

**CENTER TOWNSHIP  
MONROE COUNTY  
Regular Audit  
December 31, 2008 and 2007**





# Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

Board of Trustees  
Center Township  
106 Forrest Ridge  
Woodsfield, Ohio 43793

We have reviewed the *Independent Accountants' Report* of Center Township, Monroe County, prepared by Perry & Associates, Certified Public Accountants, A.C., for the audit period January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2008. 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 Accountants' 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 Accountants' 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. Center Township is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

*Mary Taylor*

Mary Taylor, CPA  
Auditor of State

April 30, 2009

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**CENTER TOWNSHIP  
MONROE COUNTY**

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**INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT**

March 30, 2009

Center Township  
Monroe County  
106 Forrest Ridge  
Woodsfield, OH 43793

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of **Center Township, Monroe County, Ohio**, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007. 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 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 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 (GAAP). Although we cannot reasonably determine the effects on the financial statements of the variances between these regulatory accounting practices and GAAP, we presume they are material.

Instead of the combined funds the accompanying financial statements present, GAAP require presenting entity wide statements and also presenting the Township's larger (i.e. major) funds separately. 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 GAAP presentation requirements. The Auditor of the State permits, but does not require Townships to reformat their statements. The Township has elected not to follow GAAP statement formatting requirements. 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.

In our opinion, because of the effects of the matter discussed in the preceding two paragraphs, the financial statements referred to above for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007 do not present fairly, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Township as of December 31, 2008 and 2007 or their changes in financial position for the year then ended.

Also, in our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances of Center Township, Monroe County, as of December 31, 2008 and 2007, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years 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 years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007. 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 March 30, 2009, 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.

Respectfully Submitted,



**Perry and Associates**  
Certified Public Accountants, A.C.

**CENTER TOWNSHIP  
MONROE COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND  
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES  
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>				<b>Totals (Memorandum Only)</b>
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Debt Service</u>	<u>Capital Projects</u>	
<b>Cash Receipts:</b>					
Local Taxes	\$ 17,799	\$ 148,127	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 165,926
Intergovernmental	18,688	125,223	-	-	143,911
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	14	-	-	-	14
Earnings on Investments	222	222	-	-	444
Miscellaneous	336	15,482	-	-	15,818
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Cash Receipts	37,059	289,054	-	-	326,113
<b>Cash Disbursements:</b>					
Current:					
General Government	35,323	-	-	-	35,323
Public Safety	-	81,167	-	-	81,167
Public Works	-	241,107	-	-	241,107
Health	14,829	-	-	-	14,829
Capital Outlay	-	-	-	24,043	24,043
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Cash Disbursements	50,152	322,274	-	24,043	396,469
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	(13,093)	(33,220)	-	(24,043)	(70,356)
<b>Other Financing Receipts and (Disbursements):</b>					
Sale of Fixed Assets	-	-	-	3,135	3,135
Advances-In	3,581	3,537	-	-	7,118
Advances-Out	(3,537)	(3,581)	-	-	(7,118)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)	44	(44)	-	3,135	3,135
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	(13,049)	(33,264)	-	(20,908)	(67,221)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	15,885	123,763	268	45,618	185,534
<b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</b>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<b>\$ 2,836</b>	<b>\$ 90,499</b>	<b>\$ 268</b>	<b>\$ 24,710</b>	<b>\$ 118,313</b>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements



