



**Auditor of State  
Betty Montgomery**



**LENOX TOWNSHIP  
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

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**Auditor of State  
Betty Montgomery**

**INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT**

Lenox Township  
Ashtabula County  
PO Box 423  
Jefferson, Ohio 44047

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Lenox Township, Ashtabula County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2002 and December 31, 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 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 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 June 13, 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 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

June 13, 2002

**LENOX TOWNSHIP  
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

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

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>			<u>Totals (Memorandum Only)</u>
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Capital Projects</u>	
<b>Cash Receipts:</b>				
Local Taxes	\$50,571	\$76,241		\$126,812
Intergovernmental	63,378	74,919	133,471	271,768
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	2,666	3,237		5,903
Earnings on Investments	3,531	317		3,848
Other Revenue	6,610	825		7,435
	<u>126,756</u>	<u>155,539</u>	<u>133,471</u>	<u>415,766</u>
<b>Total Cash Receipts</b>				
<b>Cash Disbursements:</b>				
Current:				
General Government	50,141	45,508		95,649
Public Works	67,195	113,463		180,658
Health	8,444	5,162		13,606
Debt Service:				
Redemption of Principal	7,823	5,000		12,823
Interest and Fiscal Charges	968			968
Capital Outlay	7,544	2,423	133,471	143,438
	<u>142,115</u>	<u>171,556</u>	<u>133,471</u>	<u>447,142</u>
<b>Total Cash Disbursements</b>				
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(15,359)	(16,017)	0	(31,376)
<b>Other Financing Receipts and (Disbursements):</b>				
Transfers-In		3,000		3,000
Transfers-Out	(3,000)			(3,000)
Other Uses	(1,759)			(1,759)
	<u>(4,759)</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(1,759)</u>
<b>Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)</b>				
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements	(20,118)	(13,017)	0	(33,135)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	88,354	88,202	0	176,556
<b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</b>	<b><u>\$68,236</u></b>	<b><u>\$75,185</u></b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>	<b><u>\$143,421</u></b>

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

**LENOX TOWNSHIP  
ASHTABULA 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**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		<u>Totals (Memorandum Only)</u>
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	
<b>Cash Receipts:</b>			
Local Taxes	\$47,530	\$71,788	\$119,318
Intergovernmental	42,362	72,780	115,142
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	2,652	3,371	6,023
Earnings on Investments	5,716	463	6,179
Other Revenue	6,256	2,200	8,456
	<u>104,516</u>	<u>150,602</u>	<u>255,118</u>
<b>Total Cash Receipts</b>			
<b>Cash Disbursements:</b>			
Current:			
General Government	51,068	32,360	83,428
Public Works		83,291	83,291
Health	7,779	4,076	11,855
Conservation - Recreation	10,990		10,990
Debt Service:			
Redemption of Principal	2,382	10,000	12,382
Interest and Fiscal Charges	1,410		1,410
Capital Outlay	2,329	3,188	5,517
	<u>75,958</u>	<u>132,915</u>	<u>208,873</u>
<b>Total Cash Disbursements</b>			
<b>Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements</b>	<u>28,558</u>	<u>17,687</u>	<u>46,245</u>
<b>Other Financing Receipts and (Disbursements):</b>			
Other Uses	(1,497)		(1,497)
<b>Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements</b>	27,061	17,687	44,748
<b>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</b>	<u>61,293</u>	<u>70,515</u>	<u>131,808</u>
<b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</b>	<u><u>\$88,354</u></u>	<u><u>\$88,202</u></u>	<u><u>\$176,556</u></u>

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



**LENOX TOWNSHIP  
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

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

**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**A. Description of the Entity**

Lenox Township, Ashtabula 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 road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance, fire protection and emergency medical services. The Township contracts with Jefferson Village Fire Department to provide fire and ambulance services to it's residents.

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. The Township maintained a general operating (NOW) account and 3 STAR Ohio accounts during the audit period. STAR Ohio is recorded at share values reported by the mutual fund.

**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:

**LENOX TOWNSHIP  
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

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

**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (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.

*Fire Levy Fund* - This fund receives property tax money for maintaining/purchasing equipment and covering costs for providing emergency fire services.

**3. Capital Project Funds**

These funds are used to account for receipts that are restricted for the acquisition or construction of major capital projects (except those financed through enterprise or trust funds). The Township had the following significant capital project fund:

Issue II Fund - The Township received a grant from the State of Ohio for the Tische Road widening and resurfacing project (a joint project/Morgan Township for which Lenox Township is the fiscal agent).

**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 function 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 2002 and 2001 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

**LENOX TOWNSHIP  
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

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

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

**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.

**G. Accumulated Leave**

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. Unpaid leave is not reflected as a liability under the Township's basis of accounting.

**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:

	2002	2001
Demand deposits	\$32,009	\$17,828
Investments:		
STAR Ohio	111,412	158,728
Total deposits and investments	\$143,421	\$176,556

**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	\$116,555	\$126,756	\$10,201
Special Revenue	149,227	158,539	9,312
Capital Projects	0	133,471	133,471
Total	\$265,782	\$418,766	\$152,984

**LENOX TOWNSHIP  
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

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

**3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY (Continued)**

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$204,909	\$146,874	\$58,035
Special Revenue	237,428	171,556	65,872
Capital Projects	141,577	133,471	8,106
Total	\$583,914	\$451,901	\$132,013

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$100,197	\$104,516	\$4,319
Special Revenue	154,072	150,602	(3,470)
Total	\$254,269	\$255,118	\$849

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$161,490	\$77,455	\$84,035
Special Revenue	224,587	132,915	91,672
Total	\$386,077	\$210,370	\$175,707

**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.

**LENOX TOWNSHIP  
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

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

**5. DEBT**

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2002 was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
OPWC Loan	\$7,500	0%
General Obligation Note - Backhoe	8,294	6.00%

The loan was obtained through the Ohio Public Works Commission for the Tische Road project. The backhoe note is collateralized solely by the Township's taxing authority.

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

	General Obligation Note	OPWC Loan
Year ending December 31:		
2003	\$8,792	\$5,000
2004		2500
Total	\$8,792	\$7,500

**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 2002 and 2001, PERS 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.

**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 Insurance

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.

**LENOX TOWNSHIP  
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

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

**7. RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)**

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 up \$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 reported the following assets, liabilities and retained earnings at December 31: (Please note that these are the most recent figures 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>		
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>



## **Auditor of State Betty Montgomery**

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

Lenox Township  
Ashtabula County  
PO Box 423  
Jefferson, Ohio 44047

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Lenox Township, Ashtabula County, (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001, and have issued our report thereon dated June 13, 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 June 13, 2003.

#### **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 June 13, 2002.

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

**Betty Montgomery**  
Auditor of State

June 13, 2002





**Auditor of State  
Betty Montgomery**

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**LENOX TOWNSHIP**

**ASHTABULA 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  
JUNE 26, 2003**