



**UNION TOWNSHIP
LAWRENCE COUNTY
Regular Audit
For the Years Ended December 31, 2019 and 2018**

313 Second St.
Marietta, OH 45750
740 373 0056

1907 Grand Central Ave.
Vienna, WV 26105
304 422 2203

150 W. Main St., #A
St. Clairsville, OH 43950
740 695 1569

1310 Market St., #300
Wheeling, WV 26003
304 232 1358

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



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Board of Trustees
Union Township
4611 County Road 17
South Point, OH 45680

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of Union Township, Lawrence County, prepared by Perry & Associates, Certified Public Accountants, A.C., for the audit period January 1, 2018 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. Union Township 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

July 29, 2020

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**UNION TOWNSHIP
LAWRENCE COUNTY**

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

June 28, 2020

Union Township
Lawrence County
PO Box 248
Chesapeake, Ohio 45619

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 **Union Township**, Lawrence County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018.

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 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 the overall financial statement presentation.

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

Tax - Accounting - Audit - Review - Compilation - Agreed Upon Procedure - Consultation - Bookkeeping - Payroll - Litigation Support - Financial Investigations
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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 the Township as of December 31, 2019 and 2018, and the respective 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 cash balances, receipts and disbursements by fund type, and related notes of Union Township, Lawrence County as of December 31, 2019 and 2018, 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.

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note 12 to the financial statements, during 2019 and 2018, the financial impact of COVID-19 and the ensuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Township. We did not modify our opinion regarding this matter.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 28, 2020, 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

**UNION TOWNSHIP
LAWRENCE COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (REGULATORY CASH BASIS)
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019**

	General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts			
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 75,757	\$ 191,316	\$ 267,073
Licenses, Permits and Fees	73,087	-	73,087
Intergovernmental	30,802	176,757	207,559
Miscellaneous	3,083	3,232	6,315
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>182,729</u>	<u>371,305</u>	<u>554,034</u>
Cash Disbursements			
Current:			
General Government	118,340	-	118,340
Public Safety	475	64,090	64,565
Public Works	809	150,944	151,753
Conservation-Recreation	146	-	146
Debt Service:			
Principal Retirement	-	54,900	54,900
Interest and Fiscal Charges	-	5,303	5,303
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>119,770</u>	<u>275,237</u>	<u>395,007</u>
<i>Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>	<u>62,959</u>	<u>96,068</u>	<u>159,027</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>173,842</u>	<u>414,222</u>	<u>588,064</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31			
Restricted	-	451,005	451,005
Committed	-	59,285	59,285
Assigned	47,102	-	47,102
Unassigned (Deficit)	189,699	-	189,699
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u>\$ 236,801</u>	<u>\$ 510,290</u>	<u>\$ 747,091</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

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

Union Township
Lawrence County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

Note 1 – Reporting Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of the Union Township, Lawrence 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, and fire protection. The Township contracts with the Union Township Volunteer Fire Department, Chesapeake Fire Department, and the Proctorville Fire Department to provide fire services.

Public Entity Risk Pool

The Township participates in Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a risk sharing pool available to Ohio townships. Note 7 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity. 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.

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:

Gas Tax Fund The gas tax fund accounts for and reports that portion of the State gasoline tax restricted for maintenance and repair of roads within the Township.

Fire District Fund The fire district fund receives tax money for providing fire protection to the Township.

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).

Union Township
Lawrence County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

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.

A summary of 2018 budgetary activity appears in Note 4.

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.

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.

Union Township
Lawrence County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

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.

Note 3 – Compliance

Contrary to Ohio law, budgetary expenditures exceeded appropriation authority in the Road and Bridge fund by \$32,000 for the year ended December 31, 2019.

Note 4 – Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2019 follows:

2019 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 183,900	\$ 182,728	\$ (1,172)
Special Revenue	339,754	371,306	31,552
Total	\$ 523,654	\$ 554,034	\$ 30,380

2019 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 231,600	\$ 188,319	\$ 43,281
Special Revenue	467,000	359,872	107,128
Total	\$ 698,600	\$ 548,191	\$ 150,409

Union Township
Lawrence County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

Note 5 – Deposits and Investments

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

	2019
Demand deposits	\$ 747,091
Total deposits	\$ 747,091

Deposits

Deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or collateralized through the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution.

Note 6 – 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 non-business, owner occupancy, and homestead exemption credits and/or homestead and rollback deductions. The financial statements include these credits and/or deduction 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.

The County is responsible for assessing property and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on behalf of the Township.

