



Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs, Inc.

Accounting, Auditing and Consulting Services for Federal, State and Local Governments

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BERNE TOWNSHIP
FAIRFIELD COUNTY

REGULAR AUDIT

For the Years Ended December 31, 2013 and 2012
Fiscal Years Audited Under GAGAS: 2013 and 2012



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

Board of Trustees
Berne Township
1590 Blue Valley Road SE
Lancaster, Ohio 43130

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of Berne Township, Fairfield County, prepared by Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs, Inc., for the audit period January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2013. 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.

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. Berne Township is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Yost".

Dave Yost
Auditor of State

September 4, 2014

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Berne Township
Fairfield County, Ohio
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For the Fiscal Years Ended December 31, 2013 and 2012

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Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs, Inc.

Accounting, Auditing and Consulting Services for Federal, State and Local Governments

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Independent Auditor's Report

Berne Township
Fairfield County
1590 Blue Valley Road SE
Lancaster, Ohio 43130

To the Board of Trustees:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements and related notes of Berne Township, Fairfield County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for preparing and fairly presenting these financial statements in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit; this responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to preparing and fairly presenting financial statements free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to opine on these financial statements based on our audit. We audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the financial audit standards in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require us to plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit requires obtaining evidence about financial statement amounts and disclosures. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including assessing the risks of material financial statement misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In assessing those risks, we consider internal control relevant to the Township's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not to the extent needed to opine on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control. Accordingly, we express no opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of management's accounting policies and the reasonableness of their significant accounting estimates, as well as our evaluation of the overall financial statement presentation.

We believe the audit evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to support our audit opinion.

Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

As described in Note 1 of the financial statements, the Township prepared these financial statements using the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D), which is an accounting basis other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, to satisfy requirements.

The effects on the financial statements of the variances between the regulatory basis of accounting described in Note 1 and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, although not reasonably determinable, are presumed to be material.

Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the *Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles* paragraph, the financial statements referred to above do not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Township as of December 31, 2013 and 2012, or changes in financial position thereof for the years then ended.

Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined cash balances of Berne Township, Fairfield County, as of December 31, 2013 and 2012, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit, described in Note 1.

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note 10 to the financial statements, during 2012, the Township elected to change its financial presentation to the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D), which is an accounting basis other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and adopted new accounting guidance in Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*. We did not modify our opinion regarding these matters.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated July 23, 2014, 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. That report describes the scope of our internal control testing over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing, and does not opine on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Township's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs
Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs, Inc.
Worthington, Ohio
July 23, 2014

Berne Township, Fairfield County
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Cash Balances
Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended December 31, 2013

	Governmental Fund Types			Totals
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	(Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 41,333	\$ 528,475	\$ -	\$ 569,808
Intergovernmental	32,127	215,039	-	247,166
Fines, Licenses & Permits	15,772	6,831	-	22,603
Interest	3,173	850	-	4,023
Miscellaneous	4,065	4,127	-	8,192
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>96,470</u>	<u>755,322</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>851,792</u>
Cash Disbursements				
Current:				
General Government	134,471	20,380	102,960	257,811
Public Safety	-	159,293	-	159,293
Public Works	-	309,182	-	309,182
Health	31,193	-	-	31,193
Capital Outlay	-	123,895	-	123,895
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>165,664</u>	<u>612,750</u>	<u>102,960</u>	<u>881,374</u>
<i>Excess of Cash Receipts Over /(Under) Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>(69,194)</u>	<u>142,572</u>	<u>(102,960)</u>	<u>(29,582)</u>
Other Financing Sources (Uses)				
Proceeds from Sale of Capital Assets	11,303	-	-	11,303
Transfers In	-	-	75,000	75,000
Transfers Out	-	(75,000)	-	(75,000)
<i>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</i>	<u>11,303</u>	<u>(75,000)</u>	<u>75,000</u>	<u>11,303</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	<u>(57,891)</u>	<u>67,572</u>	<u>(27,960)</u>	<u>(18,279)</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>288,804</u>	<u>1,780,146</u>	<u>439,763</u>	<u>2,508,713</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31				
Restricted	-	1,847,718	411,803	2,259,521
Unassigned (Deficit)	230,913	-	-	230,913
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u>\$ 230,913</u>	<u>\$ 1,847,718</u>	<u>\$ 411,803</u>	<u>\$ 2,490,434</u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

