



Dave Yost • Auditor of State





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## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

Yellow Creek Township  
Columbiana County  
1075 Township Line Rd  
Wellsville, Ohio 43968

We have performed the procedures enumerated below, which were agreed to by the Board of Trustees and the management of Yellow Creek Township (the Township), on the receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the Townships cash basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016 and certain compliance requirements related to those transactions and balances, included in the information provided to us by the management of the Township. The Township is responsible for the receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the cash basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016 and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances included in the information provided to us by the Township. 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 recalculated the December 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016 bank reconciliations. We found no exceptions.
2. We agreed the January 1, 2016 beginning fund balances recorded in the Fund Ledger Report to the December 31, 2015 balances in the prior year documentation in the prior year Agreed-Upon Procedures working papers. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the January 1, 2017 beginning fund balances recorded in the Fund Ledger Report to the December 31, 2016 balances in the Fund Ledger Report. We found no exceptions.
3. We agreed the totals per the bank reconciliations to the total of the December 31, 2017 and 2016 fund cash balances reported in the Fund Status Report. The amounts agreed.
4. We confirmed the December 31, 2017 bank account balance with the Township's financial institution. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the confirmed balances to the amounts appearing in the December 31, 2017 bank reconciliation without exception.
5. We selected five reconciling debits (such as outstanding checks) haphazardly from the December 31, 2017 bank reconciliation:
  - a. We traced each debit to the subsequent January bank statement. We found no exceptions, however, the listing included five stale dated checks ranging from 2013 to 2015.
  - b. We traced the amounts and dates to the check register, to determine the debits were dated prior to December 31. There were no exceptions.

6. We selected the two reconciling credits (such as deposits in transit) haphazardly from the December 31, 2017 bank reconciliation:
  - a. We traced each credit to the subsequent January bank statement. We found an on-behalf payment from 2013 was included as a deposit in transit with a corresponding outstanding check. In addition, a 2013 receipt from Columbiana County was included as a deposit in transit which was a duplicate receipt and never voided within the system.
  - b. We were unable to agree the items to the receipt register.

#### **Property Taxes, Intergovernmental and Other Confirmable Cash Receipts**

1. We haphazardly selected a property tax receipt from one *Statement of Semiannual Apportionment of Taxes* (the Statement) for 2017 and one from 2016:
  - a. We traced the gross receipts from the *Statement* to the amount recorded in the Receipt Register Report. We also traced the advances noted on the Statement to the Receipt Register Report. The amounts agreed.
  - b. We inspected the Receipt Register Report to confirm the receipt was allocated to the proper fund(s) as required by Ohio Rev. Code Sections 5705.05-.06 and 5705.10. We found no exceptions.
  - c. We inspected the Receipt Register Report to confirm whether the receipt was recorded in the proper year. The receipt was recorded in the proper year.
2. We inspected the Receipt Register Report to determine whether it included two real estate tax receipts plus six advances for 2017 and 2016. The Receipt Register Report included the proper number of tax receipts for each year.
3. We selected the three receipts from the State Distribution Transaction Lists (DTL) from 2017 and 2016. We also haphazardly selected five receipts from the County Auditor's Columbiana County Vendor History Report from 2017 and 2016.
  - a. We compared the amount from the above reports to the amount recorded in the Receipt Register Report. We found no exceptions.
  - b. We inspected the Receipt Register Report to determine that these receipts were allocated to the proper funds. We found no exceptions.
  - c. We inspected the Receipt Register Report to determine whether the receipts were recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.

#### **Over-The-Counter Cash Receipts**

We selected all of the over-the-counter cash receipts from the year ended December 31, 2017 recorded in the duplicate cash receipts book and:

- a. Agreed the receipt amount to the amount recorded in the Receipt Register Report. The amounts agreed.
- b. Inspected the Receipt Register Report to determine the receipt was posted to the proper funds, and was recorded in the proper year. We found no exception.

**Debt**

1. From the prior agreed-upon procedures documentation, we observed the following notes were outstanding as of December 31, 2015. These amounts agreed to the Townships January 1, 2016 balances on the summary we used in procedure 3.

