

**MIFFLIN TOWNSHIP  
ASHLAND COUNTY**

**REGULAR AUDIT**

**FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008 - 2007**





# Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

Board of Trustees  
Mifflin Township  
1175 TR 1875  
Ashland, Ohio 44805

We have reviewed the *Independent Accountants' Report* of Mifflin Township, Ashland County, prepared by Knox & Knox, 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. Mifflin Township is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

*Mary Taylor*

Mary Taylor, CPA  
Auditor of State

December 28, 2009

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MIFFLIN TOWNSHIP  
ASHLAND COUNTY

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# KNOX & KNOX

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Accountants and Consultants

## Independent Accountants' Report

Mifflin Township  
Ashland County  
1175 TR 1875  
Ashland, Ohio 44805

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Mifflin Township, Ashland 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 *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about 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, if any, made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described more fully in Note 1, the Township has prepared its 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 accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, we presume they are material.

Revisions to GAAP would require the Township to reformat its financial statement presentation and make other changes effective for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007. In addition to the accompanying financial statements present for 2008 and 2007, the revisions require presenting entity wide statements and also to present its larger (i.e. major) funds separately for 2008 and 2007. While the Township does not follow GAAP, generally accepted auditing standards require us to include the following paragraph if the statements do not substantially conform to the new GAAP presentation requirements. The Auditor of State permits, but does not require governments to reformat their statements. The Township has elected not to reformat its statements. 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 fund cash balances of Mifflin Township, Ashland County, as of December 31, 2008 and 2007, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

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 December 9, 2009, on our consideration of the Township's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Governmental Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audits.

***Knox & Knox***

Orrville, Ohio  
December 9, 2009



MIFFLIN TOWNSHIP  
ASHLAND 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

	Governmental Fund Types		Totals (Memorandum Only)
	General	Special Revenue	
<b>CASH RECEIPTS:</b>			
Property and Other Local Taxes	25,637	83,416	\$109,053
Charges for Services		25,974	25,974
Licenses, Fees, and Permits	200		200
Intergovernmental	40,779	104,523	145,302
Earnings on Investments	3,482	1,686	5,168
Miscellaneous	24	34	58
Total Cash Receipts	70,122	215,633	285,755
<b>CASH DISBURSEMENTS</b>			
Current:			
General Government	48,900	151,223	200,123
Public Safety		15,026	15,026
Public Works		41,897	41,897
Health	4,533	78	4,611
Other		480	480
Capital Outlay	991	14,244	15,235
Total Cash Disbursements	54,424	222,948	277,372
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	15,698	(7,315)	8,383
<b>OTHER FINANCING RECEIPTS /(DISBURSEMENTS)</b>			
Other Financing Uses		(239)	(239)
Total Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)		(239)	(239)
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements	15,698	(7,554)	8,144
Cash Fund Balances, January 1	47,090	205,935	253,025
<b>CASH FUND BALANCES, DECEMBER 31</b>	<b>\$62,788</b>	<b>\$198,381</b>	<b>\$261,169</b>
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	\$416	\$361	\$777

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

MIFFLIN TOWNSHIP  
ASHLAND 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

	Governmental Fund Types		Totals (Memorandum Only)
	General	Special Revenue	
<b>CASH RECEIPTS:</b>			
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$27,165	\$89,985	\$117,150
Charges for Services		13,847	13,847
Licenses, Fees, and Permits	2,275		2,275
Intergovernmental	36,168	110,882	147,050
Earnings on Investments	4,707	2,461	7,168
Miscellaneous	24	8,574	8,598
Total Cash Receipts	70,339	225,749	296,088
<b>CASH DISBURSEMENTS</b>			
Current:			
General Government	49,141	104,185	153,326
Public Safety		20,104	20,104
Public Works		20,271	20,271
Health	4,987		4,987
Capital Outlay	2,189	52,594	54,783
Total Cash Disbursements	56,317	197,154	253,471
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	14,022	28,595	42,617
Cash Fund Balances, January 1	33,068	177,340	210,408
<b>CASH FUND BALANCES, DECEMBER 31</b>	<b>\$47,090</b>	<b>\$205,935</b>	<b>\$253,025</b>
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	\$98	\$116	\$214

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

MIFFLIN TOWNSHIP  
ASHLAND COUNTY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007

1. **SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

A. **DESCRIPTION OF THE ENTITY**

Mifflin Township, Ashland County, Ohio, (the Township) is a body corporate and politic established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The Township is directed by a publicly-elected three-member Board of Trustees. The Township provides road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance, fire protection and emergency medical services.

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

B. **BASIS OF ACCOUNTING**

These financial statements follow the basis of accounting 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**

The Township has no investments.

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 (other than from trusts or for capital projects) that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Township has 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.

