# ATTACHMENT NO. VIII-C

ATTACHMENT NO. VIII-C: Acceptance of Audit Proposal

Potential motion: Move to accept the audit proposal from Siepert &

Co., LLP.

Recommended action: Approve the motion

It is recommended that the Board accept the attached audit proposal from Siepert & Co.



July 25, 2017

Board of Education North Boone CUSD No. 200 Poplar Grove, Illinois

We are pleased to confirm our understanding of the services we are to provide North Boone CUSD No. 200 (District) for the year ended June 30, 2017. We will audit the basic financial statements for each fund, including the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements of the District as of and for the year ended June 30, 2017. Accounting standards generally accepted in the United States of America provide for certain required supplementary information (RSI) to supplement the District'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 the District'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. Management has elected not to present

SIEPERT & CO., LLP | Certified Public Accountants | www.siepert.com

Management's Discussion and Analysis and the Schedule of Funding Progress Relative to Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund which are required RSI. The following RSI is required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and will be subjected to certain limited procedures, but will not be audited:

- 1. Schedule of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability TRS
- 2. Schedule of Contributions (IMRF and TRS)
- 3. Schedule of Changes in Net Position Liability and Related Ratios IMRF

We have also been engaged to report on supplementary information other than RSI that accompanies the District'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 we will provide an opinion on it in relation to the financial statements as a whole, in a report combined with our auditor's report on the financial statements:

- 1. Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards
- 2. Auditor's Questionnaire
- 3. Comments Applicable to the Auditor's Questionnaire
- 4. Financial Profile Information
- 5. Supplementary Schedules -
  - Schedule of Ad Valorem Tax Receipts
  - Schedule of Short Term/Long-term Debt
  - Schedule of Restricted Local Property Tax Levies and Selected Revenues Sources/Schedule of Tort Immunity Expenditures
- 6. Itemization Schedule
- 7. Reconciliation of Federal Revenues

The following other information accompanying the financial statements will not be subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the financial statements, and our auditor's report will not provide an opinion or any assurance on that other information:

- 1. Financial Profile Summary
- 2. Schedule of Capital Outlay and Depreciation
- 3. Estimated Operating Expenditures Per Pupil and Per Capita Tuition Charge Computation
- 4. Estimated Indirect Cost Rate for Federal Programs
- 5. Report on Shared Services or Outsourcing
- 6. Administrative Cost Worksheet
- 7. Deficit Reduction Calculation

We understand that the accounting records of the District are presently prepared on the cash basis as allowed by the Illinois State Board of Education, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. They are intended to assure effective legislative and public oversight of school district financing and spending activities of accountable Illinois public school districts. Accordingly, our opinion will be limited to an expression of opinion as to the fairness with which the financial statements present assets, liabilities, and fund balances arising from cash transactions and the related statements of revenue received and expenditures disbursed.

#### Audit Objectives

The objective of our audit is the expression of an opinion as to whether your financial statements are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, 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 over financial reporting and compliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and award

agreements, noncompliance with which could have a material effect on the financial statements in accordance with Government Auditing Standards.

• Internal control over compliance related to major programs and an opinion (or disclaimer of opinion) on compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards that could have a direct and material effect on each major program in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance).

The Government Auditing Standards report on internal control over financial reporting and on compliance and other matters will include a paragraph that states (1) that the purpose of the report is solely to describe the scope of testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control or on compliance, and (2) that the report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards in considering the District's internal control and compliance. The Uniform Guidance report on internal control over compliance will include a paragraph that states that the purpose of the report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Both reports will state that the report is not suitable for any other purpose.

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 <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996, the provisions of the Uniform Guidance, and the Illinois State Board of Education's <u>Guide to Auditing and Reporting for Illinois</u> Public Local Education Agencies, and will include tests of

accounting records, a determination of major program(s) in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, and other procedures we consider necessary to enable us to express such an opinion. We will issue written reports upon completion of our Single Audit. Our reports will be addressed to the Board of Education of North Boone CUSD No. 200. We expect to issue an adverse opinion on the basic financial statements because the District does not comply with Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 34 but presents to comply with the regulatory provisions prescribed by the ISBE. If, for any reason, we are unable to complete the audit or are unable to form or have not formed an opinion, we may decline to express an opinion or issue reports, or may withdraw from this engagement.

