

## ENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT

The purpose of this Engagement Agreement ("Agreement") is to disclose and memorialize the terms and conditions under which services will be rendered by Ahlers and Cooney, P.C., in its capacity as Bond Counsel, to Woodbury County, Iowa (the "Issuer") in connection with the issuance of General Obligation Capital Loan Notes, Series 2015 ("Bonds").

### SCOPE OF ENGAGEMENT

In the role of Bond Counsel, we will provide the following services:

1. Prepare and review documents related to the authorization, issuance and delivery of the Bonds (the "Proceedings").
2. After proper approval and execution of the Proceedings, render our legal opinion (the "Bond Opinion") regarding the validity and enforceability of the Bonds, the source of payment with regard to the legality of the security pledged, and the excludability of interest on the Bonds from gross income for federal tax purposes, as applicable.
3. Review those sections of any offering or disclosure documents (the "Offering Documents") to be disseminated in connection with the sale of the Bonds related solely to the description of the Bonds, the legal basis for the security pledged, the tax-exempt status of the Bonds, and excerpts, summaries or copies of the Bond Opinion; and in the event Issuer retains separate Disclosure Counsel we will coordinate with said Disclosure Counsel in regards to the above-identified information we are reviewing in the Offering Documents.
4. Upon request, assist the Issuer in presenting information to bond rating organizations and providers of credit enhancement relating to the issuance of Bonds.
5. Prepare procedure to advertise and direct the sale of Bonds when we are advised that a particular issue of Bonds will be sold at public sale, and prepare procedure accepting a proposal to purchase the Bonds when we are advised that the sale of a particular issue of Bond will accomplished by negotiated sale.
6. Draft the Continuing Disclosure Certificate of the Issuer, if applicable.
7. Prepare an IRS Form 8038-G or 8038-GC, when applicable.

As Bond Counsel, our examination will extend to the actions and approvals necessary to authorize the issuance and initial delivery of the Bonds to the purchaser thereof. Our Bond Opinion does not extend to any re-offering of the Bonds by the original purchaser thereof or other persons, and will be delivered by us on the date the Bonds are exchanged for their purchase price (the "Closing").

The Bond Opinion will be based on facts and law existing as of its date. In rendering our Bond Opinion, we will rely upon the certified proceedings and other certifications of public officials and other persons furnished to us without undertaking to verify the same by independent investigation, and we will assume continuing compliance by the Issuer with applicable laws relating to the Bonds. During the course of this engagement, we will rely on the Issuer, and authorized officials, to provide us with complete and timely information on all developments pertaining to any aspect of the Bonds and their security.

Our duties in this engagement are limited to those expressly set forth above. This Engagement Agreement does not include the following services, or any other matter not required to render our Bond Opinion:

- a. Except as described in paragraph (3) above, assisting in the preparation or review of the Offering Documents with respect to the Bonds, or performing an independent investigation to determine the accuracy, completeness or sufficiency of any such document or rendering advice that the Offering Documents do not contain any untrue statement of material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements contained therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading. This engagement does not include the services of Disclosure Counsel.
- b. Preparing requests for tax rulings from the Internal Revenue Service, or “no action” letters from the Securities and Exchange Commission.
- c. Drafting state constitutional or legislative amendments.
- d. Pursuing test cases or other litigation, such as contested validation proceedings.
- e. Except as described in paragraph (6) above, assisting in the preparation of, or opinion on, a continuing disclosure undertaking pertaining to the Bonds, or after Closing, providing advice concerning any actions necessary to assure compliance with any continuing disclosure undertaking, including monitoring Issuer’s continued compliance with the undertaking.
- f. Representing the Issuer in Internal Revenue Service examinations or inquiries, or Securities and Exchange Commission investigations.
- g. After Closing a particular issue of Bonds, providing continuing advice to the Issuer or any other party concerning actions necessary to assure that interest paid on that issue of Bonds will continue to be excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes (e.g. this Bond Counsel engagement for the Bonds does not include rebate calculations, nor continuing post-issuance compliance activities).

We will provide one or more of the services listed in (a)–(g) upon your request, however, a separate, written Engagement Agreement will be required before we assume one or more of the above duties.

Services listed in subparts (h)–(k), below, are not included in this Engagement Agreement, nor will they be provided at any time.

