



JIM PETRO
AUDITOR OF STATE

STATE OF OHIO

**WALNUT TOWNSHIP
GALLIA COUNTY**

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STATE OF OHIO
OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR

JIM PETRO, AUDITOR OF STATE

743 East State Street
Athens Mall Suite B
Athens, Ohio 45701
Telephone 740-594-3300
800-441-1389
Facsimile 740-594-2110
www.auditor.state.oh.us

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

Walnut Township
Gallia County
20732 State Route 141
Patriot, Ohio 45658

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Walnut Township, Gallia County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Township's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America 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 audit 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 audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As discussed in Note 1, the Township 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 combined fund cash balances of Walnut Township, Gallia County, as of December 31, 2001 and 2000, and its combined 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 July 9, 2002 on our consideration of the Township's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Board of Trustees 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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Petro". The signature is stylized with a large, looping initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jim Petro
Auditor of State

July 9, 2002

WALNUT TOWNSHIP
GALLIA COUNTY

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2001**

	Governmental Fund Types			Totals (Memorandum Only)
	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	
Cash Receipts:				
Local Taxes	\$5,401	\$4,194	\$	\$9,595
Intergovernmental	20,388	70,255		90,643
Earnings on Investments	1,049	738		1,787
Other Revenue	1,239	450		1,689
	28,077	75,637	0	103,714
Cash Disbursements:				
Current:				
General Government	25,886	4,119		30,005
Public Works		61,390		61,390
Health	15			15
Miscellaneous	438			438
Debt Service:				
Redemption of Principal	3,763	3,584		7,347
Interest and Fiscal Charges	957	912		1,869
Capital Outlay	1,845			1,845
	32,904	70,005	0	102,909
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	(4,827)	5,632	0	805
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	38,740	41,884	59	80,683
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$33,913	\$47,516	\$59	\$81,488

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

WALNUT TOWNSHIP
GALLIA COUNTY

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2000**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>			<u>Totals (Memorandum Only)</u>
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Debt Service</u>	
Cash Receipts:				
Local Taxes	\$5,230	\$4,066	\$	\$9,296
Intergovernmental	31,071	62,344		93,415
Earnings on Investments	1,152	860		2,012
Other Revenue	2,300	577		2,877
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Cash Receipts	39,753	67,847	0	107,600
Cash Disbursements:				
Current:				
General Government	33,932	4,025		37,957
Public Works		57,955		57,955
Health	47			47
Debt Service:				
Redemption of Principal	6,942			6,942
Interest and Fiscal Charges		2,274		2,274
Capital Outlay	1,422			1,422
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Cash Disbursements	42,343	64,254	0	106,597
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	(2,590)	3,593	0	1,003
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	41,330	38,291	59	79,680
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<hr/> \$38,740 <hr/>	<hr/> \$41,884 <hr/>	<hr/> \$59 <hr/>	<hr/> \$80,683 <hr/>

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

**WALNUT TOWNSHIP
GALLIA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2001 AND 2000**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Walnut Township, Gallia County (the Township), 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 Township is directed by a publicly-elected three-member Board of Trustees and a publicly-elected Clerk. The Township provides general governmental services including maintenance of Township roads and cemeteries. The Township contracts for fire protection.

The Township's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Township 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.

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

C. Cash and Investments

Cash and certificates of deposit are valued at cost.

D. Fund Accounting

The Township uses fund accounting to segregate cash and investments that are restricted as to use. The Township classifies its funds into the following types:

1. General Fund

The General Fund is the general operating fund. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

2. Special Revenue Funds

These funds are used to account for proceeds from specific sources (other than from trusts or for capital projects) that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Township had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

Gasoline Tax Fund - This fund receives gasoline tax money for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads.

Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund - This fund receives motor vehicle tax money for maintaining Township roads.

3. Debt Service Fund

The debt service fund is used to accumulate resources for the payment of bonds and note indebtedness. The Township had no activity in this fund for 2001 and 2000.

**WALNUT TOWNSHIP
GALLIA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2001 AND 2000
(Continued)**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

E. Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each 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 of Trustees must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. The County Budget Commission must also approve the annual appropriation measure. Appropriations lapse at year end.

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 Township to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are canceled, and reappropriated in the subsequent year.

A summary of 2001 and 2000 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

F. Property, Plant and Equipment

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

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS

The Township maintains a cash and investments pool used by all funds. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of cash at December 31 was as follows:

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>
Demand deposits	\$ 64,518	\$ 64,667
Certificate of deposit	16,970	16,016
Total deposits	<u>\$ 81,488</u>	<u>\$ 80,683</u>

Deposits: Deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

**WALNUT TOWNSHIP
GALLIA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2001 AND 2000
(Continued)**

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2001 and 2000 follows:

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$37,572	\$28,077	(\$9,495)
Special Revenue	78,331	75,637	(2,694)
Debt Service	9,216		(9,216)
Total	\$125,119	\$103,714	(\$21,405)

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$62,158	\$32,904	\$29,254
Special Revenue	106,774	70,005	36,769
Debt Service	9,216		9,216
Total	\$178,148	\$102,909	\$75,239

2000 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$47,984	\$39,753	(\$8,231)
Special Revenue	70,050	67,847	(2,203)
Total	\$118,034	\$107,600	(\$10,434)

2000 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$72,260	\$42,343	\$29,917
Special Revenue	97,182	64,254	32,928
Total	\$169,442	\$106,597	\$62,845

4. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which rates are adopted by Board of Trustees. 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.

