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Wheeling, WV 26003
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Certified Public Accountants, A.C.

**LEXINGTON TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY
Regular Audit**

For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015

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- Association of Certified Anti - Money Laundering Specialists •



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

Board of Trustees
Lexington Township
14555 Gaskill Drive Northeast
Alliance, Ohio 44601

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of Lexington Township, Stark County, prepared by Perry & Associates, Certified Public Accountants, A.C., for the audit period January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2016. 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. The Lexington Township is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dave Yost".

Dave Yost
Auditor of State

September 8, 2017

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**LEXINGTON TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY**

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

June 30, 2017

Lexington Township
Stark County
14555 Gaskill Drive NE
Alliance, Ohio 44601

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 **Lexington Township**, Stark County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015.

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 opinions.

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

As described in Note 2 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 (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 Township 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 Lexington Township, Stark County as of December 31, 2016 and 2015, 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 Lexington Township, Stark County as of December 31, 2016 and 2015, 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 2.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 30, 2017, 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.



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

**LEXINGTON TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (REGULATORY CASH BASIS)
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016**

	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 7,581	\$ 660,148	\$ -	\$ 667,729
Licenses, Permits and Fees	59,913	-	-	59,913
Fines and Forfeitures	5,877	-	-	5,877
Intergovernmental	46,004	288,735	-	334,739
Special Assessments	1,216	-	-	1,216
Earnings on Investments	86	7	-	93
Miscellaneous	517	715	-	1,232
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>121,194</u>	<u>949,605</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,070,799</u>
Cash Disbursements				
Current:				
General Government	130,028	-	-	130,028
Public Safety	8,363	451,463	-	459,826
Public Works	-	410,577	-	410,577
Health	9,597	-	-	9,597
Human Services	-	20,000	-	20,000
Other	-	1,740	-	1,740
Capital Outlay	-	10,741	-	10,741
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>147,988</u>	<u>894,521</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,042,509</u>
<i>Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>	<u>(26,794)</u>	<u>55,084</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>28,290</u>
Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)				
Transfers In	-	-	26,396	26,396
Transfers Out	-	(26,396)	-	(26,396)
<i>Total Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)</i>	<u>-</u>	<u>(26,396)</u>	<u>26,396</u>	<u>-</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	<u>(26,794)</u>	<u>28,688</u>	<u>26,396</u>	<u>28,290</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>49,218</u>	<u>275,729</u>	<u>473,604</u>	<u>798,551</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31				
Restricted	-	250,859	-	250,859
Committed	-	53,558	500,000	553,558
Unassigned	22,424	-	-	22,424
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u>\$ 22,424</u>	<u>\$ 304,417</u>	<u>\$ 500,000</u>	<u>\$ 826,841</u>

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

LEXINGTON TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY

COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (REGULATORY CASH BASIS)
FIDUCIARY FUND TYPE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

	<u>Agency</u>
Operating Cash Receipts	
Miscellaneous	<u>\$ 6,660</u>
<i>Total Operating Cash Receipts</i>	<u>6,660</u>
Operating Cash Disbursements	
Other	<u>20,000</u>
<i>Total Operating Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>20,000</u>
<i>Operating Income (Loss)</i>	(13,340)
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>20,000</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u><u>\$ 6,660</u></u>

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

**LEXINGTON TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY**

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

	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 7,015	\$ 645,755	\$ -	\$ 652,770
Licenses, Permits and Fees	66,695	-	-	66,695
Fines and Forfeitures	4,828	-	-	4,828
Intergovernmental	51,556	289,201	-	340,757
Special Assessments	1,500	-	-	1,500
Earnings on Investments	88	6	-	94
Miscellaneous	-	4,900	-	4,900
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>131,682</u>	<u>939,862</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,071,544</u>
Cash Disbursements				
Current:				
General Government	149,618	-	-	149,618
Public Safety	11,643	405,822	-	417,465
Public Works	-	431,666	-	431,666
Health	9,179	-	-	9,179
Human Services	-	11,109	-	11,109
Other	-	3,183	-	3,183
Capital Outlay	-	30,037	-	30,037
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>170,440</u>	<u>881,817</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,052,257</u>
<i>Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>	<u>(38,758)</u>	<u>58,045</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19,287</u>
Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)				
Sale of Capital Assets	8,941	-	-	8,941
Transfer In	-	29,841	100,000	129,841
Transfers Out	(29,841)	(100,000)	-	(129,841)
Advances In	23,221	23,221	-	46,442
Advances Out	(23,221)	(23,221)	-	(46,442)
<i>Total Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)</i>	<u>(20,900)</u>	<u>(70,159)</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>8,941</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	<u>(59,658)</u>	<u>(12,114)</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>28,228</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>108,876</u>	<u>287,843</u>	<u>373,604</u>	<u>770,323</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31				
Restricted	-	236,203	-	236,203
Committed	-	39,526	473,604	513,130
Unassigned	49,218	-	-	49,218
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u>\$ 49,218</u>	<u>\$ 275,729</u>	<u>\$ 473,604</u>	<u>\$ 798,551</u>

