



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

**BUTLER COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
BUTLER COUNTY**

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Butler County Regional Transit Authority
Butler County
3045 Moser Court
Hamilton, Ohio 45011

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying basic financial statements of the Butler County Regional Transit Authority, Butler County, Ohio (the Authority), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2008 and 2007, as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Authority'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 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 that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Butler County Regional Transit Authority, Butler County, Ohio, as of December 31, 2008 and 2007, and the changes in its financial position and its cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated September 9, 2009, on our consideration of the Authority'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.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires. We have applied certain limited procedures, consisting principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measuring and presenting the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it. As a result of such limited procedures, we believe that the Management's Discuss and Analysis is not in conformity with guidelines established by the *Governmental Accounting Standards Board* because the Authority did not disclose three years of information.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Taylor". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

September 9, 2009

**BUTLER COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008
(UNAUDITED)**

As management of the Butler County Regional Transit Authority, Butler County, Ohio (the Authority), we offer readers of the Authority's basic financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Authority for the year ended December 31, 2008. This discussion and analysis is designed to assist the reader in focusing on the significant financial issues and activities and to identify any significant changes in financial position. We encourage readers to consider the information presented here in conjunction with the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Overview of Financial Highlights

The Authority has net assets of \$2.75 million. These net assets result from the difference between total assets of \$2.82 million and total liabilities of \$.07 million.

Current assets of \$.99 million primarily consist of non-restricted Cash and Cash Equivalents of \$.94 million; and Intergovernmental/Accounts Receivable of \$.05 million.

Current liabilities of \$.07 million primarily consist of Accounts Payable, Accrued Wages and related Payroll Accruals.

Basic Financial Statements and Presentation

The financial statements presented by the Authority are the Statement of Net Assets, the Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets and the Statement of Cash Flows. These statements are presented using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. The Authority is structured as a single enterprise fund with revenues recognized when earned and measurable, not when received. Expenses are recognized when they are incurred, not when paid. Capital assets are capitalized and depreciated, except land, over their estimated useful lives.

The Statement of Net Assets presents information on all the Authority's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net assets. Over time, increases and decreases in net assets may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Authority is improving or deteriorating. Net assets increase when revenues exceed expenses. Increases in assets without a corresponding increase to liabilities results in increased net assets, which indicate improved financial position.

The Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets present information showing how the Authority's net assets changed during the year. This statement summarizes operating revenues and expenses along with non-operating revenues and expenses. In addition, this statement lists capital grant revenues received from federal, state and local governments.

The Statement of Cash Flows allows financial statement users to assess the Authority's adequacy or ability to generate sufficient cash flows to meet its obligations in a timely manner. The statement is classified into three categories: 1) Cash flows from operating activities, 2) Cash flows from non-capital financing activities, and 3) Cash flows from capital and related financing activities.

Notes to the Financial Statements

The notes to the financial statements provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the financial statements.

**BUTLER COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008
(UNAUDITED)
(Continued)**

Net Assets

The largest portion of the Authority's net assets reflect investments in capital assets consisting of buses, an operating facility, and equipment less accumulated depreciation. The Authority uses these capital assets to provide public transportation services in Butler County, Ohio and in adjacent areas. The table below provides a summary of the Authority's net assets:

**(Table 1)
Butler County Regional Transit Authority
Condensed Summary of Net Assets
For the Years Ended December 31, 2008 and 2007**

	2008	2007
Current Assets	\$ 989,542	\$ 922,740
Capital Assets (Net of Accumulated Depreciation)	1,830,097	1,719,178
Total Assets	<u>2,819,639</u>	<u>2,641,918</u>
Current Liabilities	<u>69,695</u>	<u>52,158</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>69,695</u>	<u>52,158</u>
Net Assets		
Invested in Capital Assets	1,830,097	1,719,178
Unrestricted	<u>919,847</u>	<u>870,582</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>\$ 2,749,944</u>	<u>\$ 2,589,760</u>

During fiscal year 2008 the Authority's capital assets increased as we purchased some replacement vehicles which were funded with 80% federal funds.

