



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

**LEXINGTON TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY**

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Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

Lexington Township
Stark County
14555 Gaskill Drive NE
Alliance, Ohio 44601

To the Board of Trustees:

As you are aware, the Auditor of State's Office (AOS) must modify the *Independent Accountants' Report* we provide on your financial statements due to an interpretation from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). While AOS does not legally require your government to prepare financial statements pursuant to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), the AICPA interpretation requires auditors to formally acknowledge that you did not prepare your financial statements in accordance with GAAP. Our Report includes an adverse opinion relating to GAAP presentation and measurement requirements, but does not imply the amounts the statements present are misstated under the non-GAAP basis you follow. The AOS report also includes an opinion on the financial statements you prepared using the cash basis and financial statement format the AOS permits.

Mary Taylor

Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

October 25, 2009

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Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Lexington Township
Stark County
14555 Gaskill Drive NE
Alliance, Ohio 44601

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Lexington Township, Stark 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. The Township processes its financial transactions with the Auditor of State's Uniform Accounting Network (UAN). *Government Auditing Standards* considers this service to impair the independence of the Auditor of State to audit the Township because the Auditor of State designed, developed, implemented, and as requested, operates UAN. However, *Government Auditing Standards* permits the Auditor of State to audit and opine on this entity, because Ohio Revised Code § 117.101 requires the Auditor of State to provide UAN services, and Ohio Revised Code §§ 117.11(B) and 115.56 mandate the Auditor of State to audit Ohio governments. 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 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 its changes in financial position for the years then ended.

Also, in our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances and reserves for encumbrances of Lexington Township, Stark 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 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 October 25, 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.

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

Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

October 25, 2009

**LEXINGTON TOWNSHIP
STARK 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>				Totals (Memorandum Only)
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Debt Service</u>	<u>Capital Projects</u>	
Cash Receipts:					
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$10,776	\$695,672			\$706,448
Charges for Services		600			600
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	25,137				25,137
Fines and Forfeitures	8,561				8,561
Intergovernmental	72,354	311,868			384,222
Special Assessments	3,000				3,000
Earnings on Investments	8,715	923			9,638
Miscellaneous	531	3,063			3,594
	<u>129,074</u>	<u>1,012,126</u>			<u>1,141,200</u>
Cash Disbursements:					
Current:					
General Government	142,691				142,691
Public Safety	10,621	408,541			419,162
Public Works		525,441			525,441
Health	8,125				8,125
Capital Outlay	4,500	54,063			58,563
Debt Service:					
Interest and Other Fiscal Charges			\$13		13
	<u>165,937</u>	<u>988,045</u>	<u>13</u>		<u>1,153,995</u>
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	(36,863)	24,081	(13)		(12,795)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	101,031	489,017	13	\$150,000	740,061
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$64,168</u>	<u>\$513,098</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$150,000</u>	<u>\$727,266</u>
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	<u>\$432</u>	<u>\$49,502</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$49,934</u>

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

LEXINGTON TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES - FIDUCIARY FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

	<u>Agency</u>
Operating Cash Receipts:	
Miscellaneous	\$23,146
Operating Cash Disbursements:	
Other	<u>12,480</u>
Operating Income	<u>10,666</u>
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>0</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u><u>\$10,666</u></u>

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

**LEXINGTON TOWNSHIP
STARK 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>				Totals (Memorandum Only)
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Debt Service</u>	<u>Capital Projects</u>	
Cash Receipts:					
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$13,939	\$748,121			\$762,060
Charges for Services		600			600
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	26,010				26,010
Fines and Forfeitures	11,354				11,354
Intergovernmental	96,523	259,079			355,602
Earnings on Investments	31,915	2,162			34,077
Miscellaneous	39,893	286			40,179
Total Cash Receipts	<u>219,634</u>	<u>1,010,248</u>			<u>1,229,882</u>
Cash Disbursements:					
Current:					
General Government	151,389				151,389
Public Safety	16,817	416,100			432,917
Public Works		451,731			451,731
Health	7,888				7,888
Capital Outlay		10,768			10,768
Debt Service:					
Redemption of Principal			\$5,000		5,000
Interest and Other Fiscal Charges			312		312
Total Cash Disbursements	<u>176,094</u>	<u>878,599</u>	<u>5,312</u>		<u>1,060,005</u>
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	43,540	131,649	(5,312)		169,877
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	57,491	357,368	5,325	\$150,000	570,184
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u><u>\$101,031</u></u>	<u><u>\$489,017</u></u>	<u><u>\$13</u></u>	<u><u>\$150,000</u></u>	<u><u>\$740,061</u></u>
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	<u>\$360</u>	<u>\$119,729</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$120,089</u>

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

LEXINGTON TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES - FIDUCIARY FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

	<u>Agency</u>
Operating Cash Receipts:	
Miscellaneous	\$13,080
Operating Cash Disbursements:	
Other	<u>32,080</u>
Operating Loss	<u>(19,000)</u>
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>19,000</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u><u>\$0</u></u>

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

**LEXINGTON TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY**

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

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 Lexington Township, Stark County, Ohio, (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 and fire protection and emergency medical services. The Township contracts with the Stark County Sheriff's Department to provide police services.

The Township participates in one jointly governed organization and one public entity risk pool. Notes 7 and 8 to the financial statements provides additional information for these entities. These organizations are:

Jointly Governed Organizations:

Stark Council of Governments (the "Council")

Public Entity Risk Pool:

Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA)

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

B. Accounting Basis

These financial statements follow the accounting basis 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. Deposits and Investments

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.

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.

**LEXINGTON TOWNSHIP
STARK 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

These funds account for proceeds from specific sources (other than from private-purpose 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.

