that you believe the supplementary information, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with GAAP; (3) that the methods of measurement or presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period (or, if they have changed, the reasons for such changes); and (4) you have disclosed to us any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement or presentation of the supplementary information.

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining a process for tracking the status of audit findings and recommendations. Management is also responsible for identifying for us previous financial audits, attestation engagements, performance audits, or other studies related to the objectives discussed in the Audit Objectives section of this letter. This responsibility includes relaying to us corrective actions taken to address significant findings and recommendations resulting from those audits, attestation engagements, performance audits, or studies. You are also responsible for providing management's views on our current findings, conclusions, and recommendations, as well as your planned corrective actions, for the report, and for the timing and format for providing that information.

Audit Procedures—General

An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements; therefore, our audit will involve judgment about the number of transactions to be examined and the areas to be tested. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We will plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable rather than absolute assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether from (1) errors, (2) fraudulent financial reporting, (3) misappropriation of assets, or (4) violations of laws or governmental regulations that are attributable to the entity or to acts by management or employees acting on behalf of the entity. Because the determination of abuse is subjective, *Government Auditing Standards* do not expect auditors to provide reasonable assurance of detecting abuse.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, combined with the inherent limitations of internal control, and because we will not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is a risk that material misstatements

or noncompliance may exist and not be detected by us, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*. In addition, an audit is not designed to detect immaterial misstatements or violations of laws or governmental regulations that do not have a direct and material effect on the financial statements or major programs. However, we will inform the appropriate level of management of any material errors or any fraudulent financial reporting or misappropriation of assets that come to our attention. We will also inform the appropriate level of management of any violations of laws or governmental regulations that come to our attention, unless clearly inconsequential, and of any material abuse that comes to our attention. We will include such matters in the reports required for a Single Audit. Our responsibility as auditors is limited to the period covered by our audit and does not extend to any later periods for which we are not engaged as auditors.

Our procedures will include tests of documentary evidence supporting the transactions recorded in the accounts, and may include tests of the physical existence of inventories, and direct confirmation of receivables and certain other assets and liabilities by correspondence with selected individuals, funding sources, creditors, and financial institutions. We will request written representations from your attorneys as part of the engagement, and they may bill you for responding to this inquiry. At the conclusion of our audit, we will require certain written representations from you about the financial statements and related matters.

Audit Procedures—Internal Controls

Our audit will include obtaining an understanding of the entity and its environment, including internal control, sufficient to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements and to design the nature, timing, and extent of further audit procedures. Tests of controls may be performed to test the effectiveness of certain controls that we consider relevant to preventing and detecting errors and fraud that are material to the financial statements and to preventing and detecting misstatements resulting from illegal acts and other noncompliance matters that have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. Our tests, if performed, will be less in scope than would be necessary to render an opinion on internal control and, accordingly, no opinion will be expressed in our report on internal control issued pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards*.

As required by OMB Circular A-133, we will perform tests of controls over compliance to evaluate the effectiveness of the design and operation of controls that we consider relevant to preventing or detecting material noncompliance with compliance requirements applicable to each major federal award program. However, our tests will be less in scope than would be necessary to render an opinion on those controls and, accordingly, no opinion will be expressed in our report on internal control issued pursuant to OMB Circular A-133.

An audit is not designed to provide assurance on internal control or to identify significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. However, during the audit, we will communicate to management and those charged with governance internal control related matters that are required to be communicated under AICPA professional standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and OMB Circular A-133.

Audit Procedures—Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, we will perform tests of Wharton County Junior College's compliance with provisions of applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and agreements, including grant agreements. However, the objective of those procedures will not be to provide an opinion on overall compliance and we will not express such an opinion in our report on compliance issued pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards*.

OMB Circular A-133 requires that we also plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the auditee has complied with applicable laws and regulations and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements applicable to major programs. Our procedures will consist of tests of transactions and other applicable procedures described in the *OMB Circular A-133 Compliance Supplement* for the types of compliance requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each of Wharton County Junior College's major programs. The purpose of these procedures will be to express an opinion on Wharton County Junior College's compliance with requirements applicable to each of its major programs in our report on compliance issued pursuant to OMB Circular A-133.

