



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

VILLAGE OF HELENA
SANDUSKY COUNTY

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Dave Yost • Auditor of State

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Village of Helena
Sandusky County
504 Church Street
Helena, Ohio 43435-9810

To the Village Council:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements and related notes of the Village of Helena, Sandusky County, Ohio (the Village), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013.

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 Village'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 Village'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 Village 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 (GAAP), to satisfy these requirements.

Although the effects on the financial statements of the variances between the regulatory accounting basis and GAAP are not reasonably determinable, we presume they are material.

Though the Village does not intend these statements to conform to GAAP, auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America require us to include an adverse opinion on GAAP. However, the adverse opinion does not imply the amounts reported are materially misstated under the accounting basis Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit. Our opinion on this accounting basis is in the *Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting* paragraph below.

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 Village as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, or changes in financial position or cash flows 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 the Village of Helena, Sandusky County, Ohio as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, 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.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 18, 2015, on our consideration of the Village'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 Village's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Dave Yost
Auditor of State

Columbus, Ohio

June 18, 2015

**VILLAGE OF HELENA
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (CASH BASIS)
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014**

	General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts			
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$21,620		\$21,620
Intergovernmental	19,390	\$ 31,649	51,039
Charges for Services	14,381		14,381
Earnings on Investments	80	41	121
Miscellaneous	1,401		1,401
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>56,872</u>	<u>31,690</u>	<u>88,562</u>
Cash Disbursements			
Current:			
Security of Persons and Property	5,592		5,592
Public Health Services	1,062		1,062
Leisure Time Activities	7,439		7,439
Community Environment	2		2
Basic Utility Services	13,901		13,901
Transportation		38,241	38,241
General Government	24,286		24,286
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>52,282</u>	<u>38,241</u>	<u>90,523</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	4,590	(6,551)	(1,961)
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>237,600</u>	<u>175,490</u>	<u>413,090</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31			
Restricted		168,939	168,939
Assigned	6,224		6,224
Unassigned	235,966		235,966
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u>\$242,190</u>	<u>\$168,939</u>	<u>\$411,129</u>

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

**VILLAGE OF HELENA
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS
AND CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE (CASH BASIS)
PROPRIETARY FUND TYPE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014**

	Proprietary Fund Type
	Enterprise
Operating Cash Receipts	
Charges for Services	\$75,364
Operating Cash Disbursements	
Personal Services	8,436
Employee Fringe Benefits	1,342
Contractual Services	26,282
<i>Total Operating Cash Disbursements</i>	36,060
<i>Operating Income</i>	39,304
Non-Operating Receipts (Disbursements)	
Earnings on Investments	5
Miscellaneous Receipts	525
Capital Outlay	(527)
Principal Retirement	(14,186)
Interest and Other Fiscal Charges	(3,141)
<i>Total Non-Operating Receipts (Disbursements)</i>	(17,324)
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balance</i>	21,980
<i>Fund Cash Balance, January 1</i>	116,424
<i>Fund Cash Balance, December 31</i>	\$138,404

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

**VILLAGE OF HELENA
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (CASH BASIS)
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2013**

	General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts			
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$16,779		\$16,779
Intergovernmental	11,410	\$ 13,010	24,420
Charges for Services	15,285		15,285
Earnings on Investments	93	47	140
Miscellaneous	6,206		6,206
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>49,773</u>	<u>13,057</u>	<u>62,830</u>
Cash Disbursements			
Current:			
Security of Persons and Property	4,560		4,560
Public Health Services	784		784
Leisure Time Activities	1,129		1,129
Community Environment	9,602		9,602
Basic Utility Services	13,386		13,386
Transportation		7,589	7,589
General Government	30,475		30,475
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>59,936</u>	<u>7,589</u>	<u>67,525</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	(10,163)	5,468	(4,695)
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>247,763</u>	<u>170,022</u>	<u>417,785</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31			
Restricted		175,490	175,490
Assigned	6,795		6,795
Unassigned	230,805		230,805
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u>\$237,600</u>	<u>\$175,490</u>	<u>\$413,090</u>

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

**VILLAGE OF HELENA
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS
AND CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE (CASH BASIS)
PROPRIETARY FUND TYPE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2013**

	<u>Proprietary Fund Type</u>
	<u>Enterprise</u>
Operating Cash Receipts	
Charges for Services	\$73,767
Operating Cash Disbursements	
Personal Services	7,977
Employee Fringe Benefits	225
Contractual Services	29,967
<i>Total Operating Cash Disbursements</i>	38,169
<i>Operating Income</i>	35,598
Non-Operating Receipts (Disbursements)	
Earnings on Investments	5
Miscellaneous Receipts	25
Capital Outlay	(5,369)
Principal Retirement	(15,350)
Interest and Other Fiscal Charges	(3,248)
Other Financing Sources	1,737
<i>Total Non-Operating Receipts (Disbursements)</i>	(22,200)
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balance</i>	13,398
<i>Fund Cash Balance, January 1</i>	103,026
<i>Fund Cash Balance, December 31</i>	\$116,424

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

**VILLAGE OF HELENA
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013**

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 Village of Helena, Sandusky County, Ohio (the Village) as a body corporate and politic. A publicly-elected six-member Council directs the Village. The Village provides sewer utilities and park operations.