Note 7 – Risk Management

The Township is a member of the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (The Pool). The Pool assumes the risk of loss up to the limits of the Township’s policy. The Pool covers the following risks:

- General liability and casualty
- Public official’s liability
- Cyber
- Law enforcement liability
- Automobile liability
- Vehicles
- Property
- Equipment breakdown

The Pool reported the following summary of assets and actuarially-measured liabilities available to pay those liabilities as of December 31:

	<u>2019</u>
Cash and investments	\$35,207,320
Actuarial liabilities	\$ 10,519,942

Union Township
Lawrence County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

Note 8 – Defined Benefit Pension Plans

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

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 health care and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. OPERS members contributed 10 percent of their gross salaries, and the Township contributed an amount equaling 14 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2019.

Note 9 – Postemployment Benefits

OPERS offers cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plans, which include 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. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the traditional pension plan and combined plan was 0 percent during calendar year 2019. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the member-directed plan was 4.0 percent during calendar year 2019.

Note 10 – Debt

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2019, was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
General Obligation Bond-Fire Truck	\$ 146,100	2.45%
General Obligation Bond-Dump Truck	17,600	2.25%
Total	\$ 163,700	

On November 4, 2016 the Township entered into an agreement to finance the purchase of a Chevrolet dump truck with a snow plow. The principal amount of the debt was \$42,500 and will be paid in full in 2021.

On July 7, 2017 the Township entered into an agreement to finance the purchase of a Fire Truck. The principal amount of the debt was \$237,868 and will be paid in full in 2022.

Amortization

Amortization of the above debt, including interest, is scheduled as follows:

	General Obligation Bond-Fire Truck	General Obligation Bond-Dump Truck
Year Ending December 31:		
2020	\$ 51,079	\$ 9,096
2021	51,116	9,100
2022	51,123	-
Total	\$ 153,318	\$ 18,196

Union Township
Lawrence County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

Note 11 – 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 12 – Subsequent Events

The United States 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 Township. The impact on the Township's future operating costs, revenues, any recovery from emergency funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.

**UNION TOWNSHIP
LAWRENCE COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (REGULATORY CASH BASIS)
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018**

	General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts			
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 56,896	\$ 133,370	\$ 190,266
Licenses, Permits and Fees	60,944	-	60,944
Intergovernmental	30,435	142,160	172,595
Miscellaneous	4,469	2,736	7,205
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	152,744	278,266	431,010
Cash Disbursements			
Current:			
General Government	98,608	-	98,608
Public Safety	205	58,195	58,400
Public Works	16,182	155,460	171,642
Human Services	157	-	157
Conservation-Recreation	136	-	136
Capital Outlay	-	29,001	29,001
Debt Service:			
Principal Retirement	-	53,667	53,667
Interest and Fiscal Charges	-	6,020	6,020
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	115,288	302,343	417,631
<i>Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>	37,456	(24,077)	13,379
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1 (Restated, See note 11)</i>	136,386	438,299	574,685
Fund Cash Balances, December 31			
Restricted	-	361,361	361,361
Committed	-	52,861	52,861
Assigned	112,235	-	112,235
Unassigned (Deficit)	61,607	-	61,607
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	\$ 173,842	\$ 414,222	\$ 588,064

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

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

Union Township
Lawrence County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

Note 1 – Reporting Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of the Union Township, Lawrence 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, and fire protection. The Township contracts with the Union Township Volunteer Fire Department, Chesapeake Fire Department, and the Proctorville Fire Department to provide fire services.

Public Entity Risk Pool

The Township participates in Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a risk sharing pool available to Ohio townships. Note 6 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity. 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.

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:

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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:

Gas Tax Fund The gas tax fund accounts for and reports that portion of the State gasoline tax restricted for maintenance and repair of roads within the Township.

Fire District Fund The fire district fund receives tax money for providing fire protection to the Township.

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).

Union Township
Lawrence County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

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.

A summary of 2018 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.

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.

Union Township
Lawrence County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

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.

Note 3 – Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2018 follows:

2018 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 182,900	\$ 152,744	\$ (30,156)
Special Revenue	288,850	278,266	(10,584)
Total	\$ 471,750	\$ 431,010	\$ (40,740)

2018 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 270,100	\$ 179,824	\$ 90,276
Special Revenue	497,500	392,999	104,501
Total	\$ 767,600	\$ 572,823	\$ 194,777

Note 4 – Deposits and Investments

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

	2018
Demand deposits	\$ 588,064
Total deposits	\$ 588,064

Union Township
Lawrence County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

Note 4 – Deposits and Investments (Continued)

Deposits

Deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or collateralized through the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution.

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 non-business, owner occupancy, and homestead exemption credits and/or homestead and rollback deductions. The financial statements include these credits and/or deduction 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.