**CENTER TOWNSHIP  
MONROE COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND  
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES  
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>				<b>Totals (Memorandum Only)</b>
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Debt Service</u>	<u>Capital Projects</u>	
<b>Cash Receipts:</b>					
Local Taxes	\$ 18,326	\$ 162,458	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 180,784
Intergovernmental	16,782	139,058	-	1,455	157,295
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	5,626	-	-	-	5,626
Earnings on Investments	378	330	-	-	708
Miscellaneous	14	12,175	-	-	12,189
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Cash Receipts	41,126	314,021	-	1,455	356,602
<b>Cash Disbursements:</b>					
Current:					
General Government	40,135	1,880	-	-	42,015
Public Safety	-	81,661	-	-	81,661
Public Works	1,042	207,384	-	-	208,426
Health	1,123	-	-	-	1,123
Conservation/Recreation	-	6,611	-	-	6,611
Capital Outlay	-	-	-	54,211	54,211
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Cash Disbursements	42,300	297,536	-	54,211	394,047
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	(1,174)	16,485	-	(52,756)	(37,445)
<b>Other Financing Receipts and (Disbursements):</b>					
Sale of Fixed Asset	-	-	-	45,707	45,707
Transfers-In	8,510	106,892	-	49,261	164,663
Transfers-Out	-	(164,663)	-	-	(164,663)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)	8,510	(57,771)	-	94,968	45,707
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	7,336	(41,286)	-	42,212	8,262
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	8,549	165,049	268	3,406	177,272
<b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</b>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<b>\$ 15,885</b>	<b>\$ 123,763</b>	<b>\$ 268</b>	<b>\$ 45,618</b>	<b>\$ 185,534</b>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**CENTER TOWNSHIP  
MONROE COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007  
(Continued)**

**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**A. Description of the Entity**

The Center Township, Monroe 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. A publicly elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance, and fire protection services. The Township contracts with Woodsfield Township to provide fire protection.

The Township's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Township is financially accountable.

**B. Basis of Accounting**

These financial statements follow the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. Receipts are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned, and disbursements are recognized when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State.

**C. Cash**

All cash is maintained in a pooled checking account.

**D. Fund Accounting**

The Township uses fund accounting to segregate cash and investments that are restricted as to use. The Township classifies its funds into the following types:

**1. General Fund**

The General Fund is the general operating fund. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

**2. Special Revenue Funds**

These funds are used to account for proceeds from specific sources that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Township has the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

**CENTER TOWNSHIP  
MONROE COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007  
(Continued)**

**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

**D. Fund Accounting (Continued)**

**2. Special Revenue Funds (Continued)**

Gasoline Tax Fund – This fund receives gasoline tax money for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads and bridges.

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

Fire District Fund – This fund receives property tax money for fire protection services.

**3. Debt Service Fund**

These funds are used to accumulate resources for the payment of bonds and note indebtedness. The Township had the following significant Debt Service Fund:

General Bond/Note Retirement Fund – This fund was established to service the debt incurred by the Township.

**4. Capital Projects Fund**

This fund is used to account for proceeds that are restricted for the acquisition or construction of capital assets. The Township had the following significant Capital Projects Fund:

Capital Projects Fund - This fund receives monies for the acquisition of capital assets for the Township.

**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, and 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.

**2. Estimated Resources**

Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus cash as of January 1. The County Budget Commission must also approve estimated resources.

**CENTER TOWNSHIP  
MONROE COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007  
(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 commitments are made. The Township did not encumber all commitments, as required by Ohio law.

A summary of 2008 and 2007 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

**F. Property, Plant and Equipment**

Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements.

**2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH**

The Township maintains a cash pool used by all funds. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits. The carrying amount of cash at December 31 was as follows:

	2008	2007
Demand Deposits	\$ 118,313	\$ 185,534

Deposits are either (1) insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or (2) collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the Township, or (3) collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool.

**3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY**

Budgetary activity for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007 follows:

2008 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 41,476	\$ 37,059	\$ (4,417)
Special Revenue	282,326	289,054	6,728
Capital Projects	-	3,135	3,135
Total	<u>\$ 323,802</u>	<u>\$ 329,248</u>	<u>\$ 5,446</u>

**CENTER TOWNSHIP  
MONROE COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007  
(Continued)**

**3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY (Continued)**

2008 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 51,995	\$ 50,152	\$ 1,843
Special Revenue	312,639	322,274	(9,635)
Capital Projects	45,618	24,043	21,575
Total	<u>\$ 410,252</u>	<u>\$ 396,469</u>	<u>\$ 13,783</u>

