

May 9, 2018

**EMMIS COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION  
AUDIT COMMITTEE CHARTER**

**I. Purpose**

The primary objective of the Audit Committee is to assist the Board in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities with respect to (a) the financial statements and other financial information provided by the Company to its stockholders, the public and others, (b) the Company's compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, (c) the independent auditors' qualifications and independence and (d) the performance of the Company's internal audit function and independent auditors.

Although the Audit Committee has the powers and responsibilities set forth in this Charter, the role of the Audit Committee is oversight. The members of the Audit Committee are not full-time employees of the Company and may or may not be accountants or auditors by profession or experts in the fields of accounting or auditing and, in any event, do not serve in such capacity. Consequently, it is not the duty of the Audit Committee to conduct audits or to determine that the Company's financial statements and disclosures are complete and accurate and are in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and applicable rules and regulations. These are the responsibilities of management and the independent auditors.

**II. Organization**

The Audit Committee shall consist of three or more directors, each of whom shall satisfy the independence, financial literacy and experience requirements of Section 10A of the Securities Exchange Act, Nasdaq and any other regulatory requirements.

The members of the Audit Committee shall be appointed by the Board on the recommendation of the Nominating & Governance Committee.

The Audit Committee may form and delegate authority to subcommittees when appropriate.

**III. Meetings**

The Audit Committee shall meet at least four times per year on a quarterly basis, or more frequently as circumstances require. As part of its job to foster open communication, the Audit Committee shall have the opportunity to meet at least quarterly with management, the persons performing the internal audit function and the independent auditors in separate executive sessions to discuss any matters that the Audit Committee or each of these groups believe should be discussed privately.

The Board of Directors shall select a chair who will preside at each meeting of the Audit Committee. The agenda for each upcoming meeting of the Audit Committee shall be circulated to each member of the Audit Committee in advance of the meeting, and the annual agenda shall

be circulated to each member of the Audit Committee as well as each other director promptly after it is finalized.

#### **IV. Authority and Responsibilities**

In recognition of the fact that the independent auditors are ultimately accountable to the Audit Committee, the Audit Committee shall have the sole authority and responsibility to select, evaluate and, where appropriate, replace the independent auditors (or to nominate the independent auditors for shareholder approval), and shall approve all audit engagement fees and terms and all non-audit engagements with the independent auditors. The Audit Committee may consult with management and the persons performing the internal audit function but shall not delegate these responsibilities.

To fulfill its responsibilities, the Audit Committee shall:

##### **With respect to the independent auditors:**

1. Be directly responsible for the appointment, compensation and oversight of the work of the independent auditors (including resolution of disagreements between management and the independent auditors regarding financial reporting) for the purpose of preparing the audit report or related work.
2. Have the sole authority to review in advance, and grant any appropriate pre-approvals, of (a) all auditing services to be provided by the independent auditors and (b) all non-audit services to be provided by the independent auditors as permitted by Section 10A of the Securities Exchange Act, and in connection therewith to approve all fees and other terms of engagement. The Audit Committee shall also review and approve disclosures required to be included in Securities and Exchange Commission periodic reports filed under Section 13(a) of the Securities Exchange Act with respect to non-audit services.
3. Review on an annual basis the performance of the independent auditors, including the lead audit partner.
4. Ensure that the independent auditors submit to the Audit Committee on an annual basis a written statement consistent with Independent Standards Board Standard No. 1, discuss with the independent auditors any disclosed relationships or services that may impact the objectivity and independence of the independent auditors and satisfy itself as to the independent auditors' independence.
5. At least annually, obtain and review an annual report from the independent auditors describing (a) the independent auditors' internal quality control procedures and (b) any material issues raised by the most recent internal quality control review, or peer review, of the independent auditors, or by any inquiry or investigation by governmental or professional authorities, within the preceding five years, respecting one or more independent audits carried out by the independent auditors, and any steps taken to deal with any such issues.
6. Confirm that the lead audit partner and the audit partner responsible for reviewing the audit, has not performed audit services for the Company for more than the five previous

fiscal years. Consider whether, in order to assure continuing auditor independence, it is appropriate to adopt a policy of rotating the independent auditors on a regular basis.

7. Review all reports required to be submitted by the independent auditors to the Audit Committee under Section 10A of the Securities Exchange Act.
8. Review, based upon the recommendation of the independent auditors and the persons performing the internal audit function, the scope and plan of the work to be done by the independent auditors.

**With respect to the annual financial statements:**

9. Review and discuss with management, the persons performing the internal audit function and the independent auditors the Company's annual audited financial statements, including disclosures made in "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations."
10. Discuss with the independent auditors the matters required to be discussed by Statement on Auditing Standards No. 114, as amended, or other applicable SEC or PCAOB regulations, relating to the conduct of the audit.
11. Recommend to the Board, if appropriate, that the Company's annual audited financial statements be included in the Company's annual report on Form 10-K for filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission.
12. Prepare the report required by the Securities and Exchange Commission to be included in the Company's annual proxy statement and any other reports of the Audit Committee required by applicable securities laws or stock exchange listing requirements or rules.