**BUTLER COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008
(UNAUDITED)
(Continued)**

Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets

Table 2 reflects the changes in net assets in 2008 and 2007.

**(Table 2)
Butler County Regional Transit Authority
Condensed Summary of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets
For the Years Ended December 31, 2008 and 2007**

	2008	2007
Revenues:		
Passenger Fares	\$ 63,868	\$ 80,955
Federal Operating Funds	21,580	-
Intergovernmental Funding	1,161,226	1,081,719
Gain on Sale of Assets	8,000	-
Federal Capital Funds	277,108	-
Other Income	30,488	31,464
Total Revenues	1,562,270	1,194,138
Expenses:		
Operating Expenses - Net of Depreciation	1,266,848	1,257,012
Depreciation Expense	135,238	142,457
Loss on Sale of Assets	-	146,502
Total Expenses	1,402,086	1,545,971
Decrease in Net Assets During the Year	160,184	(351,833)
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	2,589,760	2,941,593
Net Assets, End of Year	\$ 2,749,944	\$ 2,589,760

**BUTLER COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008
(UNAUDITED)
(Continued)**

Financial Operating Results

Revenues - For purposes of this presentation the Authority groups its Revenues into the following categories:

Operating Revenues

Passenger Fares – Demand Response/Contracts – Fares paid by the public to ride the county wide curb to curb service and public fares paid by agencies on behalf of the rider.

Federal Operating Funds – Federal Transit Administration (FTA) operating subsidy funds for the medical shuttle service. This funding was new for 2008.

Intergovernmental Funding Agreement – This represents Urbanized Federal Funds, which are allocated to the Authority, who in turn passes them on to the Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority (SORTA), who then operates park-n-ride express service from Butler County to Downtown Cincinnati. The funds reported are the “gross” funds allocated to the Authority and have increased slightly due to additional federal funds being allocated to the region.

Non-Operating Revenues

Gain/Loss on Sale of Assets – Sale of surplus vehicles, property, and equipment.

Federal Capital Funds – FTA funds for the purchase of capital assets. This funding was new for 2008.

Other Income – Miscellaneous refunds, credits, and revenue earned by providing space and services to others.

Operating Expenses - For purposes of this presentation, the Authority groups its Operating Expenses into the following categories:

Labor and Fringe Benefits - These personnel costs accounted for approximately 27.4% of the Authority operating expenses (excluding depreciation) in 2008 as compared to 28.1% in 2007.

Contract Services - Items under this category include Attorney, Audit, Transit Management Fees, external vehicle maintenance, facility maintenance, as well as miscellaneous professional services. These costs increased due to additional future service development planning along with some deferred facility maintenance done in 2008.

Materials and Supplies - These costs have increased from prior years mainly due to fuel pricing.

Utilities - These costs include natural gas, electric, water, and communication services.

Casualty and Liability - The Authority is a member of the Ohio Transit Risk Pool, which sets premiums based on service factors and claims experience.

Purchased Transportation – This represents the cost of the park-n-ride service operated by SORTA for the Authority and discussed under Intergovernmental Funding in the revenue section.

Other - This category summarizes various expenses not included in other expense categories.

Capital Assets – At the end of fiscal year 2008, the Authority had \$1,830,097 invested in land, operating facility, and vehicles. Table 3 shows fiscal year 2008 balances in comparison to 2007 balances:

**BUTLER COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008
(UNAUDITED)
(Continued)**

**(Table 3)
Butler County Regional Transit Authority
Statement of Capital Assets
For the Years Ended December 31, 2008 and 2007**

	2008	2007
Non-Depreciable Capital Assets		
Land	\$ 294,000	\$ 300,000
Depreciable Capital Assets		
Operating Facility	1,776,655	1,776,655
Equipment	45,900	-
Vehicles	591,320	656,288
Total Depreciable Capital Assets	<u>2,413,875</u>	<u>2,432,943</u>
 Total Cost	 <u>\$2,707,875</u>	 <u>\$ 2,732,943</u>
 Accumulated Depreciation		
Operating Facility	(538,918)	(467,851)
Equipment	(3,825)	-
Vehicles	(335,035)	(545,914)
Total Depreciation	<u>(877,778)</u>	<u>(1,013,765)</u>
 Net Value	 <u>\$ 1,830,097</u>	 <u>\$ 1,719,178</u>

Depreciation – This category includes depreciation on all capital assets, except land.