2007 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 37,510	\$ 49,636	\$ 12,126
Special Revenue	342,536	420,913	78,377
Capital Projects	90,658	96,423	5,765
Total	<u>\$ 470,704</u>	<u>\$ 566,972</u>	<u>\$ 96,268</u>

2007 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 37,548	\$ 42,300	\$ (4,752)
Special Revenue	448,989	462,199	(13,210)
Capital Projects	15,404	54,211	(38,807)
Debt Service	268	-	268
Total	<u>\$ 502,209</u>	<u>\$ 558,710</u>	<u>\$ (56,501)</u>

Contrary to ORC Section 5705.41 (B), several funds had expenditures exceeding appropriations in 2008 and 2007.

Contrary to Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41 (D), the certification of availability of unencumbered appropriations for expenditure was not obtained for 13% and 93% of expenditures tested during 2008 and 2007, respectively.

**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.

**CENTER TOWNSHIP  
MONROE COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007  
(Continued)**

**4. PROPERTY TAX (Continued)**

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

Tangible personal property tax is assessed by the property owners, who must file a list of such property to the County by each April 30.

The County is responsible for assessing property, and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on behalf of the Township.

**5. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS**

The Township's elected officials and employees belong to the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) of Ohio. PERS is a cost-sharing, multi-employer plan. This plan provides retirement benefits, including post retirement 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 2008 and 2007, members of PERS contributed 10% (2008) and 9.5% (2007) of their gross salaries. The Township contributed an amount equal to 14% (2008) and 13.85% (2007) of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2008.

**6. RISK MANAGEMENT**

**Risk Pool Membership**

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 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**

For an occurrence prior to January 1, 2006, 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. For an occurrence on or subsequent to January 1, 2006, the Pool retains casualty risk up to \$350,000 per occurrence. Claims exceeding \$350,000 are reinsured with APEEP in an amount not to exceed \$2,695,000 for each claim and \$10,000,000 in the aggregate per year. Governments can elect up to \$10,000,000 in additional coverage with the General Reinsurance Corporation, through contracts with OTARMA.

If losses exhaust PEP'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 (prior to January 1, 2006) or \$3,000,000 (on or subsequent to January 1, 2006).

**CENTER TOWNSHIP  
MONROE COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007  
(Continued)**

**6. RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)**

**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.

Beginning in 2005, Travelers reinsures specific losses exceeding \$250,000 up to \$600 million per occurrence. This amount increased to \$300,000 in 2007. For 2007, APEEP reinsures members for specific losses exceeding \$100,000 up to \$300,000 per occurrence, subject to an annual aggregate loss payment. Travelers provides aggregate stop-loss coverage based upon the combined members' total insurable values. If the stop loss is reached by payment of losses between \$100,000 and \$250,000 in 2006, or \$100,000 and \$300,000 in 2007, Travelers will reinsure specific losses exceeding \$100,000 up to their \$600 million per occurrence limit. The aggregate stop-loss limit for 2007 was \$2,014,548.

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.

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

**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, 2007 and 2006 (the most current available).

	2007	2006
Assets	\$43,210,703	\$42,042,275
Liabilities	(13,357,837)	(12,120,661)
Net Assets	\$29,852,866	\$29,921,614

At December 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively, liabilities above include approximately \$12.5 million and \$11.3 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets and retained earnings above also include approximately \$11.6 million and \$10.8 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 950 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. The Township's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$5,853. This payable includes the subsequent year's contribution due if the Township terminates participation, as described in the last paragraph below.

**CENTER TOWNSHIP  
MONROE COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007  
(Continued)**

**6. RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)**

**Financial Position (Continued)**

Based on discussions with OTARMA, the expected rates OTARMA charges to compute member contributions, which are used to pay claims as they become due, are not expected to change significantly from those used to determine the historical contributions detailed below. By contract, the annual liability of each member is limited to the amount of financial contributions required to be made to OTARMA for each year of membership.

