

Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs, Inc.

Accounting, Auditing and Consulting Services for Federal, State and Local Governments <u>www.bhscpas.com</u>

PLEASANT TOWNSHIP FAIRFIELD COUNTY

REGULAR AUDIT

For the Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014 Fiscal Years Audited Under GAGAS: 2015 and 2014

bhs Circleville Piketon Columbus



Board of Trustees Pleasant Township 1170 Hillbrook Drive NE Lancaster, Ohio 43130

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of Pleasant Township, Fairfield County, prepared by Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs, Inc., for the audit period January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2015. 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. Pleasant Township is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

Dave Yost Auditor of State

September 21, 2106



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Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs, Inc.

Accounting, Auditing and Consulting Services for Federal, State and Local Governments $\underline{www.bhscpas.com}$

Independent Auditor's Report

Pleasant Township Fairfield County 1170 Hillbrook Drive NE Lancaster, Ohio 43130-1101

To the Board of Trustees:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the cash balances, receipts and disbursements by fund type, and related notes of Pleasant Township, Fairfield County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014.

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.

Board of Trustees Pleasant Township, Fairfield County Independent Auditor's Report Page 2

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.

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 Government 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 Township as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, 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 Pleasant Township, Fairfield County, as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, 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 24, 2016, 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 & Schern, CPAs Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs, Inc.

Piketon, Ohio June 24, 2016

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015

	Governmental Fund Types				_		
	G	eneral	Special Revenue		pital ojects	(Me	Totals emorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:							
Property Taxes	\$	62,488	\$ 1,214,886	\$	-	\$	1,277,374
Charges for Services		-	124,444				124,444
Licenses, Permits and Fees Intergovernmental		60,469 53,313	8,260 313,496	1	- 51 265		68,729 518,074
Earnings on Investments		11,309	149	1	51,265		11,458
Miscellaneous		21,150	9,339				30,489
Total Cash Receipts		208,729	1,670,574	1	51,265		2,030,568
Cash Disbursements:							
Current: General Government		153,478	16,128		_		169,606
Public Safety		-	994,489		_		994,489
Public Works		_	453,231		-		453,231
Health		36,840	· -		-		36,840
Capital Outlay		550	440,865	3	87,549		828,964
Total Cash Disbursements		190,868	1,904,713	3	87,549		2,483,130
Excess of Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements		17,861	(234,139)	(2	36,284)		(452,562)
Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements):							
Proceeds from Sale of Public Debt:			2.50				2.50
Sale of Fixed Assets		-	350		-		350
Transfers-In		- (- 000)	5,000		67,535		72,535
Transfers-Out		(5,000)	(67,535)				(72,535)
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)		(5,000)	(62,185)		67,535		350
Extraordinary Item			305,117				305,117
Net Change in Fund Cash Balances		12,861	8,793	(1	68,749)		(147,095)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	1.	,689,143	2,040,176	4	24,500		4,153,819
Fund Cash Balances, December 31							
Restricted		-	2,045,949	2	55,751		2,301,700
Committed		-	3,020		-		3,020
Unassigned	1,	,702,004					1,702,004
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$ 1.	,702,004	\$ 2,048,969	\$ 2	55,751	\$	4,006,724

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

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

	Gov	_		
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:				
Property Taxes	\$ 61,695	\$ 1,196,323	\$ -	\$ 1,258,018
Charges for Services		126,353		126,353
Licenses, Permits and Fees	60,196	9,290	-	69,486
Intergovernmental	48,772	288,129	-	336,901
Earnings on Investments	15,111	350	-	15,461
Miscellaneous	23,178	200,716		223,894
Total Cash Receipts	208,952	1,821,161		2,030,113
Cash Disbursements:				
Current:				
General Government	129,281	15,897	-	145,178
Public Safety	-	939,742	-	939,742
Public Works	-	485,948	-	485,948
Health	37,258	107.042	-	37,258
Capital Outlay	765	127,943		128,708
Total Cash Disbursements	167,304	1,569,530		1,736,834
Excess of Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	41,648	251,631	-	293,279
Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements):				
Sale of Fixed Assets	_	1,360	_	1,360
Transfers-In	_	-	224,500	224,500
Transfers-Out	_	(224,500)	-	(224,500)
Transfers out		(22 1,300)		(22 1,300)
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)		(223,140)	224,500	1,360
Net Change in Fund Cash Balances	41,648	28,491	224,500	294,639
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	1,647,495	2,011,685	200,000	3,859,180
Fund Cash Balances, December 31				
Restricted	_	2,034,288	424,500	2,458,788
Committed	_	5,888		5,888
Unassigned	1,689,143	-	_	1,689,143
	1,007,113			1,007,113
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$ 1,689,143	\$ 2,040,176	\$ 424,500	\$ 4,153,819

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014

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

The Township participates in jointly governed organizations and a public entity risk pool Notes 8 and 12 to the financial statements provides additional information for these entities. These organizations are:

Public Entity Risk Pool:

The Township participates in the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA) public entity risk pool. Note 8 to the financial statements provide additional information for this entity

Jointly Governed Organizations:

A jointly governed organization is a regional government or other multigovernmental arrangement that is governed by representatives from each of the governments that create the organization, but that is not a joint venture because the participants do not retain an ongoing financial interest. The Township participates in the Fairfield County Regional Planning Commission, a forty-eight member board Note 12 to the financial statements provide additional information for 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 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. Deposits and Investments

The Township's accounting basis includes investments as assets. This basis does not record disbursements for investment purchases or receipts for investment sales. This basis records gains or losses at the time of sale as receipts or disbursements, respectively.