Request for Information

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Authority's finances. Questions concerning any of the information in this report or request for additional financial information should be addressed to the Finance Manager, Butler County Regional Transit Authority, 3045 Moser Court, Hamilton, Ohio 45011.

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Butler County Regional Transit Authority
Statement of Net Assets
For the Years Ended December 31, 2008 and 2007

Assets	2008	2007
Current Assets:		
Cash on Deposit	\$ 936,598	\$ 415,187
Intergovernmental Receivable	49,392	501,987
Accounts Receivable	3,552	5,566
Total Current Assets	<u>989,542</u>	<u>922,740</u>
Non-Current Assets:		
Property, Facilities and Equipment		
Land - Non Depreciable	294,000	300,000
Operating Facility	1,776,655	1,776,655
Equipment	45,900	-
Vehicles	591,320	656,288
Subtotal	<u>2,707,875</u>	<u>2,732,943</u>
Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(877,778)</u>	<u>(1,013,765)</u>
Total Property, Facility and Equipment (net of accumulated depreciation)	<u>1,830,097</u>	<u>1,719,178</u>
 Total Assets	 <u><u>\$2,819,639</u></u>	 <u><u>\$2,641,918</u></u>
 Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$22,894	\$17,326
Accrued Payroll & Benefits	46,801	34,832
Total Current Liabilities	<u>69,695</u>	<u>52,158</u>
 Net Assets		
Invested in Capital Assets	1,830,097	1,719,178
Unrestricted	919,847	870,582
Total Net Assets	<u><u>\$ 2,749,944</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 2,589,760</u></u>

See Accompanying Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

Butler County Regional Transit Authority
Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets
For the Years Ended December 31, 2008 and 2007

	2008	2007
Operating Revenues		
Passenger Fares - Demand Response, Contracts	\$ 63,868	\$ 80,955
Federal Operating Funds	21,580	-
Intergovernmental Funding	1,161,226	1,081,719
Total Operating Revenues	<u>1,246,674</u>	<u>1,162,674</u>
Operating Expenses		
Labor	251,388	257,776
Fringe Benefits	95,152	95,560
Contract Services	161,325	105,361
Materials & Supplies	62,214	45,836
Utilities	38,424	39,912
Casualty & Liability Insurance	55,141	97,588
Purchased Transportation	600,000	600,000
Depreciation Expense	135,238	142,457
Other	3,204	14,979
Total Operating Expenses	<u>1,402,086</u>	<u>1,399,469</u>
Operating Loss	(155,412)	(236,795)
Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)		
Gain/Loss on Sale of Capital Assets	8,000	(146,502)
Federal Capital Funds	277,108	-
Other Income	30,488	31,464
Total Non-Operating Revenue	<u>315,596</u>	<u>(115,038)</u>
Net Gain/Loss	160,184	(351,833)
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	<u>2,589,760</u>	<u>2,941,593</u>
Net Assets, End of Year	<u><u>\$ 2,749,944</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 2,589,760</u></u>

See Accompanying Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

Butler County Regional Transit Authority
Statement of Cash Flows
For the Years Ended December 31, 2008 and 2007

