

METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY



November 28, 2011

Mr. Bert Mathews, Chairman of the Board
Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce
211 Commerce Street, Suite 100
Nashville, TN 37201

Dear Mr. Mathews:

Please find attached the Monitoring Report of the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce relating to the contract it had with the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011.

The Office of Financial Accountability (OFA) is charged with the responsibility of monitoring grant funds, including Direct Appropriations, from Metropolitan Nashville Government to any nonprofit organization. The OFA is also responsible for monitoring the federal and state grants to departments within the Metropolitan Nashville Government. Staff from the OFA completed its review on November 16, 2011.

We appreciate the assistance provided by your agency during the course of the review. If you have any questions, please call me at 615-880-1035.

Sincerely,

Fred Adom, CPA
Director

cc: Mr. Ralph Schulz, Executive Director
Richard M. Riebeling, Director of Finance

Talia Lomax-O'dneal, Deputy Director of Finance
Gene Nolan, Deputy Director of Finance
Kim McDoniel, Chief of Accounts
Mark Swann, Internal Audit
Kevin Brown, Office of Financial Accountability
Essie Robertson, Office of Financial Accountability
Brad Thompson, Office of Financial Accountability



◆ Monitoring Report of ◆

Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce



Conducted by



Office of Financial Accountability

November 28, 2011

MONITORING REPORT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION 5

OBJECTIVES, SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY 6

RESULTS OF REVIEW 7

INTRODUCTION

The Office of Financial Accountability (hereinafter referred to as “OFA”) has completed a monitoring review of Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce. A monitoring review is substantially less in scope than an audit. The OFA did not audit the financial statements and, accordingly, does not express an opinion or any assurances regarding the financial statements of the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce. The OFA is responsible for the internal monitoring of Metro agencies that receive federal and state financial assistance, including cooperative agreements and non-profit organizations that receive appropriations and Community Enhancement Funds from Metro government. In summary, any agreement(s) that imposes performance and/or financial requirements on Metro government is subject to review by the OFA.

The purpose of this review was to assess the agency’s compliance with contractual requirements set forth in the following contracts with Metro Government:

Contract	Type	Grantor	Amount	Contract Term	
L-2515	Direct Appropriation	Metro Government	\$ 50,000.00	July 1, 2010	June 30, 2011

Agency Background

The Chamber of Commerce is a nonprofit organization dedicated to facilitating community leadership to create economic prosperity. The Nashville Area Chamber is Middle Tennessee's largest business federation, representing more than 2,000 member businesses in 10 counties. The Nashville Music Council, an initiative of the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce, is composed of more than 60 artists and industry executives who are dedicated to cultivating and advancing the ever-expanding music community to further establish Nashville’s position as the global music capital. To achieve this, the council is focusing on four areas to improve the city’s economic development track record – building the Music City brand and attracting jobs, growing the live music scene, attracting talent to Nashville and improving public education music programs.

OBJECTIVES, SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY

The objectives of our review were:

- 1) To determine whether the agency had the resources and capacity to administer the grant funds.
- 2) To determine if costs and services were allowable and eligible.
- 3) To verify that program objectives were met.
- 4) To test the reliability of the financial and programmatic reporting.
- 5) To verify contractual compliance.

The scope of our review was limited to the contract term July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011.

Audit procedures included meeting with agency management and staff, reviewing the design of internal controls as a basis for establishing our testwork, reviewing Board minutes and obtaining written representations from management. In addition, we examined certain financial records and supporting documentation necessary to ensure compliance with contractual requirements set forth in Contract L-2515. Specific procedures included:

- Interviewing the employees responsible for grant management, financial reporting, and accountability.
- Reviewing supporting documentation of expenditures for allowability, necessity and reasonableness.
- Reviewing the agency's General Ledger and verifying the accuracy of all invoices submitted to Metro.
- Reviewing documentation to determine that funds were used for intended beneficiaries and expended in accordance with the Spending Plan of the contract.
- Reviewing documentation to support program activities for consistency with grant requirements.
- Assessing the financial stability of the agency and its ability to continue to administer the grant program funded by Metro.

RESULTS OF REVIEW

Summary of Results

Criteria	Yes	No
Sufficient Resources and Capacity to Administer Funds?	✓	
Costs and Services are Allowable and Eligible?	✓	
Program Objectives being Met?	✓	
Reporting Requirements Met?	✓	
Sufficient Internal Control Environment?	✓	
Compliance with Civil Rights Requirements?	✓	

RESULTS OF REVIEW

The overall results of the monitoring review are provided in this section. Results are based on testwork performed and include conclusions regarding specific review objectives and, if applicable, recommendations for improvement and an action plan for implementation. Where applicable, the Findings and Recommendations section of this report provides more insight into any issues identified below.

1. Sufficient Resources and Capacity to Administer Grant Funds

Our review of the agency's accounting system and the qualifications of the individuals assigned to manage the accounting records indicate that the agency possesses the necessary resources and professional expertise to effectively administer the grant funds.

2. Allowable and Eligible Costs and Services

Our review covered all of the core compliance areas identified by OMB Circular A- 133: *Audit of States, Local Government, and Non-Profit Organizations*. Based on our test work, costs and services during the period were allowable and eligible. Costs incurred by the agency complied with applicable guidelines stated in OMB Circular A-122.

Additionally, the Metro Grants Manual requires separate accounting of the Metropolitan Nashville Government grant funds to prevent co-mingling of Metro Funds with other sources of funding. The agency was in compliance with this requirement. Different revenue classes as well as expenditure classes had been established to separately track the sources and amounts of funding. Also, the agency could easily and accurately report their expenses supported by the Metro Grant.

3. Program and Performance Objectives

The grant contract L-2515 stipulates that the agency was use the to administer the grant funds, manage the vendor contract with the web development firm and ensure completion and delivery of the final Nashville Music Industry web site, on

RESULTS OF REVIEW

behalf of the Nashville Music Council by June 30, 2011. Based on our review of program documentation and discussions with staff, program performance objectives as stated on the grant has been met and the agency was in compliance with contractual program objectives.

4. Reliability of Financial and Programmatic Reporting

The contract L-2515 requires submission of an annual audit report performed by a Certified Public Accountant. The contract also requires the agency to submit to Metro year end reports of the program outcome and a final expenditures report, no more than 45 days after the close of the contract. We reviewed all applicable financial and programmatic reports required by the contract, including audited financial statements. Based on our review, the agency was in compliance with the financial and programmatic reporting requirements as required under grant.

5. Internal Control Environment

In order to determine the adequacy of the design of internal controls, we obtained and reviewed an independent auditor's report on internal control over financial reporting and/or a completed internal control questionnaire. This audit procedure was performed solely as a basis for determining our test work and to assist us in making suggestions for improvement to management. We did not evaluate the operating effectiveness of internal controls over financial reporting.

Our review of the design of the agency's internal controls did not reveal any control deficiencies. Further, nothing came to our attention that would necessitate suggestions for improvement in internal control activities to management.

6. Civil Rights Requirements

Our review did not reveal anything to indicate that the agency was noncompliant with civil rights requirements. The agency also has necessary written policies and procedures relating to civil rights. The agency has not received any complaints regarding any form of discrimination. Further, civil rights and ADA postings are publicly displayed.