Police District Fund - This fund receives funds from a tax levy that was approved by the Township residents for police protection.

3. Debt Service Fund

This fund accounts for resources the Township accumulates to pay bond and note debt. The Township had the following significant Debt Service Fund:

General Retirement Note Fund - This fund receives property tax money to pay debt incurred to purchase land for the road department.

4. Capital Project Fund

This fund accounts for receipts restricted to acquiring or constructing major capital projects (except those financed through enterprise or trust funds). The Township had the following significant capital project fund:

Fire Capital Projects Fund - The fund has a cash balance to be used for the construction of a fire substation in the future.

5. Fiduciary Funds

Fiduciary funds include private purpose trust funds and agency funds. Trust funds account for assets held under a trust agreement for individuals, private organizations, or other governments which are not available to support the Township's own programs.

Agency funds are purely custodial in nature and are used to hold resources for individuals, organizations or other governments. The Township disburses these funds as directed by the individual, organization or other government. The Township's agency fund accounts for the receipt and disbursement of insurance proceeds for structures damaged by fire.

**LEXINGTON TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY**

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

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

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.

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 2008 and 2007 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 Deposits

The Township maintains a deposit pool all funds use. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of deposits at December 31 was as follows:

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Demand deposits	<u>\$737,932</u>	<u>\$740,061</u>

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

**LEXINGTON TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY**

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

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	\$134,196	\$129,074	(\$5,122)
Special Revenue	1,011,926	1,012,126	200
Fiduciary	12,480	23,146	10,666
Total	<u>\$1,158,602</u>	<u>\$1,164,346</u>	<u>\$5,744</u>

2008 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$234,860	\$166,369	\$68,491
Special Revenue	1,375,545	1,037,547	337,998
Debt Service	13	13	0
Capital Projects	150,000		150,000
Fiduciary	12,480	12,480	0
Total	<u>\$1,772,898</u>	<u>\$1,216,409</u>	<u>\$556,489</u>

2007 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$176,654	\$219,634	\$42,980
Special Revenue	1,001,800	1,010,248	8,448
Fiduciary	13,080	13,080	0
Total	<u>\$1,191,534</u>	<u>\$1,242,962</u>	<u>\$51,428</u>

2007 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$234,189	\$176,454	\$57,735
Special Revenue	1,360,498	998,328	362,170
Debt Service	5,325	5,312	13
Capital Projects	150,000		150,000
Fiduciary	32,080	32,080	0
Total	<u>\$1,782,092</u>	<u>\$1,212,174</u>	<u>\$569,918</u>

**LEXINGTON TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY**

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

4. Property Tax

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Trustees adopted tax 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.

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. Debt

There was no debt outstanding at December 31, 2008. The Township made its final principal and interest payment in 2007 and returned the remaining fund balance of \$13 to the General Fund.

6. Retirement System

The Township's employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. 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 2008 and 2007, OPERS members contributed 10% and 9.5%, respectively, of their gross salaries and the Township contributed an amount equaling 14% and 13.85%, respectively, of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2008.

7. 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.

**LEXINGTON TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY**

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

7. Risk Management (Continued)

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 \$2,650,000 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).

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 (the latest information available):

	<u>2007</u>
Assets	\$43,210,703
Liabilities	<u>(13,357,837)</u>
Net Assets	<u>\$29,852,866</u>

**LEXINGTON TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY**

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

7. Risk Management (Continued)

At December 31, 2007, liabilities above include approximately \$12.5 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets and retained earnings above also include approximately \$11.6 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 950 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2007. 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 \$24,000. This payable includes the subsequent year's contribution due if the Township terminates participation, as described in the last paragraph below.

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	\$25,046
2008	24,915

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.

8. Jointly Governed Organizations

The Township participates in the Stark Council of Governments (the "Council"), which is a statutorily created political subdivision of the State for the purpose of providing a permanent forum for discussion and study of concerns of the county, cities, villages, and townships for development of policies and programs for implementation by one or more of the local governing bodies. The Council is jointly governed among Stark County, municipalities, and townships which consist of 38 members.

The Township appoints a representative and has a membership share based on the percentage of contractual financial contributions to the total funding. Each participant is entitled to vote its percentage share. The Board exercises total authority over the operation of the Council including budgeting, appropriating, contracting, and designating management. Continued existence of the Council is not dependent on the Township's continued participation. The Council does not provide specific financial benefits or impose specific financial burdens to the Township. The Township did not make any contributions during the year and does not have and equity interest in the Council. Financial statements of the Council can be obtained from the Stark Council of Governments, 5320 Bridgecreek Avenue, NW, Canton, Ohio, 44718.

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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*

Lexington Township
Stark County
14555 Gaskill Drive NE
Alliance, Ohio 44601

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of Lexington Township, Stark County, Ohio, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007, and have issued our report thereon dated October 25, 2009 wherein we noted the Township followed accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits rather than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The Township processes its financial transactions with the Auditor of State's Uniform Accounting Network (UAN). *Government Auditing Standards* considers this service to impair the independence of the Auditor of State to audit the Township because the Auditor of State designed, developed, implemented, and as requested, operates UAN. However, *Government Auditing Standards* permits the Auditor of State to audit and opine on this entity, because Ohio Revised Code § 117.101 requires the Auditor of State to provide UAN services, and Ohio Revised Code §§ 117.11(B) and 115.56 mandate the Auditor of State to audit Ohio governments. 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 opinion 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.

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.

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 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.

We noted a certain matter that we reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated October 25, 2009.

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 no instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards*.

We did note certain noncompliance or other matters that we reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated October 25, 2009.

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



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

October 25, 2009



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

LEXINGTON TOWNSHIP

STARK 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
NOVEMBER 12, 2009**