The Township values U.S. Treasury Notes and common stock at cost. Money market mutual funds (including STAR Ohio) are recorded at share values the mutual funds report

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

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 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 Township had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

<u>Road and Bridge Fund</u> - This fund receives property tax money for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads and bridges.

<u>Emergency Medical Services and Fire Fund</u> - This fund receives tax levy revenue as well as payments for services provide

4. Capital Project Funds

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 funds

OPWC - The Fund receives grant revenue

Fire Apparatus – Receives transfers from Fire Operations Fund

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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (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 2015 and 2014 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.

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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

G. Property, Plant, and Equipment

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

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 DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

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

	2015	2014
Demand deposits	\$ 2,956,662	\$ 2,941,522
Certificates of Deposits	1,050,062_	1,212,297
Total deposits	\$ 4,006,724	\$ 4,153,819

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

Investments in STAR Ohio and mutual funds are not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book-entry form.

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31 follows:

2015 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$184,063	\$208,729	\$24,666
Special Revenue	1,892,200	1,675,924	(216,276)
Capital Projects	277,160	218,800	(58,360)
Total	\$2,353,423	\$2,103,453	(\$249,970)

2015 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Appropriation	Budgetary	
Authority	Expenditures	Variance
\$221,564	\$195,868	\$25,696
2,458,721	1,972,248	486,473
451,660	387,549	64,111
\$3,131,945	\$2,555,665	\$576,280
	Authority \$221,564 2,458,721 451,660	Authority Expenditures \$221,564 \$195,868 2,458,721 1,972,248 451,660 387,549

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014 (Continued)

3. **BUDGETARY ACTIVITY (Continued)**

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	Budgeted	Actual				
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance			
General	\$176,728	\$208,952	\$32,224			
Special Revenue	2,010,935	1,821,161	(189,774)			
Capital Projects	224,500	224,500				
Total	\$2,412,163	\$2,254,613	(\$157,550)			

2014 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	_
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$240,337	\$167,304	\$73,033
Special Revenue	2,080,796	1,569,530	511,266
Total	\$2,321,133	\$1,736,834	\$584,299

4. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Trustees adopted tax rates. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. The financial statements include homestead and rollback amounts the State pays as Intergovernmental Receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to pay semiannually, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

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

5. INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS

Interfund transfers for the year ended June 30, 2015, consisted of the following, as reported on the fund statements:

<u>Transfers from the General fund to:</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Zoning fund	\$ 5,000
Transfers from the fire operations fund to:	Amount
Fire apparatus fund	\$ 67,535

Interfund transfers for the year ended June 30, 2014, consisted of the following, as reported on the fund statements:

Transfers from the Fire operation fund to:	 Amount
Fire apparatus fund	\$ 224,500

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014 (Continued)

5. INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS (Continued)

Transfers are used to move revenues from the fund that statute or budget required to collect them to the fund that statute or budget requires to expend them and to use unrestricted revenues collected in the general fund to finance various programs accounted for in other funds in accordance with budgetary authorizations. Interfund transfers between governmental funds are eliminated on the government-wide financial statements.

6. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

The Township's certified Fire Fighters belong to the Police and Fire Pension Fund (OP&F). Other employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OP&F and OPERS are cost-sharing, multiple-employer plans. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes these plans' benefits, which include postretirement healthcare and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2015 and 2014, OP&F participants contributed 11.5% of their wages. For 2015 and 2014, the Township contributed to OP&F an amount equal to 24% of full-time fire fighters' wages. For 2015 and 2014, OPERS members contributed 13,654 and 10%, respectively, of their gross salaries and the Township contributed an amount equaling 19,116 and 14%, respectively, of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2015.

7. 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. 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.

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, 2015, 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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014 (Continued)

7. RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)

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, 2015 and 2014:

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Assets	\$37,313,311	\$35,970,263
Liabilities	8,418,518	8,912,432
Net Position	\$28,894,793	\$27,057,831

At December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively, the liabilities above include approximately \$7.8 and \$8.2 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets above also include approximately \$7.7 and \$7.2 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 989 members and 957 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. As of December 31, 2015, the Township's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$11,000.

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		
<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	
\$21,646	\$ 22,174	

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.

8. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Amounts grantor agencies pay to the township are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor, principally the federal government. 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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014 (Continued)

9. JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS

The Township appoints a person to represent the Township on the 48 member board of the Fairfield Regional Planning Commission. The Township pays a small membership fee annually. The fee is based on the per capita of the Township. There is no ongoing financial interest or responsibility by the Township.



Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs, Inc.

Accounting, Auditing and Consulting Services for Federal, State and Local Governments <u>www.bhscpas.com</u>

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

PleasantTownship Fairfield County 1170 Hillbrook Drive NE Lancaster, Ohio 43130-1101

To the Board of Trustees:

bhs

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 Pleasant Township, Fairfield County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the related notes to the financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated June 24, 2016 wherein we noted the Township followed financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 permit.

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 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.

Board of Trustees PleasantTownship, Fairfield County Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by *Government Auditing Standards* Page 2

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, Inc.

Balestra, Ham & Schern, CPAs

Piketon, Ohio June 24, 2016





PLEASANT 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.

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

Susan Babbitt

CERTIFIED OCTOBER 4, 2016