- h. Acting as an underwriter, or otherwise marketing the Bonds.
- i. Acting in a financial advisory role.
- j. Preparing blue sky or investment surveys with respect to the Bonds.
- k. Making an investigation or expressing any view as to the creditworthiness of the Issuer or of the Bonds.

## **ATTORNEY-CLIENT RELATIONSHIP**

Upon our receipt of notification that Bond Counsel services are requested under this Engagement Agreement, the Issuer will be our client and an attorney-client relationship will exist between us as outlined above. We assume that all other parties to each such transaction will retain such counsel as they deem necessary and appropriate to represent their interests. We further assume that all parties understand that in each such transaction we represent only the Issuer, we are not counsel to any other party, and we are not acting as an intermediary among the parties. Our services as Bond Counsel are limited to those contracted for in this letter; the Issuer's execution of this engagement agreement will constitute an acknowledgement of those limitations. Our representation of the Issuer will not affect, however, our responsibility to render an objective Bond Opinion.

Each representation of the Issuer and the attorney-client relationship for the Bonds created by this Engagement Agreement will be concluded upon issuance of that respective issue of Bonds. Nevertheless, subsequent to Closing, we will mail the appropriate Internal Revenue Service Form 8038, and prepare and distribute to the participants in the transaction a transcript of the proceedings pertaining to the Bonds.

## **FEES**

We will charge a flat fee of \$5,000 for services rendered under this Agreement. It is not anticipated that it will be necessary for us to personally attend meetings in order to provide the Bond Counsel services outlined above, but we will do so in the event that circumstances require. If, at any time, we believe that an adjustment of our flat fee is necessary during an engagement as Bond Counsel for a particular issuance of Bonds, we will advise you. Such adjustment might be necessary in the event: (a) the principal amount of Bonds to be issued differs significantly from the amount stated at the time we advise you of our fee; (b) there are material changes in the structure, security or opinion from the description of the Bonds after we advise you of our fee; or (c) unusual or unforeseen circumstances arise which require a significant increase in the services rendered, such as personal attendance at meetings, significant travel, or unexpected revision of the issuance documents at the request of the Issuer, any agent acting on your behalf (such as a financial advisor), the purchaser, a bond insurer, other counsel providing services with respect to issuance of a particular issuance of Bonds.

In addition to the flat fee, we will bill you for all expenses incurred on your behalf, such as travel cost reimbursement, photocopying, deliveries, long distance telephone charges, telecopier charges, filing fees, computer-assisted research, bond printing, and other related expenses. Generally these expenses will not exceed \$400. We will contact you prior to incurring expenses that exceed that amount.

Our statement for services and expenses will be sent after each particular issue of Bonds have been closed and is due and payable within thirty (30) days of receipt.

If, for any reason, you terminate the engagement on a particular issue of Bonds covered by this Agreement before closing a particular issue of Bonds are not issued for any reason, or the Bonds are issued without the delivery of our Bond Opinion, we will bill you for the services rendered on your behalf up to that point. These services will be billed at the normal hourly rates for those attorneys and legal assistants who have performed such services. We will also then bill you for all expenses we have incurred as outlined above. My current hourly rate is \$300. Work performed by associates will be billed at \$200 per hour. Services performed on your behalf by legal assistants will be billed at \$100 per hour.

### **RECORDS**

At your request, papers and property furnished by you will be returned promptly upon receipt of payment for outstanding fees and client charges. Our own files, including lawyer work product, pertaining to the transaction will be retained by us. For various reasons, including the minimization of unnecessary storage expenses, we reserve the right to dispose of any documents or other material retained by us after the termination of this engagement.

**[THIS SPACE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]**

**APPROVAL**

Please carefully review the terms and conditions of this Agreement. **If the above correctly reflects the terms of this engagement, please obtain approval by your governing body, and execute, date and return to me the enclosed copy of this Agreement. Please retain the original for your file.**

If you have questions regarding any aspect of the above or our representation as Bond Counsel, please do not hesitate to write or call.


It has been a pleasure to serve you in the past, and we look forward to our continued relationship.

Very truly yours,

R. Mark Cory  
FOR THE FIRM

Accepted:

Woodbury County, State of Iowa\*

By:  Date: 5/12/15

\*Approved by Resolution No. 1212 of the governing body on May 5th, 2015.