Issue	Principal outstanding as of December 31, 2015:
Farmers Bank - Broom Loan	\$5,314
Hancock County Savings Bank - Truck	\$133,391

2. We inquired of management, and inspected the Receipt Register Report and Payment Register Detail Report for evidence of debt issued during 2017 or 2016 or debt payment activity during 2017 or 2016. All debt agreed to the summary we used in procedure 3.
3. We obtained a summary of promissory note debt activity for 2017 and 2016 and agreed principal and interest payments from the related debt amortization schedules to the General Fund and Road Equipment and Maintenance Funds reported in the Payment Register Detail Report. We also compared the date the debt service payments were due to the date the Township made the payments. We found debt payments were posted to the purchased services and operating supplies expense line items instead of principal and interest line items.
4. We could not agree the amount of debt proceeds from the debt documents to amounts recorded in the Road Equipment/Maintenance Special Revenue fund per the Receipt Register Report as the Township failed to record the proceeds and corresponding expense.
5. For new debt issued during 2016, we inspected the debt legislation, which stated the Township must use the proceeds to purchase a Backhoe. We inspected the Payment Register Detail Report for evidence the backhoe was purchased. However, the Township had not recorded the capital outlay expense in 2016 for the backhoe purchase in the accounting system.

**Payroll Cash Disbursements**

1. We haphazardly selected one payroll check for five employees from 2017 and one payroll check for five employees from 2016 from the Employee Detail Adjustment Report and:
  - a. We compared the hours and pay rate, or salary recorded in the Employee Detail Adjustment Report to supporting documentation (timecard, legislatively or statutorily-approved rate or salary). We found no exceptions.
  - b. We inspected the fund and account codes to which the check was posted to determine the posting was reasonable based on the employees' duties as documented in the minute record. We also confirmed the payment was posted to the proper year. We found no exceptions.
2. For any new employees selected in procedure 1 we inspected the employees' personnel files and minute record for the following information and compared it with the information used to compute gross and net pay related to this check:
  - a. Name
  - b. Authorized salary or pay rate
  - c. Department(s) and fund(s) to which the check should be charged
  - d. Retirement system participation and payroll withholding
  - e. Federal, State & Local income tax withholding authorization
  - f. Any other deduction authorizations (deferred compensation, etc.)

We found no exceptions related to procedures a. – f. above

3. We inspected the last remittance of tax and retirement withholdings for the year ended December 31, 2017 to confirm 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 2017. We observed the following:

<b>Withholding (plus employer share, where applicable)</b>	<b>Date Due</b>	<b>Date Paid</b>	<b>Amount Due</b>	<b>Amount Paid</b>
Federal income taxes & Medicare	January 31, 2018	January 4, 2018	\$1,641	\$1,641
State income taxes	January 15, 2018	January 5, 2018	374	374
OPERS retirement	January 30, 2018	January 4, 2018	3,690	3,690

4. For the pay periods ended September 26, 2017 and May 24, 2016 we recomputed the allocation of the Fiscal Officer's and Boards' salaries to the General, Road and Bridge, and Gas Tax Funds per the Employee Detail Adjustment Report. We found no exceptions.
5. For the pay periods described in the preceding procedure, we traced the Boards' salary for time or services performed to supporting certifications the Revised Code requires. We found no exceptions.
6. We haphazardly selected and recomputed one termination payment (unused vacation, etc.) using the following information, and agreed the computation to the amount paid as recorded in the Employee Detail Adjustment Report:
  - a. Accumulated leave records
  - b. The employee's pay rate in effect as of the termination date
  - c. The Township's payout policy.

The amount paid was consistent with the information recorded in a. through c. above.

7. We inquired of management and inspected the Payment Register Detail Report for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016 to determine if township employees and/or trustees were reimbursed for out-of-pocket insurance premiums. No such reimbursements occurred.

### **Non-Payroll Cash Disbursements**

1. We haphazardly selected ten disbursements from the Payment Register Detail Report for the year ended December 31, 2017 and ten from the year ended 2016 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 Payment Register Detail Report and to the names and amounts on the supporting invoices. We found two out of 10 checks tested in 2016 did not have an invoice, thus, we were unable to test this requirement. In addition, two out of 10 checks tested in 2017 had a warrant number that did not agree to the corresponding warrant number posted to the accounting system.
  - 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.
  - 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 two instances in 2016 where we could not determine if disbursements requiring certification were

certified as a purchase order could not be located. In addition, we identified one instance in 2017 and one instance in 2016 where the certification date was after the vendor invoice date, and there was also no evidence that a *Then and Now Certificate* was issued. Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D) requires certifying at the time of a commitment, which should be on or before the invoice date, unless a *Then and Now Certificate* is used. Because we did not inspect all disbursements requiring certification, our report provides no assurance whether or not additional similar errors occurred.

