

LICKING TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY
REGULAR AUDIT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

January 12, 2007

The attached audit report was completed and prepared for release prior to the commencement of my term of office on January 8, 2007. Thus, I am certifying this audit report for release under the signature of my predecessor.

Mary Taylor

MARY TAYLOR, CPA
Auditor of State

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**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

Board of Trustees
Licking Township
6737 White Chapel Road
P.O. Box 222
Jacksontown, Ohio 43030

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditors' Report* of Licking Township, Licking County, prepared by Wilson, Shannon & Snow, Inc., for the audit period January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004. 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. Due to a February 2, 2005 interpretation from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), modifications were required to the *Independent Auditors' Report* on your financial statements. While the Auditor of State 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 Auditors' Report* also includes an opinion on the financial statements using the regulatory format the Auditor of State 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. Licking 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

January 2, 2007

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**LICKING TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY**

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Licking Township
Licking County
6737 White Chapel Road
P.O. Box 222
Jacksontown, Ohio 43030

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statement of Licking Township, Licking County, (the Township) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2004. This financial statement is the responsibility of the Township's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial statement 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 the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. 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 our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described more fully in Note 1, the Township has prepared this financial statement using accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. These practices differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Although we cannot reasonably determine the effects on the financial statement of the variances between these regulatory accounting practices and GAAP, we presume they are material.

Revisions to GAAP would require the Township to reformat its financial statement presentation and make other changes effective for the year ended December 31, 2004. Instead of the combined funds the accompanying financial statement presents for 2004, the revisions require presenting entity wide statements and also to present its larger (i.e. major) funds separately for 2004. While the Township does not follow GAAP, generally accepted auditing standards requires 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 statement. Since this Township does not use GAAP to measure financial statement amounts, the following paragraph does not imply the amounts reported are materially misstated under the 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.

Wilson, Shannon & Snow, Inc.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
Ten West Locust Street
Newark, Ohio 43055
(740) 345-6611
1-800-523-6611
FAX (740) 345-5635

In our opinion, because of the effects of the matter discussed in the preceding two paragraphs, the financial statement referred to above for the year ended December 31, 2004 does not present fairly, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of Licking Township, Licking County as of December 31, 2004, or its change in financial position for the year then ended.

Also, in our opinion, the financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances and reserves for encumbrances of Licking Township, Licking County, as of December 31, 2004, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the year then ended on the accounting basis Note 1 describes.

The aforementioned revision to generally accepted accounting principles also requires the Township to include Management's Discussion and Analysis for the year ended December 31, 2004. The Township has not presented Management's Discussion and 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 September 29, 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. While we did not opine on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance, that report describes the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing. That 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.

Wilson, Sherman & Snow, Inc.

September 29, 2006

**LICKING TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY**

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

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		<u>Fiduciary Fund Type</u>	Totals (Memorandum Only)
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Non-Expendable Trust</u>	
Cash Receipts:				
Local Taxes	\$ 98,541	\$ 328,642	\$ -	\$ 427,183
Intergovernmental	157,738	151,649	-	309,387
Charges for Services	-	39,153	-	39,153
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	15,472	2,340	-	17,812
Earnings on Investments	6,917	336	245	7,498
Other Revenue	1,454	9,026	-	10,480
	<u>280,122</u>	<u>531,146</u>	<u>245</u>	<u>811,513</u>
Total Cash Receipts				
Cash Disbursements:				
Current:				
General Government	233,702	-	-	233,702
Public Safety	-	157,286	-	157,286
Public Works	-	243,408	-	243,408
Health	15,344	4,995	-	20,339
Debt Service:				
Redemption of Principal	-	29,100	-	29,100
Interest and Fiscal Charges	-	4,311	-	4,311
Capital Outlay	-	74,000	-	74,000
	<u>249,046</u>	<u>513,100</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>762,146</u>
Total Cash Disbursements				
Total Receipts Over Disbursements	<u>31,076</u>	<u>18,046</u>	<u>245</u>	<u>49,367</u>
Other Financing Receipts and (Disbursements):				
Transfers In	-	52,000	-	52,000
Transfers Out	(52,000)	-	-	(52,000)
Other Sources	2,000	-	-	2,000
	<u>(50,000)</u>	<u>52,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,000</u>
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)				
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements	(18,924)	70,046	245	51,367
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>485,749</u>	<u>215,762</u>	<u>11,565</u>	<u>713,076</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$ 466,825</u>	<u>\$ 285,808</u>	<u>\$ 11,810</u>	<u>\$ 764,443</u>
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 121</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 121</u>

