



**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

FULTON TOWNSHIP
FULTON COUNTY

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE	PAGE
Independent Accountants' Report.....	1
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Cash Balances - All Governmental and Fiduciary Fund Types - For the Year Ended December 31, 2002.....	3
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Cash Balances - All Governmental and Fiduciary Fund Types - For the Year Ended December 31, 2001.....	4
Notes to the Financial Statements	5
Independent Accountants' Report on Compliance and on Internal Control Required by <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>	9

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**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Fulton Township
Fulton County
10600 County Road 4
Swanton, OH 43558-8806

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Fulton Township, Fulton County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001. 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 audits 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 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 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 and reserves for encumbrances of the Township as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, 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 April 14, 2003 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 that reads "Betty Montgomery". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Betty Montgomery
Auditor of State

April 14, 2003

**FULTON TOWNSHIP
FULTON COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL AND FIDUCIARY FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>			Totals (Memorandum Only)
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Fiduciary Funds</u>	
Cash Receipts:				
Local Taxes	\$55,507	\$38,043		\$93,550
Intergovernmental	46,978	67,089		114,067
Earnings on Investments	3,494	1,070	\$440	5,004
Other Revenue	3,898	550		4,448
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Cash Receipts	109,877	106,752	440	217,069
Cash Disbursements:				
Current:				
General Government	86,140			86,140
Public Safety	25,895			25,895
Public Works	908	145,460		146,368
Health	400	5,354		5,754
Miscellaneous		233		233
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Cash Disbursements	113,343	151,047		264,390
Total Cash Receipts Over (Under) Cash Disbursements	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	(3,466)	(44,295)	440	(47,321)
Other Financing Receipts and (Disbursements):				
Transfers-In		35,000		35,000
Transfers-Out	(35,000)			(35,000)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)	(35,000)	35,000		
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	(38,466)	(9,295)	440	(47,321)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	173,196	105,971	15,013	294,180
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$134,730	\$96,676	\$15,453	\$246,859
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

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

**FULTON TOWNSHIP
FULTON COUNTY**

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

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>			Totals (Memorandum Only)
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Fiduciary Funds</u>	
Cash Receipts:				
Local Taxes	\$57,370	\$37,450		\$94,820
Intergovernmental	71,515	57,191		128,706
Earnings on Investments	8,165	2,711	\$583	11,459
Other Revenue	1,828	930		2,758
	<u>138,878</u>	<u>98,282</u>	<u>583</u>	<u>237,743</u>
Total Cash Receipts				
Cash Disbursements:				
Current:				
General Government	73,552			73,552
Public Safety	26,614			26,614
Public Works	1,022	87,653		88,675
Health	400	7,443		7,843
	<u>101,588</u>	<u>95,096</u>		<u>196,684</u>
Total Cash Disbursements				
Total Cash Receipts Over Cash Disbursements	<u>37,290</u>	<u>3,186</u>	<u>583</u>	<u>41,059</u>
Other Financing Receipts and (Disbursements):				
Transfers-In		3,000		3,000
Transfers-Out	(3,000)			(3,000)
	<u>(3,000)</u>	<u>3,000</u>		
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)				
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements	34,290	6,186	583	41,059
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>138,906</u>	<u>99,785</u>	<u>14,430</u>	<u>253,121</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$173,196</u>	<u>\$105,971</u>	<u>\$15,013</u>	<u>\$294,180</u>
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31		<u>\$8,164</u>		<u>\$8,164</u>

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

**FULTON TOWNSHIP
FULTON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Fulton Township, Fulton 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. The Township provides general governmental services, including road and bridge maintenance, and cemetery maintenance. The Township contracts with the Village of Swanton and York Township to provide fire and rescue services.

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. 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

Investments are reported as assets. Accordingly, purchases of investments are not recorded as disbursements, and sales of investments are not recorded as receipts. Gains or losses at the time of sale are recorded as receipts or disbursements, respectively.

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

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:

**FULTON TOWNSHIP
FULTON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001
(Continued)**

Road and Bridge Fund - This fund receives property tax money for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads and bridges.

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

3. Fiduciary Funds (Trust Funds)

These funds are used to account for resources restricted by legally binding trust agreements. The Township had the following significant fiduciary funds:

Jones and Quiggle Cemetery Bequest Funds - These funds are used to account for non-expendable trusts. Interest earned is used for cemetery maintenance.

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 of Trustees must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. The County Budget Commission must also approve the annual appropriation measure. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end.

2. Estimated Resources

Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus unencumbered 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 carried over, and need not be reappropriated.

A summary of 2002 and 2001 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 and investments at December 31 was as follows:

**FULTON TOWNSHIP
FULTON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001
(Continued)**

	2002	2001
Demand deposits	\$34,019	\$51,603
Certificates of deposit	8,781	8,781
Total deposits	42,800	60,384
STAR Ohio	204,059	233,796
Total deposits and investments	\$246,859	\$294,180

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, 2002 and 2001 follows:

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$116,854	\$109,877	(\$6,977)
Special Revenue	110,262	141,752	31,490
Fiduciary	659	440	(219)
Total	\$227,775	\$252,069	\$24,294

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$233,450	\$148,343	\$85,107
Special Revenue	194,364	151,047	43,317
Total	\$427,814	\$299,390	\$128,424

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$107,587	\$138,878	\$31,291
Special Revenue	106,347	101,282	(5,065)
Fiduciary	544	583	39
Total	\$214,478	\$240,743	\$26,265

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$242,396	\$104,588	\$137,808
Special Revenue	171,500	103,260	68,240
Total	\$413,896	\$207,848	\$206,048

**FULTON TOWNSHIP
FULTON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001
(Continued)**

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.

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. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

The Township's employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) of Ohio. OPERS 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 2002 and 2001, OPERS members contributed 8.5% of their gross salaries. The Township contributed an amount equal to 13.55% of participants' gross salaries for 2002 and 2001. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2002.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Township belongs to the Ohio Government Risk Management Plan (the Plan), an unincorporated non-profit association with over 600 governmental entity members providing a formalized, jointly administered self-insurance risk management program and other administrative services.

Pursuant to § 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Plan is deemed a separate legal entity. The Plan provides property, liability, errors and omissions, automobile, and other coverages, modified for each member's needs. The Plan pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the member's deductible.

The Plan uses conventional insurance coverages and reinsures these coverages 100%, rather than using a risk pool of member funds to pay individual and collective losses. Therefore, the individual members are only responsible for their self-retention (deductible) amounts which vary from member to member.



**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

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

Fulton Township
Fulton County
10600 County Road 4
Swanton, OH 43558-8806

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Fulton Township, Fulton County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001, and have issued our report thereon dated April 14, 2003. We conducted our audits 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 audits 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 a certain immaterial instance of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated April 14, 2003.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audits, 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.

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 that reads "Betty Montgomery". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Betty Montgomery
Auditor of State

April 14, 2003



**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

88 East Broad Street
P.O. Box 1140
Columbus, Ohio 43216-1140

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800-282-0370

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FULTON TOWNSHIP

FULTON 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
MAY 13, 2003**