

428 Second St.
Marietta, OH 45750
740.373.0056

1907 Grand Central Ave
Vienna, WV 26105
304.422.2203

104 South Sugar St
St. Clairsville, OH 43950
740.695.1569



Certified Public Accountants, A.C.

**BERLIN TOWNSHIP
MAHONING COUNTY
Agreed-Upon Procedures
For the Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014**

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...“bringing more to the table”

Tax– Accounting – Audit – Review – Compilation – Agreed Upon Procedure – Consultation – Bookkeeping – Payroll
Litigation Support – Financial Investigations

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- Association of Certified Anti - Money Laundering Specialists •



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

Board of Trustees
Berlin Township
15823 Akron-Canfield Road
Berlin Center, OH 44401

We have reviewed the *Independent Accountants' Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures* of Berlin Township, Mahoning County, prepared by Perry & Associates, Certified Public Accountants, A.C., for the period January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2015. Based upon this review, we have accepted this report in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code.

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. Berlin 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

December 6, 2016

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**BERLIN TOWNSHIP
MAHONING COUNTY**

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

October 12, 2016

Berlin Township
Mahoning County
15823 Akron-Canfield Road
Berlin Center, OH 44401

We have performed the procedures enumerated below, with which the Board of Trustees and the management of **Berlin Township**, Mahoning County (the Township) and the Auditor of State agreed, solely to assist the Board in evaluating receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in their cash-basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances. Management is responsible for recording transactions; and management and the Board are responsible for complying with the compliance requirements. This agreed-upon procedures engagement was conducted in accordance with the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants' attestation standards and applicable attestation engagement standards included in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. The sufficiency of the procedures is solely the responsibility of the parties specified in this report. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

This report only describes exceptions exceeding \$10.

Cash

1. We tested the mathematical accuracy of the December 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014 bank reconciliations. We found no exceptions.
2. We agreed the January 1, 2014 beginning fund balances recorded in the Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balances to the December 31, 2013 balances in the prior year audited statements. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the January 1, 2015 beginning fund balances recorded in the Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balances to the December 31, 2014 balances in the Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balances. We found no exceptions.
3. We agreed the totals per the bank reconciliations to the total of the December 31, 2015 and 2014 fund cash balances reported in the Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balances. The amounts agreed.

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Cash (Continued)

4. We confirmed the December 31, 2015 bank account balances with the Township's financial institution. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the confirmed balances to the amounts appearing in the December 31, 2015 bank reconciliation without exception.
5. We selected five reconciling debits (such as outstanding checks) haphazardly from the December 31, 2015 bank reconciliation:
 - a. We traced each debit to the subsequent January bank statement. We found no exceptions.
 - b. We traced the amounts and dates to the check register, to determine the debits were dated prior to December 31. We noted no exceptions.

Property Taxes, Intergovernmental and Other Confirmable Cash Receipts

1. We selected a property tax receipt from one *Statement of Semiannual Apportionment of Taxes* (the *Statement*) for 2015 and one from 2014:
 - a. We traced the gross receipts from the *Statement* to the amount recorded in the Revenue Ledger. We also traced the advances noted on the *Statement* to the Revenue Ledger. The amounts agreed.
 - b. We determined whether the receipt was allocated to the proper funds as required by Ohio Rev. Code Sections 5705.05-.06 and 5705.10. We found no exceptions.
 - c. We determined whether the receipt was recorded in the proper year. The receipt was recorded in the proper year.
2. We scanned the Revenue Ledger to determine whether it included two real estate tax receipts for 2015 and 2014. We noted the Revenue Ledger included the proper number of tax receipts for each year.
3. We selected five receipts from the State Distribution Transaction Lists (DTL) from 2015 and five from 2014. We also selected five receipts from the Mahoning County Auditor's Vendor Payment Details from 2015 and five from 2014.
 - a. We compared the amount from the above reports to the amount recorded in the Revenue Ledger. The amounts agreed.
 - b. We determined whether these receipts were allocated to the proper funds. We found no exceptions.
 - c. We determined whether the receipts were recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.
4. We confirmed the amount paid from Sunoco Pipeline L.P. to the Township during 2014 to the supporting documentation. We found no exceptions.
 - a. We determined whether these receipts were allocated to the proper fund. We found no exceptions.
 - b. We determined whether the receipts were recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.

