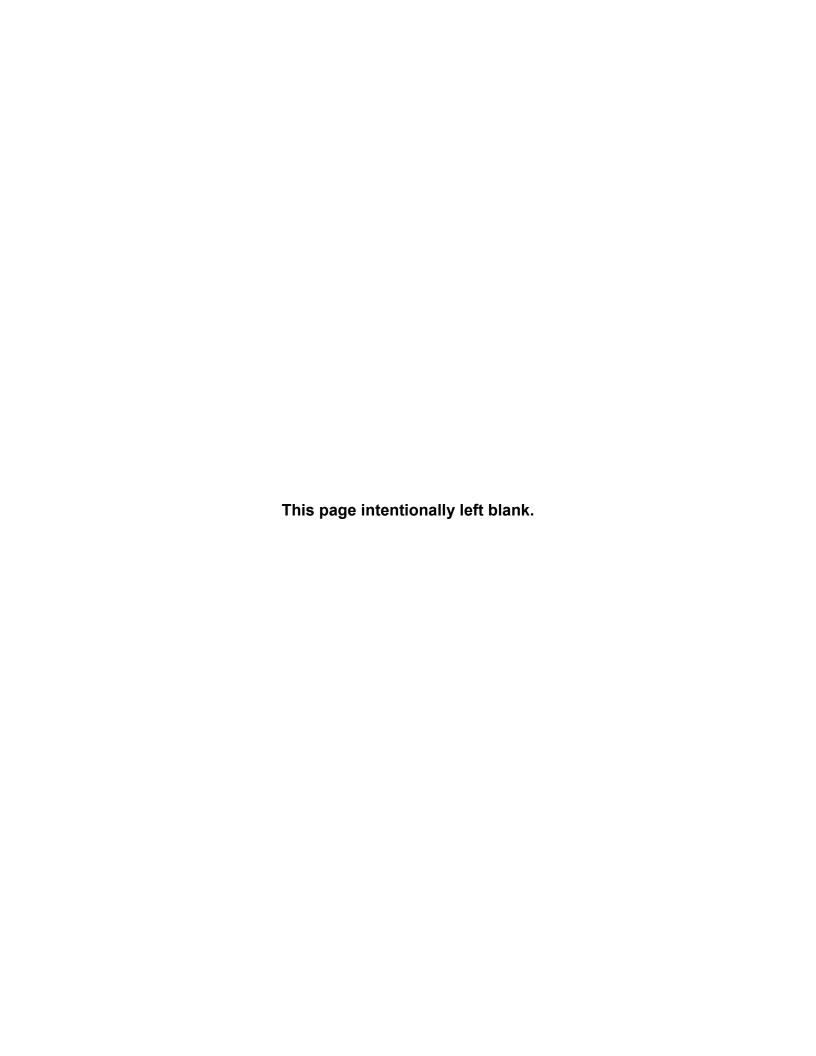




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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

Community Emergency Medical Service District Portage County P.O. Box 9 Garrettsville, Ohio 44231

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Community Emergency Medical Service District (the District) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2003 and 2002. 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 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 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 fund cash balances and reserves for encumbrances of the District as of December 31, 2003 and 2002 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 February 9, 2004 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. 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.

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Community Emergency Medical Service District Portage County Report of Independent Accountants Page 2

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

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

Butty Montgomery

February 9, 2004

STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCE GENERAL FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003

	General Fund
Cash Receipts:	
Local Taxes	\$264,541
Intergovernmental	29,080
Earnings on Investments	1,220
Total Cash Receipts	294,841
Cash Disbursements:	
Current:	
Salaries	6,795
Supplies	11
Equipment/Repairs	3,888
Insurance	1,214
Retirement Contribution	1,004
Worker's Compensation	25
County Auditor Fees	5,268
Contracts	226,704
Miscellaneous Expenses	123
Total Cash Disbursements	245,032
Total Receipts Over Disbursements	49,809
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	157,905_
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$207,714</u>

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

STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCE GENERAL FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002

	General <u>Fund</u>
Cash Receipts: Local Taxes	
Intergovernmental	\$258,530
Special Assessments	27,994
Other Revenue	1,274
Total Cash Receipts	287,798
Cash Disbursements: Current:	
Salaries	6,080
Equipment/Repairs	9,305
Insurance	1,065
Retirement Contribution	918
Worker's Compensation	21
County Auditor Fees	4,516
Contracts	196,704
State Auditor Fees	1,495
Miscellaneous Expenses	254_
Total Cash Disbursements	220,358
Total Receipts Over Disbursements	67,440
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	90,465
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$157.905</u>
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	<u>\$888</u>

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Community Emergency Medical Service District, Portage 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 a three-member Board of Trustees. One Board member is appointed by each political subdivision within the District. Those subdivisions are Village of Garrettsville, Freedom Township, and Nelson Township. The District contracts with Community Ambulance Inc. to provide ambulance services.

The District renewed their agreement with Community Ambulance Inc. for the period of January 1, 2004 to December 31, 2004, which requires them to pay \$206,004 for the year in monthly installments of \$17,167. Also, payment terms are to be reviewed after six months.

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

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 deposit are valued at cost.

D. Fund Accounting

The District uses fund accounting to segregate cash and investments that are restricted as to use. The District uses the general fund, which is the general operating fund. It is used to account for all financial resources.

E. Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that the General Fund be budgeted annually.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

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 District 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 2003 and 2002 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 District 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:

	2003	2002
Demand deposits	\$197,714	\$147,905
Certificates of deposit	10,000_	10,000
Total deposits	\$207,714	\$157,905

Deposits: Deposits are either (1) insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation, or (2) collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002 (Continued)

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2003 and 2002 follows:

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts				
	Budgeted	Actual		
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance	
General	\$450,628	\$294,841	(\$155,787)	
2003 Budgeted	vs. Actual Budgetary	Basis Expenditure	es	
	Appropriation	Budgetary		
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance	
General	\$450,628	\$245,032	\$205,596	
2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts				
	Budgeted	Actual		
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance	
General	\$375,384	\$287,798	(\$87,586)	
2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures				
Appropriation Budgetary				

Authority

\$373,384

Expenditures

\$220,358

Variance

\$153,026

4. PROPERTY TAX

General

Fund Type

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 District.

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, 2003 AND 2002 (Continued)

5. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

The District'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 2003 and 2002, members of PERS members 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, 2003.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

Commercial Insurance

The District has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

- Comprehensive property and general liability;
- Management Liability



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

Community Emergency Medical Service District Portage County P.O. Box 9 Garrettsville, Ohio 44231

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Community Emergency Medical Service District (the District) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2003 and 2002, and have issued our report thereon dated February 9, 2004. 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 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 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 District in a separate letter dated February 9, 2004.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, 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 a matter involving the internal control over financial reporting that does not require inclusion in this report, that we have reported to management of the District in a separate letter dated February 9, 2004.

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Portage County
Report of Independent Accountants on Compliance and on Internal Control
Required by Government Auditing Standards
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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.

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

Betty Montgomery

February 9, 2004



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

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800-282-0370

Facsimile 614-466-4490

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE DISTRICT PORTAGE 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.

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

Susan Babbitt

CERTIFIED APRIL 22, 2004