

**BUCKEYE JOINT-COUNTY INSURANCE
COUNCIL**

LAWRENCE COUNTY, OHIO

**Basic Financial Statements
(Audited)**

**For the Years Ended
December 31, 2019 and 2018**

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



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Columbus, Ohio 43215
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(800) 282-0370

Board of Trustees
Buckeye Joint-County Insurance Council
P.O. Box 702
Ironton, Ohio 45638

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Buckeye Joint-County Insurance Council, Lawrence County, prepared by Julian & Grube, Inc., for the audit period January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019. 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 Buckeye Joint-County Insurance Council is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Keith Faber'.

Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

September 24, 2020

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**BUCKEYE JOINT- COUNTY INSURANCE COUNCIL
LAWRENCE COUNTY, OHIO**

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Independent Auditor's Report

Buckeye Joint-County Insurance Council
Lawrence County
P.O. Box 702
Ironton, Ohio 45638

To the Board of Trustees:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Buckeye Joint-County Insurance Council, Lawrence County, Ohio, as of and for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Buckeye Joint-County Insurance Council's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for preparing and fairly presenting these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes designing, implementing, and maintaining internal control relevant to preparing and fairly presenting financial statements that are 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 Buckeye Joint-County Insurance Council'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 Buckeye Joint-County Insurance Council's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such 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 overall financial statement presentation.

We believe the audit evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to support our audit opinions.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Buckeye Joint-County Insurance Council, Lawrence County, Ohio, as of December 31, 2019 and 2018, and the changes in its financial position and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note 6 to the financial statements, the financial impact of COVID-19 and the ensuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Buckeye Joint-County Insurance Council. We did not modify our opinion regarding this matter.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require this presentation to include *Management's Discussion and Analysis*, listed in the table of contents, to supplement the basic financial statements. Although this information is not part of the basic financial statements, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board considers it essential for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, consisting of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries to the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not opine or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to opine or provide any other assurance.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated July 23, 2020, on our consideration of the Buckeye Joint-County Insurance Council'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 Buckeye Joint-County Insurance Council's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Julian & Grube, Inc.

Julian & Grube, Inc.
July 23, 2020

**BUCKEYE JOINT-COUNTY INSURANCE COUNCIL
LAWRENCE COUNTY, OHIO**

**Management's Discussion and Analysis
Years Ended December 31, 2019 and 2018
(Unaudited)**

The discussion and analysis of the Buckeye Joint-County Insurance Council's financial performance provides an overview and analysis of the Council's financial activities for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the Council's financial performance as a whole. Readers should also review our notes to the basic financial statements and the financial statements themselves to enhance their understanding of the Council's financial performance.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- The assets exceeded liabilities at December 31, 2019 and 2018 by \$62,075 and \$60,415, respectively.
- Net position increased by \$1,660 in 2019 and decreased by \$5,279 in 2018.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the Council's basic financial statements. The Council's basic financial statements are the Statements of Net Position, the Statements of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position, the Statements of Cash Flows and the accompanying notes to the financial statements. These statements report information about the Council as a whole and about its activities. The Council is a single enterprise fund using proprietary fund accounting, which means these statements are presented in a manner similar to a private-sector business. The statements are presented using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting.

The Statements of Net Position presents the Council's financial position and reports the resources owned by the Council (assets), obligations owed by the Council (liabilities) and Council net position (the difference between assets and liabilities). It provides a way to measure the financial health of the Council by providing the basis for evaluating the capital structure of the Council and assessing the liquidity and financial flexibility of the Council.

The Statements of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Net Position present a summary of how the Council's net position changed during the year. Revenue is reported when earned and expenses are reported when incurred. These statements measure the success of the Council's operations over the past year and can be used to determine whether the Council has successfully recovered all its costs through user fees.

The Statements of Cash Flows provide information about the Council's cash receipts and disbursements during the year. It summarizes net changes in cash resulting from operating, investing and financing activities.

The notes to the financial statements provide additional information that is essential for a full understanding of the financial statements.