	2008	2007
Operating Activities		
Cash Received From Customers	\$ 1,129,228	\$ 89,002
Cash Payments - Suppliers for Goods & Services	(327,274)	(325,258)
Cash Payments - Employees for Wages & Fringes	(333,563)	(363,295)
Net Cash Used	468,391	(599,551)
Non-Capital Financing Activities		
TABC Contributions Received	-	20,095
Intergovernmental Funding Received	2,444	2,365
Other	17,624	3,659
Net Cash Provided	20,068	26,119
Capital and Related Financing Activities		
Purchase of Vehicles	(206,256)	(129,854)
Purchase of Equipment	(45,900)	-
Federal Capital Funds	277,108	-
Proceeds from Disposal of Fixed Assets	8,000	30,000
Net Cash Provided	32,952	(99,854)
Net Increase in Cash & Equivalents	521,411	(673,286)
Cash & Equivalents - Beginning of Year	415,187	1,088,473
Cash & Equivalents - End of Year	\$ 936,598	\$ 415,187
Reconciliation of Operating Loss to Net Cash Used in Operating Activities		
Operating Loss	\$ (155,412)	\$ (236,795)
Adjustments to Reconcile Operating Loss to Net Cash Used in Operating Activities		
Depreciation	135,238	142,457
Other Non-Cash Activities	16,419	4,914
Changes in Assets & Liabilities		
Accounts/Intergovernmental Receivables Affecting Operating Income	454,609	(475,286)
Accounts Payable	5,568	(29,359)
Accrued Payroll & Benefits	11,969	(5,482)
Net Cash Used in Operating Activities	\$ 468,391	\$ (599,551)

See Accompanying Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

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**BUTLER COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
BUTLER COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008**

1. ORGANIZATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Description of Entity – The Butler County Regional Transit Authority (BCRTA, the Authority), 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. It was created pursuant to Sections 306.30 through 306.71 of the Ohio Revised Code. As a political subdivision, it is distinct from, and is not an agency of, the State of Ohio or any other local governmental unit. The Authority is not subject to federal or state income taxes.

The Authority is directed by a nine member Board of Trustees who are appointed by the Board of County Commissioners of Butler County. The Authority is responsible for the safe and efficient operation and maintenance of regional transportation within Butler County.

Management Agreement with Transit Alliance of Butler County – The BCRTA has a management agreement with the Transit Alliance of Butler County (TABC), which was formed to promote transportation coordination among the various transit providers in Butler County. This agreement was in place through January 2008. At that time, the BCRTA Board of Trustees voted to cease its management services to TABC. Per the agreement, the BCRTA rented office space to TABC and provided accounting services among other services at a predetermined fee per month. The TABC received state and local grant funding.

Reporting Entity - The Authority complies with the provisions of Statement No. 14 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) regarding the definition of the financial reporting entity. Accordingly, the accompanying financial statements include only the accounts and transactions of the Authority. Under the criteria specified in Statement No. 14, the Authority has no component units. The Authority is, however, considered to be a related organization of Butler County by virtue of the fact that BCRTA's Board of Trustees is appointed by the County Commissioners and the County's ability to impose its will on the Authority.

These conclusions regarding the financial reporting entity are based on the concept of financial accountability. The Authority is not financially accountable for any other organization nor is any other organization accountable for BCRTA. This is evidenced by the fact that the Authority is a legally and fiscally separate and distinct organization under the provisions of the Ohio Revised Code.

Basis of Accounting – The Authority's basic financial statements consist of a Statement of Net Assets, a Statement of Revenue, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets, and a Statement of Cash Flows. The Authority follows the accrual basis of accounting, whereby revenues and expenses are recognized in the period earned or incurred. The measurement focus is on determination of net income, financial position and cash flows. All transactions are accounted for in a single enterprise fund.

In accordance with Statement No. 20 of the GASB, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Proprietary Funds and Other Governmental Entities that use Proprietary Fund accounting, the Authority has elected not to apply the provisions of the Statements and Interpretations of the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued after November 30, 1989.

**BUTLER COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
BUTLER COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008
(Continued)**

1. ORGANIZATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Non-exchange Transactions - The Authority complies with the provisions of Statement No. 33 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) regarding the Accounting and Financial Reporting for Non-exchange Transactions. This statement requires that capital contributions be recognized as revenue. No capital contributions were received and no related revenue was recognized as revenue in the Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets for the Authority.