#### 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 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 District or to acts by management or employees acting on behalf of the District. 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 auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America 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 on major programs. However, we will inform the appropriate level of management of any material errors, 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 direct confirmation of certain 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 your responsibilities for the financial statements; Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards; federal award programs; compliance with laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements; and other responsibilities required by auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America.

# Audit Procedures - Internal Control

Our audit will include obtaining an understanding of the District 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 the Uniform Guidance, 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 the Uniform Guidance.

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 the Uniform Guidance.

#### Audit Procedures - Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, we will perform tests of the District'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.

The Uniform Guidance requires that we also plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the auditee has complied with federal statutes, regulations, and the term and conditions of federal awards applicable to major programs. Our procedures will consist of tests of transactions and other applicable procedures described in the OMB Compliance Supplement for the types of compliance requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each of the District's major programs. The purpose of these procedures will be to express an opinion on the District's compliance with requirements applicable to each of its major programs in our report on compliance issued pursuant to the Uniform Guidance.

#### Other Services

We will also assist in preparing the financial statements, Illinois Local Education Agency Annual Financial Report (ISBE Form 50-35), Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards, and related notes of the District in conformity with the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and the Uniform Guidance based on information provided We will also update fixed asset schedules from information provided by you. These nonaudit services do not constitute an audit under Government Auditing Standards and such services will not be conducted in accordance with Government Auditing Standards. We will perform the services in accordance with applicable professional standards. The other services are limited to the financial statements and related notes, Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards, and fixed asset schedule services previously defined. We, in our sole professional judgment, reserve the right to refuse to perform any procedure or take any action that could be construed as assuming management responsibilities.

### Management Responsibilities

Management is responsible for (1) designing, implementing, and maintaining effective internal controls, including internal controls over federal awards, and for evaluating and monitoring ongoing activities to help ensure that appropriate goals and

objectives are met; (2) following laws and regulations; (3) ensuring that there is reasonable assurance that the District's programs are administered in compliance with compliance requirements; and (4) ensuring that management and financial information is reliable and properly reported. Management is also responsible for implementing systems designed to achieve compliance with applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements. You are also responsible for the selection and application of accounting principles, for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards, and all accompanying information in conformity with the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; and for compliance with applicable laws and regulations (including federal statutes) and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements (including award agreements). Your responsibilities also include identifying significant contractor relationships in which the contractor has responsibility for program compliance and for the accuracy and completeness of that information.

Management is also responsible for making all financial records and related information available to us and for the accuracy and completeness of that information. 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) access to personnel, accounts, books, records, supporting documentation and other information as needed to perform an audit under the Uniform Guidance, (3) additional information that we may request for the purpose of the audit, and (4) unrestricted access to persons within the District from whom we determine it necessary to obtain audit evidence.

Your responsibilities include adjusting the financial statements to correct material misstatements and confirming to us in the management 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 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 affecting the District involving (1) management, (2) employees who have significant roles in internal control, and (3) others where the fraud 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 District received in communications from employees, former employees, grantors, regulators, or others. In addition, you are responsible for identifying and ensuring that the District complies with applicable laws, regulations, contracts, agreements, and grants. Management is also responsible for taking timely and appropriate steps to remedy fraud and noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, or abuse that we report. Additionally, as required by the Uniform Guidance, it is management's responsibility to evaluate and monitor noncompliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards; take prompt action when instances of noncompliance are identified including noncompliance identified in audit findings; promptly follow up and take corrective action on reported audit findings; and prepare a summary schedule of prior audit findings and a separate corrective action plan. summary schedule of prior audit findings should be available for our review by the beginning of fieldwork at your office.

You are responsible for identifying all federal awards received and understanding and complying with the compliance requirements and for the preparation of the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (including notes and noncash assistance received) in conformity with the Uniform Guidance. 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 the Uniform Guidance; (2) you believe the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with the Uniform Guidance; (3) 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 Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards.

You are responsible for the preparation of the other supplementary information, which we have been engaged to report on, in conformity with the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. 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 the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; (2) you believe the supplementary information, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; (3) 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 and providing report copies of 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.

