

**RESOLUTION 2021-20**  
**HIGHLANDS WATER PROTECTION AND PLANNING COUNCIL:**  
**APPROVAL OF CONTRACT FOR AUDITING SERVICES**

**WHEREAS**, the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act (Highlands Act) has created a public body corporate and politic with corporate succession known as the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council (Highlands Council); and

**WHEREAS**, Section 6.g of the Highlands Act authorizes the Highlands Council to conduct its business as needed to effectuate the purposes of the enabling legislation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Highlands Council determined that a firm with expertise in auditing is necessary to support the Highlands Council's administrative operations; and

**WHEREAS**, to address the above need, on April 8, 2021 a Request for Proposal (RFP) to provide auditing services was issued, which RFP was mailed to a list of State certified auditors and posted on the Highlands Council's website; and

**WHEREAS**, one applicant submitted proposals and qualifications; and

**WHEREAS**, the Audit Evaluation Committee met on June 17, 2021 to discuss the qualifications of the applicant and agreed to recommend the firm that was best suited to meet the needs articulated by the Highlands Council's RFP; and

**WHEREAS**, the Audit Evaluation Committee prepared a written report on July 7, 2021 and submitted it to the Highlands Council's Audit Committee for consideration; and

**WHEREAS**, the Audit Committee, at its July 9, 2021 meeting, reviewed the recommendation of the Audit Evaluation Committee; and

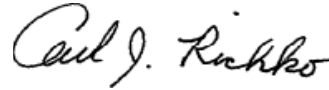
**WHEREAS**, the Audit Committee recommends that the Highlands Council authorize the Executive Director to enter a contract with Mercadien, P.C. for auditing services;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Highlands Council that the Executive Director, or designees, is hereby authorized to enter into a contract with Mercadien, P.C. for an amount not to exceed fee for services as follows: \$12,500 for the fiscal year ending 2021 and optional fiscal year 2022; \$13,000 for the fiscal year ending 2023, \$13,500 for the fiscal year ending 2024 and \$14,000 for the fiscal year 2025.

**RESOLUTION 2021-20**  
**HIGHLANDS WATER PROTECTION AND PLANNING COUNCIL:**  
**APPROVAL OF CONTRACT FOR AUDITING SERVICES**

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Highlands Council at its regular meeting held on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2021.



Carl J. Richko, Chairman

<b>Vote on the Approval of The Resolution</b>	<b>Motion</b>	<b>Second</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Councilmember Alstede			√			
Councilmember Dougherty			√			
Councilmember Dressler			√			
Councilmember Francis		√	√			
Councilmember Holtaway			√			
Councilmember James			√			
Councilmember Sebetich			√			
Councilmember Van Abs			√			
Councilmember Visioli	√		√			
Councilmember Vohden			√			
Chairman Richko			√			