



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE  
**KEITH FABER**





# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



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

Jefferson Belmont Regional Solid Waste Authority  
Jefferson County  
228 Technology Way  
Steubenville, Ohio 43952

We have performed the procedures enumerated below on the Jefferson Belmont Regional Solid Waste Authority's (the Authority) receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the cash basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 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 Authority. The Authority is responsible for the receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the cash basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019 and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances included in the information provided to us by the Authority.

The Board of Directors and the management of the Authority have agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of providing assistance in the evaluation of the Authority's receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in their cash-basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 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 December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2019 bank reconciliations. We found no exceptions.
2. We agreed the January 1, 2019 beginning fund balances recorded in the Account Balance Report to the December 31, 2018 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, 2020 beginning fund balances recorded in the Account Balance Report to the December 31, 2019 balances in the Account Balance Report. We found no exceptions.

3. We agreed the totals per the bank reconciliations to the total of the December 31, 2020 and 2019 fund cash balances reported in the Account Balance Report and the financial statements filed by the Authority in the Hinkle System. The amounts agreed.
4. We confirmed the December 31, 2020 bank account balances with the Authority's financial institutions. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the confirmed balances to the amounts appearing in the December 31, 2020 bank reconciliation without exception.
5. We selected five reconciling debits (such as outstanding checks) from the December 31, 2020 bank reconciliation:
  - a. We traced each debit to the subsequent January bank statement. We found no exceptions.
  - b. We traced the amounts and dates to the check register, and determined the debits were dated prior to December 31. There were no exceptions.
6. We inspected investments held at December 31, 2020 and December 31, 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. We noted no exceptions.

**Tipping Fees and Other Confirmable Cash Receipts**

1. We confirmed the amounts paid from the Apex Environmental to the Authority during 2020 and 2019. They confirmed payment of the following amounts to the Authority:

Company	2020 Payments	2019 Payments
Apex Environmental	\$1,843,640	\$1,790,977

- a. We compared the amount confirmed with the amount the Authority recorded in its receipt records. We found no exceptions.
- b. We inspected the Revenue Ledger to determine whether these receipts were allocated to the proper fund. We found no exceptions.
- c. We inspected the Revenue Ledger to determine whether the receipts were recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.
2. We obtained the March 2019 and November 2020 total tonnage reports from the landfill in procedure 1.
  - a. We recalculated the dollar amount sent to the Authority based on the rates in force during the period and agreed to the amounts posted to the Authority's ledgers. We observed no exceptions.

**Other Receipts**

We selected 10 other receipts from the year ended December 31, 2020 and 10 other receipts from the year ended 2019 and:

- a. Agreed the receipt amount recorded in the Revenue Journal to supporting documentation. The amounts agreed.
- b. Confirmed the amounts charged complied with rates in force during the audit period. We found no exceptions.
- c. Inspected the Revenue Journal to determine the receipt was posted to the proper fund, and was recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.

**Debt**

1. The prior agreed-upon procedures documentation disclosed no debt outstanding as of December 31, 2018.
2. We inquired of management and inspected the Revenue Ledger and Check/Voucher Register – Detail Report for evidence of 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 Quick Check/Transaction Register and:
  - a. We compared the hours and pay rate, or salary amount recorded in the Quick Check/Transaction Register to supporting documentation (timecard, legislatively or statutorily-approved rate or salary.
    - i. We inspected the employees' personnel files 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.  
 We found no exceptions.
  - b. We inspected the fund and account code to which the check was posted to determine the posting was allowable based on the employees' duties as documented in the minute record. We found no exceptions.
  - c. We confirmed the payment was posted to the proper year. We found no exceptions.
2. We inspected the last remittance of tax and retirement withholdings for the year ended December 31, 2020 to confirm remittances were timely paid, and if 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:

<b>Withholding (plus employer share, where applicable)</b>	<b>Date Due</b>	<b>Date Paid</b>	<b>Amount Due</b>	<b>Amount Paid</b>
Federal income taxes & Medicare	January 31, 2021	December 28, 2020	\$2,982	\$2,982
State income taxes	January 15, 2021	January 3, 2021	1,869	1,869
Local income tax	January 31, 2021	January 3, 2021	660	660
OPERS retirement	January 30, 2021	January 7, 2021	11,697	11,697

**Non-Payroll Cash Disbursements**

1. We selected 10 disbursements from the Check/Voucher Register – Detail report for the year ended December 31, 2020 and 10 from the year ended 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 Check/Voucher Register – Detail report and to the names and amounts on the supporting invoices. We found no exceptions.
  - c. The payment was posted to a fund consistent with the restricted purpose for which the fund's cash can be used. We found no exceptions.

- d. The fiscal officer certified disbursements requiring certification or issued a *Then and Now Certificate*, as required by Ohio Rev. Code Sections 5705.28(B)(2), and 5705.41(D). We found three instances where the certification date was after the vendor invoice date, and there was also no evidence that a *Then and Now Certificate* was issued. Ohio Rev. Code §§ 5705.28(B)(2) and 5705.41(D) requires certifying at the time of a commitment, which should be on or before the invoice date, unless a *Then and Now Certificate* is used. Because we did not inspect all disbursements requiring certification, our report provides no assurance whether or not additional similar errors occurred.
- e. The disbursement was allowable under Ohio Rev. Code Section 3734.57(G), and the Authority's policies and procedures. We found no exceptions.

### **Compliance – Budgetary**

1. Ohio Rev. Code Sections 5705.28(B)(2) 5705.41(B) prohibits expenditures (disbursements plus certified commitments) from exceeding appropriations. We compared total expenditures to total approved appropriations (Ohio Rev. Code §§ 5705.38 and 5705.40) plus any carryover appropriations for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019 for the General and Capital Improvement fund. We observed that expenditures did not exceed appropriations.
2. We inspected the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019 for negative cash fund balance. Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.10 (I) provides that money paid into a fund must be used for the purposes for which such fund is established. As a result, a negative fund cash balance indicates that money from one fund was used to cover the expenses of another. We observed no funds having negative cash fund balances.

### **Sunshine Law Compliance**

1. We obtained and inspected the Authority'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.
  - a. We inquired with Authority management and determined that the Authority did not have any completed public records requests during the engagement period.
  - b. We inquired with Authority management and determined that the Authority did not have any denied public records requests during the engagement period.
  - c. We inquired with Authority management and determined that the Authority did not have any public records requests with redactions during the engagement period.
3. We inquired whether the Authority 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 written evidence the policy was provided to the records custodian/manager.
5. We inspected the Authority's policy manual to determine whether the public records policy was included as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2). We found the public records policy has not been included in the Authority's policy manual.

6. We observed that the Authority's poster describing their Public Records Policy was displayed conspicuously in all branches of the Authority as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2). We found no exceptions.
7. We inquired with Authority management and determined that the Authority did not have any applications for record disposal submitted to the Records Commission during the engagement period.
8. We inquired with Authority management and determined that the Authority 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 Authority 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 these Authorities 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 Authority filed their complete financial statements, as defined by AOS Bulletin 2015-007 and Auditor of State established policy within the allotted timeframe for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019 in the Hinkle system. There were no exceptions.

We were engaged by the Authority to perform this agreed-upon procedures engagement and conducted our engagement in accordance with the attestation standards established by the AICPA and the 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 Authority'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 Authority 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.

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

July 23, 2021



# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



**JEFFERSON BELMONT REGIONAL SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY**

**JEFFERSON 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 8/10/2021**

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This report is a matter of public record and is available online at  
[www.ohioauditor.gov](http://www.ohioauditor.gov)