**BUCKEYE JOINT-COUNTY INSURANCE COUNCIL
LAWRENCE COUNTY, OHIO**

**Management's Discussion and Analysis
Years Ended December 31, 2019 and 2018
(Unaudited)**

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL POSITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Table 1

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>Change</u>
<u>Assets</u>					
Cash	\$ 54,260	\$ 51,819	\$ 2,441	\$ 51,207	\$ 612
Prepaid Bonds, Insurance and Adm.	7,815	8,596	(781)	14,487	(5,891)
Member Contributions Receivable	-	84,502	(84,502)	-	84,502
Total Assets	62,075	144,917	(82,842)	65,694	79,223
Liabilities	-	84,502	(84,502)	-	84,502
<u>Net Position</u>					
Unrestricted	<u>62,075</u>	<u>60,415</u>	<u>1,660</u>	<u>65,694</u>	<u>(5,279)</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Position	\$ 62,075	\$ 144,917	\$ (82,842)	\$ 65,694	\$ 78,923

For the year ended December 31, 2019, total assets of the Council decreased by \$82,842 and for the year ended December 31, 2018 total assets increased by \$79,223.

For the year ended December 31, 2019 total liabilities of the Council decreased by \$84,502 and for the year ended December 31, 2018 total liabilities increased by 84,502.

The Council's Net Position increased by \$1,660 (3%) in 2019 and decreased by \$5,279 (8%) in 2018.

**BUCKEYE JOINT-COUNTY INSURANCE COUNCIL
LAWRENCE COUNTY, OHIO**

**Management's Discussion and Analysis
Years Ended December 31, 2019 and 2018
(Unaudited)**

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION

Table 2 below summarizes the changes in Revenues and Expenses and Net Position

	2019	2018	Change	2017	Change
<u>Revenues</u>					
Member Contributions	\$ 989,574	\$ 1,055,115	\$ (65,541)	\$ 1,100,834	\$ (45,719)
Deductables	7,500	38,561	(31,061)	42,477	(3,916)
Interest Income	209	204	5	176	28
Total Revenues	<u>997,283</u>	<u>1,093,880</u>	<u>(96,597)</u>	<u>1,143,487</u>	<u>(49,607)</u>
<u>Expenses</u>					
Claims Expense	7,500	38,561	(31,061)	42,477	(3,916)
Insurance Purchases	940,495	1,018,241	(77,746)	1,044,911	(26,670)
General and Administrative	47,628	42,357	5,271	48,666	(6,309)
Total Expenses	<u>995,623</u>	<u>1,099,159</u>	<u>(103,536)</u>	<u>1,136,054</u>	<u>(36,895)</u>
Change in Net Position	1,660	(5,279)	6,939	7,433	(494)
Net Position, January 1	60,415	65,694	(5,279)	58,261	(63,540)
Net Position, December 31	<u>\$ 62,075</u>	<u>\$ 60,415</u>	<u>\$ 1,660</u>	<u>\$ 65,694</u>	<u>\$ (64,034)</u>

Member contributions decreased by 65,541 (6%) for 2019 and decreased by \$45,719 (4%) for 2018. Insurance premiums decreased by \$77,746 (8%) for 2019 and decreased by \$26,670 (3%) for 2018 mainly due to the market price of the cost of insurance.

CURRENT FINANCIAL RELATED ACTIVITIES

The Council is an insurance-purchasing pool, formed to carry out a cooperative purchasing program for the provision and administration of Property and Liability insurance. The Council is constantly assessing insurance needs of its members and acting to provide these services cost-effectively.

CONTACTING THE COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our clients and creditors with a general overview of the Council's finances and to show the Council's accountability for the money it received. If you have questions about this report or need additional information, contact Fiscal Officer, Buckeye Joint-County Insurance Council, P.O. Box 702, Ironton, Ohio 45638.

