



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

Highland County Agricultural Society
Highland County
P.O. Box 564
Hillsboro, Ohio 45133

We have performed the procedures enumerated below on the Highland County Agricultural Society's (the Society) receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the cash basis accounting records for the years ended November 30, 2023 and 2022 and certain compliance requirements related to those transactions and balances, included in the information provided to us by the management of the Society. The Society is responsible for the receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the cash basis accounting records for the years ended November 30, 2023 and 2022 and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances included in the information provided to us by the Society.

The Board of Directors and the management of the Society have agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of providing assistance in the evaluation of the Society's receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in their cash-basis accounting records for the years ended November 30, 2023 and 2022, and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances. No other party acknowledged the appropriateness of the procedures. This report may not be suitable for any other purpose. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of the report and may not meet the needs of all users of the report and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes. The sufficiency of the procedures is solely the responsibility of the parties specified in the report. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

For the purposes of performing these procedures, this report only describes exceptions exceeding \$10.

The procedures and the associated findings are as follows:

Cash and Investments

1. We recalculated the November 30, 2023 and November 30, 2022 bank reconciliations. We found no exceptions.
2. We agreed the December 1, 2021 beginning fund balances recorded to the November 30, 2021 balances in the prior year documentation in the prior year Agreed-Upon Procedures working papers. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the December 1, 2022 beginning fund balances for each fund recorded to the November 30, 2022 balances. We found no exceptions.
3. We agreed the 2023 and 2022 bank reconciliation as of November 30, 2023 and 2022 to the total fund cash balances reported in the General Ledger and the financial statements filed by the Society in the Hinkle System. The November 30, 2022 amounts agreed. In 2023, the Society included the Jr. Fair amounts that are overseen by a separate committee on the financial statements which is incorrect. In addition, the November 30, 2023 amounts did not agree to the General Ledger in the amount of \$605.68 and the Hinkle system in the amount of \$49.41.

4. We confirmed the November 30, 2023 bank account balance with the Society's financial institution. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the confirmed balances to the amounts appearing in the November 30, 2023 bank reconciliation without exception.
5. We selected 5 reconciling debits (such as outstanding checks) from the November 30, 2023 bank reconciliation:
 - a. We traced each debit to the subsequent December bank statement. We found no exceptions.
 - b. We traced the amounts and dates to the check register and determined the debits were dated prior to November 30. We found no exceptions.
6. We selected all reconciling credits (such as deposits in transit) from the November 30, 2023 bank reconciliation:
 - a. We traced each credit to the subsequent December or January bank statements. We found no exceptions.
 - b. We agreed the credit amounts to the General Ledger and determined they were dated prior to November 30. We found no exceptions.
7. We inspected investments held at November 30, 2022 to determine that they:
 - a. Were of a type authorized by Ohio Rev. Code §§ 135.13, 135.14, 135.144 or 135.145. We found no exceptions.
 - b. Mature within the prescribed time limits noted in Ohio Rev. Code §§ 135.13 or 135.14. We found no exceptions.

Intergovernmental and Other Confirmable Cash Receipts

1. We selected a total of 5 receipts from the Distribution Transaction Detail Report (State DTL) and the County Auditor's DTLs from 2023 and all from 2022.
 - a. We compared the amount from the above named reports to the amount recorded in the General Ledger. The amounts agreed.
 - b. We inspected the General Ledger to determine these receipts were allocated to the proper account codes. We found no exceptions.
 - c. We inspected the General Ledger to determine whether the receipts were recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.
2. We confirmed the total amount paid from the Ohio Department of Agriculture, and Ohio Harness Horseman Association to the Society during the years ended November 30, 2023 and 2022.
 - a. We inspected the General Ledger to determine whether these receipts were allocated to the proper account codes. We found no exceptions.
 - b. We inspected the General Ledger to determine whether the receipts were recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.

Admission/Grandstand

We selected 2 days of admission/grandstand cash receipts from the year ended November 30, 2023 and 2 days of admission/grandstand cash receipts from the year ended November 30, 2022 recorded in the General Ledger and agreed the receipt amount to the supporting documentation (ticket recapitulation sheets/cash register tapes, etc.). The amounts agreed.

