

Perry Township  
Lawrence County, Ohio  
Regular Audit  
For the Years Ended December 31, 2005 and 2004

**BALESTRA, HARR & SCHERER, CPAs, INC.**  
528 South West Street, P.O. Box 687  
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**Auditor of State  
Betty Montgomery**

Board of Trustees  
Perry Township  
61 Private Drive 338  
Ironton, Ohio 45638

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of Perry Township, Lawrence County, prepared by Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs, Inc. for the audit period January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2005. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

The financial statements in the attached report are presented in accordance with a regulatory basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State's Office (AOS). Due to a February 2, 2005 interpretation from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), modifications were required to the *Independent Auditor's Report* on your financial statements. While the AOS does not legally require your government to prepare financial statements pursuant to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), the AICPA interpretation requires auditors to formally acknowledge that you did not prepare your financial statements in accordance with GAAP. The attached report includes an opinion relating to GAAP presentation and measurement requirements, but does not imply the statements are misstated under the non-GAAP regulatory basis. The *Independent Auditor's Report* also includes an opinion on the financial statements using the regulatory format the AOS permits.

Our review was made in reference to the applicable sections of legislative criteria, as reflected by the Ohio Constitution, and the Revised Code, policies, procedures and guidelines of the Auditor of State, regulations and grant requirements. Perry Township is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Betty Montgomery".

BETTY MONTGOMERY  
Auditor of State

September 20, 2006

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**PERRY TOWNSHIP  
LAWRENCE COUNTY**

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Member American Institute of Certified Public Accountants

Ohio Society of Certified Public Accountants

## Independent Auditors' Report

Board of Trustees  
Perry Township  
Lawrence County, Ohio  
2711 State Route 243  
Ironton, Ohio 45638

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Perry Township, Lawrence County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2005 and 2004. 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 reasonably assure 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 described in Note 1, the government has prepared these financial statements using accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. These practices differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Although we cannot reasonably determine the effects on the financial statements of the variances between these regulatory accounting practices and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, we presume they are material.

Revisions to GAAP require the Township to reformat its financial statement presentation and make other changes effective for the year ended December 31, 2005 and 2004. Instead of the funds accompanying financial statements presented for 2005 and 2004, the revisions require presenting entity wide statements and also to present its larger (i.e., major) funds separately for 2005 and 2004. While the Township does not follow GAAP, generally accepted auditing standards require us to include the following paragraph if the statements do not substantially conform to the new GAAP presentation requirements. The Auditor of State permits, but does not require, governments to reformat their statements. The Township has elected not to reformat its statements. Since the Township does not use GAAP to measure financial statement amounts, the following paragraph does not imply the amounts are materially misstated under accounting basis the Auditor of State permits. Our opinion on the fair presentation of the amounts reported pursuant to its non-GAAP basis is in the second following paragraph.

In our opinion, because of the effects of the matter discussed in the preceding paragraph, the financial statements referred to above do not present fairly, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Township's combined funds as of December 31, 2005 and 2004, or their changes in financial position for the years then ended.

Also, in our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances of Perry Township, Lawrence County, as of December 31, 2005 and 2004, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

The aforementioned revision to generally accepted accounting principles also requires the Township to include Management's Discussion & Analysis for the year ended December 31, 2005 and 2004. The Township has not presented Management's Discussion & Analysis, which accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America has determined is necessary to supplement, although not required to be part of, the financial statements.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 30, 2006, 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 grant agreements and other matters. That report describes the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing. It does not opine on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. The report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. You should read it in conjunction with this report in assessing the results of our audit.



Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs, Inc.

June 30, 2006

**PERRY TOWNSHIP  
LAWRENCE COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND  
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES  
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005**

	<b>Governmental Fund Types</b>		<b>Totals (Memorandum Only)</b>
	<b>General</b>	<b>Special Revenue</b>	
<b>Cash Receipts:</b>			
Local Taxes	\$ 22,244	\$ 120,527	\$ 142,771
Intergovernmental	25,986	94,463	120,449
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	34,658	-	34,658
Earnings on Investments	1,018	582	1,600
Other Revenue	80	89,021	89,101
 Total Cash Receipts	 83,986	 304,593	 388,579
<b>Cash Disbursements:</b>			
Current:			
General Government	101,076	352,065	453,141
Public Safety	-	1,528	1,528
Public Works	-	7,045	7,045
Capital Outlay	-	58,000	58,000
 Total Cash Disbursements	 101,076	 418,638	 519,714
 Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	 (17,090)	 (114,045)	 (131,135)
<b>Other Financing Receipts and (Disbursements):</b>			
Proceeds from Notes	-	58,000	58,000
 Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)	 -	 58,000	 58,000
 Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements	 (17,090)	 (56,045)	 (73,135)
 Fund Cash Balances, January 1	 33,172	 216,555	 249,727
 <b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</b>	 <b>\$ 16,082</b>	 <b>\$ 160,510</b>	 <b>\$ 176,592</b>