You agree to assume all management responsibilities relating to the financial statements and related notes, Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards, and fixed asset schedule services, and any other nonaudit services we provide. You will be required to acknowledge in the management representation letter our assistance with preparation of the financial statements and related notes, Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards, and fixed asset schedule services, and that you have reviewed and approved the financial statements and related notes, Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards, and the fixed asset schedules prior to their issuance and have accepted responsibility for them. Further, you agree to oversee the nonaudit services by designating an individual, Julia Saunders, with suitable skill, knowledge, or experience; evaluate the adequacy and results of those services; and accept responsibility for them.

#### Engagement Administration, Fees, and Other

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 electronically submit the reporting package (including financial statements, Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards, summary schedule of prior audit findings, auditor's 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 auditor's reports or nine months after the end of the audit period.

We will provide copies of our reports to the District; however, management is responsible for distribution of the reports and the financial statements. Unless restricted by law or regulation, or containing privileged and confidential information, copies of our reports are to be made available for public inspection.

The audit documentation for this engagement is the property of Siepert & Co., LLP and constitutes confidential information. However, subject to applicable laws and regulations, audit documentation and appropriate individuals will be made available upon request and in a timely manner to the Illinois State Board of Education or its designee, 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 Siepert & Co., LLP 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 seven years after the date the auditor's report is issued or for any additional period requested by the Illinois State Board of Education. 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.

By signing this letter, you acknowledge and agree that upon expiration of the seven year period, Siepert & Co., LLP shall be free to destroy our records related to this engagement.

If the reproduction or publication of the financial statements, which we have examined, or any part of them, is anticipated for purposes of distribution outside your management, and if our firm's name is to be connected with the statements or report in any way, then we require that we be permitted to approve the masters or printer's proof before publication.

Subsequent to the completion of the fieldwork, we will deliver to you three copies of the Illinois Local Education Agency Annual Financial Report (ISBE Form 50-35) required by the Illinois State Board of Education and the requested copies of the final bound financial reports prior to the filing dates prescribed by Illinois State Board of Education.

In the interest of facilitating our services to the District, we may send data over the internet, store electronic data via computer software applications hosted remotely on the internet, or allow access to data through third-party vendors' secured portals or clouds. Electronic data that is confidential to the District may be transmitted or stored using these methods. We may use third-party service providers to store or transmit this data, such as providers of tax return preparation software. In using these data communication and storage methods, our firm employs measures designed to maintain data security. We use reasonable efforts to keep such communications and data access secure in accordance with our obligations under applicable laws and professional standards. We also require all of our third-party vendors to do the same.

You recognize and accept that we have no control over the unauthorized interception or breach of any communications or data once it has been sent or has been subject to unauthorized access, notwithstanding all reasonable security measures employed by us or our third-party vendors. You consent to our use of these electronic devices and applications and submission of confidential client information to third-party service providers during this engagement.

Dennis Hildebrandt 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 \$18,000 plus out-of-pocket costs (such as report reproduction, word processing, postage, travel, copies, telephone, etc.). 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. Our audit engagement ends on delivery of our audit report. Any follow-up services that might be required will be a separate, new engagement. The terms and conditions of that new engagement will be governed by a new, specific engagement letter for that service.

You may request that we perform additional services not addressed in this engagement letter. If this occurs, we will communicate with you regarding the scope of the additional services and the estimated fees. We also may issue a separate engagement letter covering the additional services. In the absence of any other written communication from us documenting such additional services, our services will continue to be governed by the terms of this engagement letter.

To ensure that Siepert & Co., LLP's independence is not impaired under the AICPA <u>Code of Professional Conduct</u>, you agree to inform the engagement partner before entering into any substantive employment discussions with any of our personnel.

Any claim arising out of this engagement letter shall be commenced within one year of the delivery of the work product to you, regardless of any longer period of time for commencing such claim as may be set by law.

We reserve the right to withdraw from this engagement without completing our services, for any reason, including, but not limited to, if you fail to comply with the terms of this engagement letter, or as we determine professional standards require.

You have requested that we provide you with a copy of our most recent external peer review report and any subsequent peer review reports received during the contract period. Accordingly, our 2014 peer review report accompanies this letter.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to North Boone CUSD No. 200 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.

Sincerely,

Liepert + Co. LLP

Certified Public Accountants

## RESPONSE:

This letter correctly sets forth the understanding of North Boone CUSD No. 200.

Signature: M. Munll

Title: Superinfendent