# Memorandum

To: Personnel, Legislative and Public Affairs Subcommittee

Re: Legal Services Contract Extension with Husch Blackwell, LLP

**Date:** June 4, 2018

From: John Winkler, General Manager

The current one-year contract between the Papio Missouri River NRD and Husch Blackwell expires on June 30, 2018. Husch Blackwell proposes to enter into a new two-year contract with the District beginning July 1, 2018 thru June 30, 2020. Husch Blackwell agrees to set its hourly rates at the current rates for the entire two-year period. Husch Blackwell will provide general legal services and representation to the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District, as directed by the Board of Directors acting through the General Manager. The original executed agreement and the proposed contract extension agreement is attached for your consideration.

Management recommends that the subcommittee recommend to the Board of Directors that the General Manager be authorized to execute the proposed contract, for a two-year period, from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2020, with Husch Blackwell, LLP, for the provision of legal services per the terms and conditions outlined in the attached agreement as to form and with any changes deemed necessary by the General Manager.

Harold "Hal" Daub Partner

13330 California Street, Suite 200 Omaha, NE 68154 Direct: 402.964.5019

Fax: 402.964.5050

hal.daub@huschblackwell.com

May 8, 2018

Mr. John Winkler General Manager Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District 8901 South 154th Street Omaha, NE 68138-3621

Re:

Agreement For Legal Services

Dear John:

You will recall that the engagement letter for legal services submitted on April 29, 2014 was subsequently extended by the Board. The most recent extension was from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

We are enclosing an executed copy of the April 29, 2014 engagement which you signed on May 8, 2014.

We are proposing a two-year extension of the Agreement For Legal Services from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2020. As a result of the two-year extension, Husch Blackwell agrees to set its hourly rates at the current rates for the entire two-year period. I am enclosing a copy of the Agreement for Legal Services formalizing this agreement.

Thank you again for continuing to use us for this engagement. We look forward to continuing our work for the district and its directors.

With highest personal regards,

HUSCH BLACKWELL

HJD:kgm

Harold "Hal" Daub Partner

13330 California Street, Suite 200 Omaha, NE 68154 Direct: 402.964.5019 Fax: 402.964.5050 hal.daub@huschblackwell.com

April 29, 2014

Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District Att: Mr. John Winkler, General Manager 8901 So. 154th St. Omaha, NE 68138

Re: Agreement For Legal Services

Dear Mr. Winkler and Members of the Board:

Thank you for selecting Husch Blackwell LLP to provide legal services. This letter is to confirm our discussion about the engagement and to set forth the terms under which we will provide the requested services.

Client and Scope of Representation. Our client for this engagement will be Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District. It is understood that, in the absence of written agreement to the contrary, our work in connection with this engagement shall not be considered to create an attorney-client relationship between us and any other persons or entities related to Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District, including parents, subsidiaries, shareholders, partners, members, or other affiliates, and thus our sole client for this engagement shall be Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District. We will not consider entities affiliated with Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District as our clients for the purpose of checking future conflicts of interest.

We are being retained to provide general legal services and representation to the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District, as directed by the Board of Directors acting through the General Manager. In the event that we are asked to provide additional services, we will confirm such engagement in writing. Absent specific modification, any additional services will be governed by the terms and conditions of this agreement.

Conflicts. As we have discussed, Husch Blackwell LLP has offices in a number of cities, and we represent many clients on a regional or national basis. It is possible that some of our present or future clients will have disputes with Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District during the time we are providing legal services. Therefore, as a condition to our undertaking this engagement, you have agreed that our firm may continue to represent or undertake in the future to represent existing or new clients whose interests are adverse to yours in matters, including litigation matters, that are not substantially related to the matters as to which we are representing

April 29, 2014 Page 2

you. You have agreed that the validity and enforceability of this unrelated matter conflict waiver is an essential condition to the firm's willingness to accept this engagement, and the firm would not have accepted the engagement but for this waiver. Accordingly, you agree that, if the validity or enforceability of this waiver is ever challenged or revoked, we may withdraw from representing you and continue to represent our other clients even in matters directly adverse to Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District. We agree, however, that your prospective consent to conflicting representation shall not apply in any matter substantially related to a matter in which we have provided legal services to Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District.