### 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, Road & Bridge and Gasoline Tax funds for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016. The amounts on the *Certificate* agreed to the amount recorded in the accounting system, except for the General and Road and Bridge funds for 2016 and 2017 and the Gasoline tax fund for 2017. The Revenue Status Report recorded budgeted (i.e. certified) resources for the General fund of \$94,700 for 2016 and \$191,768 for 2017. However, the final *Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources* reflected \$91,852 for 2016 and \$181,656 for 2017. The Revenue Status Report recorded budgeted (i.e. certified) resources for the Road and Bridge fund of \$82,204 for 2016 and \$84,141 for 2017. However, the final *Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources* reflected \$69,450 for 2016 and \$74,448 for 2017. The Revenue Status Report recorded budgeted (i.e. certified) resources for the Gas Tax fund of \$122,940 for 2017. However, the final *Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources* reflected \$110,000 for 2017. The fiscal officer should periodically compare amounts recorded in the Revenue Status Report to amounts recorded on the *Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources* to assure they agree. If the amounts do not agree, the Trustees may be using inaccurate information for budgeting and monitoring purposes.
2. We inspected the appropriation measures adopted for 2017 and 2016 to determine whether, for the General, Road and Bridge 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 2017 and 2016 for the following funds: General, Road and Bridge, and Gasoline Tax. The amounts on the appropriation resolutions did not agree to the amounts recorded in the Appropriation Status Report. In 2016, the appropriation resolution amounts for the General and Road and Bridge funds were \$82,823 and \$90,250 and the Appropriation Status Report reflected \$107,585 and \$103,354. In 2017, the appropriation resolution amounts for the General and Road and Bridge funds were \$103,464 and \$90,265 and the Appropriation Status Report reflected \$199,895 and \$93,959. The fiscal officer should periodically compare amounts recorded in the Appropriation Status report to amounts approved by the Board to assure they agree. If they don't agree the Trustees may be using inaccurate information for budgeting and monitoring purposes.
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, Road and Bridge and Gasoline Tax funds for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016. Road and Bridge Fund and Gas Tax Fund appropriations for 2016 exceeded certified resources by \$20,800 and \$3,914, and Road and Bridge and Gas Tax Fund appropriations for 2017 exceeded certified resources by \$15,817 and \$17,621 contrary to Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.39. The Trustees should not pass appropriations exceeding certified resources. Allowing this to occur could cause the Township to incur fund balance deficits.

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, 2017 and 2016 for the General, Road & Bridge and Gasoline Tax fund, as recorded in the Appropriation Status Report. There were no funds for which expenditures exceeded appropriations.
6. Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.09 requires establishing separate funds to segregate externally-restricted resources. We inspected the Receipt Register Report for evidence of new restricted receipts requiring a new fund during December 31, 2017 and 2016. We also inquired of management regarding whether the Township received new restricted receipts. We observed no evidence of new restricted receipts for which Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.09 would require the Township to establish a new fund.
7. For funds existing in prior years, inspect the fund activity to determine whether the fund is still being used for the statutorily approved purpose and that all the required funds were established. All the required funds were established and no funds for which the statutorily approved purpose was no longer valid were included on the accounting records.
8. We inspected the 2017 and 2016 Revenue Status Reports and Appropriation Status Reports for evidence of interfund transfers exceeding \$2,000 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 (effective after June 30, 2017) or Court of Common Pleas (effective through June 30, 2017).
9. We inquired of management and inspected the Appropriation Status Reports to determine whether the Township elected to establish reserve accounts permitted by Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.13 or 5705.132. The Township did not establish these reserves.
10. We inspected the Cash Summary by Fund Report for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016 for negative cash fund balances. 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. No funds had a negative cash fund balance.

#### **Compliance – Contracts & Expenditures**

We inquired of management and inspected the Payment Register Detail Report for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016 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 within 60 days after the close of the fiscal year. This statute also permits the Auditor of State to extend the deadline for filing a financial report and establish terms and conditions for any such extension. Auditor of State established policies, in addition to filing extensions granted for extenuating circumstances, allow for refiling complete financial statements, as defined in AOS Bulletin 2015-007 in the Hinkle System for December 31, 2017 and 2016 fiscal year ends included in 2015-2016 or 2016-2017 agreed up on procedure engagements, subsequent to the Township's deadline where the initial filing was filed on time but incomplete. We confirmed the Township filed their complete financial statements, as defined by



AOS Bulletin 2015-007 and Auditor of State established policy, within the allotted timeframe for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016 in the Hinkle system. There were no exceptions.

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

This report is to provide assistance in the evaluation of the Township's receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in their cash-basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016 and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances and is not suitable for any other purpose.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Yost". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping "D" and "Y".

**Dave Yost**  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

July 23, 2018

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# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

**YELLOW CREEK TOWNSHIP**

**COLUMBIANA 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  
AUGUST 7, 2018**