

# OR&W FIRE DISTRICT BELMONT COUNTY AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020-2019

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 749 Wheeling Ave., #300 Cambridge, OH 43725 740 435 3417

www.perrycpas.com

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER

88 East Broad Street Columbus, Ohio 43215 IPAReport@ohioauditor.gov (800) 282-0370

Board of Trustees OR&W Fire District 4210 Central Avenue Shadyside, Ohio 43947

We have reviewed the *Independent Accountants' Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures* of OR&W Fire District, Belmont County, prepared by Perry & Associates, Certified Public Accountants, A.C., for the audit period January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2020. Based upon this review, we have accepted this report in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code.

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 OR&W Fire District is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

Keith Faber Auditor of State Columbus, Ohio

October 08, 2021

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## OR&W FIRE DISTRICT BELMONT COUNTY

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313 Second St. Marietta, OH 45750 740.373.0056

1907 Grand Central Ave. Vienna, WV 26105 304.422.2203

150 West Main St. 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 ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

August 27, 2021

**OR&W** Fire District Belmont County 4210 Central Avenue Shadyside, Ohio 43947

We have performed the procedures enumerated below on the OR&W Fire District's (the District) 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 District. The District 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 District.

The Board of Trustees and the management of the District have agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of providing assistance in the evaluation of the District'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. Additionally, the Auditor of State has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet their purposes. 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

1. We recalculated the December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2019 bank reconciliations. We found no exceptions.

Tax - Accounting - Audit - Review - Compilation - Agreed Upon Procedure - Consultation - Bookkeeping - Payroll - Litigation Support - Financial Investigations Members: American Institute of Certified Public Accountants Ohio Society of CPAs • West Virginia Society of CPAs • Association of Certified Fraud Examiners • Association of Certified Anti-Money Laudering Specialists •

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## Cash (Continued)

- 2. We agreed the January 1, 2019 beginning fund balances for each fund recorded in the Cash Summary Report to the December 31, 2018 balances in the prior year documentation in the prior year Agreed-Upon Procedures working papers. We noted a variance of \$496 due to checks that were not cashed. We also agreed the January 1, 2020 beginning fund balances for each fund recorded in the Cash Summary Report to the December 31, 2019 balances in the Cash Summary 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 Fund Status Report and the financial statements filed by the District in the Hinkle System. The amounts agreed.
- 4. We confirmed the December 31, 2020 bank account balance with the District's financial institution. 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 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.

## Property Taxes, Intergovernmental and Other Confirmable Cash Receipts

- 1. We selected a total of five receipt from the *Statement of Semiannual Apportionment of Taxes* and the Belmont County Cross Reference Report from 2020 and a total of five from 2019:
  - a. We compared the amount from the above named reports to the amount recorded in the Revenue Ledger. The amounts agreed.
  - b. We inspected the Revenue Ledger to determine these receipts were allocated to the proper funds as required by Ohio Rev. Code §§ 5705.05-.06 and 5705.10. We found no exceptions.
  - c. We inspected the Revenue Ledger to determine whether the receipt was recorded proper year. The receipt was recorded in the proper year. No found no exceptions.
- 2. We inspected the Revenue Ledger to determine whether it included two real estate tax receipts for 2020 and 2019. The Revenue Ledger included the proper number of tax receipts for each year.

## **Charges for Services**

- We confirmed the amounts paid from American Medical Billing, the service organization that performs the emergency medical billings to the District during 2019 and 2020 with the Revenue Ledger. We noted a positive variance of \$8,825.84 in 2019 and \$1,922.08 in 2020 between what American Medical Billing reported and what the District recorded in their Revenue Ledger. In total, the District reported \$10,747.92 more in their Revenue Ledger than what was reported by American Medical Billing. We found no other exceptions.
  - a. We inspected the Revenue Ledger to determine whether these receipts were allocated to the proper fund. We found no exceptions.
  - b. We inspected the Revenue Ledger to determine whether the receipts were recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.

#### Debt

1. From the prior agreed-upon procedures documentation, we observed the following loan was outstanding as of December 31, 2018. These amounts agreed to the District's January 1, 2019 balances on the summary we used in procedure 3.