Fees and Expenses. Our fees are based on the amount of time we are required to devote to a project, multiplied by the appropriate hourly rate shown on the rate schedule for our firm's attorneys or Practice Groups, without value-billing being used. We will always be willing to provide estimates of fees or costs on matters when requested. The firm's fee schedule is available for review and the set fees, normally by the first of March each year and fixed for that following approximately 12 month period of time, are available for examination at the firm's Omaha office by an employee or Board Member of the Association. Gross billings to be reviewed on a six month basis commencing December 31, 2014.

Hal Daub and his successors approved by the District will be the firm's attorney responsible for this engagement and reporting to the District, but other attorneys and legal assistants, determined by such responsible attorney with approval of the District, may assist with the engagement.

In litigation and other matters involving computerized documents or voluminous evidentiary material, the firm may also use the services of its Practice Support Group to meet the demands of electronic discovery and document management using the latest technological tools. The services provided by the firm's Practice Support Group require significant expertise. Services may include coordination and consultation of discovery materials, development and hosting of document review databases, and the preparation and presentation of electronic evidentiary materials at trial. The hourly rates for these individuals range from \$130-\$270. Additionally, it is the firm's policy to bill for providing responses to audit letter requests. Should this type of work materialize, we charge a flat rate of \$250 - \$2,000 based on the complexity of the request and the resources required to respond to the request.

We will bill on a monthly basis for our professional fees and for reimbursement of expenses incurred in connection with this engagement. A schedule of our charges for various services and incidental items is attached. We will generally not pay the fees and expenses of other service providers, such as consultants, local counsel, deposition reporters, experts, and the like, but will forward those bills directly to you for payment.

Payment shall be due upon receipt of our statement. If we do not receive comment about the statement within thirty days of the date it is mailed, we will assume you have reviewed the

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statement and find it acceptable. Statements not paid within sixty days of mailing will be subject to a late charge of 1% per month on the unpaid balance, commencing from the date of the statement and continuing until paid. If a statement remains unpaid for more than ninety days, we may, consistent with our ethical obligations and judicial requirements, cease performing services for you until arrangements satisfactory to us have been made for payment of arrearages and future fees. You agree that, in such an event, we have the right to withdraw as your attorneys from any matter or proceeding in which we may be engaged.

**Deposit**. It is our standard practice to require an advance deposit from a new client and for each new significant matter. However, in connection with this engagement, we waive this requirement. You have agreed to pay our monthly invoices on a current basis.

Communications. We understand that we are to report to and take direction from the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District General Manager or his Designee for this engagement. If you should prefer that we report to some other person, please let us know. We understand that you have approved the use of internet e-mail for communications concerning this matter. Our state ethics rules suggest that we remind you that the internet does not provide a totally secure method of communication, and e-mail may be copied and held by any computer through which it passes. Persons not participating in the communication may intercept e-mails, and e-mails stored on computers may be accessed by unauthorized parties. If you would prefer that we not communicate with you via e-mail, please advise me immediately.

Marketing Materials. Periodically, our firm prepares marketing materials in which we include the names and corporate logos of selected clients and sometimes a brief description of a significant project on which we worked. You agree that we may do so with regard to you and any matters we handle for you at this time or in the future. If we include our representation of you in these materials, we will not include information about any specific transaction that is not otherwise publicly available without your prior approval.

Document Retention. Some materials related to our representation of you (e.g. administrative records, time and expense reports, personnel materials, and credit and accounting records) belong to us and will be handled in accordance with our document retention policy. Other materials (i.e. documents provided to us by you and the final version of documents that you retain us to create) are considered client files and belong to you. We will retain your client file for ten years or such longer period as required by statute or our firm's document retention policy. At your request, we will return your file to you or any other person designated by you. If, at your request, we retain your client files beyond their normal period of retention, such long-term storage will be at your cost. If you have not requested that we return your file or made arrangements for long-term storage, we may destroy or otherwise dispose of your client files after the retention period.