Contributions to OTARMA		
2007	\$	4,362
2008	\$	4,410

After completing one year of membership, members may withdraw on each anniversary of the date they joined OTARMA provided they 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 contributions, minus the subsequent year's budgetary contribution. Withdrawing members have no other future obligation to the pool. Also upon withdrawal, payments for all casualty claims and claim expenses become the sole responsibility of the withdrawing member, regardless of whether a claim occurred or was reported prior to the withdrawal.

**7. INTERFUND TRANSFERS**

The Township transferred receipts collected in the Special revenue FEMA funds to the General, Motor Vehicle License Tax, Gasoline Tax, and Road and Bridge funds. These funds met all applicable requirements of the FEMA grant agreement, but the Township did not comply with Ohio Rev. Code section 5705.14 relating to Board approval of transfers.



***Perry & Associates***  
Certified Public Accountants, A.C.

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

March 30, 2009

Center Township  
Monroe County  
106 Forrest Ridge  
Woodsfield, OH 43793

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of **Center Township, Monroe County, Ohio** (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007, and have issued our report thereon dated March 30, 2009, 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 as a basis for designing our audit procedures for expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not to opine on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we have not opined on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control over financial reporting.

Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be considered significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. However, as discussed below, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

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 Township'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 Township's internal control will not prevent or detect a more-than-inconsequential financial statement misstatement.

### **Internal Control over Financial Reporting (Continued)**

We consider the following deficiencies described in the accompanying schedule of findings to be significant deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting: 2008-001 through 2008-005.

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

Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in the internal control that might be significant deficiencies and accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all significant deficiencies that are also material weaknesses. Of the significant deficiencies described above, we believe finding number 2008-005 is also a material weakness.

### **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 that we must report under *Government Auditing Standard*, which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as items 2008-001 through 2008-003.

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

Respectfully Submitted,



**Perry and Associates**  
Certified Public Accountants, A.C.

**CENTER TOWNSHIP  
MONROE COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF AUDIT FINDINGS  
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007**

<b>FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS</b>
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**FINDING NUMBER 2008-001**

**Noncompliance Citation/Significant Deficiency**

**Ohio Rev. Code Sections 5705.14, 5705.15, and 5705.16** state in part that money may be transferred from the General Fund to any other fund of the subdivision by resolution of the taxing authority. Except in the case of transfers from the general fund, transfers can be made only by resolution of the taxing authority passed with affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members and with the approval of the Board of Trustees.

The Township transferred monies from FEMA Funds to the General, Motor Vehicle License Tax, Gasoline Tax, Road and Bridge, and Miscellaneous Capital Projects Funds. Although the transfers were properly performed, they did not have approval from the Board of Trustees.

We recommend the Township Board approve all transfers. They may refer to Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.14 prior to making transfers and make transfers accordingly.

**Management's Response** – We did not receive a response from officials to this finding.

**FINDING NUMBER 2008-002**

**Noncompliance Citation/Significant Deficiency**

**Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41 (B)** states that no subdivision or taxing unit shall make any expenditure of money unless the same has been properly appropriated.

Actual disbursements exceeded appropriations in 2008 in the Motor Vehicle License Fund, Gas Tax Fund, Road District Fund and in 2007 in the General Fund, Road and Bridge Fund, and Capital Projects Fund.

We recommend the Township Clerk modify appropriations with the Board of Township Trustees and County Budget Commission before incurring obligations that would cause expenditures to exceed appropriations. The Township Clerk should deny any payments until the legislative authority has passed the necessary changes to the appropriation measure.

**Management's Response** – We did not receive a response from officials to this finding.

**CENTER TOWNSHIP  
MONROE COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF AUDIT FINDINGS  
DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005**

<b>FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (Continued)</b>
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**FINDING NUMBER 2008-003**

**Noncompliance Citation/Significant Deficiency**

**Ohio Revised Code § 5705.41(D)** requires that no subdivision or taxing unit shall make any contract or give any order involving the 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. The certificate need be signed only by the subdivision's 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.

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 sections 5705.41(D)(1) and 5705.41(D)(3), respectively, of the Ohio Revised Code.