MIFFLIN TOWNSHIP  
ASHLAND COUNTY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007

2. **SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES** (continued)

D. **FUND ACCOUNTING** (continued)

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

*Gasoline Tax Fund* - This fund receives gasoline tax money to pay for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads.

*Fire District Fund* - This fund receives tax receipts for providing fire protection 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 division, department, or office level of control, and within each the amount appropriated for personal services. 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.

3. **Encumbrances**

The Ohio Revised Code requires the Township to reserve (encumber) appropriations when commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over and need not be reappropriated in the subsequent year.

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.

MIFFLIN TOWNSHIP  
ASHLAND COUNTY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007

**2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS**

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

	2008	2007
Demand deposits	\$261,169	\$253,025

Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation, or 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	\$64,856	\$70,122	\$5,266
Special Revenue	211,034	215,633	4,599
Total	\$275,890	\$285,755	\$9,865

2008 Budgeted vs Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$73,739	\$54,840	\$18,899
Special Revenue	326,617	223,548	103,069
Total	\$400,356	\$278,388	\$121,968

2007 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$63,157	\$70,339	\$7,182
Special Revenue	195,568	225,749	30,181
Total	\$258,725	\$296,088	\$37,363

2007 Budgeted vs Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$71,441	\$56,415	\$15,026
Special Revenue	325,711	197,270	128,441
Total	\$397,152	\$253,685	\$143,467

MIFFLIN TOWNSHIP  
ASHLAND COUNTY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007

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 payments for 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 owner, 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 SYSTEM**

The Township's employees belong to the Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. The 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 contributed 10% and 9.5% of their gross salaries, respectively. The Township contributed an amount equal to 14% (2008) and 13.75% (2007) of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2008.

6. **RISK MANAGEMENT**

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

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

The Township belongs to the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio townships. OTARMA provides property and casualty coverage for its members. OTARMA is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP). Member governments pay annual contributions to fund OTARMA. OTARMA pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

MIFFLIN TOWNSHIP  
ASHLAND COUNTY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007

6. **RISK MANAGEMENT** (continued)

A. **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 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, including loss adjustment expenses. 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 OTARMA's retained earnings, APEEP provides *excess of funds available* coverage up to \$5,000,000 per year, subject to a per-claim limit of \$2,000,000 (for claims prior to January 1, 2006) or \$3,000,000 (on or subsequent to January 1, 2006).

B. **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. 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 to \$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.

C. **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.

MIFFLIN TOWNSHIP  
ASHLAND COUNTY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007

**6. RISK MANAGEMENT** (continued)

C. FINANCIAL POSITION (continued)

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

At December 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively, casualty coverage liabilities noted 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. This payable includes the subsequent year's contribution due if the Township terminates participation, as described in the last paragraph below.

After completing one year of membership, members may withdraw on each anniversary of the date they joined OTARMA provided they give 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. CAPITAL LEASE OBLIGATION**

During 2005, the Township entered into a lease-purchase agreement with Ohio Township Association Leasing, LLC for the financing of an ambulance. The following is a summary of future lease payments:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Payment</u>
2009	\$14,770
Imputed interest @ 4%	<u>464</u>
Present value	<u><u>\$14,306</u></u>



MIFFLIN TOWNSHIP  
ASHLAND COUNTY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007

7. **CAPITAL LEASE OBLIGATION** (continued)

During 2008, the Township entered into a lease-purchase agreement with Ohio Township Association Leasing, LLC for the financing of a dump truck with snow removal equipment. The following is a summary of future lease payments:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Payment</u>
2009	\$10,033
2010	10,033
2011	10,033
2012	10,033
2013	<u>5,016</u>
Total	45,148
Imputed interest @ 4.75%	<u>4,926</u>
Present value	<u><u>\$40,222</u></u>

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Accountants and Consultants

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

Mifflin Township  
Ashland County  
1175 TR 1875  
Ashland, Ohio 44805

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Mifflin Township, Ashland County, Ohio (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007, and have issued our report thereon dated December 9, 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 *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Township's internal control over financial reporting as basis for designing our audit procedures in order to express 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.

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. However, we noted other matters that we reported to the Township in a separate letter dated December 9, 2009.

COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS

As part of reasonably assuring whether the Township's basic 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 the audit committee, management, and Board of Trustees. We intend it for no one other than these specified parties.

KNOX & KNOX

Orrville, Ohio  
December 9, 2009



**Mary Taylor, CPA**  
Auditor of State

**MIFFLIN TOWNSHIP**

**ASHLAND COUNTY**

**CLERK'S CERTIFICATION**

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

*Susan Babbitt*

**CLERK OF THE BUREAU**

**CERTIFIED  
JANUARY 12, 2010**