Conclusion of Representation. Our relationship with you will be concluded when we have completed our agreed-upon services. In addition, and without limiting the preceding

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April 29, 2014 Page 4

sentence, in the event we have performed no work for you on your behalf for six consecutive months, you agree that our attorney-client relationship with you will be terminated.

It is understood that the terms of this letter and its enclosures constitute the terms under which we will undertake this representation. If you find the proposed engagement terms acceptable, please execute and return a copy of this letter for our file. If you do not agree to any of the terms of this letter and its enclosures, please call me as soon as possible within the next ten days to discuss. If I do not hear from you, it is understood that these are the terms of our representation.

Thank you again for selecting us for this engagement. We look forward to working with you.

Best regards,

HUSCH BLACKWELL

HJD:rmw

AGREED:

Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District

Dated: Ma

April 29, 2014 Page 5

# SCHEDULE OF CHARGES FOR INCIDENTAL SERVICES Effective 12/1/2013

This schedule identifies charges that will be added to our invoices for incidental services we provide and costs we incur in connection with our legal services. If we have reached a separate written agreement with you concerning any of these charges, the terms of that separate agreement will prevail over any conflicting provisions of this schedule.

**Document Processing Services** 

Paper (Black and White)

Paper (Color)

\$0.15 per page - \$0.25 per page

No charges for paper documents

under 20 pages

Computer Legal Research Costs

Online research may be charged at up to 95% of the vendor's

transactional/retail rates, when

applicable

Postage, Couriers and Delivery Services

Large mailings, certified or express

delivery services are billed to client

at actual costs

**Internal Messengers Services** 

In-House Messengers charges are

billed at \$60 per hour, in 6 minute

increments

**Video Conferencing** 

Husch Blackwell initiated; 2 locations

Husch Blackwell initiated; each additional location

Non Husch Blackwell initiated; each additional location

\$100 per hour/per location: prorated

based on actual minutes used

\$100 per hour/per location: prorated

based on actual minutes used

No Charge

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April 29, 2014 Page 6

# SCHEDULE OF CHARGES FOR PRACTICE SUPPORT SERVICES Effective 1/1/2014

This schedule identifies charges that will be added to our invoices for services we provide for practice support and costs we incur in connection with those services. If we have reached a separate written agreement with you concerning any of these charges, the terms of that separate agreement will prevail over any conflicting provisions of this schedule. Occasionally we may outsource these services based on time deadlines and resources available. The actual vendor cost for outsourced services will be passed directly to you with no cost increase or markup.

Scanning Black & White, Letter & Legal Paper Light Handling Medium Handling Extensive Handling Color	\$0.06 per page \$0.09 per page \$0.13 per page \$0.20 per page
Objective Coding Printing from Summation, Concordance or Relativity Black and White, Letter & Legal Paper Color	\$0.05 per field \$0.06 per page \$0.25 per page
OCR Processing	\$0.02 per page
Electronic Bates Numbering	\$0.02 per page
Format Conversion (Example: TIFF to PDF)	\$0.02 per page
Electronic Discovery Data - NUIX Early Case Assessment	\$55.00 per compressed gigabyte - minimum fee \$200.00 (prorated)
Electronic Discovery Data Processing	\$175.00 per hour (prorated)
Electronic Document Production	\$0.05 per page
Loading and update to Summation or Concordance	\$85.00 per data load
Loading and update to Relativity Media Services CD\DVD Creation/Duplication Flash Drive 4 Gigabyte Flash Drive 16 Gigabyte Flash Drive 32 Gigabyte Synchronizing of Text to Video	\$175.00 per data load \$10.00\CD \$20.00\DVD \$10.00 per Drive \$20.00 per Drive \$35.00 per Drive \$25.00 per Video Hour (prorated)

Audit Letters \$250.00 - \$2,000.00

Offsite presentation and hardware equipment rental

Paper and electronic file storage during engagement

Paper file storage following conclusion of engagement

Electronic file storage following conclusion of engagement

Hosting of internal databases

Relativity outside user access

Please see cost detail for complete list

\$75.00 Per User Per Month

\$0.17 per bankers box per month

\$50.00 per gigabyte per year (prorated)

No Charge

No Charge

Harold "Hal" Daub Partner

13330 California Street, Suite 200 Omaha, NE 68154 Direct: 402.964.5019 Fax: 402.964.5050

hal.daub@huschblackwell.com

May 8, 2018

Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District Att: Mr. John Winkler, General Manager 8901 So. 154th St. Omaha, NE 68138

Re: Agreement For Legal Services

Dear Mr. Winkler and Members of the Board:

Thank you for selecting Husch Blackwell LLP to provide legal services. This letter is to confirm our discussion about the engagement and to set forth the terms under which we will provide the requested services from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2020.

