



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

Geauga County Soil and Water Conservation District
Geauga County
14269 Claridon-Troy Road
P.O. Box 410
Burton, Ohio 44021

We have performed the procedures enumerated below, which were agreed to by the Board of Supervisors (the Board) and the management of the Geauga County Soil and Water Conservation District (the District) on the receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the District's cash-basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017, and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances, included in the information provided to us by the management of the District. The District is responsible for the receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the cash basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017 and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances included in the information provided to us by the District. 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, 2018 and December 31, 2017 bank reconciliations. We found no exceptions.
2. We agreed the January 1, 2017 beginning fund balances recorded in the District's Cash Basis Annual Financial Report to the December 31, 2016 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, 2018 beginning fund balances recorded in the District's Cash Basis Annual Financial Report to the December 31, 2017 balances in the District's Cash Basis Annual Financial Report. We found no exceptions.
3. We agreed the totals per the District Fund bank reconciliations to the total of the December 31, 2018 and 2017 fund cash balances reported in the District's Cash Basis Annual Financial Report for the District Fund. The amounts agreed.
4. We confirmed the December 31, 2018 bank account depository balances for the District Fund with the District's financial institutions. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the confirmed balances to the amounts appearing in the December 31, 2018 bank reconciliation without exception.
5. We compared the December 31, 2018 Special Fund depository balance from the *Cash Basis Annual Financial Report* to the amount reported in the Statement of Cash Position Report. We found no exceptions.

6. We selected a sample (agreed upon) of five reconciling debits (such as outstanding checks) from the December 31, 2018 bank reconciliation:
 - a. We footed the supporting outstanding check list and compared it to the cash reconciliation. We found no exceptions.
 - b. We traced each check to the subsequent January bank statement. We found no exceptions.
 - c. We traced the amounts and dates to the check register, to determine the debits were dated prior to December 31. There were no exceptions.

7. We selected the only reconciling credit (such as deposits in transit) from the December 31, 2018 bank reconciliation:
 - a. We traced the credit to the subsequent January bank statement. We found no exceptions.
 - b. We agreed the credit amount to the Profit and Loss Detail Report. The credit was recorded as a December receipt for the amount recorded in the reconciliation.

Intergovernmental Cash Receipts

We applied the following procedure for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017:

We traced the total of the receipts from the State Distribution Transaction Lists (DTL) to the total amounts recorded in the respective receipt classification in the Special Fund in the Profit and Loss Detail Report. The amounts agreed, except for two state match receipts totaling \$24,158 posted to other revenue in 2017. We recommend these receipts be posted to intergovernmental revenue.

All Other Cash Receipts

We selected a sample (agreed upon) of 10 other cash receipts from the year ended December 31, 2018 and 10 other cash receipts from the year ended December 31, 2017 recorded in the duplicate cash receipts book and:

1. Agreed the receipt amount to the amount recorded in the Profit and Loss Detail Report. The amounts agreed.
2. Confirmed the amount charged complied with rates in force during the period. We found no exceptions.
3. Inspected the Profit and Loss Detail Report to determine the receipt was posted to the proper funds, and was recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.

Payroll Cash Disbursements

1. We selected one payroll check for five employees from 2018 and one payroll check for five employees from 2017 from the Special Fund Treasurer's Report and:
 - a. We compared the hours and pay rate, or salary recorded in the Special Fund Treasurer's Report to the time sheet and employee status change notice. We found no exceptions.
 - b. We inspected the Treasurer's Report to determine whether salaries and benefits were paid only from the Special Fund, as required by the SWCD Administrative Handbook Chapter 5. We found no exceptions.
 - c. We inspected the Special Fund Treasurer's Report to determine whether the check was classified as salaries and was posted to the proper year. We found no exceptions.

2. For any new employees selected in procedure 1, we inspected the following information in the employees' personnel files and employee status change notice to determine it was consistent with the information used to compute gross and net pay related to the check:
 - a. Name
 - b. Authorized salary or pay rate
 - c. Retirement system participation and payroll withholding
 - d. Federal, State & Local income tax withholding authorization and withholding
 - e. Any other deduction authorizations (deferred compensation, etc.)