Engagement Administration, Fees, and Other

We may from time to time, and depending on the circumstances, use third-party service providers in serving your account. We may share confidential information about you with these service providers, but remain committed to maintaining the confidentiality and security of your information. Accordingly, we maintain internal policies, procedures, and safeguards to protect the confidentiality of your personal information. In addition, we will secure

confidentiality agreements with all service providers to maintain the confidentiality of your information and we will take reasonable precautions to determine that they have appropriate procedures in place to prevent the unauthorized release of your confidential information to others. In the event that we are unable to secure an appropriate confidentiality agreement, you will be asked to provide your consent prior to the sharing of your confidential information with the third-party service provider. Furthermore, we will remain responsible for the work provided by any such third-party service providers.

We understand that your employees will prepare all cash, accounts receivable, or other confirmations we request and will locate any documents selected by us for testing.

At the conclusion of the engagement, we will complete the appropriate sections of the Data Collection Form that summarizes our audit findings. It is management's responsibility to submit the reporting package (including financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, summary schedule of prior audit findings, auditors' reports, and corrective action plan) along with the Data Collection Form to the federal audit clearinghouse. We will coordinate with you the electronic submission and certification. If applicable, we will provide copies of our report for you to include with the reporting package you will submit to pass-through entities. The Data Collection Form and the reporting package must be submitted within the earlier of 30 days after receipt of the auditors' reports or nine months after the end of the audit period, unless a longer period is agreed to in advance by the cognizant or oversight agency for audits.

The audit documentation for this engagement is the property of Lott, Vernon & Company, P.C. and constitutes confidential information. However, pursuant to authority given by law or regulation, we may be requested to make certain audit documentation available to a federal agency providing direct or indirect funding, or the U.S. Government Accountability Office for purposes of a quality review of the audit, to resolve audit findings, or to carry out oversight responsibilities. We will notify you of any such request. If requested, access to such audit documentation will be provided under the supervision of Lott, Vernon & Company, P.C. personnel. Furthermore, upon request, we may provide copies of selected audit documentation to the aforementioned parties. These parties may intend, or decide, to distribute the copies or information contained therein to others, including other governmental agencies.

The audit documentation for this engagement will be retained for a minimum of five years after the report release or for any additional period requested by the federal awarding agencies. If we are aware that a federal awarding agency, pass-through entity, or auditee is contesting an audit finding, we will contact the party(ies) contesting the audit finding for guidance prior to destroying the audit documentation.

Mr. Dane Legg is the engagement partner and is responsible for supervising the engagement and signing the reports or authorizing another individual to sign them. Our fee for these services will be at our standard hourly rates plus out-of-pocket costs (such as report reproduction, word processing, postage, travel, copies, telephone, etc.) except that we agree that our gross fee, including expenses, will not exceed \$36,000. Our standard hourly rates vary according to the degree of responsibility involved and the experience level of the personnel assigned to your audit. Our invoices for these fees will be rendered each month as work progresses and are payable on presentation. In accordance with our firm policies, work may be suspended if your account becomes 90 days or more overdue and may not be resumed until your account is paid in full. If we elect to terminate our services for nonpayment, our engagement will be deemed to have been completed upon written notification of termination, even if we have not completed our report(s).

You will be obligated to compensate us for all time expended and to reimburse us for all out-of-pocket costs through the date of termination. The above fee is based on anticipated cooperation from your personnel and the assumption that unexpected circumstances will not be encountered during the audit. If significant additional time is necessary, we will discuss it with you and arrive at a new fee estimate before we incur the additional costs.

Government Auditing Standards require that we provide you with a copy of our most recent external peer review report and any letter of comment, and any subsequent peer review reports and letters of comment received during the period of the contract. Our 2014 peer review report accompanies this letter.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to Wharton County Junior College and believe this letter accurately summarizes the significant terms of our engagement. If you have any questions, please let us know. If you agree with the terms of our engagement as described in this letter, please sign the enclosed copy and return it to us.

Very truly yours,

Lott, Vernon & Company, P.C.

By:  _____
Dane Legg, CPA

RESPONSE:

This letter correctly sets forth the understanding of Wharton County Junior College.

By: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____