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

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**LICKING TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY**

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

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of the Licking Township, Licking County, (the Township) as a body corporate and politic. A publicly-elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance, fire protection and emergency medical 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 the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Township recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements 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 the Auditor of State prescribes or permits.

C. Cash

The Township's accounting basis includes investments as assets. This basis does not record disbursements for investment purchases or receipts for investment sales. This basis records gains or losses at the time of sale as receipts or disbursements, respectively.

The Township values certificates of deposit at cost.

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 reports all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

**LICKING TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY**

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

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

D. Fund Accounting (Continued)

2. Special Revenue Funds

These funds 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:

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

Fire Fund - This fund receives property tax money for fire protection of Township persons and property.

3. Fiduciary Funds (Non-Expendable Trust Fund)

This fund is used to account for resources restricted by legally binding trust agreements. The Township had the following significant Fiduciary Fund:

Cemetery Trust Fund - This fund receives interest money for maintaining cemetery plots specified by the trust benefactor.

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.

**LICKING TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY**

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

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

E. Budgetary Process (Continued)

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. The Township did not encumber all commitments required by Ohio law.

A summary of 2004 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

F. Property, Plant, and Equipment

The Township records disbursements for acquisitions of property, plant, and equipment when paid. The accompanying financial statements do not report these items as assets.

G. Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. The financial statements do not include a liability for unpaid leave.

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH

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:

Demand deposits	\$724,943
Certificates of deposit	<u>39,500</u>
Total deposits	<u><u>\$764,443</u></u>

Deposits: Deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool.

**LICKING TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY**

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

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2004, follows:

Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$241,902	\$282,122	\$40,220
Special Revenue	511,937	583,146	71,209
Non-Expendable Trust	245	245	0
Total	\$754,084	\$865,513	\$111,429

Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$711,393	\$301,046	\$410,347
Special Revenue	692,077	513,221	178,856
Non-Expendable Trust	2,477	0	2,477
Total	\$1,405,947	\$814,267	\$591,680

4. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Trustees adopt rates. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. The financial statements include homestead and rollback amounts the State pays as Intergovernmental Receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to pay semiannually, 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.

**LICKING TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY**

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

5. DEBT

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2004, was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
Salsbury Fire Rescue Pumper	116,397	4.79%

During 2003 the Township entered into a lease/purchase agreement with Salsbury Fire Rescue Inc. for an emergency pumper fire truck. Per the term of the lease, ownership of the truck will transfer to the Township after five years. However, the Township has the option to cancel the lease.

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

Year ending December 31:	Salsbury Fire Rescue Pumper
2005	\$33,411
2006	33,411
2007	33,411
2008	33,411
Total	\$133,644

6. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

The Township's certified Fire Fighters belong to the Police and Fire Pension Fund (OP&F). Other employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OP&F and OPERS are cost-sharing, multiple-employer plans. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes these plans' benefits, which include postretirement healthcare and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2004 members of OP&F participants contributed 10 percent of their wages. The Township contributed an amount equal to 24 percent of their wages to OP&F. OPERS members contributed 8.5 percent of their gross salaries. The Township contributed an amount equaling 13.55 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2004.

**LICKING TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY**

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

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Township is exposed to various risks of property and casualty losses, and injuries to employees.

The Township insures against injuries to employees through the Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation.

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 townships 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, including claim adjustment expenses. OTARMA pays a percentage of its contributions to APEEP. APEEP reinsures claims exceeding \$250,000, up to \$1,750,000 per claim and \$10,000,000 in the aggregate per year. Townships can elect additional coverage, from \$2,000,000 to \$12,000,000 with the General Reinsurance Corporation, through contracts with OTARMA.