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FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**BUCKEYE JOINT-COUNTY INSURANCE COUNCIL
LAWRENCE COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
December 31, 2019
(WITH COMPARATIVE AMOUNTS FOR 2018)

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Assets:		
Equity in cash and cash equivalents	\$ 54,260	\$ 51,819
Member contribution receivable	-	84,502
Prepaid bonds, insurance and administrative expenses	<u>7,815</u>	<u>8,596</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 62,075</u>	<u>\$ 144,917</u>
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	<u>-</u>	<u>84,502</u>
Net Position:		
Unrestricted	<u>62,075</u>	<u>60,415</u>
Total liabilities and net position	<u>\$ 62,075</u>	<u>\$ 144,917</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**BUCKEYE JOINT-COUNTY INSURANCE COUNCIL
LAWRENCE COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION
December 31, 2019
(WITH COMPARATIVE AMOUNTS FOR 2018)

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Operating Revenues		
Member contributions	\$ 989,574	\$ 1,055,115
Deductibles	7,500	38,561
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Operating Revenues	997,074	1,093,676
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Operating Expenses		
Claims expense	7,500	38,561
Insurance premiums	940,495	1,018,241
General and administrative	47,628	42,357
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Operating Expenses	995,623	1,099,159
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Operating Income (Loss)	1,451	(5,483)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Non-operating revenues:		
Interest income	209	204
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Non-operating revenues	209	204
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Changes in Net Position	1,660	(5,279)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net Position at beginning of year	60,415	65,694
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net Position at end of year	<u>\$ 62,075</u>	<u>\$ 60,415</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**BUCKEYE JOINT-COUNTY INSURANCE COUNCIL
LAWRENCE COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
December 31, 2019
(WITH COMPARATIVE AMOUNTS FOR 2018)

	2019	2018
Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents:		
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:		
Cash received from members	\$ 1,081,576	\$ 1,009,174
Cash payments for insurance premiums	(1,024,216)	(927,848)
Cash payments for claims expense	(7,500)	(38,561)
Cash payments for general and administrative	(47,628)	(42,357)
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	2,232	408
Cash Flows from Investing Activities:		
Interest received	209	204
Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents	2,441	612
Cash and Cash Equivalents at beginning of year	51,819	51,207
Cash and Cash Equivalents at end of year	\$ 54,260	\$ 51,819
 Reconciliation of Operating Income (Loss) to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities		
Operating Income (Loss)	\$ 1,451	\$ (5,483)
Changes in Assets and Liabilities:		
(Increase) Decrease in receivables	84,502	(84,502)
Decrease in prepaid bonds, insurance and adm. expenses	781	5,891
Increase (Decrease) in accounts payable	(84,502)	84,502
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	\$ 2,232	\$ 408

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**BUCKEYE JOINT-COUNTY INSURANCE COUNCIL
LAWRENCE COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
Years Ended December 31, 2019 and 2018**

NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE COUNCIL

The Buckeye Joint-County Insurance Council, Lawrence County, Ohio (the Council), a Regional Council of Governments organized under Ohio Revised Code, Chapter 167, was established for the purpose of establishing and carrying out a cooperative insurance purchasing pool. The Council is established for the purpose of exercising the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the Bylaws of the Council.

The Buckeye Joint-County Insurance Council is a legally separate Council. The Council is in a jointly governed organization with member governmental entities. The Council was formed for the primary purpose of establishing and carrying out a cooperative insurance purchasing program for its member governmental entities. The governing board consists of County Commissioners or other designees appointed by each of the members of the Council.

Management believes the financial statement included in this report represents all of the financial activity of the Council over which the Council has the ability to exercise direct operating control.

The Council is an insurance purchasing pool for property and liability insurance, and members are fully insured by the Ohio Government Risk Management Plan who has full responsibility over claims.

Reporting Entity

A reporting entity is comprised of the primary government, component units, and other organizations that are included to ensure that the financial statements are not misleading. The primary government of the Insurance Council consists of all funds, departments, boards, and agencies that are not legally separate from the Insurance Council. For Buckeye Joint-County Insurance Council this is the general operations.