Berne Township, Fairfield County
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Cash Balances
Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended December 31, 2012

	Governmental Fund Types			Totals
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	(Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 42,531	\$ 548,342	\$ -	\$ 590,873
Intergovernmental	81,602	193,570	-	275,172
Fines, Licenses & Permits	15,594	3,015	-	18,609
Interest	3,200	615	-	3,815
Miscellaneous	4,765	5,208	-	9,973
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>147,692</u>	<u>750,750</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>898,442</u>
Cash Disbursements				
Current:				
General Government	140,311	4,694	-	145,005
Public Safety	-	203,728	-	203,728
Public Works	-	303,214	-	303,214
Health	27,823	-	-	27,823
Capital Outlay	-	10,305	-	10,305
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>168,134</u>	<u>521,941</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>690,075</u>
<i>Excess of Cash Receipts Over /(Under) Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>(20,442)</u>	<u>228,809</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>208,367</u>
Other Financing Sources (Uses)				
Transfers In	-	-	75,000	75,000
Transfers Out	-	(75,000)	-	(75,000)
<i>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</i>	<u>-</u>	<u>(75,000)</u>	<u>75,000</u>	<u>-</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	<u>(20,442)</u>	<u>153,809</u>	<u>75,000</u>	<u>208,367</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>309,246</u>	<u>1,626,337</u>	<u>364,763</u>	<u>2,300,346</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31				
Restricted	-	1,780,146	439,763	2,219,909
Unassigned (Deficit)	288,804	-	-	288,804
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u>\$ 288,804</u>	<u>\$ 1,780,146</u>	<u>\$ 439,763</u>	<u>\$ 2,508,713</u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

**BERNE TOWNSHIP
FAIRFIELD COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2013 AND 2012**

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 Berne Township, Fairfield County, Ohio (the Township), as a body corporate and politic. A publicly-elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides general government services, road and bridge maintenance, and fire protection.

The Township participates in the Ohio Township Risk Management Authority (OTARMA) which is an insurance risk-sharing pool available to Ohio Townships. Note 6 provides additional information regarding this entity.

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. The basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Township recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as the Auditor of State prescribes or permits.

C. Cash and Deposits

The Township deposits all available funds in an interest earning checking account at a local commercial bank. All deposits are valued at cost.

D. Fund Accounting

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

1. General Fund

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

**BERNE TOWNSHIP
FAIRFIELD COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2013 AND 2012**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

D. Fund Accounting (continued)

2. Special Revenue Funds

These funds account for the 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 tax money to pay for constructing, maintaining, and repairing township roads and bridges.

Fire District Fund – This fund receives property tax money to provide fire protection for the Township residents.

Road Outside Fund – This fund receives tax money to pay for constructing, maintaining and repairing township roads.

Gasoline Tax Fund – This fund receives gasoline tax money to pay for constructing, maintaining and repairing township roads.

3. Capital Project Fund

These funds account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for capital outlays, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets. The Township had the following significant capital project fund:

Capital Improvement – This fund receives transfers from the Fire District Fund annually to use for the purchase of fire equipment and buildings.

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. Appropriations lapse at year end.

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 approve estimated resources.

**BERNE TOWNSHIP
FAIRFIELD COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2013 AND 2012**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

E. Budgetary Process (continued)

3. Encumbrances

The Ohio Revised Code requires the Township to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are canceled, and reappropriated in the subsequent year.

A summary of 2013 and 2012 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

F. Fund Balance

Fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the Township must observe constraints imposed upon the use of its governmental-fund resources. The classifications are as follows:

1. Nonspendable

The Township classifies assets as *nonspendable* when legally or contractually required to maintain the amounts intact.

2. Restricted

Fund balance is *restricted* when constraints placed on the use of resources are either externally imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or is imposed by law through constitutional provisions.

