DOOR COUNTY TOURISM ZONE COMMISSION

MANAGEMENT LETTER

**DECEMBER 31, 2008** 



To the Commissioners Door County Tourism Zone Commission Sister Bay, Wisconsin

We have completed our audit of the basic financial statements of Door County Tourism Zone Commission (the "Commission") for the year ended December 31, 2008. The Commission's financial statements, including our report thereon dated April 14, 2009, are presented in a separate audit report document. Professional standards require that we provide you with the following information related to our audit.

# Our Responsibilities Under U.S. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards

As stated in our engagement letter, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to plan and perform our audit to obtain reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that the financial statements are free of material misstatement and are fairly presented in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Because an audit is designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance and because we did not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is a risk that material errors, fraud, noncompliance with the provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants or other illegal acts may exist and not be detected by us.

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Commission's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting.

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Commission's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit. While our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion, it does not provide a legal determination on the Commission's compliance with those requirements.

#### Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit

We performed the audit according to the planned scope and timing previously communicated to you in our correspondence about planning matters.

#### Significant Audit Findings

# Consideration of Internal Control

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the Commission as of and for the year ended December 31, 2008, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the Commission's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control.





Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses.

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

#### **Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices**

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter, we will advise management about the appropriateness of accounting policies and their application. The significant accounting policies used by the Commission are described in Note A to the financial statements. We noted no significant transactions entered into by the Commission during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. There are no significant transactions that have been recognized in the financial statements in a different period than when the transaction occurred.

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. We are not aware of any particularly sensitive accounting estimates used by management in the preparation of the financial statements.

# Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

#### Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. The financial statements reflect all accounting adjustments proposed during our audit. Copies of the audit adjustments are available from management.

#### Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as 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 April 14, 2009.

#### 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 Commission'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 conducting the audit. These discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to completing the services as your auditor.

In addition, during our audit, we noted certain other matters that are presented for your consideration. We will review the status of these comments during our next audit engagement. Our comments and recommendations are intended to improve the internal control or result in other operating efficiencies. We will be pleased to discuss these matters in further detail at your convenience, perform any additional study of these matters, or assist you in implementing the recommendations. Our comments are summarized in the memorandum attached to this letter.

This communication, which does not affect our report dated April 14, 2009 on the financial statements of the Commission, is intended solely for the information and use of the Commissioners, management, and others within the Commission, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Sincerely,

Schench SC

Certified Public Accountants Green Bay, Wisconsin April 14, 2009

# DOOR COUNTY TOURISM ZONE COMMISSION

December 31, 2008

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# REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

To the Commissioners Door County Tourism Zone Commission Sister Bay, Wisconsin

We have audited the financial statements of the Door County Tourism Zone Commission, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2008 and have issued our report thereon dated April 14, 2009. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

# Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Door County Tourism Zone Commission's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion of the effectiveness of the Door County Tourism Zone Commission's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Door County Tourism Zone Commission's internal control over financial reporting.

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

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in the internal control that might be significant deficiencies and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all significant deficiencies that are also considered to be material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.





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### **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Door County Tourism Zone Commission's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of basic financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

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

Schenk SC

Certified Public Accountants Green Bay, Wisconsin April 14, 2009