The Authority will continue applying all applicable pronouncements issued by the GASB.

Fiscal Agent – The Butler County Auditor served as the Authority’s fiscal agent for 2008. The County maintains Authority funds in the County’s cash pool as an agency fund. In late 2008, the Board of Trustees elected for the agency to serve as their own fiscal officer for FY2009.

Cash and Cash Equivalents - For purposes of the statement of cash flows, the Authority considers all highly liquid investments (including restricted assets) with a maturity, at date of purchase, of three months or less to be cash equivalents. Cash and cash equivalents are carried at cost, which approximates fair value.

Investments - The Butler County Auditor’s office maintained all of the Authority’s funds for the majority of 2008; during this time, no interest was credited to the Authority from these funds.

Materials and Supplies Inventory - Materials and supplies (including fuel) are purchased as needed and no parts or fuel inventory are maintained.

Estimates - The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, at and during the reported period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Property, Facilities and Equipment - Property, facilities and equipment are stated at historical cost. The cost of maintenance and repairs is charged to operations as incurred.

Depreciation - Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the respective assets, as follows:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Years</u>
Building and improvements	20-40
Land improvements	20
Transportation equipment	5-12
Other equipment	3-15

Net Assets - Equity is displayed in two components as follows:

Invested in Capital Assets - This consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation.

Unrestricted - This consists of net assets that do not meet the definition of restricted or invested in capital assets.

**BUTLER COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
BUTLER COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008
(Continued)**

1. ORGANIZATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Operating Revenues and Expenses

The Authority has classified its revenues as either operating or non-operating. Operating revenues are those revenues that are generated directly from the primary activities. Operating expenses are necessary costs incurred to provide the good or service that is the primary activity of the Authority. Revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating.

Recognition of Revenue and Receivables

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) provide financial assistance and make allocations directly to the Authority for operations and acquisition of property and equipment. Operating grants and special fare assistance awards made on the basis of entitlement periods are recorded as grant receivables and revenue over the entitlement period. Capital grants for the acquisition of property and equipment (reimbursement type grants) are recorded as revenue when the expenditure has been made and the revenue is available. Capital grant funds received in advance of project costs being incurred are deferred.

When assets acquired with capital grants funds are disposed of, the Authority is required to notify the granting federal agency. A proportional amount of the proceeds or fair market value, if any, of such property and equipment may be used to acquire like-kind replacement vehicles or remitted to the granting federal agency.

Compensated Absences - The Authority accrues vacation, eligible sick pay, and other compensated absences as earned by its Employees based upon the policies of Butler County, Ohio, the Authority's Fiscal Agent. Vacation and compensatory benefits are accrued as a liability as the benefits are earned if the employee's right to receive compensation is attributable to services already rendered and it is probable the Authority will compensate employees for the benefits through time off or some other means. An accrual for sick leave and other earned time off is made to the extent that it is probable that benefits will result in termination payments.

2. EQUITY IN CASH AND DEPOSITS

Butler County, the Authority's fiscal agent, maintains a cash pool for all its funds, including those of the Authority. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits. The Authority's carrying amount of cash on deposit with Butler County at December 31, 2008 was \$51,588.

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the Authority's deposits may not be returned to it. The Authority has no deposit policy for custodial risk beyond the requirements of State statute. By Ohio law, financial institutions must collateralize all public deposits. The face value of the pooled collateral must equal at least 105 percent of public funds on deposit with that specific institution. Collateral is held by trustees including the Federal Reserve Bank and designated third party trustees of the financial institutions. As part of the transitional process of becoming our own fiscal agent, the Authority had a bank balance and carrying amount of \$885,010 at December 31, 2008 of \$885,010 with financial institutions authorized to accept public funds. Of the bank balance, \$551,602 was covered by federal depository insurance and \$333,408 was exposed to custodial risk and was collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institutions trust department or agent but not in the Authority's name.