Client and Scope of Representation. Our client for this engagement will be Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District. It is understood that, in the absence of written agreement to the contrary, our work in connection with this engagement shall not be considered to create an attorney-client relationship between us and any other persons or entities related to Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District, including parents, subsidiaries, shareholders, partners, members, or other affiliates, and thus our sole client for this engagement shall be Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District. We will not consider entities affiliated with Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District as our clients for the purpose of checking future conflicts of interest.

We are being retained to provide general legal services and representation to the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District, as directed by the Board of Directors acting through the General Manager. In the event that we are asked to provide additional services, we will confirm such engagement in writing. Absent specific modification, any additional services will be governed by the terms and conditions of this agreement.

Conflicts. As we have discussed, Husch Blackwell LLP has offices in a number of cities, and we represent many clients on a regional or national basis. It is possible that some of our present or future clients will have disputes with Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District during the time we are providing legal services. Therefore, as a condition to our undertaking this engagement, you have agreed that our firm may continue to represent or undertake in the future

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to represent existing or new clients whose interests are adverse to yours in matters, including litigation matters, that are not substantially related to the matters as to which we are representing you. You have agreed that the validity and enforceability of this unrelated matter conflict waiver is an essential condition to the firm's willingness to accept this engagement, and the firm would not have accepted the engagement but for this waiver. Accordingly, you agree that, if the validity or enforceability of this waiver is ever challenged or revoked, we may withdraw from representing you and continue to represent our other clients even in matters directly adverse to Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District. We agree, however, that your prospective consent to conflicting representation shall not apply in any matter substantially related to a matter in which we have provided legal services to Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District.

Fees and Expenses. Our fees are based on the amount of time we are required to devote to a project, multiplied by the appropriate hourly rate shown on the rate schedule for our firm's attorneys or Practice Groups, without value-billing being used. We will always be willing to provide estimates of fees or costs on matters when requested. The firm's fee schedule is available for review and the set fees for this two year extension are available for examination at the firm's Omaha office by an employee or Board Member of the Association.

Hal Daub, Brent Meyer or their successors approved by the District will be the firm's attorney responsible for this engagement and reporting to the District, but other attorneys and legal assistants, determined by such responsible attorney with approval of the District, may assist with the engagement.

In litigation and other matters involving computerized documents or voluminous evidentiary material, the firm may also use the services of its Practice Support Group to meet the demands of electronic discovery and document management using the latest technological tools. The services provided by the firm's Practice Support Group require significant expertise. Services may include coordination and consultation of discovery materials, development and hosting of document review databases, and the preparation and presentation of electronic evidentiary materials at trial. The hourly rates for these individuals range from \$130-\$270. Additionally, it is the firm's policy to bill for providing responses to audit letter requests. Should this type of work materialize, we charge a flat rate of \$250 - \$2,000 based on the complexity of the request and the resources required to respond to the request.

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for you until arrangements satisfactory to us have been made for payment of arrearages and future fees. You agree that, in such an event, we have the right to withdraw as your attorneys from any matter or proceeding in which we may be engaged.

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Document Retention. Some materials related to our representation of you (e.g. administrative records, time and expense reports, personnel materials, and credit and accounting records) belong to us and will be handled in accordance with our document retention policy. Other materials (i.e. documents provided to us by you and the final version of documents that you retain us to create) are considered client files and belong to you. We will retain your client file for ten years or such longer period as required by statute or our firm's document retention policy. At your request, we will return your file to you or any other person designated by you. If, at your request, we retain your client files beyond their normal period of retention, such long-term storage will be at your cost. If you have not requested that we return your file or made arrangements for long-term storage, we may destroy or otherwise dispose of your client files after the retention period.