**With respect to quarterly financial statements:**

13. Review and discuss with management, the persons performing the internal audit function and the independent auditors the Company's quarterly financial statements, including, if appropriate, disclosures made in "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and the independent auditors' review of the quarterly financial statements, prior to submission to shareholders, any governmental body, any stock exchange or the public.

**Annual reviews:**

14. Discuss with management and the independent auditors major issues regarding accounting principles used in the preparation of the Company's financial statements, including any significant changes in the Company's selection or application of accounting principles. Review and discuss analyses prepared by management and/or the independent auditors setting forth significant financial reporting issues and judgments made in connection with the preparation of the financial statements, including analyses of the effects of alternative approaches under GAAP.

**Periodic reviews:**

15. Periodically review separately with each of management, the independent auditors and the persons performing the internal audit function (a) any significant disagreement between management and the independent auditors or the persons performing the internal audit function in connection with the preparation of the financial statements, (b) any difficulties encountered during the course of the audit, including any restrictions on the scope of work or access to required information and (c) management's response to each.
16. Periodically discuss with the independent auditors, without management being present, (a) their judgments about the quality and appropriateness of the Company's accounting principles and financial disclosure practices as applied in its financial reporting and (b) the completeness and accuracy of the Company's financial statements.
17. Consider and approve, if appropriate, significant changes to the Company's accounting principles and financial disclosure practices as suggested by the independent auditors, management or the persons performing the internal audit function. Review with the independent auditors, management and the persons performing the internal audit function, at appropriate intervals, the extent to which any changes or improvements in accounting or financial practices, as approved by the Audit Committee, have been implemented.
18. Review and discuss with management, the persons performing the internal audit function, the independent auditors and the Company's in-house and independent counsel, as appropriate, any legal, regulatory or compliance matters that could have a significant impact on the Company's financial statements, including applicable changes in accounting standards or rules.

**Discussions with management:**

19. Review and discuss with management, as appropriate, the Company's earnings press releases, including the use of non-GAAP financial information (as defined in Regulation G), as well as financial information and earnings guidance provided to analysts and rating agencies.
20. Review and discuss with management, as appropriate, all material off-balance sheet transactions, arrangements, obligations (including contingent obligations) and other relationships of the Company with unconsolidated entities or other persons, that may have a material current or future effect on financial condition, changes in financial condition, results of operations, liquidity, capital resources, capital reserves or significant components of revenues or expenses.
21. Review and discuss with management the Company's major risk exposures and the steps management has taken to monitor, control and manage such exposures, including the Company's risk assessment and risk management guidelines and policies.

**With respect to the internal audit function and internal controls:**

22. Review and approve the Internal Audit Charter.

23. Review, based upon the recommendation of the independent auditors and the persons performing the internal audit function, the scope and plan of the work to be done by the persons performing the internal audit function and the responsibilities, budget and staffing needs of the persons performing the internal audit function.
24. Review and approve the appointment and replacement of the person overseeing the persons performing the internal audit function.
25. Review on an annual basis the performance of the persons performing the internal audit function.
26. In consultation with the independent auditors and the persons performing the internal audit function, review the adequacy of the Company's internal control structure and procedures designed to insure compliance with laws and regulations, and any special audit steps adopted in light of material deficiencies and controls.
27. Establish procedures for (a) the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints received by the Company regarding accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters and (b) the confidential, anonymous submission by employees of the Company of concerns regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters.
28. Review (i) the internal control report prepared by management, including management's assessment of the effectiveness of the Company's internal control structure and procedures for financial reporting and (ii) the independent auditors' attestation, and report, on the assessment made by management.

**Other:**

29. Review and approve all related-party transactions.
30. Review and approve (a) any change or waiver in the Company's Code of Business Conduct and Ethics applicable to the Chief Executive Officer or any senior financial officers and (b) any public disclosure regarding such change or waiver.
31. Establish a policy addressing the Company's hiring of employees or former employees of the independent auditors who were engaged on the Company's account.
32. Review and reassess the adequacy of this Charter annually and adopt any changes deemed appropriate.
33. Review its own performance annually.
34. Report regularly to the Board. Review with the Board when appropriate any issues that have arisen with respect to the quality or integrity of the Company's financial statements, the Company's compliance with legal or regulatory requirements, the performance and independence of the Company's independent auditors or the performance of the persons performing the internal audit function.
35. Perform any other activities consistent with this Charter, the Company's by-laws and governing law, as the Audit Committee or the Board deems necessary or appropriate.

36. Investigate reported violations of the Company's Code of Business Conduct and Ethics, determine whether violations of the Code by directors, executive officers or senior financial officers have occurred and, if so, determine the appropriate corrective and disciplinary measures to take.

## **V. Resources**

The Audit Committee shall have the authority to retain independent legal, accounting and other consultants to advise the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee may request any officer or employee of the Company or the Company's outside counsel or independent auditors to attend a meeting of the Audit Committee or to meet with any members of, or consultants to, the Audit Committee.

The Audit Committee shall determine the extent of funding necessary for payment of compensation to the independent auditors for the purpose of rendering or issuing the annual audit report and to any independent legal, accounting and other consultants retained to advise the Audit Committee.