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



**PERRY TOWNSHIP  
LAWRENCE COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND  
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES  
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004**

	Governmental Fund Types		Totals (Memorandum Only)
	General	Special Revenue	
<b>Cash Receipts:</b>			
Local Taxes	\$ 31,920	\$ 157,386	\$ 189,306
Intergovernmental	30,806	85,498	116,304
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	33,920	-	33,920
Earnings on Investments	937	292	1,229
Other Revenue	161	23,408	23,569
 Total Cash Receipts	 97,744	 266,584	 364,328
<b>Cash Disbursements:</b>			
Current:			
General Government	100,366	157,539	257,905
Public Safety	-	3,329	3,329
Public Works	-	10,085	10,085
Capital Outlay	-	8,700	8,700
Debt Service:			
Redemption of Principal	-	11,486	11,486
Interest and Fiscal Charges	-	633	633
 Total Cash Disbursements	 100,366	 191,772	 292,138
 Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	 (2,622)	 74,812	 72,190
 Fund Cash Balances, January 1	 35,793	 141,744	 177,537
 <b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</b>	 <b>\$ 33,172</b>	 <b>\$ 216,555</b>	 <b>\$ 249,727</b>

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

**PERRY TOWNSHIP  
LAWRENCE COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2005 AND 2004**

**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**A. Description of the Entity**

Perry Township, Lawrence 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 road and bridge services, including road and bridge maintenance (public works), ambulance services (health), and fire protection (public safety).

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. 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 to pay for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads.

*Permissive Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund* – This fund receives motor vehicle license tax money for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads.

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

*Fire District Fund* - This fund receives tax money for maintaining Township fire protection.

**D. Budgetary Process**

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund be budgeted annually.

**PERRY TOWNSHIP  
LAWRENCE COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2005  
(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. 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 approved 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 2005 and 2004 budgetary activity appears in Note 6.

**E. 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.

**F. Cash and Investments**

The Township had one primary checking account during our audit period.

**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:

	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>
Demand deposits	\$176,593	\$249,727

**Deposits:** Deposits are either insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the Township.

**3. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS**

The Township's elected officials and 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 2005 and 2004, members of 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 employer contributions required through December 31, 2005.

**PERRY TOWNSHIP  
LAWRENCE COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2005  
(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.

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.

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

**5. DEBT**

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2005 was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
Fire Truck Loan	\$58,000	3.42%
Total	\$58,000	

The bank loan issued on 10/27/05 was to finance the purchase of a fire truck to be used for Township fire protection. The note is collateralized by the fire truck.

Amortization of the above debt, including interest payments of \$1,983.60, is scheduled as follows:

Year ending December 31:	Fire Truck Loan
2006	\$59,983.60
Total	\$59,983.60

**PERRY TOWNSHIP  
LAWRENCE COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2005  
(Continued)**

**6. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY**

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2005 and 2004 follows:

2005 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$117,054	\$83,986	(\$33,068)
Special Revenue	521,069	362,593	(158,476)
Total	\$638,123	\$446,579	(\$191,544)

2005 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$117,050	\$101,076	\$15,974
Special Revenue	399,030	418,638	(19,608)
Total	\$516,080	\$519,714	(\$3,634)

2004 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$133,453	\$97,744	(\$35,709)
Special Revenue	404,828	266,584	(138,244)
Total	\$538,281	\$364,328	(\$173,953)

2004 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$122,502	\$100,366	\$22,136
Special Revenue	301,174	191,772	109,402
Total	\$423,676	\$292,138	\$131,538

The Township did not comply with Section 5705.41(D) of the Ohio Revised Code regarding the certifying of funds prior to making a purchase commitment.

The Township had expenditures that exceeded appropriations contrary to Section 5705.41(B) of the Ohio Revised Code.