3. Committed

Trustees can *commit* amounts via formal action (resolution). The Township must adhere to these commitments unless the Trustees amend the resolution. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed to satisfy contractual requirements.

4. Assigned

Assigned fund balances are intended for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as *restricted* or *committed*. Governmental funds other than the general fund report all fund balances as *assigned* unless they are restricted or committed. In the general fund, *assigned* amounts represent intended uses established by Township Trustees or a Township official delegated that authority by resolution, or by State Statute.

**BERNE TOWNSHIP
FAIRFIELD COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2013 AND 2012**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

F. Fund Balance (continued)

5. Unassigned

Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund and includes amounts not included in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is used only to report a deficit balance.

The Township applies restricted resources first when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which either restricted or unrestricted (committed, assigned, and unassigned) amounts are available. Similarly, within unrestricted fund balance, committed amounts are reduced first followed by assigned, and then unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

G. Property, Plant and Equipment

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

H. Accumulated Leave

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

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH

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

	2013	2012
Demand Deposits	<u>\$ 2,490,434</u>	<u>\$ 2,508,713</u>

Deposits: Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation or collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the Township.

**BERNE TOWNSHIP
FAIRFIELD COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2013 AND 2012**

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2013 and 2012 follows:

2013 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 83,511	\$ 107,773	\$ 24,262
Special Revenue	702,176	755,322	53,146
Capital Projects	75,000	75,000	-
Total	\$ 860,687	\$ 938,095	\$ 77,408

2013 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 210,368	\$ 165,664	\$ 44,704
Special Revenue	1,145,611	687,750	457,861
Capital Projects	125,000	102,960	22,040
Total	\$ 1,480,979	\$ 956,374	\$ 524,605

2012 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 95,248	\$ 147,692	\$ 52,444
Special Revenue	712,000	750,750	38,750
Capital Projects	75,000	75,000	-
Total	\$ 882,248	\$ 973,442	\$ 91,194

2012 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 214,944	\$ 168,134	\$ 46,810
Special Revenue	1,076,440	596,941	479,499
Capital Projects	175,000	-	175,000
Total	\$ 1,466,384	\$ 765,075	\$ 701,309

**BERNE TOWNSHIP
FAIRFIELD COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2013 AND 2012**

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 property owner elects to pay semiannually, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due to the following June 20.

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

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 elected officials and employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes this plans benefits, which include postretirement healthcare and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2013 and 2012, OPERS members contributed 10% of their gross salaries and the Township contributed an amount equaling 14% of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2013.

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. York Risk Pooling Services, Inc. (formally known as American Risk Pooling Consultants, Inc.) (York or Management), functions as the administrator of the Pool and provides underwriting claims, loss control, risk management, and reinsurance services for the Pool. Member governments pay annual contributions to fund OTARMA. OTARMA pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

**BERNE TOWNSHIP
FAIRFIELD COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2013 AND 2012**

6. RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)

Casualty and Property Coverage

The Pool is a member of American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP), which is also administered by York. APEEP provides the Pool with an excess risk-sharing program. Under this arrangement, OTARMA retains insured risks up to an amount specified in the contracts. At December 31, 2013, OTARMA retained \$350,000 for casualty claims and \$250,000 for property claims.

The aforementioned casualty and property reinsurance agreement does not discharge OTARMA's primary liability for claims payments on covered losses. Claims exceeding coverage limits are the obligation of the respective government.

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, 2013 and 2012 (the latest information available):

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Assets	\$34,954,286	\$34,771,270
Liabilities	(8,486,363)	(9,355,082)
Net Assets	<u>\$26,467,923</u>	<u>\$25,416,188</u>

At December 31, 2013 and 2012, respectively, the liabilities above include approximately \$7.9 and \$8.7 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets above also include approximately \$7.4 and \$7.8 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 948 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2013 and 2012, respectively. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. As of December 31, 2013, the Township's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$10,000.

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	
2013	\$17,537
2012	\$18,676

After one year of membership, a member may withdraw on the anniversary of the date of joining OTARMA, if the member notifies OTARMA in writing 60 days prior to the anniversary date. Upon withdrawal, members are eligible for a full or partial refund of their capital contributions, minus the subsequent year's 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.