Debt

1. From the prior audit documentation, we noted the following notes and loans outstanding as of December 31, 2013. These amounts agreed to the Townships January 1, 2014 balances on the summary we used in step 3, except for the Fire Apparatus loan. The prior audit did not properly disclose the outstanding principal balance. The correct amount was \$184,475 as noted in the table below.

Issue	Principal outstanding as of December 31, 2013:
OPWC Weaver Road Safety Upgrade	\$117,858
OPWC Shenandoah Drive Resurfacing	\$17,210
Fire Apparatus	\$184,475
Road Truck	\$75,000

2. We inquired of management, and scanned the Revenue Ledger and Appropriation Ledger for evidence of debt issued during 2015 or 2014 or debt payment activity during 2015 or 2014. All debt noted agreed to the summary we used in step 3.
3. We obtained a summary of note and loan debt activity for 2015 and 2014 and agreed principal and interest payments from the related debt amortization schedules to the Fire District, Permissive Motor Vehicle License Tax, and General Retirement fund payments reported in the Appropriation Ledger. We also compared the date the debt service payments were due to the date the Township made the payments. We noted that the Township did not properly allocate principal and interest payments for the Fire Apparatus and Road Truck loans in 2014 and 2015. We found no other exceptions.

Payroll Cash Disbursements

1. We haphazardly selected one payroll check for five employees from 2015 and one payroll check for five employees from 2014 from the Wage Detail Report and:
 - a. We compared the hours and pay rate, or salary recorded in the Wage Detail Report to supporting documentation (timecard, legislatively or statutorily-approved rate or salary). We found no exceptions.
 - b. We determined whether the fund and account codes to which the check was posted were reasonable based on the employees' duties as documented in the minute record or as required by state statute. We also determined whether the payment was posted to the proper year. We found no exceptions.
2. We scanned the last remittance of tax and retirement withholdings for the year ended December 31, 2015 to determine whether remittances were timely paid, and if the amounts paid agreed to the amounts withheld, plus the employer's share where applicable, during the final withholding period of 2015. We noted the following:

Payroll Cash Disbursements (Continued)

Withholding (plus employer share, where applicable)	Date Due	Date Paid	Amount Due	Amount Paid
Federal income taxes & Medicare (and social security, for employees not enrolled in pension system)	January 31, 2016	December 21, 2015	\$2,653.85	\$2,653.85
State income taxes	January 15, 2016	December 22, 2015	\$439.35	\$439.35
OPERS retirement	January 30, 2016	December 22, 2015	\$1,928.67	\$1,928.67

3. For the pay periods ended October 31, 2015 and February 28, 2014, we recomputed the allocation of the Boards' salaries to the General and Gasoline Tax Funds per the Wage Detail Report. We found no exceptions.
4. For the pay periods described in the preceding step, we traced the Boards' salaries for time or services performed to supporting certifications the Revised Code requires. We found no exceptions.
5. We inquired of management and scanned the Appropriation Ledger for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, to determine if township employees and/or officers were reimbursed for out-of-pocket insurance premiums. We noted that the Fiscal Officer and one Trustee were reimbursed, under ORC 505.60 or 505.601 for out-of-pocket insurance premiums relating to the spouse of each such officer, and that those reimbursements were for Medicare Part B and Part D premiums.

It is the position of the Ohio Auditor of State that such reimbursements are unallowable under ORC 505.60 for insurance premiums incurred on behalf of the spouse or other dependent of an officer or employee of an Ohio township who accepts and receives insurance coverage provided by his or her Township employer. The Mahoning County Prosecutor's Office, statutory counsel to Berlin Township, has offered a contrary opinion. The Mahoning County Prosecuting Attorney's Office has solicited from the Ohio Attorney General a formal opinion on this issue. The Township has agreed to suspend the practice of the subject reimbursements under ORC 505.60 until such time as the statutory section is amended to permit the practice, or until the Attorney General issues an opinion which indicates that the practice of these reimbursements is permissible under existing law. No other exceptions were noted.

Non-Payroll Cash Disbursements

1. We haphazardly selected ten disbursements from the Appropriation Ledger for the year ended December 31, 2015 and ten from the year ended 2014 and determined whether:
 - a. The disbursements were for a proper public purpose. We found no exceptions.
 - b. The check number, date, payee name and amount recorded on the returned, canceled check agreed to the check number, date, payee name and amount recorded in the Appropriation Ledger and to the names and amounts on the supporting invoices. We found no exceptions.
 - c. The payment was posted to a fund consistent with the restricted purpose for which the fund's cash can be used. We found no exceptions.