1. "Then and Now" certificate - If the fiscal officer can certify that both at the time that the contract or order was made ("then"), and at the time that the fiscal officer is completing the certification ("now"), that sufficient funds were available or in the process of collection, to the credit of a proper fund, properly appropriated and free from any previous encumbrance, the taxing authority can authorize the drawing of a warrant for the payment of the amount due. The taxing authority has thirty days from the receipt of the "then and now" certificate to approve payment by ordinance or resolution. Amounts of less than \$3,000 may be paid by the fiscal officer without a resolution or ordinance 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.
2. Blanket Certificate – Fiscal officers may prepare "blanket" certificates for a certain sum of money not in excess of an amount established by resolution or ordinance adopted by a majority of the members of the legislative authority against any specific line item account over a period not running beyond the end of the current fiscal year. The blanket certificates 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.
3. Super Blanket Certificate – The entity 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.

**CENTER TOWNSHIP  
MONROE COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF AUDIT FINDINGS  
DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005**

<b>FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (Continued)</b>
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**FINDING NUMBER 2008-003 (Continued)**

**Ohio Revised Code § 5705.41(D) (Continued)**

The Township did not properly certify the availability of funds prior to purchase commitment for 13% and 93% of the expenditures tested during 2008 and 2007, respectively. In addition there was no evidence that the Township followed the aforementioned exceptions.

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 Clerk 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.

**Management's Response** – We did not receive a response from officials to this finding.

**FINDING NUMBER 2008-004**

**Significant Deficiency**

**Posting Estimated Revenues and Appropriations**

The Township did not have a control procedure in place to ensure estimated receipts, as authorized by the Board of Trustees and approved by the County Budget Commission, were reconciled to the estimated receipts posted to the accounting system.

This resulted in incorrect amounts posted to the accounting system and information available to Township officials to monitor year-to-date total comparison of budgeted amounts versus actual amounts was not accurate. Adjustments were made to the budgetary activity reported in Note 3 to the financial statements in order to accurately present estimated receipts as Certified by the County Budget Commission.

We recommend the Township implement procedures to ensure appropriations and estimated receipts are accurately posted to the accounting system and reconciled to the amounts approved by the budget commission after each amendment.

**Management's Response** – We did not receive a response from officials to this finding.

**CENTER TOWNSHIP  
MONROE COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF AUDIT FINDINGS  
DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005**

<p><b>FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (Continued)</b></p>
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**FINDING NUMBER 2008-005**

**Significant Deficiency / Material Weakness**

**Posting Receipts**

Receipts should be posted to the fund and line item accounts as established by Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-7-01.

During 2008 and 2007, several receipts were not posted into accurate revenue classifications based on the source of the receipt. This resulted in several reclassification entries being made to the financial statements.

We recommend the Clerk refer to Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-7-01 and/or the Ohio Township Handbook for guidance to determine the proper establishment of receipt accounts and posting of receipts.

**Management's Response** – We did not receive a response from officials to this finding.

**CENTER TOWNSHIP  
MONROE COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS  
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007**

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <i>Explain</i>
2006-001	Posting Receipts	No	Not Corrected, Repeated as finding 2008-005.
2006-002	Posting Estimated Revenues and Expenditures	No	Not Corrected, Repeated as finding 2008-004.
2006-003	Advances	Yes	N/A
2006-004	ORC Section 5705.39- Appropriations exceeded total estimated resources	Yes	N/A
2006-005	ORC Section 5705.41(D) – Not filing certificate of approval prior to contract	No	Not Corrected, Repeated as finding 2008-003.
2006-006	ORC Sections 5705.14, 5705.15, and 5705.16- Transferring money without approval of the board.	No	Not Corrected, Repeated as finding 2008-001.







Mary Taylor, CPA  
Auditor of State

**CENTER TOWNSHIP**

**MONROE COUNTY**

**CLERK'S CERTIFICATION**

This is a true and correct copy of the report which is required to be filed in the Office of the Auditor of State pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in Columbus, Ohio.

*Susan Babbitt*

**CLERK OF THE BUREAU**

**CERTIFIED  
MAY 12, 2009**