Conclusion of Representation. Our relationship with you will be concluded when we have completed our agreed-upon services. In addition, and without limiting the preceding sentence, in the event we have performed no work for you on your behalf for six consecutive months, you agree that our attorney—client relationship with you will be terminated.

It is understood that the terms of this letter and its enclosures constitute the terms under which we will undertake this representation. If you find the proposed engagement terms acceptable, please execute and return a copy of this letter for our file. If you do not agree to any of the terms of this letter and its enclosures, please call me as soon as possible within the next ten

days to discuss. If I do not hear from you, it is understood that these are the terms of our representation.

Thank you again for selecting us for this engagement. We look forward to working with you.

Best regards,

HUSCH BLACKWELL

By: Marold "Hal" Dadb
Brent Meyer

HJD:rmw
AGREED:
Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District
By:
Name:
Title:
Dated:

# SCHEDULE OF CHARGES FOR INCIDENTAL SERVICES Effective 1/1/2017

This schedule identifies charges that will be added to our invoices for incidental services we provide and costs we incur in connection with our legal services. If we have reached a separate written agreement with you concerning any of these charges, the terms of that separate agreement will prevail over any conflicting provisions of this schedule.

**Document Processing Services** 

Paper (Black and White)

Paper (Color)

\$0.15 per page \$0.25 per page

No charges for paper documents

under 20 pages

No Charge

Computer Legal Research Costs

Online research may be charged at up to 95% of the vendor's transactional/retail rates, when applicable

Postage, Couriers and Delivery Services

Large mailings, certified or express delivery services are billed to client at actual costs

**Internal Messengers Services** 

In-House Messengers charges are billed at \$60 per hour, in 6 minute increments

**Video Conferencing** 

Husch Blackwell initiated; 2 locations

Husch Blackwell initiated; each additional location

Non Husch Blackwell initiated; each additional location

\$100 per hour/per location: prorated based on actual minutes used \$100 per hour/per location: prorated based on actual minutes used

Husch Blackwell LLP

# SCHEDULE OF CHARGES FOR PRACTICE SUPPORT SERVICES Effective 1/1/2017

This schedule identifies charges that will be added to our invoices for services we provide for practice support and costs we incur in connection with those services. If we have reached a separate written agreement with you concerning any of these charges, the terms of that separate agreement will prevail over any conflicting provisions of this schedule. Occasionally we may outsource these services based on time deadlines and resources available. The actual vendor cost for outsourced services will be passed directly to you with no cost increase or markup.

#### Scanning

Black & White, Letter & Legal Paper

Light handling \$0.06 per page

Medium handling \$0.09 per page

Extensive handling \$0.13 per page

Color \$0.20 per page

Printing from document review database

Black and White, Letter & Legal Paper \$0.06 per page

Color \$0.25 per page

OCR processing \$0.02 per page

Electronic Bates numbering \$0.02 per page

Format conversion (Example: TIFF to PDF) \$0.02 per page

**Electronic discovery data processing –** \$90.00 per compressed gigabyte

NUIX Early Case Assessment (prorated) minimum fee \$90.00

**Electronic document production** \$0.04 per page

Loading and update to document review database \$175.00 per data load

#### **Media Services**

CD\DVD creation/duplication \$10.00\CD \$20.00\DVD

Flash drive 8 gigabyte \$20.00 per drive

Flash drive 32 gigabyte \$35.00 per drive

External hard drive 1 Terabyte \$80.00 per drive

Synchronizing of Text to Video \$25.00 per video hour (prorated)

Offsite presentation and hardware equipment rental

Please see cost detail for complete list

Hosting of internal document review databases No charge

**Relativity outside user access** \$85.00 per user per month

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Paper and electronic file storage during engagement
Paper file storage following conclusion of engagement
Electronic file storage following conclusion of engagement
Audit Letters

No charge \$0.17 per bankers box per month \$50.00 per gigabyte per year (prorated) \$250.00 - \$2,000.00