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

**LEXINGTON TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (REGULATORY CASH BASIS)
FIDUCIARY FUND TYPE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015**

	<u>Agency</u>
Operating Cash Receipts	
Miscellaneous	<u>\$ 20,000</u>
<i>Total Operating Cash Receipts</i>	<u>20,000</u>
<i>Operating Income</i>	20,000
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>-</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u><u>\$ 20,000</u></u>

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

**LEXINGTON TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND 2015**

Note 1 – Reporting Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of the Lexington Township, Stark 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, fire protection and emergency medical services. The Township contracts with the Stark County Sheriff's Department to provide police services.

Jointly Governed Organizations and Public Entity Risk Pools

The Township participates in one jointly governed organization and one public entity risk pool. Notes 6 and 10 to the financial statements provides additional information for these entities.

Public Entity Risk Pool:

Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA)

Jointly Governed Organizations:

Stark Council of Governments (the "Council")

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

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

The Township's financial statements consist of a combined statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balances (regulatory cash basis) for all governmental fund types, and a combined statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balances (regulatory cash basis) for all fiduciary fund types which are organized on a fund type basis.

Fund Accounting

The Township uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. The funds of the Township are presented below:

General Fund The general fund accounts for and reports all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund. The general fund balance is available to the Township for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

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:

Road and Bridge Fund This fund receives property tax money for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads and bridges.

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

Fire District Tax Fund This fund receives funds from a tax levy that was approved by Township residents for fire protection and emergency services.

**LEXINGTON TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND 2015
(Continued)**

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Fund Accounting (Continued)

Special Revenue Funds (Continued)

Police District Fund This fund receives funds from a tax levy that was approved by Township residents for police protection.

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 fund:

Fire Capital Projects Fund This fund has a cash balance to be used for the acquisition of Fire Department Vehicles and related apparatuses and equipment.

Fiduciary Funds Fiduciary funds include private purpose trust funds and agency funds. Trust funds account for assets held under a trust agreement for individuals, private organizations, or other governments which are not available to support the Township's own programs.

Agency Funds are purely custodial in nature and are used to hold resources for individuals, organizations or other governments. The Township disburses these funds as directed by the individual, organization or other government. The Township's agency fund accounts for the receipt and disbursement of insurance proceeds for structures damaged by fire.

Basis of Accounting

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.

Budgetary Process

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

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. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year-end.

Estimated Resources Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus unencumbered cash as of January 1. The County Budget Commission must approve estimated resources.

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

LEXINGTON TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND 2015
(Continued)

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

A summary of 2016 and 2015 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

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.

Capital Assets

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

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.

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:

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

**LEXINGTON TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND 2015
(Continued)**

Note 3 – Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the year ending 2016 and 2015 follows:

2016 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 126,291	\$ 121,194	\$ (5,097)
Special Revenue	934,774	949,605	14,831
Capital Projects	25,000	26,396	1,396
Fiduciary	-	6,660	6,660
Total	\$ 1,086,065	\$ 1,103,855	\$ 17,790

2016 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 170,619	\$ 148,208	\$ 22,411
Special Revenue	1,131,701	938,940	192,761
Fiduciary	20,000	20,000	-
Total	\$1,322,320	\$1,107,148	\$215,172

2015 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 126,609	\$ 140,623	\$ 14,014
Special Revenue	964,014	969,703	5,689
Capital Projects	100,000	100,000	-
Fiduciary	20,000	20,000	-
Total	\$ 1,210,623	\$ 1,230,326	\$ 19,703

2015 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 214,326	\$ 200,705	\$ 13,621
Special Revenue	1,203,230	1,014,954	188,276
Total	\$1,417,556	\$1,215,659	\$201,897

**LEXINGTON TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND 2015
(Continued)**

Note 4 – Deposits

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

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Demand deposits	<u>\$ 833,501</u>	<u>\$ 818,551</u>
Total deposits	<u>\$ 833,501</u>	<u>\$ 818,551</u>

Deposits

Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation or collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool.

Note 5 – Property Taxes

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.

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.

Note 6 - Risk Management

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

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

The Township belongs to the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio townships. OTARMA provides property and casualty coverage for its members. 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, 2016, 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.

**LEXINGTON TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND 2015
(Continued)**

Note 6 - 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, 2016 and 2015.

	2016	2015
Assets	\$38,473,283	\$37,313,311
Liabilities	\$8,244,140	\$8,418,518
Net Position	\$30,229,143	\$28,894,793

At December 31, 2016 and 2015, respectively, the liabilities above include approximately \$7.4 and \$7.8 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets above also include approximately \$6.9 and \$7.7 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 1,010 and 989 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2016 and 2015, respectively. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. As of December 31, 2016, the Township's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$16,000.

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.