Principal outstanding asIssueof December 31, 2018:	
Ambulance Purchase Loan	\$66,641

- 2. We inquired of management, and inspected the Revenue Ledger and Appropriation Ledger for evidence of debt issued during 2020 or 2019 or debt payment activity during 2020 or 2019. All debt agreed to the summary we used in procedure 3.
- 3. We obtained a summary of loans and leases debt activity for 2020 and 2019 and agreed principal and interest payments from the related debt amortization schedules to general and fire and rescue, EMS and ambulance services fund payments reported in the Appropriation Ledger. In 2020, principal payments recorded in the Appropriation Ledger were overstated by \$187 and interest and fiscal charges were understated by \$187. We also compared the date the debt service payments were due to the date the District made the payments. We found no exceptions.
- 4. We agreed the amount of debt proceeds from the debt documents to amounts recorded in the General fund per the Revenue Ledger. We noted that the District did not record proceeds of a new lease in the amount of \$679,655 in 2019. This would have been a memo entry with no net effect on fund balance, so no entry was proposed.
- 5. For new debt issued during 2020 and 2019, we inspected the debt legislation, which stated the District must use the proceeds to purchase a fire truck. We noted the District purchased a fire truck, however did not record the debt proceeds and capital outlay disbursements to the accounting system.

## 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 Wage Detail Report and:
  - a. We compared the hours and pay rate, or salary recorded in the Wage 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.

We found no exceptions.

- b. We inspected the fund and account codes 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.

## Payroll Cash Disbursements (Continued)

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:

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	December 18, 2020	\$3,601.64	\$3,601.64
State income taxes	January 15, 2021	January 12, 2021	\$702.48	\$702.48
OPERS retirement	January 30, 2021	January 12, 2021	\$280.00	\$280.00

## Non-Payroll Cash Disbursements

- 1. We selected 10 disbursements from the Appropriation Ledger 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 Appropriation Ledger and to the names and amounts on the supporting invoices. We were unable to verify this information as we did not receive cancelled check images from the bank. We found no other 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 § 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 § 5705.41(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.

## **Compliance – Budgetary**

- Ohio Rev. Code § 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, Fire and Rescue, EMS and Ambulance Services and 2015 Marcs Grant funds. We observed no funds for which expenditures exceeded appropriations.
- 2. We inspected 2020 and 2019 Revenue Status Reports and Appropriation Status Reports for interfund transfers in compliance with Ohio Rev. Code Sections 5705.14 .16. We found no evidence of transfers these Sections prohibit, or for which Section 5705.16 would require approval by the Tax Commissioner.

## Compliance – Budgetary (Continued)

3. We inspected the Cash Summary by Fund Report for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019 for negative cash fund balances. 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. There were no funds having negative cash fund balances.

## **Sunshine Law Compliance**

- 1. We inquired with District management and determined that the District did not have a public records policy during the engagement period as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2).
- 2. We selected five public records requests from the engagement period and inspected each request to determine the following:
  - a. We inquired with District management and determined that the District did not have any completed public records requests during the engagement period.
  - b. The District did not have any denied public records requests during the engagement period.
  - c. The District did not have any public records requests with redactions during the engagement period.
- 3. We inquired whether the District 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 inquired with District management and determined that the District did not have a public records policy during the engagement period therefore could not provide it to the records custodian/manager as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2).
- 5. We inquired with District management and determined that the District did not have a public records policy during the engagement period therefore it could not be included in a policy manual as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2).
- 6. We inquired with District management and determined that the District did not have a public records policy during the engagement period therefore it could not be displayed in all the branches of the District as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2).
- 7. We inquired with District management and determined that the District did not have any applications for record disposal submitted to the Records Commission during the engagement period.
- We inquired with District management and determined that the District 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 District 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.

## Sunshine Law Compliance (Continued)

- 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 § 121.22(G).
  - c. Formal governing board actions were adopted in open meetings.

We found no exceptions.

## Other Compliance

1. Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 requires Districts 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 District 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 District 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 District'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 District 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.

Perry & amounter CAA'S A. C.

**Perry & Associates** Certified Public Accountants, A.C. *Marietta, Ohio* 



## **OR&W FIRE DISTRICT**

## **BELMONT 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 11/4/2021

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