



**SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT  
WILLIAMS COUNTY**

**REGULAR AUDIT**

**FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1999-1998**



**JIM PETRO**  
**AUDITOR OF STATE**  

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**STATE OF OHIO**



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## REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

Springfield Township Regional Park District  
Williams County  
Post Office Box 446  
Stryker, Ohio 43557-0446

To the Board of Commissioners:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Springfield Township Regional Park District, Williams County, Ohio, (the District) as of and for the years ended December 31, 1999 and 1998. These financial statements are the responsibility of the District's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As discussed in Note 1, the District prepares its financial statements on the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the cash balances of the District as of December 31, 1999 and 1998, and its cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated January 28, 1999 on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Board of Park Commissioners and other officials authorized to receive this report under § 117.26, Ohio Revised Code, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

**Jim Petro**  
Auditor of State

January 28, 2000



**STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND  
CHANGES IN CASH BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPE  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1999 AND 1998**

	<b>1999</b>	<b>1998</b>
	<b>General</b>	<b>General</b>
<b>Cash Receipts:</b>		
General Property Tax	\$28,102	\$27,509
Investment Income	766	825
Workers Compensation Refund	0	564
Other Receipts	3,878	4,858
Total Cash Receipts	32,746	33,756
<b>Cash Disbursements:</b>		
Current:		
Salaries and Benefits	9,670	8,213
Improvement of Sites	8,771	2,483
Tools and Equipment	5,512	550
Supplies	2,551	1,233
Repairs	3,035	1,647
Other Expenses	7,595	10,632
Total Cash Disbursements	37,134	24,758
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(4,388)	8,998
Cash Balances, January 1	19,986	10,988
<b>Cash Balances, December 31</b>	<b>\$15,598</b>	<b>\$19,986</b>

*The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.*

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 1999 AND 1998**

**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**A. Description of the Entity**

Springfield Township Regional Park District, Williams County, (the District) is a body corporate and politic established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The District is directed by three appointed Park Commissioners. The District preserves and maintains the Village of Stryker's park in Williams County. The District contracts with the Village of Stryker's police department to provide security of persons and property.

The District's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the District is financially accountable.

**B. Basis of Accounting**

These financial statements follow the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. Receipts are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned, and disbursements are recognized when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State.

**C. Cash and Investments**

The investment in STAR Ohio (the State Treasurer's investment pool) is valued at amounts reported by the State Treasurer.

**D. Fund Accounting**

The District uses fund accounting to segregate cash and investments that are restricted as to use. The District classifies its fund as a General Fund. It is the general operating fund. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

**E. Budgetary Process**

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund be budgeted annually.

**1. Appropriations**

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function or object level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Board must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. The County Budget Commission must also approve the annual appropriation measure. Appropriations lapse at year end.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 1999 AND 1998  
(Continued)**

**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

**E. Budgetary Process (Continued)**

**2. Estimated Resources**

Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus cash as of January 1. The County Budget Commission must also approve estimated resources.

**3. Encumbrances**

The Ohio Revised Code requires the District to reserve (encumber) appropriations when commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over, and need not be reappropriated.

A summary of 1999 and 1998 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

**F. Property, Plant and Equipment**

Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment are recorded as capital outlay disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements.

**2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS**

The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of cash and investments at December 31 was as follows:

	<b>1999</b>	<b>1998</b>
Demand deposits	\$5,332	\$4,631
STAR Ohio	10,266	15,355
Total deposits and investments	<b>\$15,598</b>	<b>\$19,986</b>

**Deposits:** Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation.

**Investments:** Investments in STAR Ohio are not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book-entry form.

**3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY**

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 1999, and 1998 was as follows:

1999 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$39,988	\$32,746	(\$7,242)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**DECEMBER 31, 1999 AND 1998**  
**(Continued)**

**3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY (Continued)**

1999 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	<u>\$39,988</u>	<u>\$37,134</u>	<u>\$2,854</u>

1998 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	<u>\$39,138</u>	<u>\$33,756</u>	<u>(\$5,382)</u>

1998 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	<u>\$39,138</u>	<u>\$24,758</u>	<u>\$14,380</u>

The District did not properly certify expenditures as required by 5705.41(D).