<u>Contributions to OTARMA</u>	
<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
\$35,483	\$35,159

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.

Note 7 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Some 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.

**LEXINGTON TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND 2015
(Continued)**

Note 7 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans (Continued)

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (Continued)

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. 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, 2016 and 2015.

Social Security

Several Township employees contributed to Social Security. This plan provides retirement benefits, including survivor and disability benefits to participants.

Employees contributed 6.2 percent of their gross salaries. The Township contributed an amount equal to 6.2 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2016 and 2015.

Note 8 – Postemployment Benefits

OPERS offers cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plans, which includes multiple health care plans including medical coverage, prescription drug coverage, deposits to a Health Reimbursement Arrangement and Medicare Part B premium reimbursements, to qualifying benefit recipients. OPERS contributes 2 percent of the employer contribution to fund these benefits.

Note 9 – 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.

Note 10 – Jointly Governed Organizations

The Township participates in the Stark Council of Governments (the "Council"), which is a statutorily created political subdivision of the State for the purpose of providing a permanent forum for discussion and study of concerns of the county, cities, villages, and townships for development of policies and programs for implementation by one or more of the local governing bodies. The Council is jointly governed among Stark County, municipalities, and townships which consist of 38 members.

The Township appoints a representative and has a membership share based on the percentage of contractual financial contributions to the total funding. Each participant is entitled to vote its percentage share. The Board exercises total authority over the operation of the Council including budgeting, appropriating, contracting and designating management. Continued existence of the Council is not dependent on the Township's continued participation. The Council does not provide specific financial benefits or impose specific financial burdens to the Township. The Township did not make any contributions during the year and does not have an equity interest in the Council. Financial statements of the Council can be obtained from the Stark Council of Governments, 5320 Bridgecreek Avenue, NW, Canton, Ohio, 44718.

Note 11 – Transfers

During 2016 and 2015, the Fire Levy Special Revenue fund transferred \$26,396 and \$100,000, respectively, to the Capital Projects fund pursuant Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.13(c) to increase the balance in the Capital Reserve Fund designated to purchase a fire truck.



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

June 30, 2017

Lexington Township
Stark County
14555 Gaskill Drive NE
Alliance, Ohio 44601

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 the cash balances, receipts, and disbursements by fund type of **Lexington Township**, Stark County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, and the related notes to the financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated June 30, 2017, wherein we noted the Township followed financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) 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. Therefore, unidentified material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist. We did identify a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of audit findings that we consider a material weakness. We consider finding 2016-001 to be a material weakness.

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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*.

We also noted certain matters not requiring inclusion in this report that we reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated June 30, 2017.

Township's Response to Findings

The Township's response to the finding identified in our audit is described in the accompanying schedule of audit findings. We did not audit the Township'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 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.



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

LEXINGTON TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY

SCHEDULE OF AUDIT FINDINGS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND 2015

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

FINDING NUMBER 2016-001

Material Weakness

Fund Balance Classifications and Posting Receipts

The Township should have procedures and controls in place to help prevent and detect errors in financial reporting.

Fund balances should be properly classified based on Governmental Accounting Standards Statement No. 54 – Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions.

During 2016 and 2015 fund balances and receipts were not always classified correctly. The following errors were noted:

- Fund balance in the Capital Projects Fund was improperly classified as Restricted instead of Committed in 2016 and 2015;
- Fund balance in the Road and Bridge Fund was improperly classified as Restricted instead of Committed in 2016 and 2015;
- Revenue from the sale of a property was improperly classified as Miscellaneous Revenue instead of Sale of Fixed Assets.

Not classifying fund balances and posting receipts accurately resulted in the financial statements requiring reclassification. The financial statements reflect the reclassifications.

To help ensure accuracy and reliability in the financial reporting process, we recommend that management perform a detailed review of its draft financial statements. Such review should include procedures to ensure that all fund balances are accurately classified and all receipts are properly classified.

In addition, we recommend the Fiscal Officer refer to Auditor of State Technical Bulletin 2011-004 for assistance in properly classifying fund balances and the Ohio Township Hand book for assistance in posting of receipts.

Management's Response – The fund balance classifications for Capital Projects Fund (4901) and Road and Bridge Fund (2031) were established for the 2013-2014 Audit Cycle and were not changed; nor were classification errors noted in the 2013-2014 AUP Audit Report.

Upon review, it is noted that the Capital Projects fund is better classified as Committed due to the fact that it was established by the trustees. The Road and Bridge fund was classified as Restricted in accordance with the charts included in AOS Bulletin 2011-004. Upon closer examination, Fiscal Officer notes that as the fund revenue is from Inside Millage, the fund could have also been classified as Committed.

It has been noted that the receipt from sale of property should have been classified as Sale of Fixed Property and will be correctly reported if any future sales of property occur.

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Dave Yost • Auditor of State

LEXINGTON TOWNSHIP

STARK 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 21, 2017**