Privilege Fee Receipts

We selected 10 privilege fee cash receipts from the year ended November 30, 2023 and 10 privilege fee cash receipts from the year ended November 30, 2022 recorded in the duplicate cash receipts book and:

- a. Agreed the receipt amount to the amount recorded in the General Ledger. The amounts agreed.
- b. Agreed the rate charged with rates in force during the period. We found no exceptions.
- c. Inspected the General Ledger to determine whether the receipt was recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.

Rental Receipts

We selected 10 rental cash receipts from the year ended November 30, 2023 and 10 rental cash receipts from the year ended November 30, 2022 recorded in the duplicate cash receipts book and:

- a. Agreed the receipt amount to the amount recorded in the General Ledger. The amounts agreed.
- b. Agreed the rate charged with rates in force during the period. We found no exceptions.
- c. Inspected the General Ledger to determine whether the receipt was recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.

Other Receipts

We selected 10 other receipts from the year ended November 30, 2023 and 10 other receipts from the year ended November 30, 2022 and:

- a. Agreed the receipt amount recorded in the General Ledger to supporting documentation. The amounts agreed.
- b. Confirmed the amounts charged complied with rates in force during the period. We found no exceptions.
- c. Inspected the General Ledger to determine the receipt was posted to the proper fund(s), and was recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.

Debt

1. From the prior agreed-upon procedures documentation, we observed the following loan outstanding as of November 30, 2021.
 - a. These amounts agreed to the Society's December 1, 2021 balances on the summary we used in procedure 3.
 - b. We inspected the debt's final offering documents for all outstanding debt, and we confirmed the Society does not have any debt covenants.

Issue	Principal outstanding as of November 30, 2021:
Highland County Commissioner	\$29,000

2. We inquired of management and inspected the receipt and expenditure records for evidence of loan or credit agreements, and bonded, note, County, or mortgage debt issued during 2023 or 2022 or debt payment activity during 2023 or 2022. All debt agreed to the summary we used in procedure 3.

3. We obtained a summary of debt service payments including loan agreements permitted by Ohio Rev. Code § 1711.13 owed during 2023 and 2022 and agreed these payments from the General Ledger to the related debt amortization schedule. We also compared the date the debt service payments were due to the date the Society made the payments. We found no exceptions.
4. We agreed the amount of debt proceeds received for 2022 from the debt documents to amounts recorded in the Receipt Ledger. The amounts agreed.
5. For new debt the Society issued during 2022, we inspected the resolution, the Society must use the proceeds to purchase a Kubota Tractor. We inspected the expenditure ledger and observed the Society purchased a Kubota Tractor with mower in June 2022. We found no exceptions.
6. We inquired of management, inspected the receipt ledger, and the prior agreed-upon procedures report to determine whether the Society had a loan or credit agreement outstanding from a prior year as permitted by Ohio Rev. Code §1711.13(B). We recalculated the Society's computation supporting that the total annual payments for debt obligations from loans and credit did not exceed twenty-five percent of its prior three-year average of annual revenues. We found no exceptions.

Payroll Cash Disbursements

1. We selected 1 payroll check for 5 employees from 2023 and 1 payroll check for 5 employees from 2022 from the General Ledger and:
 - a. We compared the hours and pay rate, or salary recorded in the Payroll Summary Report to supporting documentation (timecard or salary). We found no exceptions.
 - b. We recomputed gross and net pay and agreed it to the amount recorded in the payroll register. We found no exceptions. We found no exceptions.
2. We inspected the last remittance of tax and retirement withholdings for the year ended November 30, 2023 to confirm remittances were timely paid, and that the amounts paid agreed to the amounts withheld, plus the employer's share where applicable, during the final withholding period of 2023. We observed the following:

Withholding (plus employer share, where applicable)	Date Due	Date Paid	Amount Due	Amount Paid
Federal income taxes & Medicare (and social security, for employees not enrolled in pension system)	January 31, 2024	January 9, 2024	\$1,888	\$1,888
State income taxes	January 31, 2024	January 9, 2024	\$253	\$253
Local income tax	January 31, 2024	January 9, 2024	\$270	\$270

We found no exceptions.