Component units are legally separate organizations for which the Insurance Council is financially accountable. The Insurance Council is financially accountable for an organization if the Insurance Council appoints a voting majority of the organization's governing board and (1) the Insurance Council is able to significantly influence the programs or services performed or provided by the organization; or (2) the Insurance Council is legally entitled to or can otherwise access the organization's resources; the Insurance Council is legally obligated or has otherwise assumed the responsibility to finance the deficits of, or provide financial support to, the organization; or the Insurance Council is obligated for the debt of the organization. Component units may also include organizations that are fiscally dependent on the Insurance Council in that the Insurance Council approves the budget, the issuance of debt, or the levying of taxes. The Insurance Council has no component units.

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The basic financial statements of the Council have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The Council's significant accounting policies are described below.

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) unanimously approved Statement No. 34, Basic Financial Statements - Management's Discussion and Analysis - for State and Local Governments. Certain items of significance in the Statement include the following:

A. Basis of Presentation

The Council's basic financial statements consist of a statement of net position; a statement of revenues, expenses and changes in net position; and a statement of cash flows.

The Council uses a single enterprise presentation for its financial records. Enterprise reporting focuses on the determination of operating income, changes in net position, financial position, and cash flows.

BUCKEYE JOINT-COUNTY INSURANCE COUNCIL
LAWRENCE COUNTY, OHIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
Years Ended December 31, 2019 and 2018

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – continued

B. Measurement Focus

Enterprise accounting uses a flow of economic resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, all assets and all liabilities are included on the statement of net position. The statement of revenues, expenses and changes in net position present increases (i.e., revenues) and decreases (i.e., expenses) in total net position. Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenses are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurements made. The accrual basis of accounting is utilized for reporting purposes. Revenues are recognized when they are earned, and expenses are recognized when they are incurred.

C. Basis of Accounting

Basis of accounting determines when transactions are recorded in the financial records and reported in the financial statements. The Council's financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Revenue resulting from exchange transactions, in which each party gives and receives essentially equal value, is recorded on the accrual basis when the exchange takes place. Revenue resulting from the nonexchange transactions, in which the Council receives value without directly giving equal value in return, such as grants and entitlements, are recognized in the period in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the period when the resources are required to be used or the period when use is first permitted, matching requirements, in which the Council must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose, and expense requirements, in which the resources are provided to the Council on a reimbursement basis. Expenses are recognized at the time they are incurred.

D. Assets, Liabilities and Net Position

Cash and Investments:

For purposes of reporting cash flows, the Council considers all cash accounts which are not subject to withdrawal restrictions or penalties, and all highly-liquid debt investments purchased with a maturity of three months or less to be cash.

The Council maintains one account, which is presented on the Statement of Net Position as "Equity in Cash and Cash Equivalents". The Council does not maintain any investments.

Receivables:

All receivables are shown net of an allowance for uncollectible amounts, as applicable. Receivables in excess of 90 days are evaluated for the ability to collect them and an allowance is established, as deemed necessary, based on the best information available and in an amount that management believes is adequate. Receivables are written off when deemed uncollectible. Recoveries of receivables previously written off are recorded when received.

Net Position:

Net position represents the difference between assets and liabilities. If adequate provision has been made for the payment of all claims and expenses of the Council, the Board of Trustees, at its discretion, may distribute surplus funds to members during that particular year, provided that such members are also members in the year in which the distribution is made. In lieu of distributing surplus funds to the members, the Board may carry forward the surplus to offset annual or supplemental payments in the subsequent year.

BUCKEYE JOINT-COUNTY INSURANCE COUNCIL
LAWRENCE COUNTY, OHIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
Years Ended December 31, 2019 and 2018

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – continued

In the event the Council is terminated, all members of the Council are obligated for any necessary supplemental payments applicable to the years during which they were members. After all related expenses have been paid or reserves established for the payment of any such expenses, any surplus funds will be distributed to members, past or present, who constituted the Council for that fiscal year.

The Council applies restricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available.

As of December 31, 2019 and 2018, all of the Council's net position are considered unrestricted.

E. Revenues and Expenses

Premiums, member and supplemental contributions, claims handling fees and administrative fees: Premiums are determined based on the member's allocated insurance coverage costs as determined by the Council administrator and are recognized ratably as revenue and related expenses over the insurance coverage period.