**PERRY TOWNSHIP  
LAWRENCE COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2005  
(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 claim, including loss adjustment expenses. 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, from the General Reinsurance Corporation.

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 in any one occurrence. The Travelers Indemnity Company reinsures losses exceeding \$100,000 up to \$500,000,000 per occurrence. APEEP's Guarantee Fund pays for losses and loss adjustment expenses exceeding operating contributions.

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, 2004 and 2003 (the latest information available).

<u>Casualty Coverage</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
Assets	\$30,687,203	\$27,792,223
Liabilities	(13,640,962)	(11,791,300)
Retained earnings	\$17,046,241	\$16,000,923

<u>Property Coverage</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
Assets	\$7,799,073	\$6,791,060
Liabilities	(753,906)	(750,956)
Retained earnings	\$7,045,167	\$6,040,104

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**Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards***

Board of Trustees  
Perry Township  
Lawrence County, Ohio  
2711 State Route 243  
Ironton, Ohio 45638

To the Board of Township Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of Perry Township, Lawrence, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2005 and 2004, and have issued our report thereon dated June 30, 2006 wherein we noted the Township prepares its financial statements using accounting practices which the Auditor of State prescribes or permits which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. 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.

**Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Townships 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 that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operating of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amount 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.

**Compliance and Other Matters**

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 grant agreements, 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 a instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Governmental Auditing Standards* which are described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings as items 2005-001 and 2005-002.

Perry Township  
Lawrence County

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an  
Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*  
Page 2

We also noted certain matters that we reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated June 30, 2006.

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



Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs, Inc.  
June 30, 2006



**PERRY TOWNSHIP  
LAWRENCE COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
DECEMBER 31, 2005 AND 2004**

**FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS**

**FINDING NUMBER 2005-001**

**Noncompliance Citation**

Ohio Rev. Code, Section 5705.41(D), requires that no subdivision or taxing unit shall make any contract or give any order involving the expenditure of money unless there is attached thereto a certificate of the fiscal officer of the subdivision that the amount required to meet the obligation has been lawfully appropriated for such purpose and is in the treasury or in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrances. This certificate need be signed only by the fiscal officer. Every contract made without such a certificate shall be void, and no warrant shall be issued in payment of any amount due thereon.

This section also provides for two exceptions to the above requirements:

- A. Then and Now Certificates - If no certificate is furnished as required, upon receipt of the fiscal officer's certificate that a sufficient sum was, both at the time of the contract or order and at the time of the certificate, appropriated and free of any previous encumbrances, the Board of Trustees may authorize the issuance of a warrant in payment of the amount due upon such contract or order by resolution within 30 days from the receipt of such certificate.
- B. If the amount involved is less than \$3,000, the fiscal officer may authorize payment through a Then and Now Certificate without affirmation of the Board, if such expenditure is otherwise valid.

Several of the disbursements tested were not properly certified. Not certifying funds prior to a purchase commitment may cause the Township to obligate money it does not have.

No orders involving the expenditure of money should be made unless the clerk has issued a purchase order to certify that the amount required has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury or in the process of collection. Then and Now Certificates should be used as the exception rather than the rule. Furthermore, the Trustees should approve all Then and Now certificates greater than \$3000, by resolution.

**Auditee Response**

The Township is unable to comply completely with this code section. The Township will try to monitor purchases to eliminate their citation.

**FINDING NUMBER 2005-002**

**Noncompliance Citation**

Ohio Rev. Code 5705.41(B) states that no subdivision or taxing unit is to expend money unless it has been appropriated.

Expenditures exceeded appropriations in the General and Road and Bridge funds at December 31, 2004, and in the General, Gasoline Tax, Fire Levy and Road and Bridge Funds at December 31, 2005.

The Township Clerk should deny payment requests exceeding appropriations. The Township Clerk may request the Board of Trustees to approve increased expenditure levels by increasing appropriation and amending estimated resources, if necessary.

**Auditee Response**

The Township clerk will monitor budgetary activity to insure budgetary violations are eliminated.

**PERRY TOWNSHIP  
LAWRENCE COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS  
FISCAL YEAR END 2005 AND 2004**

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <i>Explain:</i>
2003-001	ORC Section 5705.41 (D) states that certification of funds was not always obtained prior to the incurring of the obligation.	No	Not Corrected; Repeat as Finding 2003-001.



**Auditor of State  
Betty Montgomery**

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**PERRY TOWNSHIP  
LAWRENCE 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  
OCTOBER 3, 2006**