If losses exhaust OTARMA's retained earnings, APEEP provides *excess of funds available* coverage up to \$5,000,000 per year, subject to a per-claim limit of \$2,000,000.

Property Coverage

Through 2004, OTARMA retained property risks, including automobile physical damage, up to \$100,000 on any specific loss in any one occurrence. The Travelers Indemnity Company reinsured losses exceeding \$100,000 up to \$500 million per occurrence. APEEP's Guarantee Fund was responsible for losses and loss adjustment expenses exceeding operating contributions.

Beginning in 2005, Travelers reinsures specific losses exceeding \$250,000 up to \$600 million per occurrence. APEEP reinsures members for specific losses exceeding \$100,000 up to \$250,000 per occurrence, subject to an annual aggregate loss payment. Travelers provides aggregate stop-loss coverage based upon the combined members' total insurable value. If the stop loss is reached by payment of losses between \$100,000 and \$250,000, Travelers will reinsure specific losses exceeding \$100,000 up to their \$600 million per occurrence limit. The aggregate stop-loss limit for 2005 was \$1,682,589.

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 township.

Property and casualty settlements did not exceed insurance coverage for the past three fiscal years.

**LICKING TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY**

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

7. RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)

Members may withdraw on each anniversary of the date they joined OTARMA. They must provide written notice to OTARMA 60 days in advance of the anniversary date. Upon withdrawal, members are eligible for a full or partial refund of their capital contribution, minus the subsequent year's premium. Also upon withdrawal, payments for all property and casualty claims and claim expenses become the sole responsibility of the withdrawing member, regardless of whether a claim was incurred or reported prior to the withdrawal.

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, 2005 and 2004:

<u>Casualty Coverage</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>
Assets	\$30,485,638	\$28,132,620
Liabilities	(12,344,576)	(11,086,379)
Retained earnings	<u>\$18,141,062</u>	<u>\$17,046,241</u>

<u>Property Coverage</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>
Assets	\$9,177,796	\$7,588,343
Liabilities	(1,406,031)	(543,176)
Retained earnings	<u>\$7,771,765</u>	<u>\$7,045,167</u>

The Casualty Coverage assets and retained earnings above include approximately \$11.6 million and \$10.3 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 950 member townships in the future, as of December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively. OTARMA will collect these amounts in future annual premium billings when OTARMA's related liabilities are due for payment.

8. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The Township is currently not involved in any litigation.

Amounts grantor agencies pay to the Township are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor, principally the federal government. Grantors may require refunding any disallowed costs. Management cannot presently determine amounts grantors may disallow. However, based on prior experience, management believes any refunds would be immaterial.

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER
FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS
REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

Licking Township
Licking County
6737 White Chapel Road
P.O. Box 222
Jacksontown, Ohio 43030

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statement of Licking Township, Licking County (the Township) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2004, and have issued our report thereon dated September 29, 2006 wherein we noted the Township followed accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes rather 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 the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Township's internal control over financial reporting to determine our auditing procedures to express our opinion on the financial statements and not to opine on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a reportable 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 caused by error or fraud in amounts material to the financial statements we audited may occur and not be timely detected by employees when performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider material weaknesses. In a separate letter to the Township's management dated September 29, 2006, we reported other matters involving internal control over financial reporting we did not deem reportable conditions.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of reasonably assuring whether the Township's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect 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 an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which are described in the accompanying schedule of findings as items 2004-001 and 2004-002.

Wilson, Shannon & Snow, Inc.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
Ten West Locust Street
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Licking Township
Licking County
Independent Auditors' Report on Internal Control Over
Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters
Required by *Government Auditing Standards*
Page 2

We intend this report solely for the information and use of management, Board of Trustees, and the Auditor of State, and is not intended for anyone other than these specified parties.

Wilson, Shuman & Sons, Inc.

September 29, 2006

LICKING TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2004

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

FINDING NUMBER 2004-001

Noncompliance Citation

Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D)(1) prohibits a subdivision or taxing authority from making any contract or ordering any expenditure of money unless a certificate signed by the fiscal officer is attached thereto. The fiscal officer must certify that the amount required to meet any such contract or expenditure has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury, or is in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrance.