Member and supplemental contributions are determined based on a formula approved by the Board of Trustees and applied to all members to provide sufficient funds within the insurance pool to adequately fund administrative expenses of the Council. Claims expense is a result of the deductible each member is responsible for according to the insurance agreement. The deductible is recognized ratably as a revenue and related expense as a claim occurs.

Under the terms of the cooperative agreement, should the annual contributions not be sufficient to fund operations or obligations of the Council, additional supplementary payments shall be required to be made by every member based on the formula used to determine the annual contributions.

F. Budgetary Process

Under Ohio law, the Council is not required to follow a budgetary process and, therefore, no budgetary information is provided in these financial statements.

G. Estimates

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

NOTE 3 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

At December 31, 2019 and 2018, the carrying amount of all Council deposits was \$54,260 and \$51,819, respectively. Based on the criteria described in GASB Statement No. 40, "Deposit and Investment Risk Disclosures", as of December 31, 2019 and 2018, all of the Council's bank balance of \$54,260 and \$51,819, respectively was covered by Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Deposits: Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of a bank failure, the Council's deposits may not be returned. All deposits are collateralized with eligible securities in amounts equal to at least 105% of the carrying value of the deposits. Such collateral, as permitted by the Ohio Revised Code, is held in single financial institution collateral pools at Federal Reserve Banks, or at member banks of the federal reserve system, in the name of the respective depository bank and pledged as a pool of collateral against all of the public deposits it holds or as specific collateral held at the Federal Reserve Bank in the name of the Council.

**BUCKEYE JOINT-COUNTY INSURANCE COUNCIL
LAWRENCE COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
Years Ended December 31, 2019 and 2018**

NOTE 3 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS – continued

Investments: As of December 31, 2019 and 2018, the Council held no investments and the Council does not have an investment policy.

NOTE 4 - RISK MANAGEMENT

The Buckeye Joint-County Insurance Council is a regional council of government organized under Ohio Revised Code, Chapter 167, for the purpose of establishing and carrying out a cooperative insurance purchasing program. The Council is governed by a Board of Trustees who selects qualified insurance companies that provide the insurance program that is adequate to meet the needs of each member.

The Council became an insurance purchasing pool for property and liability insurance on April 10, 1986. The Council contracts with the Ohio Government Risk Management Plan to provide insurance for its members since April 1, 1997. Each member pays a fee based on their contributions.

NOTE 5 - CONTINGENCIES

General: In the normal course of business, the Council is involved in various legal proceedings. In the opinion of management, any liability resulting from such proceedings would not have a material adverse effect on the financial statements.

Concentration by Geographic Location and Industry:

The Council is exposed to certain risks by writing all its business in the State of Ohio, thus increasing exposure to a single geographic area. Council membership is limited to counties.

NOTE 6 - SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The United States of America and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the ensuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Council. In addition, the impact on the Council's future operating costs, receipts, and any recovery from emergency funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.

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

Buckeye Joint-County Insurance Council
Lawrence County
P.O. Box 702
Ironton, Ohio 45638

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 Buckeye Joint-County Insurance Council, Lawrence County, Ohio, as of and for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Buckeye Joint-County Insurance Council's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated July 23, 2020, wherein we noted as discussed in Note 6 to the financial statements, the financial impact of COVID-19 and the ensuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

As part of our financial statement audit, we considered the Buckeye Joint-County Insurance Council'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 Buckeye Joint-County Insurance Council'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 Buckeye Joint-County Insurance Council'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.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of reasonably assuring whether the Buckeye Joint-County Insurance Council'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 Buckeye Joint-County Insurance Council's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed under *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Buckeye Joint-County Insurance Council's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.



Julian & Grube, Inc.
July 23, 2020

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



BUCKEYE JOINT COUNTY INSURANCE COUNCIL

LAWRENCE COUNTY

AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION

This is a true and correct copy of the report, which is required to be filed pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in the Office of the Ohio Auditor of State in Columbus, Ohio.



Certified for Release 10/8/2020

88 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215
Phone: 614-466-4514 or 800-282-0370

This report is a matter of public record and is available online at
www.ohioauditor.gov