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 a member of the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (The Pool). The Pool assumes the risk of loss up to the limits of the Township's policy. The Pool covers the following risks:

- General liability and casualty
- Public official's liability
- Cyber
- Law enforcement liability
- Automobile liability
- Vehicles
- Property
- Equipment breakdown

The Pool reported the following summary of assets and actuarially-measured liabilities available to pay those liabilities as of December 31:

	<u>2018</u>
Cash and investments	\$33,097,416
Actuarial liabilities	\$ 7,874,610

Note 7 – Defined Benefit Pension Plans

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

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 health care and survivor and disability benefits.

Union Township
Lawrence County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

Note 7 – Defined Benefit Pension Plans (Continued)

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. OPERS members contributed 10 percent of their gross salaries, and the Township contributed an amount equaling 14 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2018.

Note 8 – Postemployment Benefits

OPERS offers cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plans, which include 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. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the traditional pension plan and combined plan was 0 percent during calendar year 2018. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the member-directed plan was 4.0 percent during calendar year 2018.

Note 9 – Debt

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2018, was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
General Obligation Bond-Fire Truck	\$ 192,500	2.45%
General Obligation Bond-Dump Truck	26,100	2.25%
Total	\$ 218,600	

On November 4, 2016 the Township entered into an agreement to finance the purchase of a Chevrolet dump truck with a snow plow. The principal amount of the debt was \$42,500 and will be paid in full in 2021.

On July 7, 2017 the Township entered into an agreement to finance the purchase of a Fire Truck. The principal amount of the debt was \$237,868 and will be paid in full in 2022.

Amortization

Amortization of the above debt, including interest, is scheduled as follows:

	General Obligation Bond-Fire Truck	General Obligation Bond-Dump Truck
Year Ending December 31:		
2019	\$ 51,116	\$ 9,087
2020	51,079	9,096
2021	51,116	9,100
2022	51,123	-
Total	\$ 204,434	\$ 27,283

Union Township
Lawrence County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

Note 10 – 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 11 – Prior Period Restatement

The following adjustment is reflected in the January 1, 2018 fund balances:

	Special Revenue Funds
December 31, 2017 audited balances	\$ 437,800
Adjustment to account for canceled checks	500
January 1, 2018 balances	\$ 438,300

The Township canceled checks that were outstanding and reissued new checks.

Note 12 – Subsequent Events

The United States 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 Township. The impact on the Township's future operating costs, revenues, any recovery from emergency funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.



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St. Clairsville, OH 43950
740.695.1569

1310 Market Street, Suite 300
Wheeling, WV 26003
304.232.1358

749 Wheeling Ave., Suite 300
Cambridge, OH 43725
740.435.3417

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

June 28, 2020

Union Township
Lawrence County
PO Box 248
Chesapeake, Ohio 45619

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 **Union Township**, Lawrence County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, and the related notes to the financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated June 28, 2020, 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 and we noted the financial impact of COVID-19 and the ensuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Township.

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 opinions 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.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Therefore, unidentified material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist. However, as described in the accompanying schedule of audit findings we identified certain deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting, that we consider a material weakness and a significant deficiency.

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 a 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. We consider finding 2019-001 described in the accompanying schedule of audit findings to be a material weakness.

Tax - Accounting - Audit - Review - Compilation - Agreed Upon Procedure - Consultation - Bookkeeping - Payroll - Litigation Support - Financial Investigations
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• Ohio Society of CPAs • West Virginia Society of CPAs • Association of Certified Fraud Examiners • Association of Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialists •

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Internal Control Over Financial Reporting (Continued)

A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of internal control deficiencies less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance. We consider finding 2019-002 described in the accompanying schedule of audit findings to be a significant deficiency.

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 an instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which are described in the accompanying schedule of audit findings as items 2019-002 and 2019-003.

Township's Response to Findings

The Township's responses to the findings identified in our audit are described in the accompanying schedule of audit findings. We did not subject the Township's responses to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

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

**UNION TOWNSHIP
LAWRENCE COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF AUDIT FINDINGS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND 2018**

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS
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FINDING NUMBER 2019-001

Material Weakness

Posting Receipts, Disbursements and Classification of Fund Balances

The Township is responsible for establishing procedures and controls to help prevent and detect errors in financial reporting. Fund balances should be classified based on Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54 – Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions.

During 2019 and 2018, receipts, disbursements and fund balances were not always posted or classified correctly. The following posting errors were noted:

- A portion of the General Fund balance was classified as Unassigned when it should have been Assigned in 2019 and 2018.
- Principal and Interest payments were classified as Public Works in the Gasoline Tax Fund and Capital Outlay in the Fire District Fund in 2018 and 2019;

Not posting receipts and disbursements or classifying fund balances accurately resulted in the financial statements requiring several reclassifications. The Financial Statements reflect all reclassifications.