Non-Payroll Cash Disbursements (Continued)

- d. The fiscal officer certified disbursements requiring certification or issued a *Then and Now Certificate*, as required by Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D). We found no exceptions.

Compliance – Budgetary

1. We compared the total estimated receipts from the *Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources*, required by Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.36(A)(1), to the amounts recorded in the Revenue Status Report for the General, Motor Vehicle License Tax and Gasoline Tax funds for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014. The amounts agreed.
2. We scanned the appropriation measures adopted for 2015 and 2014 to determine whether, for the General, Motor Vehicle License Tax and Gasoline Tax funds, the Trustees appropriated separately for “each office, department, and division, and within each, the amount appropriated for personal services,” as is required by Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.38(C). We found no exceptions.
3. We compared total appropriations required by Ohio Rev. Code Sections 5705.38 and 5705.40, to the amounts recorded in the Appropriation Status Report for 2015 and 2014 for the following funds: General, Motor Vehicle License Tax and Gasoline Tax funds. The amounts on the appropriation resolutions agreed to the amounts recorded in the Appropriation Status Report.
4. Ohio Rev. Code Sections 5705.36(A)(5) and 5705.39 prohibits appropriations from exceeding the certified resources. We compared total appropriations to total certified resources for the General, Motor Vehicle License Tax and Gasoline Tax funds for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014. We noted no funds for which appropriations exceeded certified resources.
5. Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(B) prohibits expenditures (disbursements plus certified commitments) from exceeding appropriations. We compared total expenditures to total appropriations for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014 for the General, Motor Vehicle License Tax and Gasoline Tax funds, as recorded in the Appropriation Status Report. We noted no funds for which expenditures exceeded appropriations.
6. Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.09 requires establishing separate funds to segregate externally-restricted resources. We scanned the Revenue Ledger for evidence of new restricted receipts requiring a new fund during December 31, 2015 and 2014. We also inquired of management regarding whether the Township received new restricted receipts. We noted no evidence of new restricted receipts for which Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.09 would require the Township to establish a new fund.
7. We scanned the 2015 and 2014 Revenue Status Reports and Appropriation Status Reports for evidence of interfund transfers exceeding \$1,000 which Ohio Rev. Code Sections 5705.14 - .16 restrict. We found no evidence of transfers these Sections prohibit, or for which Section 5705.16 would require approval by the Tax Commissioner and Court of Common Pleas.
8. We inquired of management and scanned the Appropriation Status Reports to determine whether the Township elected to establish reserve accounts permitted by Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.13. We noted the Township did not establish these reserves.

Compliance – Budgetary (Continued)

9. We scanned the Cash Summary by Fund Report for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014 for negative cash fund balance. Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.10 (I) provides that money paid into a fund must be used for the purposes for which such fund is established. As a result, a negative fund cash balance indicates that money from one fund was used to cover the expenses of another. We noted no funds having a negative cash fund balance.

Compliance – Contracts & Expenditures

We inquired of management and scanned the Appropriation Ledger for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014 to determine if the township proceeded by force account (i.e. used its own employees) to maintain or repair roads (cost of project \$15,000-\$45,000) or to construct or reconstruct township roads (cost of project \$5,000-\$15,000/per mile) for which Ohio Rev. Code Section 5575.01 requires the county engineer to complete a force account project assessment form (i.e., cost estimate). We identified no projects requiring the county engineer to complete a force account cost estimate.

Other Compliance

1. Ohio Rev. Code Section 117.38 requires townships to file their financial information in the HINKLE system formerly known as the Annual Financial Data Reporting System (AFDRS) within 60 days after the close of the fiscal year. We reviewed AFDRS to verify the Township filed their financial information within the allotted timeframe for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014. No exceptions noted.

We were not engaged to, and did not conduct an examination, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion on the Township's receipts, disbursements, balances and compliance with certain laws and regulations. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, those charged with governance the Auditor of State, and others within the Township, and is not intended to be, and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.



Perry and Associates
Certified Public Accountants, A.C.
Marietta, Ohio



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

BERLIN TOWNSHIP

MAHONING 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
DECEMBER 20, 2016**