**BUTLER COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
BUTLER COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008
(Continued)**

3. EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT PLANS

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

The BCRTA participates in the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS administers three separate pension plans. The traditional plan is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan. The member-directed plan is a defined contribution plan in which the member invests both member and employer contributions (employer contributions vest over five years at 20 percent per year). Under the member directed plan, members accumulate retirement assets equal to the value of the member and vested employer contributions plus any investment earnings. The combined plan is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan that has elements of both a defined benefit and a defined contribution plan. Under the combined plan, employer contributions are invested by the retirement system to provide a formula retirement benefit similar to the traditional plan benefit. Member contributions, whose investment is self-directed by the member, accumulate retirement assets in a manner similar to the member directed plan.

OPERS provides retirement, disability, survivor and death benefits and annual cost of living adjustments to members of the traditional and combined plans. Members of the member directed plan do not qualify for ancillary benefits. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by Chapter 145 of the Ohio Revised Code. OPERS issues a stand-alone financial report that may be obtained by writing to OPERS, 277 East Town Street, Columbus, OH 43215-4642 or by calling (614) 222-5601 or (800) 222-7377.

For the year ended December 31, 2008, the members of all three plans were required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salaries. The employer contribution rate for pension benefits for 2008 was 14 percent (7 percent for pension and 7 percent for post retirement). The Ohio Revised Code provides statutory authority for member and employer contributions.

The RTA's required contributions for pension obligations to the traditional and combined plans for the years ended December 31, 2008, 2007, and 2006 were \$38,449, \$38,956, and \$35,896, respectively; 91.7 percent has been contributed for 2008 and 100 percent for 2007 and 2006. Contributions to the member-directed plan for 2008 were \$35,257 made by the RTA and \$25,184 made by the plan members.

Post-employment Benefits

The Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) provides postretirement health care coverage to age and service retirees with ten or more years of qualifying Ohio service credit with either the traditional or combined plans. Health care coverage for disability benefit recipients and qualified survivor benefit recipients is available. Members of the member-directed plan do not qualify for postretirement health care coverage. The health care coverage provided by the retirement system is considered an Other Post-employment Benefit as described in *GASB Statement No. 12*. A portion of each employer's contribution to the traditional or combined plans is set aside for the funding of postretirement health care based on authority granted by State statute. The 2008 local government employer contribution rate was 14 percent of covered payroll; 7 percent of covered payroll was the portion that was used to fund health care.

**BUTLER COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
BUTLER COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008
(Continued)**

3. EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT PLANS (Continued)

Benefits are advance-funded using the entry age normal actuarial cost method. Significant actuarial assumptions, based on OPERS's latest actuarial review performed as of December 31, 2007, include a rate of return on investments of 6.5 percent, an annual increase in active employee total payroll of 4 percent compounded annually (assuming no change in the number of active employees) and an additional increase in total payroll of between 0.50 percent and 6.3 percent based on additional annual pay increases. Health care premiums were assumed to increase at the projected wage inflation rate plus an additional factor ranging from .5 to 4 percent annually for the next seven years and 4 percent annually after seven years.

All investments are carried at market. For actuarial valuation purposes, a smoothed market approach is used. Assets are adjusted to reflect 25 percent of unrealized market appreciation or depreciation on investment assets annually, not to exceed a 12 percent corridor.

The number of active contributing participants in the traditional and combined plans was 363,503. The number of active contributing participants for both plans used in the December 31, 2007, actuarial valuation was 364,076. Actual BCRTA contributions for 2008 which were used to fund post-employment benefits were \$19,225. The actual contribution and the actuarially required contribution amounts are the same. The actuarial value of OPERS's net assets available for payment of benefits at December 31, 2007, (the latest information available) was \$12.8 billion. The actuarially accrued liability and the unfunded actuarial accrued liability were \$29.8 billion and \$17.0 billion, respectively.

