

Hayes, Kathy

From: rah@hhco.cpa
Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 6:32 AM
To: COB
Cc: County Auditor
Subject: Public Comment

Regarding May 11, 2021, Agenda Item 5, Agreement Amendment with Marcias, Gini & O'Connell, LLP

I oppose this agenda item.

I have observed over the last year that there have been numerous attempts to undermine the authority and responsibility of the County Auditor-Controller's Office. Per the county's website the responsibilities of the Auditor Controller includes: Prepares financial reports and Serves as chief accounting officer in the county. This agenda items is a further attempt to bypass the Auditor-Controller's office's responsibilities and authority.

It seems to me there is a conflict of authority when the County Administrative Office has budget control over staffing at the Auditor-Controller's office and then complains things are not getting done quickly enough with the short staff. I realize that there have been authorizations to increase the staff, but it takes time to properly hire and train the staff.

The problems with the relationship between the Board of Supervisors, CAO's office and the Auditor Controller appear to stem from the change from the previous Auditor/Controller not enforcing the proper evidentiary documentation needed for expenditures and accounting procedures to the present Auditor Controller who is following the proper rules and procedures. I have yet to hear or read any actions or request for documentation by the Auditor-Controllers office to be outside their responsibilities or authority. I know change is hard for individual's to accept, but following the proper rules and procedures by the Auditor Controller's office protects our Counties finances.

Lastly, Where is the funding coming for the \$750,000 being spent or proposed for the outside Financial Officer. Shouldn't these funds be spent on our internal needs, be it adequate staffing or fixing our infrastructure.

Richard

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