Public utilities are also taxed on personal and real property located within the Township.

**WALNUT TOWNSHIP
GALLIA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2001 AND 2000
(Continued)**

4. PROPERTY TAX (Continued)

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 Township.

5. DEBT

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2001 was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
Note Bank Loan	\$ 24,711	5.75%
Total	\$ 24,711	

The Backhoe Loan was entered into by the Township in 1999. The bank agreement was a five year loan at 5.75% interest with annual payments of \$9,216 including interest. The loan is collateralized by the Township's backhoe.

Amortization of the above debt, including interest, is scheduled as follows:

	General Obligation Notes
Year ending December 31:	
2002	\$ 9,216
2003	9,216
2004	9,216
Total	\$ 27,648

6. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

The Township's 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 2001 and 2000, PERS members contributed 8.5% of their gross salaries. The Township contributed an amount equal to 13.55% of participants' gross salaries for 2001 and from January 1, 2000 through June 30, 2000. PERS temporarily reduced the employer contribution rate to 8.13%, effective July 1, 2000 through December 31, 2000. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2001.

**WALNUT TOWNSHIP
GALLIA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2001 AND 2000
(Continued)**

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk Pool Membership

The Township belongs to the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio townships. OTARMA provides property and casualty coverage for its members. OTARMA is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP). Member governments pay annual contributions to fund OTARMA. OTARMA pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

Casualty Coverage

OTARMA retains casualty risks up to \$250,000 per occurrence. Claims exceeding \$250,000 are reinsured with APEEP up to \$1,750,000 per claim and \$5,000,000 in the aggregate per year. Governments can elect additional coverage, from \$2,000,000 to \$10,000,000, which the General Reinsurance Corporation will reinsure.

If losses exhaust OTARMA's retained earnings, APEEP covers OTARMA losses up to \$5,000,000 per year, subject to a per-claim limit of \$2,000,000.

Property Coverage

OTARMA retains property risks including automobile physical damage up to \$100,000 on any specific loss. The Travelers Indemnity Company reinsures specific losses exceeding \$100,000. The Travelers Indemnity Company also provides aggregate excess coverage for property including automobile physical damage subject to an annual stop loss. When the stop loss is reached in any year, The Travelers Indemnity Company provides coverage in excess of \$10,000.

The aforementioned casualty and property reinsurance agreements do not discharge OTARMA's primary liability for claims payments on covered losses. Claims exceeding coverage limits are the obligation of the respective government.

Financial Position

OTARMA's financial statements (audited by other accountants) conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and report the following assets, liabilities and retained earnings at December 31, 2001 and 2000 (the latest information available):

<u>Casualty Coverage</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>
Assets	\$23,703,776	\$22,684,383
Liabilities	<u>9,379,003</u>	<u>8,924,977</u>
Retained earnings	<u>\$14,324,773</u>	<u>\$13,759,406</u>
<u>Property Coverage</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>
Assets	\$5,011,131	\$4,156,784
Liabilities	<u>647,667</u>	<u>497,831</u>
Retained earnings	<u>\$4,363,464</u>	<u>\$3,658,953</u>

**WALNUT TOWNSHIP
GALLIA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2001 AND 2000
(Continued)**

8. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Amounts received from grantor agencies are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor, principally the state. Any disallowed costs may require refunding to the grantor. Amounts which may be disallowed, if any, are not presently determinable. However, based on prior experience, management believes such refunds, if any, would not be material.



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JIM PETRO, AUDITOR OF STATE

743 East State Street
Athens Mall Suite B
Athens, Ohio 45701
Telephone 740-594-3300
800-441-1389
Facsimile 740-594-2110
www.auditor.state.oh.us

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

Walnut Township
Gallia County
20732 State Route 141
Patriot, Ohio 45658

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Walnut Township, Gallia County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000, and have issued our report thereon dated July 9, 2002. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America 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 Township'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 audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*. However, we noted certain immaterial instances of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated July 9, 2002.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Township'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 Township in a separate letter dated July 9, 2002.

Walnut Township
Gallia County
Report of Independent Accountants on Compliance and on Internal Control
Required by *Government Auditing Standards*
Page 2

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Petro". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "J" and a long, horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jim Petro
Auditor of State

July 9, 2002



STATE OF OHIO
OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR

JIM PETRO, AUDITOR OF STATE

88 East Broad Street
P.O. Box 1140
Columbus, Ohio 43216-1140
Telephone 614-466-4514
800-282-0370
Facsimile 614-466-4490

WALNUT TOWNSHIP

GALLIA 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
AUGUST 15, 2002**