



**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

PROSPECT TOWNSHIP
MARION COUNTY

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Auditor of State Betty Montgomery

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Prospect Township
Marion County
P.O. Box 333
Prospect, Ohio 43342

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Prospect Township, Marion County, Ohio, (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 accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances the Township as of December 31, 2002, and December 31, 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 March 13, 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.

Prospect Township
Marion County
Independent Accountants' Report
Page 2

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

March 13, 2003

**PROSPECT TOWNSHIP
MARION 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>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Totals (Memorandum Only)</u>
Cash Receipts:			
Local Taxes	\$61,857	\$0	\$61,857
Intergovernmental	22,419	55,315	77,734
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	1,482	5,650	7,132
Earnings on Investments	3,030	1,770	4,800
Other Revenue	3,008	1,500	4,508
	<u>91,796</u>	<u>64,235</u>	<u>156,031</u>
Total Cash Receipts			
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	51,845	0	51,845
Public Works	0	91,771	91,771
Health	36,408	10,741	47,149
Capital Outlay	0	13,784	13,784
	<u>88,253</u>	<u>116,296</u>	<u>204,549</u>
Total Cash Disbursements			
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	3,543	(52,061)	(48,518)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>191,076</u>	<u>90,504</u>	<u>281,580</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u><u>\$194,619</u></u>	<u><u>\$38,443</u></u>	<u><u>\$233,062</u></u>

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

**PROSPECT TOWNSHIP
MARION 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>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Totals (Memorandum Only)</u>
Cash Receipts:			
Local Taxes	\$59,195	\$0	\$59,195
Intergovernmental	40,132	56,700	96,832
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	837	16,799	17,636
Earnings on Investments	6,305	2,905	9,210
Other Revenue	3,156	1,200	4,356
	<u>109,625</u>	<u>77,604</u>	<u>187,229</u>
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	58,255	0	58,255
Public Works	0	16,744	16,744
Health	20,562	15,370	35,932
Capital Outlay	0	12,947	12,947
	<u>78,817</u>	<u>45,061</u>	<u>123,878</u>
Total Cash Receipts Over Cash Disbursements	30,808	32,543	63,351
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>160,268</u>	<u>57,961</u>	<u>218,229</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$191,076</u>	<u>\$90,504</u>	<u>\$281,580</u>

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

**PROSPECT TOWNSHIP
MARION COUNTY**

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

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Prospect Township, Marion 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 zoning services, and cemetery maintenance.

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 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 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 to pay for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads.

**PROSPECT TOWNSHIP
MARION COUNTY**

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

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

D. Fund Accounting (Continued)

2. Special Revenue Funds (Continued)

Motor Vehicle License Fund – This fund receives motor vehicle tax money for constructing, maintaining and repairing township roads.

Cemetery Fund – This fund receives fees for cemetery services and sales of cemetery lots that are used to maintain the cemetery.

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. 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 re-appropriated in the subsequent year.

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.

**PROSPECT TOWNSHIP
MARION COUNTY**

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

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	\$20,721	\$33,742
Star Ohio	212,341	247,838
Total deposits and investments	\$233,062	\$281,580

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	\$101,742	\$91,796	(\$9,946)
Special Revenue	68,574	64,235	(4,339)
Total	\$170,316	\$156,031	(\$14,285)

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$275,798	\$88,253	\$187,545
Special Revenue	172,350	116,296	56,054
Total	\$448,148	\$204,549	\$243,599

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$143,271	\$109,625	(\$33,646)
Special Revenue	77,100	77,604	504
Total	\$220,371	\$187,229	(\$33,142)

**PROSPECT TOWNSHIP
MARION COUNTY**

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

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY (Continued)

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$286,519	\$78,817	\$207,702
Special Revenue	152,081	45,061	107,020
Total	\$438,600	\$123,878	\$314,722

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 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 payments, 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 Township.

5. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

The Township's employees belong to the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) of Ohio. PERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. The 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. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2002.

**PROSPECT TOWNSHIP
MARION COUNTY**

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

6. 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 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, which is the latest information available, (audited by other accountants) conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and report the following assets, liabilities and retained earnings at December 31:

<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>

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**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

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

Prospect Township
Marion County
P.O. Box 333
Prospect, Ohio 43342

To the Board of Trustees:

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

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Prospect Township
Marion County
Independent Accountants' Report 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.

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BETTY MONTGOMERY
Auditor of State

March 13, 2003

**PROSPECT TOWNSHIP
MARION COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001**

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <i>Explain:</i>
N-1	<p>ORC 5705.38 – failure to pass annual appropriation measures.</p> <p>ORC 5705.41(B) – expenditure of un-appropriated funds.</p>	Yes	Fully corrected.
N-2	ORC 5705.36 – failure to file a certificate of estimated resources with County Auditor.	Yes	Fully corrected.
N-3	ORC 5705.28 – failure to adopt a tax budget.	Yes	Fully corrected.
R-1	Lack of supporting documentation for expenditures.	Yes	Fully corrected.



**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

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Columbus, Ohio 43216-1140

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PROSPECT TOWNSHIP

MARION 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 8, 2003**