



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

Ashtabula County Agricultural Society
Ashtabula County
P.O. Box 546
Jefferson, Ohio 44047

We have performed the procedures enumerated below on the Ashtabula County Agricultural Society's (the Society) receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the cash basis accounting records for the years ended November 30, 2020 and 2019 and certain compliance requirements related to those transactions and balances, included in the information provided to us by the management of the Society. The Society is responsible for the receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the cash basis accounting records for the years ended November 30, 2020 and 2019 and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances included in the information provided to us by the Society.

The Board of Trustees and the management of the Society have agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of providing assistance in the evaluation of the Society's receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in their cash-basis accounting records for the years ended November 30, 2020 and 2019, and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances. No other party acknowledged the appropriateness of the procedures. This report may not be suitable for any other purpose. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of the report and may not meet the needs of all users of the report and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes. The sufficiency of the procedures is solely the responsibility of the parties specified in the 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.

For the purposes of performing these procedures, this report only describes exceptions exceeding \$10.

The procedures and the associated findings are as follows:

Cash and Investments

1. We recalculated the November 30, 2020 and November 30, 2019 bank reconciliations. We found no exceptions.
2. We agreed the December 1, 2018 beginning fund balances recorded to the November 30, 2018 balances in the prior year documentation in the prior year Agreed-Upon Procedures working papers. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the December 1, 2019 beginning fund balances recorded to the November 30, 2019 balances. We found no exceptions.
3. We agreed the totals per the bank reconciliations to the total of the November 30, 2020 and 2019 fund cash balance reported in the Balance Sheet and the financial statements filed by the Society in the Hinkle System. The amounts agreed.

4. We observed the year-end bank balances on the financial institution's website. The balances agreed. We also agreed the confirmed balances to the amounts appearing in the November 30, 2020 bank reconciliation without exception.
5. We selected all three reconciling debits (such as outstanding checks) from the November 30, 2020 bank reconciliation:
 - a. We traced each debit to the subsequent December bank statements. We found no exceptions.
 - b. We traced the amounts and dates to the check register and determined the debits were dated prior to November 30. There were no exceptions.
6. We traced interbank account transfers occurring in November of 2020 and 2019 to the accounting records and bank statements to determine if they were properly recorded. We found no exceptions.
7. We inspected investments held at November 30, 2020 and November 30, 2019 to determine that they:
 - a. Were of a type authorized by Ohio Rev. Code Sections 135.13, 135.14 or 135.144. We found no exceptions.
 - b. Mature within the prescribed time limits noted in Ohio Rev. Code Section 135.13 or 135.14. There were no exceptions.

Intergovernmental Cash Receipts

We selected a total of five receipts from the Distribution Transaction Detail Report (State DTL) and the County Auditor's DTLs from 2020 and a total of five from 2019.

- a. We compared the amounts from the above named reports to the amounts recorded in the Receipt Ledger. The amounts agreed.
- b. We inspected the Receipt Ledger to determine these receipts were allocated to the proper account codes. We found no exceptions.
- c. We inspected the Receipt Ledger to determine whether the receipts were recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.

Admission/Grandstand Receipts

We selected two days of admission/grandstand cash receipts from the year ended November 30, 2019 recorded in the Receipt Ledger and agreed the receipt amounts to the supporting documentation (ticket recapitulation sheets/cash register tapes, etc.). The amounts agreed.

Rental Receipts

We selected 10 rental cash receipts from the year ended November 30, 2020 recorded in the duplicate cash receipts book and:

- a. Agreed the receipt amounts to the amount recorded in the Receipt Ledger. The amounts agreed.
- b. Agreed the rate charged with rates in force during the period. We found no exceptions.
- c. Inspected the Receipt Ledger to determine whether the receipts were recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.

Junior Livestock Auction

We selected three livestock auction sales. For each sale, we:

- a. Agreed the sale amount recorded in the cash receipts book to:
 - i. The auction bid records.
 - ii. Bank deposit from the sale
 - iii. The seller's invoice
 - iv. The amount on the check written to the seller.

We found no exceptions.

- b. Also agreed the auction bid records to:
 - i. The buyer's invoice amount
 - ii. Bank deposit for the purchase.

We found no exceptions.

Other Receipts

We selected 10 other receipts from the year ended November 30, 2020 and 10 other receipts from the year ended November 30, 2019 and:

- a. Agreed the receipt amounts recorded in the Receipt Ledger to supporting documentation. The amounts agreed.
- b. Inspected the Receipt Ledger to determine the receipts were posted to the proper funds, and were recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.

Debt

1. The prior agreed-upon procedures documentation disclosed no debt outstanding as of November 30, 2018.
2. We inquired of management, and inspected the receipt and expenditure records for evidence of loan or credit agreements, and bonded, note, county, or mortgage debt issued during 2020 or 2019 or debt payment activity during 2020 or 2019. There were no new debt issuances, nor any debt payment activity during 2020 or 2019.