**4. PROPERTY TAX**

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which rates are adopted by the Board of Park Commissioners. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. Homestead and rollback amounts are then paid by the State, and are reflected in the accompanying financial statements as Intergovernmental receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to make semiannual payment, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

Tangible personal property tax is assessed by the property owners, who must file a list of such property to the County by each April 30.

The County is responsible for assessing property, and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on behalf of the District.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**DECEMBER 31, 1999 AND 1998**  
**(Continued)**

**5. RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

The District's part-time employees belong to the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) of Ohio. PERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. This plan provides retirement benefits, including postretirement healthcare, and survivor and disability benefits to participants as prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code.

Contribution rates are also prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code. For 1999 and 1998, members of PERS contributed 8.5% of their gross salaries. The District contributed an amount equal to 13.55% of participants' gross salaries. The District has paid all contributions required through December 31, 1999.

**6. RISK MANAGEMENT**

The District has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

- Comprehensive property and general liability



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**REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS ON COMPLIANCE AND ON  
INTERNAL CONTROL REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

Springfield Township Regional Park District  
Williams County  
Post Office Box 446  
Stryker, Ohio 43557-0446

To the Board of Commissioners:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Springfield Township Regional Park District, Williams County, Ohio (the District ) as of and for the years ended December 31, 1999 and 1998, and have issued our report thereon dated January 28, 2000. We conducted our audits in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

**Compliance**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the District's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audits and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed an instance of noncompliance that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*, which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2000-40186-001.

**Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audits, we considered the District's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, we noted other matters involving the internal control over financial reporting that do not require inclusion in this report, that we have reported to management of the District in a separate letter dated January 28, 2000.

Springfield Township Regional Park District  
Williams County  
Report of Independent Accountants on Compliance and on  
Internal Control Required by *Government Auditing Standards*  
Page 2

This report is intended for the information and use of management and the Board of Park Commissioners, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

**Jim Petro**  
Auditor of State

January 28, 2000

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
DECEMBER 31, 1999 AND 1998**

<b>FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS</b>
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**FINDING NUMBER 1999-40186-001**

**Noncompliance Citation**

Ohio Revised Code § 5705.41(D) states no orders or contracts involving the expenditure of money are to be made unless there is a certificate of the fiscal officer that the amount required for the order or contract has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury or in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrances.

The following exception to this basic requirement is provided by statute:

- A. Then and Now Certificate: This exception provides that, if the fiscal officer can certify that both at the time that the contract or order was made and at the time that he is completing his certification, sufficient funds were available or in the process of collection, to the credit of a proper fund, properly appropriated and free from any previous encumbrance, the taxing authority can authorize the drawing of a warrant. The taxing authority has 30 days from the receipt of such certificate to approve payment by resolution or ordinance. If approval is not made within 30 days, there is no legal liability on the part of the subdivision or taxing district.
  
- B. Amounts of less than \$1,000 for political subdivisions (other than counties), may be paid by the fiscal officer without such affirmation of the taxing authority upon completion of the "then and now" certificate, provided that the expenditure is otherwise lawful. This does not eliminate any otherwise applicable requirement for approval of expenditures by the taxing authority.

Ninety-seven percent of the transactions tested were not certified at the time the commitment was incurred. These commitments were not subsequently approved by the School Board within the aforementioned 30 day time period.

We recommend the Treasurer certify the amount required to meet a commitment has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury or in the process of collection to the appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrance prior to placing an order. In instances where prior certification is not practical, we recommend issuance of a "then and now" certificate.

**SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS**

<u>Finding Number</u>	<u>Finding Summary</u>	<u>Fully Corrected?</u>	<u>Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <b>Explain:</b></u>
1	Ohio Revised Code § 5705.41(D), Certification of required amount to meet purchase commitment	No	Not Corrected. The District will utilize then and now certificates to a greater extent in the future.





STATE OF OHIO  
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**SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT**

**WILLIAMS COUNTY**

**CLERK'S CERTIFICATION**

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

*Susan Babbitt*

**CLERK OF THE BUREAU**

**CERTIFIED  
FEBRUARY 29, 2000**