**BERNE TOWNSHIP
FAIRFIELD COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2013 AND 2012**

7. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

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

8. INTERFUND ACTIVITY

Transfers were made during 2013 and 2012 from the Fire District Fund to the Capital Improvement Fund for \$75,000 per year for the future purchase of fire department equipment and the construction of a new fire house.

9. SUBSEQUENT EVENT

In May 2014, the Township approved a \$1.2 million levy to be used in combination with the funds in the Capital Improvement Fund for the construction of a new fire house.

10. CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES / FUND BALANCES

During 2012, the Township elected to change its financial presentation to the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D), which is an accounting basis other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. There was no effect on the cash fund balances of the Township.

Also during 2012, the Township implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*. Fund balance is classified as nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned and/or unassigned based primarily on the extent to which the Township is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources in the government funds. The constraints placed on the fund balance for the major governmental funds and all other governmental funds are presented below:

**BERNE TOWNSHIP
FAIRFIELD COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2013 AND 2012**

10. CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES / FUND BALANCES (Continued)

Fund Balances	General	Special Revenue Funds	Capital Projects Fund	Total Governmental Funds
12/31/2012				
Restricted for				
Motor Vehicle & License	\$0	\$115,579	\$0	\$115,579
Gas Tax	0	366,138	0	366,138
Road	0	639,402	0	639,402
Zoning	0	7,762	0	7,762
Capital Improvements	0	0	439,763	439,763
Fire	0	651,265	0	651,265
Total Restricted	<u>0</u>	<u>1,780,146</u>	<u>439,763</u>	<u>2,219,909</u>
Unassigned (Deficit)	<u>288,804</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>288,804</u>
Total Fund Balances	<u><u>\$288,804</u></u>	<u><u>\$1,780,146</u></u>	<u><u>\$439,763</u></u>	<u><u>\$2,508,713</u></u>
12/31/2013				
Restricted for				
Motor Vehicle & License	\$0	\$73,455	\$0	\$73,455
Gas Tax	0	334,510	0	334,510
Road	0	711,318	0	711,318
Zoning	0	8,891	0	8,891
FEMA	0	13,973	0	13,973
Capital Improvements	0	0	411,803	411,803
Fire	0	705,571	0	705,571
Total Restricted	<u>0</u>	<u>1,847,718</u>	<u>411,803</u>	<u>2,259,521</u>
Unassigned (Deficit)	<u>230,913</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>230,913</u>
Total Fund Balances	<u><u>\$230,913</u></u>	<u><u>\$1,847,718</u></u>	<u><u>\$411,803</u></u>	<u><u>\$2,490,434</u></u>



Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs, Inc.

Accounting, Auditing and Consulting Services for Federal, State and Local Governments

www.bhscpas.com

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

Berne Township
Fairfield County
1590 Blue Valley Road SE
Lancaster, Ohio 43130

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States and the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*, the financial statements of Berne Township, Fairfield County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012, and the related notes to the financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated July 23, 2014, wherein we noted the Township elected to change its financial presentation to financial reporting provisions that Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 permit. We also noted the Township adopted new accounting guidance in Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

As part of our financial statement audit, we considered the Township's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures appropriate in the circumstances to the extent necessary to support our opinion on the financial statements, but not to the extent necessary to opine on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control. Accordingly, we have not opined on it.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, when performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and timely correct misstatements. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of internal control deficiencies resulting in a reasonable possibility that internal control will not prevent or detect and timely correct a material misstatement of the Township's financial statements. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all internal control deficiencies that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider material weaknesses. However, unidentified material weaknesses may exist.

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, opining 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*.

Purpose of this Report

This report only describes the scope of our internal control and compliance testing and our testing results, and does not opine on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed under *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Township's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs

Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs, Inc.

Worthington, Ohio

July 23, 2014



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

BERNE TOWNSHIP

FAIRFIELD COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

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

Susan Babbitt

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

**CERTIFIED
SEPTEMBER 16, 2014**