Payroll Cash Disbursements

1. We selected one payroll check for five employees from 2020 and one payroll check for five employees from 2019 from the Check Detail Report and:
 - a. We compared the hours and pay rate, or salary recorded in the Check Detail Report to supporting documentation (timecard, legislatively or statutorily-approved rate or salary).
 - i. We inspected the minute record for the Retirement system, Federal, State & Local income tax withholding authorization.
 - ii. We agreed these items to the information used to compute gross and net pay related to this check.
 - b. We recomputed gross and net pay and agreed it to the amount recorded in the payroll register. We found no exceptions.
2. We inspected the last remittance of tax and retirement withholdings for the year ended November 30, 2020 to confirm remittances were timely paid, and that the amounts paid agreed to the amounts withheld, plus the employer's share where applicable, during the final withholding period of 2020. We observed the following:

Withholding (plus employer share, where applicable)	Date Due	Date Paid	Amount Due	Amount Paid
Federal income taxes & Medicare (and social security, for employees not enrolled in pension system)	January 31, 2021	January 27, 2021	\$709.00	\$709.00
State income taxes	January 31, 2021	January 26, 2021	\$36.81	\$45.00
Local income tax	January 15, 2021	January 21, 2021	\$45.00	\$45.00

As stated above, the Society paid the local income tax past the due date. No late fee or penalty was assessed on this amount. We recommend the Society make these payments prior to the due dates. We also found the Society overpaid state taxes for this quarter which was reimbursed in February of 2021.

Non-Payroll Cash Disbursements

We selected 10 disbursements from the Expenditure Report for the year ended November 30, 2020 and 10 from the year ended November 30, 2019 and determined whether:

- a. The disbursements were for a proper public purpose. We found no exceptions.
- b. The check number, date, payee name and amount recorded on the returned, canceled check agreed to the check number, date, payee name and amount recorded in the Expenditure Report and to the names and amounts on the supporting invoices. We found no exceptions.
- c. Based on the nature of the expenditure, the account coding is reasonable. We found no exceptions.

Sunshine Law Compliance

1. We obtained and inspected the Society's Public Records Policy to determine the policy was in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code §§ 149.43(E)(2) and 149.43(B)(7)(c) and did not limit the number of responses that may be made to a particular person, limit the number of responses during a specified period of time, or establish a fixed period of time before it will respond unless that period is less than eight hours. We found no exceptions.
2. We inquired with Society management and determined that the Society did not have any completed public records requests during the engagement period.
3. We inquired whether the Society had a records retention schedule, and observed that it was readily available to the public as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(B)(2). We found no exceptions.
4. We inspected written evidence that the Public Records Policy was provided to the records custodian/manager as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2). We found no exceptions.
5. We inspected the Society's policy manual and determined the public records policy was included as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2). We found no exceptions.
6. We observed that the Society's poster describing their Public Records Policy was displayed conspicuously in all branches of the Society as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2). We found no exceptions.

7. We inquired with Society management and determined that the Society did not have any applications for record disposal submitted to the Records Commission during the engagement period.
8. We inquired with Society management and determined that the Society did not have any elected officials subject to the Public Records Training requirements during the engagement period as required by Ohio Rev. Code §§ 149.43(E)(1) and 109.43(B).
9. We inspected the public notices for the public meetings held during the engagement period and determined the Society notified the general public and news media of when and where meetings during the engagement period were to be held as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 121.22(F). We found no exceptions.
10. We inspected the minutes of public meetings during the engagement period in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code § 121.22(C) and determined whether they were:
 - a. Prepared – a file is created following the date of the meeting.
 - b. Filed – placed with similar documents in an organized manner.
 - c. Maintained - retained, at a minimum, for the engagement period.
 - d. Open to public inspection – available for public viewing or request.We found no exceptions.
11. We inspected the minutes from the engagement period in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code § 121.22(G) and determined the following:
 - a. Executive sessions were only held at regular or special meetings.
 - b. The purpose for the meetings and going into an executive session (when applicable) correlated with one of the matters listed in Ohio Rev. Code Section 121.22(G).
 - c. Formal governing board actions were adopted in open meetings.We found no exceptions.

Other Compliance

1. Ohio Rev. Code Section 117.38 requires Societies 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 Society 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 November 30, 2020 and 2019 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 Society.We found no exceptions.
 - b. We selected 1 credit card transaction from each credit card account 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.

- c. We selected 3 credit card statements from each credit card account for testing. For selected statements we inspected documentation to determine that:
 - i. No unpaid beginning balance was carried forward to the current billing cycle,
 - ii. Ending statement balance was paid in full, and
 - iii. Statement contained no interest or late fees.We found no exceptions.

Related Party Transactions

1. We inquired with management and identified the following Related Party Transactions:
 - a. The Society conducted business with a rental home owned by Board member, Deborah Platt, in the amount of \$975 which represented the fair market value of the products provided to house two employees of the Butterfly Effect which was part of their contract with the Society during the 2019 fair.
We found no exceptions.
2. We confirmed the transactions with the other party, or with intermediaries, such as banks, guarantors, agents or attorneys. We found no exceptions.
3. We obtained sufficient evidence for the Related Party Transactions noted in procedure 1. We found no exceptions.

We were engaged by the Society to perform this agreed-upon procedures engagement and conducted our engagement in accordance with the attestation standards established by the AICPA and Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. We were not engaged to, and did not conduct an examination, or review engagement, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on the Society'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.

We are required to be independent of the Society and to meet our ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the ethical requirements established by the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards* related to our agreed upon procedures engagement.



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

July 21, 2021

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



ASHTABULA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

ASHTABULA 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 8/3/2021

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