There are several exceptions to the standard requirement stated above that a fiscal officer's certificate must be obtained prior to a subdivision or taxing authority entering into a contract or order involving the expenditure of money. The main exceptions are "then and now" certificates, blanket certificates, and super blanket certificates, which are provided for in Ohio Rev. Code Sections 5705.41(D)(1) and 5705.41(D)(3), respectively:

Then and Now Certificate - If the fiscal officer can certify that both at the time the contract or order was made and at the time that he/she is completing his/her certification, sufficient funds were available or in the process of collection, to the credit of a proper fund, properly appropriated and free from any encumbrance, the taxing authority can authorize the drawing of a warrant for the payment of the amount due. The taxing authority has 30 days from the receipt of such certificate to approve payment by resolution or ordinance.

Amounts of less than \$3,000 may be paid by the fiscal officer without such affirmation of the taxing authority upon completion of the "then and now" certificate, provided that the expenditure is otherwise lawful. This does not eliminate any otherwise applicable requirement for approval of expenditures by the taxing authority.

Blanket Certificate - Fiscal officers may prepare "blanket" certificates not exceeding \$5,000 against any specific line item account over a period not exceeding three months or running beyond the current year. The blanket certificate may, but need not, be limited to a specific vendor. Only one blanket certificate may be outstanding at one particular time for any one particular line item appropriation. Certificates may not exceed an amount established by resolution or ordinance of the legislative authority, and cannot extend beyond the end of the fiscal year. Blanket certificates cannot be issued unless there has been an amount approved by the legislative authority for the blanket.

Super Blanket Certificate - The Township may also make expenditures and contracts for any amount from a specific line-item appropriation account in a specified fund upon certification of the fiscal officer for most professional services, fuel, oil, food items, and any other specific recurring and reasonably predictable operating expense. This certification is not to extend beyond the current year. More than one super blanket certificate may be outstanding at a particular time for any line-item appropriation.

**LICKING TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2004
(Continued)**

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

FINDING NUMBER 2004-001 (Continued)

We noted that 22% of 2005 and 2004 expenditures tested were not certified by the Fiscal Officer prior to incurring the commitment. It was also found that none of the three exceptions noted above were utilized.

We recommend the Fiscal Officer certify the availability of funds prior to incurring the commitment or any obligations. In addition, the Fiscal Officer should notify all employees of the requirements of Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41(D) and the importance of certifying availability of funds.

Unless the exceptions noted above are used, prior certification is not only required by statute, but is a key control in the disbursement process to assure that purchase commitments receive prior approval. To improve controls over disbursements and to help reduce the possibility of the Township's funds exceeding budgetary spending limitations, we recommend that the Fiscal Officer certify that the funds are or will be available prior to an obligation being incurred by the Township. When prior certification is not possible, "then and now" certification should be used.

Client Response: The Township will monitor disbursements to ensure proper certification prior to payment.

FINDING NUMBER 2004-002

Ohio Revised Code Section 5549.21 requires competitive bidding procedures for the purchase of materials, machinery and tools to be used in constructing, maintaining and repairing roads and culverts, where the amount involved exceeds \$25,000.

During the period under audit, the Township purchased a Tiger Mower and two John Deere Mowers totaling \$34,430, \$38,505, and \$30,805, respectively, and nothing came to our attention to indicate the Township followed competitive bidding procedures.

We recommend the Township follow competitive bidding procedures for any contracts exceeding \$25,000. The Township may elect to forgo competitive bidding procedures if the purchase is considered an emergency and less than \$50,000 pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 505.08, or is purchased from a political subdivision pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 125.04.

Client Response: The Township will competitively bid items which exceed the competitive bidding threshold.

**LICKING TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 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	Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41(D)(1) requires transactions to be certified by the fiscal officer prior to the commitment being incurred.	No	Repeated as finding number 2004-001.
2003-002	Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.14 addresses transfers between funds.	Yes	N/A.
2003-003	Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41(B) provides that expenditures may not exceed appropriations.	Yes	N/A.



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

LICKING TOWNSHIP

LICKING 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
JANUARY 18, 2007