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

Non-Payroll Cash Disbursements

We selected a sample (agreed upon) of five disbursements from the *Special Fund* and five disbursements from the *District Fund* and other funds from the Treasurer's Report for the year ended December 31, 2018 and five from the *Special Fund* and five from the *District Fund* and other funds for the year ended December 31, 2017 and determined whether:

- a. The disbursements were for a proper public purpose. We found no exceptions.
- b. For *District Fund* and other funds disbursements, we determined whether:
 - i. The check number, date, payee name and amount recorded on the returned, canceled check agreed to the similar data recorded in the District Fund Treasurer's Report and to the names and amounts on the supporting invoices. We found no exceptions.
 - ii. The payment was posted to a fund consistent with the purpose for which the fund's cash can be used. We found no exceptions.
- c. For *Special Fund* disbursements, we determined whether:
 - i. The payee name and amount recorded on the invoice submitted to the County Auditor agreed to the payee name and amount recorded in the Special Fund Treasurer's Report and Expenditure Ledger Detail Listing. We found no exceptions.
 - ii. The names and amounts on the voucher agreed to supporting invoices. We found no exceptions.
 - iii. The invoice was signed by the fiscal officer and approved by a majority of the Board of Supervisors. We found no exceptions.

Special Fund Budgetary Compliance

1. We inspected the District's Special Fund Budget Request submitted to the County Commissioners for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017. The request included the Special Fund's *Needs, Income and Balances* anticipated for carry over from the current year, as required by the SWCD Administrative Handbook, Chapter 5. We also compared the budget amounts to the Special Fund Budgetary Activity footnote of the Cash Basis Annual Financial Report. The amounts agreed.
2. We compared the total estimated receipts reported on the Special Fund Budgetary Activity footnote of the Cash Basis Annual Financial Report to the *Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources*, required by Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.36(A)(1), and to the amounts recorded in the Budget Performance Report for the Special Fund for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017. The amounts agreed.
3. We inspected the appropriation measures adopted for 2018 and 2017 to determine whether the Supervisors appropriated separate amounts within the Special Fund 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.

4. We compared total appropriations required by Ohio Rev. Code Sections 5705.38 and 5705.40, to the amounts recorded in the Budget Performance Report for the Special Fund for 2018 and 2017, and to the appropriations reported on the Special Fund Budgetary Activity footnote of the Cash Basis Annual Financial Report. The amounts agreed for 2017. For 2018 the amount recorded in the Budget Performance Report showed \$489,521 while the Budgetary Activity footnote recorded \$489,340. A variance of \$181. The fiscal officer should reconcile the amounts recorded in the Budget Performance Report as amendments are made to the appropriations to ensure the amounts agree.
5. Ohio Rev. Code Sections 5705.36(A)(5) and 5705.28(B)(2)(C) prohibit appropriations from exceeding estimated resources. We compared total appropriations to total estimated resources for the Special Fund for the year ended December 31, 2018 and 2017. Appropriations did not exceed estimated resources for the Special Fund.
6. Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(B) prohibits expenditures (disbursements plus year-end certified commitments (i.e. encumbrances)) from exceeding appropriations. We compared total disbursements plus outstanding year-end encumbrances to total appropriations for the year ended December 31, 2018 and 2017 for the "Special" Fund, as recorded in the Annual Cash Basis Financial Report. Expenditures did not exceed appropriations for the Special Fund.
7. We compared interfund transfers-in to transfers-out to ensure they agreed and inspected the transfer activity to determine they were approved by the Board of Supervisors. We found no exceptions.
8. We inspected the Annual Cash Basis Financial Report for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017 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 negative cash fund balances.
9. We inquired of management and inspected the Special Fund Treasurer's Reports to determine whether the District elected to establish a contingency, not designated for any particular purpose (contingency reserve balance - spending reserve) permitted by Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.29(A)(1). The District did not establish these reserves.

Compliance – Contracts & Expenditures

We inquired of management and inspected the Treasurer's Report for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017 to determine if the District purchased equipment and services allowed by ORC 940.08 or purchased goods or services allowed by ORC 940.06 whose cost, other than personal service compensation or office space rent, exceeded \$50,000. There were no purchases exceeding \$50,000.

Other Compliance

1. Ohio Rev. Code Section 117.38 requires Districts 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 regarding the filing of complete financial statements, as defined in AOS Bulletin 2015-007 in the Hinkle System. We confirmed the District 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, 2018 and 2017 in the Hinkle system. There were no exceptions.

2. For all credit card accounts we obtained:
 - copies of existing internal control policies,
 - a list of authorized users, and
 - a list of all credit card account transactions.
- a. We inspected the established policy obtained above and determined it is:
 - i. In compliance with the HB 312 statutory requirements, and
 - ii. Implemented by the entity.We found no exceptions.
- b. We selected 3 credit card transactions for testing. For selected transactions we inspected documentation to determine that:
 - i. Use was by an authorized user within the guidelines established in the policy, and
 - ii. Each transaction was supported with original invoices and for a proper public purpose.We found 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 District'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 District's receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in their cash-basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017, and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances and is not suitable for any other purpose.



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

November 18, 2019

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



GEAUGA COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

GEAUGA 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 5, 2019**