## Memorandum

To:

Personnel, Legislative and Public Affairs Subcommittee

Re:

Legislative Representative Contract Renewal

Date:

June 1, 2010

From:

John Winkler, General Manager

The current one year contract between the Papio Missouri River NRD and Husch Blackwell Sanders expires on June 30, 2010. Husch Blackwell Sanders proposes to enter into a new one year contract with the District beginning July 1, 2009 thru June 30, 2010 for a proposed retainer fee of \$60,000, with equal monthly payments of \$5,000.00.

Per the attached Terms of Engagement-Renewal letter Husch Blackwell Sanders would continue furnishing intergovernmental representation and professional lobbying services to the District with respect to legislative matters of interest before the Nebraska Unicameral and the Executive Branch for the period of July 1, 2010 to June 30<sup>th</sup> of 2011.

Per the Client Scope and Representation of the proposed engagement proposal the District will once again be faced with a myriad of legislative challenges for not only the next legislative session but well into the foreseeable future. The District will once again be challenged on the issues of eminent domain, bonding authority; the filling of vacancies on the Board of Directors, and possibly the very existence of NRD's themselves. Therefore, it is imperative that the District retain a professional presence not only in Lincoln but throughout the District to interface with the legislature, local elected and appointed officials and the executive branch on a consistent and professional basis.

Management recommends that the subcommittee recommend to the Board of Directors that the General Manager be authorized to execute the proposed contract with Husch Blackwell Sanders, LLP, for the provision of intergovernmental and professional lobbying services per the terms and conditions outlined in the attached agreement.



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April 29, 2010

## VIA E-MAIL

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

MAY 1 1 2010

**Re:** Terms of Engagement - Renewal

Dear John:

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

Client And Scope of Representation. Our client for this engagement is Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District. We have been retained to provide legal and legislative consultation and representation regarding

- Likely reintroduction of legislation regarding vacancies on NRD boards, NRD levy authority, potential amendments following passage of LB 1010 relating to NRD eminent domain restrictions and issues regarding NRD bonding authority;
- 2. Serve as a resource and provide legal and legislative consultation regarding issues involving compliance, political subdivision authority and funding sources regarding the federal Clean Water Act and storm water run-off;
- 3. Monitor progress of and report activities associated with legislative interim studies, including: LR 437, referred to the Revenue Committee to examine levy exceptions and budget exceptions as they are used with inter-local agreements; LR 446, referred to the Agriculture Committee to examine options for a long-term management framework for vegetation within streambeds and immediate riparian areas; LR 470, referred to the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee to examine the issue of how political subdivisions may be impacted by the 2010 United States Census; LR 473, LR 474 and LR 478, all referred to the Natural Resources Committee to examine water resource issues; LR 496, referred to the Revenue and Urban Affairs Committees to examine urban and commercial area development laws, policies and programs; LR 504, referred to the Revenue Committee to examine policies and programs for addressing



property tax relief, including existing and alternative policies; LR 507, referred to the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee to examine ways to streamline all levels of government, including elimination, consolidation or reassignment; and

4. Communicate with and educate Nebraska Legislators on programs, initiatives and issues that are unique to the interests of the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District and the citizens residing within the district.

In the event that we are asked to provide additional services, we will confirm such engagement in writing, but, absent specific modification, such services will be governed by the terms and conditions of this agreement.

Conflicts. As we have discussed, Husch Blackwell Sanders 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 in matters, including litigation matters, that are not substantially related to our work for Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District. 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.

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

Payment of our invoices is due upon receipt. It is our Firm's policy that if payment on a statement is not received within 60 days of the invoice date, we will not provide further services until the account is brought current or other satisfactory payment or security arrangements have been made. For invoices not paid within 60 days of the invoice date, we reserve the right to assess interest at the rate of one percent (1%) per month. If you believe that your payment will be delayed for any reason, please promptly discuss the matter with me.

Retainer. It is our standard practice to require a retainer from a new client and for each new significant matter. In connection with this engagement, your monthly retainer will be waived. You have agreed to pay our monthly invoice in the amount of a \$5,000 flat fee on a current basis, and this monthly flat fee shall be applied to the outstanding balance upon the conclusion of our representation or, at our option, to satisfy delinquent monthly statements. We reserve the right to request further reasonable deposits or for restoration of the amount of the original retainer if used to satisfy prior invoices. Any unused portion of the retainer will be refunded at the conclusion of the representation.