On September 9, 2004, the OPERS Retirement Board adopted a Health Care Preservation Plan (HCPP) with an effective date of January 1, 2007. To improve the financial solvency of the Health Care Fund, OPERS created a separate investment pool for health care assets. Member and employer contributions rates increased as of January 1, 2008, which will allow additional funds to be allocated to health care plan.

4. MANAGEMENT SERVICES

In 2008, the Authority contracted with the Lakatos Group to provide management services. Specifically, the Lakatos Group is providing the services of Executive Director. The Director works for the Board of Trustees and oversees the day to day operations as well as directing the strategic planning of the organization. The Executive Director also serves as the liaison to local, state, and federal officials.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Authority participates in the Ohio Transit Insurance Pool Association, Inc. (OTIP), renamed in 2002 as Ohio Transit Risk Pool Association, (OTRP), related to its risk of property and casualty loss. Under this plan, the Authority receives property and casualty loss coverage in exchange for premiums paid. OTRP self-insures the first \$250,000 of any qualified property loss and the first \$1,000,000 of any qualified casualty loss subject to a \$1,000 per loss deductible. Per occurrence, reinsurance coverage is maintained by OTRP equal to approximately \$200,000,000 for qualified property losses and \$7,500,000 for qualified casualty losses. Any underfunding of the plans liabilities is shared pro-rata by the members based on pool contribution factors comprised of: population, full-time employees, vehicles, property values, budget, claims history times two and net operating expenses.

**BUTLER COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
BUTLER COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008
(Continued)**

5. RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)

The Authority continues to carry commercial insurance for all other risks of loss, including workers compensation and employee health and accident insurance. Settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded commercial insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

6. CAPITAL ASSETS

	January 1, 2008	Additions	Deletions	December 31, 2008
Non-Depreciable Capital Assets				
Land	\$ 300,000	\$ -	\$ (6,000)	\$ 294,000
Depreciable Capital Assets				
Operating Facility	1,776,655	-	-	1,776,655
Equipment	-	45,900	-	45,900
Vehicles	656,288	206,256	(271,224)	591,320
Total Depreciable Capital Assets	2,432,943	252,156	(271,224)	2,413,875
Total Cost	<u>\$ 2,732,943</u>	<u>\$ 252,156</u>	<u>\$ (277,224)</u>	<u>\$ 2,707,875</u>
Accumulated Depreciation				
Operating Facility	(467,851)	(71,067)	-	(538,918)
Equipment	-	(3,825)	-	(3,825)
Vehicles	(545,914)	(60,345)	271,224	(335,035)
Total Depreciation	<u>\$ (1,013,765)</u>	<u>\$ (135,237)</u>	<u>\$ 271,224</u>	<u>\$ (877,778)</u>
Net Value	<u>\$ 1,719,178</u>	<u>\$ 116,919</u>	<u>\$ (6,000)</u>	<u>\$ 1,830,097</u>

7. SUBSEQUENT EVENT

Effective January 1, 2009, the Authority is serving as its own fiscal agent.



Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

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

Butler County Regional Transit Authority
Butler County
3045 Moser Court
Hamilton, Ohio 45011

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of the Butler County Regional Transit Authority, Butler County, Ohio (the Authority), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2008, which collectively comprise the Authority's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated September 9, 2009. 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 Authority's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our audit procedures for expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not to opine on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we have not opined on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control over financial reporting.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the Authority's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with its applicable accounting basis, such that there is more than a remote likelihood that the Authority's internal control will not prevent or detect a more-than-inconsequential financial statement misstatement.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies resulting in more than a remote likelihood that the Authority's internal control will not prevent or detect a material financial statement misstatement.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all internal control deficiencies that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider material weaknesses, as defined above.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of reasonably assuring whether the Authority'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 no instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards*.

We intend this report solely for the information and use of management and the Board of Trustees. We intend it for no one other than these specified parties.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Taylor".

Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

September 9, 2009



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

BUTLER 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
SEPTEMBER 29, 2009**