



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE  
**KEITH FABER**





# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



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

Lake County Visitors Bureau  
Lake County  
105 Main Street, Office B101  
Painesville, Ohio 44077

We have performed the procedures enumerated below, which were agreed to by the Board of Trustees and the management of the Lake County Visitors Bureau, Lake County, Ohio (the Bureau) on the receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the Bureau's cash basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 and certain compliance requirements related to those transactions and balances, included in the information provided to us by the management of the Bureau. The Bureau is responsible for the receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the cash basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances included in the information provided to us by the Bureau. 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 and Investments

1. We recalculated the December 31, 2019 and December 31, 2018 bank reconciliations. We found no exceptions.
2. We agreed the January 1, 2018 beginning fund balances recorded in the Balance Sheet Detail Report to the December 31, 2017 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, 2019 beginning fund balances recorded in the Balance Sheet Detail Report to the December 31, 2018 balances in the Balance Sheet Detail Report. We found no exceptions.
3. We agreed the totals per the bank reconciliation to the total of the December 31, 2019 fund cash balance reported on the Balance Sheet Report. The amounts did not agree for December 31, 2019. Management identified this error was due to an outstanding check that was not recorded on bank reconciliation for the amount of \$1,876. We agreed the totals per the bank reconciliations to the total of the December 31, 2018 fund cash balances reported in the Balance Sheet Report. The amounts agreed.
4. We confirmed the December 31, 2019 bank account balances with the Bureau's financial institutions. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the confirmed balances to the amounts appearing in the December 31, 2019 bank reconciliation without exception.

**Cash and Investments – (Continued)**

5. We selected five reconciling debits (such as outstanding checks) from the December 31, 2019 bank reconciliation:
  - a. We traced each debit to the subsequent January and February bank statement. We found no exceptions.
  - 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 inspected investments held at December 31, 2019 and December 31, 2018 to determine that they were of a type authorized by the Bureau. We found no exceptions.

**Cash Receipts**

1. We confirmed with Lake County, the lodging taxes it paid to the Bureau during the years ending December 31, 2019 and 2018. Lake County confirmed the following amounts:

<b>Year Ended</b>	<b>Amount</b>
December 31, 2019	\$ 1,122,894
December 31, 2018	\$ 845,155

2. We compared the amounts from step 1 to amounts recorded as lodging tax receipts on the Bureau's Transaction Detail by Account. We found no exceptions.

**Cash Disbursements**

1. We inquired of management regarding sources describing allowable purposes or restrictions related to the Bureau's disbursements of lodging taxes. We listed these sources and summarized significant related restrictions below:

**Source of Restrictions**

- a. The Bureau's Articles of Incorporation
- b. The Bureau's 501(c)(6) Tax Exemption
- c. Lake County Resolution 20130514-C03
- d. Ohio Rev. Code Section 5739.09(A)(2)

The Bureau's tax exemption prohibits it from disbursements supporting a candidate's election.

Ohio Rev. Code Section 5739.09(A)(2) restricts the Bureau to spending lodging tax "specifically for promotion, advertising, and marketing of the region in which the county is located."

Auditor of State Bulletin 2003-005 deems any disbursement of public funds (e.g. lodging taxes) for alcohol to be improper.

We selected 10 disbursements of lodging taxes from the Transaction Detail by Account report for the year ended December 31, 2019 and 10 disbursements from 2018 and compared the purpose for these disbursements as documented on vendor invoices or other supporting documentation to the sources of restrictions listed in Cash Disbursements Step 1 above. We found no instances where the purpose described on the invoice or other supporting documentation described a violation the restrictions listed above.

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 examine or review the Bureau's lodging tax receipts and disbursements for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, the objective of which would have been to opine on lodging tax receipts and disbursements or provide a conclusion. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that we would have reported to you.

This report is to provide assistance in the evaluation of the Bureau's receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in their cash-basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, 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 "Keith Faber". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Keith Faber  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

May 18, 2020

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# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



**LAKE COUNTY VISITORS BUREAU**

**LAKE 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  
JULY 14, 2020**