Non-Payroll Cash Disbursements

1. We selected 10 disbursements from the General Ledger for the year ended November 30, 2023 and 10 from the year ended November 30, 2022 and determined whether:
 - a. The disbursements were for a proper public purpose. We found no exceptions.

- b. The check number, date, payee name and amount recorded on the returned, canceled check agreed to the check number, date, payee name and amount recorded in the General Ledger and to the names and amounts on the supporting invoices. We found no exceptions.
- c. Based on the nature of the expenditure, the account coding is reasonable. We found no exceptions.

Sunshine Law Compliance

1. We obtained and inspected the Society's Public Records Policy to determine the policy was in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code §§ 149.43(E)(2) and 149.43(B)(7)(c) and did not limit the number of responses that may be made to a particular person, limit the number of responses during a specified period of time, or establish a fixed period of time before it will respond unless that period is less than eight hours. We found no exceptions.
2. We inquired with Society management and determined that the Society did not have any completed or denied public records requests or public records requests with redactions during the engagement period.
3. We inquired whether the Society had a records retention schedule and observed that it was readily available to the public as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(B)(2). We found no exceptions.
4. We inspected written evidence that the Public Records Policy was provided to the records custodian/manager as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2). We found no exceptions.
5. We inspected the Society's policy manual and determined the public records policy was included as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2). We found no exceptions.
6. We observed that the Society's poster describing their Public Records Policy was displayed conspicuously in all branches of the Society as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2). We found no exceptions.
7. We did not select any applications submitted to the Records Commission for one-time disposal of obsolete records, and management's review of the schedules of records retention and dispositions for the engagement period. The Society is not subject to the Ohio Rev. Code records authority. Therefore this step is not applicable and applications were not inspected or inquired about.
8. We inquired with Society management and determined that the Society did not have any elected officials subject to the Public Records Training requirements during the engagement period as required by Ohio Rev. Code §§ 149.43(E)(1) and 109.43(B).
9. We inspected the public notices for the public meetings held during the engagement period and determined the Society notified the general public and news media of when and where meetings during the engagement period were to be held as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 121.22(F). We found no exceptions.
10. We inspected the minutes of public meetings during the engagement period in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code § 121.22(C) and determined whether they were:
 - a. Prepared – a file is created following the date of the meeting
 - b. Filed – placed with similar documents in an organized manner
 - c. Maintained - retained, at a minimum, for the engagement period
 - d. Open to public inspection – available for public viewing or request.We found no exceptions.

11. We inspected the minutes from the engagement period in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code § 121.22(G) and determined the following:
 - a. Executive sessions were only held at regular or special meetings.
 - b. The purpose for the meetings and going into an executive session (when applicable) correlated with one of the matters listed in Ohio Rev. Code § 121.22(G).
 - c. Formal governing board actions were adopted in open meetings.We found no exceptions.

Other Compliance

1. Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 requires Societies to file their financial information in the HINKLE system within 60 days after the close of the fiscal year. This statute also permits the Auditor of State to extend the deadline for filing a financial report and establish terms and conditions for any such extension. Auditor of State established policies, regarding the filing of complete financial statements, as defined in AOS Bulletin 2015-007 in the Hinkle System. We confirmed the Society filed their complete financial statements, as defined by AOS Bulletin 2015-007 and Auditor of State established policy within the allotted timeframe for the years ended November 30, 2023 and 2022 in the Hinkle system. Financial information was filed on February 7, 2024 and February 17, 2023 which was not within the allotted timeframe.

We were engaged by the Society to perform this agreed-upon procedures engagement and conducted our engagement in accordance with the attestation standards established by the AICPA and Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. We were not engaged to, and did not conduct an examination, or review engagement, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on the Society's receipts, disbursements, balances and compliance with certain laws and regulations. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

We are required to be independent of the Society and to meet our ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the ethical requirements established by the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards* related to our agreed upon procedures engagement.



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

December 9, 2024

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



HIGHLAND COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

HIGHLAND COUNTY

AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION

This is a true and correct copy of the report, which is required to be filed pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in the Office of the Ohio Auditor of State in Columbus, Ohio.



Certified for Release 12/24/2024

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This report is a matter of public record and is available online at
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