All consulting and advocacy work as detailed in the Scope of Work, to continue for twelve (12) consecutive months beginning July 1, 2010, and concluding on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011, unless canceled by written notice, at least 30 days prior to the desired termination of services date indicated in such written notice. In no event may this agreement, if terminated by notice, be terminated during any period of time in which the Nebraska Legislature is in session. This agreement may be extended on terms and conditions mutually agreed upon, in writing, by and between the parties. All additional work shall, not covered by this agreement, be negotiated, at hourly rates or by additional retainer fees.

**E-mail Correspondence**. Our attorneys routinely send and receive information by email. 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.

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.

It is understood that the terms of this letter and its enclosures constitute the terms under which we have undertaken this representation. If you find the proposed engagement terms acceptable, please execute and return a copy of this letter our file. If you do not agree or accept any of the terms of this letter and its enclosures, please call me as soon as possible within the next 10 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.

	Hal Daub
Hjd:jlhw	Hai Daub
AGREED:	
Papio-Missouri River Natur	ral Resources District
Ву:	
Name:	
Title:	
Datade	



## SCHEDULE OF CHARGES FOR INCIDENTAL SERVICES **Effective 1/1/2010**

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)

\$0.15 per page Paper (Color) \$0.30 per page

No charges for paper documents

under 20 pages

Long distance telephone calls

Domestic Calls \$0.10 per minute International Calls \$0.25 per minute

No charge for calls under 5 minutes

Computer-assisted legal research Westlaw and Lexis Online research may be charged at

> up to 95% of the vendor's transactional/retail rates, when

applicable

3<sup>rd</sup> party couriers and delivery Charges to client are billed to client

at courier's standard charge

Internal Messengers/Couriers/Delivery In-House Messengers charges are

billed at \$60 per hour, in 6 minute

increments

**Outgoing faxes** \$1.00 per page, plus long distance

charges if applicable

**Incoming faxes** No Charge

Postage No Charge for mailings under \$1.00

Secretarial overtime Secretaries will be billed at a rate of

\$35.00 per hour

Video Conferencing

Husch Blackwell Sanders initiated; 2 locations \$100 per hour/per location: prorated

based on actual minutes used



Husch Blackwell Sanders initiated; each additional location

Non Husch Blackwell Sanders Initiated – each additional location

\$100 per hour/per location: prorated based on actual minutes used No Charge



## SCHEDULE OF CHARGES FOR PRACTICE SUPPORT SERVICES Effective 1/1/2010

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 actually vendor cost for outsourced services will be passed directly to you with no cost increase or markup.

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Black & White, Letter & Legal Paper

Light Handling \$0.06 per page Medium Handling \$0.09 per page Extensive Handling \$0.13 per page Color \$0.25 per page

**Printing from Summation or Concordance** 

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: TIF to PDF) \$0.02 per page

Electronic Discovery Data – Early Case Assessment \$15.00 per compressed gigabyte - minimum

fee \$200.00 (pro-rated)

Electronic Discovery Data Processing \$160.00 per hour (pro-rated)

**Electronic Document Production from Summation or** \$0.09 per page

Concordance

CD/DVD loading and update to Summation or \$75.00 per CD/DVD Concordance

Media Services

CD Creation/Duplication \$10.00 per CD **DVD** Creation/Duplication \$20.00 per DVD VHS Duplication \$10.00 per VHS

Digitizing of Video \$35.00 per tape/DVD/CD Synchronizing of Text to Video

\$25.00 per Video Hour (pro-rated)

Offsite presentation and hardware equipment rental Please see cost detail for complete list

Hosting of internal databases No Charge

Paper and electronic file storage during engagement No Charge

Paper file storage following conclusion of engagement \$0.17 per bankers box per month



Electronic file storage following conclusion of engagement

\$50.00 per gigabyte per year (pro-rated)

In certain circumstances, we receive and retain discounts from our third-party contractors based on our volume use of their services.

incerely,

Hal Daub

HD Attachments