The Village participates in a public entity risk pool. Note 7 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity. This entity is:

Public Entity Risk Pool:

The Village belongs to the Public Entities Pool of Ohio (PEP), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio local governments. PEP provides property and casualty coverage for its members.

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

B. Accounting Basis

These financial statements follow 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). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Board 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 financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit.

C. Fund Accounting

The Village uses fund accounting to segregate cash that is restricted as to use. The Village classifies its funds into the following types:

1. General Fund

The General Fund accounts for and reports all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund.

2. Special Revenue Funds

These funds account for and report the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditure for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects. The Village had the following significant Special Revenue Fund:

VILLAGE OF HELENA
SANDUSKY COUNTY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013
(Continued)

Street Construction, Maintenance and Repair Fund - This fund receives gasoline tax and motor vehicle tax money for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Village streets.

3. Enterprise Fund

This fund accounts for operations that are similar to private business enterprises, where management intends to recover the significant costs of providing certain goods or services through user charges. The Village had the following significant Enterprise Fund:

Sewer Fund - This fund receives charges for services from residents to cover sewer service costs.

D. Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund be budgeted annually.

E. 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 Village Council 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.

3. Encumbrances

The Ohio Revised Code requires the Village 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 2014 and 2013 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

E. Fund Balance

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

1. Nonspendable

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

VILLAGE OF HELENA
SANDUSKY COUNTY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013
(Continued)

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

Council can *commit* amounts via formal action (resolution). The Village must adhere to these commitments unless the Council amends 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 Village Council or a Village official delegated that authority by resolution, or by State Statute.

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 Village 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.

F. Property, Plant, and Equipment

The Village records disbursements for acquisitions of property, plant, and equipment when paid. The accompanying financial statements do not report these items as assets.

2. Equity in Pooled Deposits

The Village 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:

**VILLAGE OF HELENA
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013
(Continued)**

	2014	2013
Demand deposits	\$235,230	\$215,210
Other time deposits (savings and NOW accounts)	314,303	314,304
Total deposits	\$549,533	\$529,514

Deposits: 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 ending December 31, 2014 and 2013 follows:

2014 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$50,580	\$56,872	\$6,292
Special Revenue	32,581	31,690	(891)
Enterprise	80,105	75,894	(4,211)
Total	\$163,266	\$164,456	\$1,190

2014 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$62,375	\$52,282	\$10,093
Special Revenue	58,956	38,241	20,715
Enterprise	75,752	53,914	21,838
Total	\$197,083	\$144,437	\$52,646

2013 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$53,180	\$49,773	(\$3,407)
Special Revenue	12,490	13,057	567
Enterprise	75,015	75,534	519
Total	\$140,685	\$138,364	(\$2,321)

2013 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$73,000	\$59,936	\$13,064
Special Revenue	21,550	7,589	13,961
Enterprise	78,820	62,136	16,684
Total	\$173,370	\$129,661	\$43,709

**VILLAGE OF HELENA
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013
(Continued)**

4. Property Tax

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Council 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 Village.

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

5. Debt

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2014 was as follows:

	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>
Ohio Water Development Authority Loan #5428	\$94,590	0%
Ohio Water Development Authority Loan #6088	300,917	1%
Total	<u>\$395,507</u>	

The Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) loan #5428 relates to a wastewater system project the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency mandated. The OWDA approved up to \$111,283 in loans to the Village for this project. The Village will repay the loans in semiannual installments of \$2,782 over 20 years. The Village has agreed to set utility rates sufficient to cover OWDA debt service requirements.

The Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) loan #6088 relates to a wastewater system project the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency mandated as well as functioning as a consolidation loan. The OWDA approved \$334,832 in loans to the Village for this project. The Village will repay the loan in semiannual installments of \$6,372, including interest starting in July of 2015, through January of 2042. This Village has agreed to set utility rates sufficient to cover OWDA debt service requirements.