The following errors noted in the Township’s financial statements were determined to be immaterial and did not require adjustments to properly present the Township’s financial activity:

- Manufactured Home Settlements from the county auditor were recorded as Intergovernmental instead of Property and Other Local Taxes in 2019 and 2018.

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

We also recommend the Fiscal Officer refer to the Ohio Township Handbook for guidance to determine the proper establishment of receipt and disbursement accounts and posting of receipts and disbursements. The Fiscal Officer should refer to Auditor of State Technical Bulletin 2011-004 for assistance in properly classifying fund balances.

Management’s Response – The Township is working on improving and correcting this.

FINDING NUMBER 2019-002

Significant Deficiency/Noncompliance

Budgetary Controls

The Budget is an instrument of public policy. A governing board expresses its desires for using a government’s limited resources through its appropriations. Ohio Revised Code Section 5705 deals with a variety of budgetary requirements that all subdivisions must comply with in order to ensure fiscal responsibility.

**UNION TOWNSHIP
LAWRENCE COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF AUDIT FINDINGS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND 2018**

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (Continued)
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FINDING NUMBER 2019-002 (Continued)

Budgetary Controls (Continued)

In performing the audit, we noted several violations of budgetary law, which although they do not in and of themselves result in errors in financial reporting, may lead to the Township making financial decisions based on incorrect or incomplete information. We noted the following:

- Violations of 5705.41(B) stating no subdivision is to expend money unless it has been appropriated (expenditures exceeded appropriations) in the Road and Bridge Fund in 2019.

We recommend the Township implement procedures to ensure appropriations and estimated receipts are accurately posted to the accounting system and reconciled to the amounts approved by the County Budget Commission and Board after each amendment. The Board does not monitor for budgetary compliance. Although Board approves budgets for revenue and expenses and receives monthly reports of budget and actual information, it does not ensure budgetary forms are properly completed or submitted to the County Budget Commission.

Board should review the requirements of Ohio Revised Code Section 5705 to be familiar with these laws and to make sure the Township is complying with applicable sections. We recommend the Township establish a procedure that ensures budgetary monitoring.

Management's Response – The Township is working on improving and correcting this.

FINDING NUMBER 2019-003

Noncompliance

Public Records Policy

Every public office must have a policy in place for compliance with Public Records Laws. There are three specific items that public offices cannot have in their public records policies. The policy cannot: (1) limit the number of public records it will make available to a single person; (2) limit the number of public records it will make available during a fixed period of time; or (3) establish a fixed period of time before it will respond to a request for inspection/copying of public records unless that period is less than eight hours.

By September 29, 2007, all public officers were required to create a poster describing its public records policy. In addition, the public office is required to post the poster in a conspicuous place in the public office and in all locations where the public office has branch offices. Finally, if the public office has an employee policies and procedures manual or handbook, it is required that the public records policy be included in such manual or handbook.

Pursuant to **Ohio Rev. Code 149.43(B)(2)**, the entity shall have available a copy of its current records retention schedule at a location readily available to the public. Any application or schedule for the destruction of records must be sent to the Ohio Historical Society for review to determine whether any of the records are of historical value [**Ohio Rev. Code § 149.39**]. Once reviewed by the Ohio Historical Society, the applications are then forwarded to the Ohio Auditor of State's Office for final approval. A model policy is available at www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/files/Forms/Forms-for-Government.

UNION TOWNSHIP
LAWRENCE COUNTY

SCHEDULE OF AUDIT FINDINGS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND 2018

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

FINDING NUMBER 2019-003 (Continued)

Noncompliance (Continued)

Public Records Policy (Continued)

During our compliance testing it was noted that the Township did not have a Public Records Policy or a Public Records Retention Policy during the audit period. In addition, the Township did not have a poster describing their public records policy. They also had not included the public records policy in the employee policies and procedures handbook. We recommend the Township Trustees take steps to properly document records requests, have a poster in the Township hall, and revise and adopt an updated employee policies and procedures handbook.

Management's Response – The Township is working on improving and correcting this.

**UNION TOWNSHIP
LAWRENCE COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND 2018**

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Status	Additional Information
2017-001	Posting Receipts, Disbursements and Fund Balance Classification	Partially Corrected	Repeated as finding 2019-001
2017-002	Budgetary Controls	Partially Corrected	Repeated as finding 2019-002
2017-003	Ohio Revised Code Section 505.601	Corrected	N/A

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



UNION TOWNSHIP

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 8/11/2020

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