June 16th, 2017

To: Frank Haney, Winnebago County Board Chairman

From: William D. Crowley, Winnebago County Auditor

RE: Recommended Rejection of Alternative Program Invoices

Pursuant to the Illinois Compile Statute 55 ILCS 5/Div. 3.1. Sec. 3-1005, the County Auditor is required to audit all claims against the County, and recommend to the County Board the payment or rejection of all claims presented.

The following invoices were presented to my office with approval by County Board Chairman, Frank Haney and County Administrator, Amanda Hamaker. I am recommending rejection for payment, as presented, the following invoices **due to lack of proper authorization by the County Board:**

* Wake Up Consulting Services ($1,000)
* Rockford Park District Foundation Youth Programs ($500)
* Northern Illinois Red Ribbon Program ($500)
* Rockford Ambassadors Mentoring and Basketball Program ($1,000)

As indicated in my letter dated June 8th, 2017, County Ordinance No. 92-CO-79, § 7(2-173), 11-24-92) places limits of authority of the County Board Chairman indicating that “no provision of this division is intended to vest in or grant to the county board chairman any duty or any authority which is vested by general law or by ordinance in any other county officer, official or employee. No provision of this division shall be construed to delegate to the county board chairman authority to be performed by the county board; **nor shall the county board chairman have the power to bind, obligate or commit the county in any manner except as provided herein or by the express grant of authority by the county board”**. (Emphasis added)

I have absolutely no issue with the aforementioned vendors as providers of alternative program services. However, the County Board has not approved these vendors as providers of alternative program services nor has the County Board granted the County Board Chairman the authority to unilaterally select alternative program providers.

Please let me know if you have any questions or comments at 815-319-4206 or bcrowley@wincoil.us.