Amortization of the above debt, including interest, is scheduled as follows:

**VILLAGE OF HELENA
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013
(Continued)**

Year ending December 31:	OWDA Loan #5428	OWDA Loan #6088
2015	\$5,564	\$6,372
2016	5,564	12,745
2017	5,564	12,745
2018	5,564	12,745
2019	5,564	12,745
2020-2024	27,820	63,725
2025-2029	27,820	63,725
2030-2034	11,130	63,725
2035-2039		62,725
2040-2042		31,862
Total	\$94,590	\$343,114

6. Retirement System

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

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2014 and 2013, OPERS members contributed 10% of their gross salaries and the Village contributed an amount equaling 14% of participants' gross salaries. The Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2014.

7. Risk Management

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

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

The Village belongs to the Public Entities Pool of Ohio (PEP), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio local governments. PEP provides property and casualty coverage for its members. American Risk Pooling Consultants, Inc. (ARPCO), a division of York Insurance Services Group, Inc. (York), functions as the administrator of PEP and provides underwriting, claims, loss control, risk management, and reinsurance services for PEP. PEP is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP), which is also administered by ARPCO. Member governments pay annual contributions to fund PEP. PEP pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

Casualty and Property Coverage

APEEP provides PEP with an excess risk-sharing program. Under this arrangement, PEP retains insured risks up to an amount specified in the contracts. At December 31, 2013, PEP retained \$350,000 for casualty claims and \$100,000 for property claims.

The aforementioned casualty and property reinsurance agreement does not discharge PEP's

**VILLAGE OF HELENA
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013
(Continued)**

primary liability for claims payments on covered losses. Claims exceeding coverage limits are the obligation of the respective government.

Financial Position

PEP's financial statements (audited by other accountants) conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and net position at December 31, 2012 and 2013 (the latest information available):

	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>
Assets	\$34,389,569	\$34,411,883
Liabilities	<u>(14,208,353)</u>	<u>(12,760,194)</u>
Net Position	<u>\$20,181,216</u>	<u>\$21,651,689</u>

At December 31, 2012 and 2013, respectively, the liabilities above include approximately \$13.1 million and \$11.6 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets above also include approximately \$12.6 million and \$11.1 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 475 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2012 and 2013, respectively. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. As of December 31, 2014, the Village's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$3,000.

Based on discussions with PEP, the expected rates PEP 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 PEP for each year of membership.

<u>Contributions to PEP</u>	
<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
\$4,485	\$4,624

After one year of membership, a member may withdraw on the anniversary of the date of joining PEP, if the member notifies PEP 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 PEP. 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. Miscellaneous Receipts

In 2013, General Fund Miscellaneous receipts consist largely of proceeds from insurance claims and refunds.

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Dave Yost • Auditor of State

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

Village of Helena
Sandusky County
504 Church Street
Helena, Ohio 43435-9810

To the Village Council:

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 the Village of Helena, Sandusky County, Ohio (the Village), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, and the related notes to the financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated June 18, 2015 wherein we noted the Village followed financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-1-03(D) permit.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

As part of our financial statement audit, we considered the Village'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 Village's internal control. Accordingly, we have not opined on it.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Therefore, unidentified material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist. However, as described in the accompanying schedule of findings we identified a certain deficiency in internal control over financial reporting, that we consider a material weakness.

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 Village'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. We consider finding 2014-001 described in the accompanying schedule of findings to be a material weakness.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of reasonably assuring whether the Village'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*.

Entity's Response to Findings

The Village's response to the finding identified in our audit is described in the accompanying schedule of findings. We did not audit the Village's response and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

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 Village's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed under *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Village's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



Dave Yost
Auditor of State

Columbus, Ohio

June 18, 2014

**VILLAGE OF HELENA
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013**

**FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS**

FINDING NUMBER 2014-001

Material Weakness

Financial Reporting

The Village's management is responsible for the fair presentation of the financial statements. Errors were noted in the financial statements resulting in the following audit adjustments:

- During 2014, intergovernmental receipts in General Fund and Permissive Motor Vehicle License Fund were misclassified as taxes in the amount of \$3,761 and \$19,807, respectively.
- During 2013, intergovernmental receipts in General Fund were misclassified as taxes and miscellaneous receipts in the amount of \$3,699.

These errors were a result of inadequate policies and procedures in reviewing the financial statements. The accompanying financial statements have been adjusted to correct these errors. Additional unadjusted errors were noted in smaller relative amounts and included on the summary of unadjusted differences.

To ensure the Village's financial statements and notes to the statements are complete and accurate, the Village should adopt policies and procedures, including a final review of the statements by the Fiscal Officer and Council to identify and correct errors and misclassifications.

Officials' Response:

We acknowledge errors were made and will properly post these transactions in the future.

VILLAGE OF HELENA
SANDUSKY COUNTY

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <i>Explain</i>
2012-001	Material weakness in financial reporting due to errors in financial statements.	No	Not corrected and repeated as Finding Number 2014-001 in this report.



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

VILLAGE OF HELENA

SANDUSKY 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
JULY 7, 2015**