

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

HOLMES COUNTY

Regular Audit

For the Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021





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Board of Trustees
Washington Township
14464 Twp Rd 464
Lakeville, OH 44638

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Washington Township, Holmes County, prepared by Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc., for the audit period January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2022. 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. The Washington Township is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

June 07, 2023

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Washington Township
Holmes County
For the Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Washington Township
Holmes County
14464 Twp. Rd 464
Lakeville, Ohio 44638

To the Board of Trustees:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Unmodified and Adverse Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of Washington Township, Holmes County, Ohio (the Township), which comprise the cash balances, receipts and disbursements for each governmental fund type as of and for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Unmodified Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the cash balances, receipts and disbursements for each governmental fund type as of and for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, in accordance with the financial reporting provisions which Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(C) permit, described in Note 2.

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* section of our report, the accompanying financial statements 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, 2022 and 2021, or the changes in financial position, thereof for the years then ended.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Township, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

As described in Note 2 of the financial statements, the financial statements are prepared by Township on the basis of the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(C), which is an accounting basis other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP), to satisfy these requirements. The effects on the financial statements of the variances between the regulatory basis of accounting described in Note 2 and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, although not reasonably determinable, are presumed to be material and pervasive.

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note 13 to the financial statements for 2022 and Note 14 to the financial statements for 2021, the financial impact of COVID-19 and the ensuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Township. We did not modify our opinions regarding this matter.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(C) permit. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Township's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and the financial audit standards in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Township's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated April 26, 2023, 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. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Township's 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.



Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc.

April 26, 2023

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP
HOLMES COUNTY
COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - REGULATORY CASH BASIS
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>			Totals (Memorandum Only)
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Permanent</u>	
Cash Receipts				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 27,136	\$ 276,996	-	\$ 304,132
Intergovernmental	29,029	250,878	-	279,907
Earnings on Investments	48	79	\$ 37	164
Miscellaneous	-	1,018	-	1,018
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>56,213</u>	<u>528,971</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>585,221</u>
Cash Disbursements				
Current:				
General Government	26,754	1,491	-	28,245
Public Works	4,302	325,300	-	329,602
Health	22,252	-	-	22,252
Other	300	-	-	300
Capital Outlay	-	52,200	-	52,200
Debt Service:				
Principal Retirement	-	25,360	-	25,360
Interest & Fiscal Charges	-	3,356	-	3,356
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>53,608</u>	<u>407,707</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>461,315</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	2,605	121,264	37	123,906
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>77,748</u>	<u>423,363</u>	<u>19,195</u>	<u>520,306</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u>\$ 80,353</u>	<u>\$ 544,627</u>	<u>\$ 19,232</u>	<u>\$ 644,212</u>

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

Washington Township
Holmes County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Note 1 – Reporting Entity

Washington Township, Holmes County, Ohio, (the Township) is a body corporate and politic established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. A publicly elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides road, bridge, and cemetery maintenance. Fire protection and emergency medical services are provided by Western Holmes County Fire District. Police protection is provided by the Holmes County Sheriff's Department.

Jointly Governed Organizations and Public Entity Risk Pools

The Township participates in Ohio Plan Risk Management, Inc. (OPRM), a public entity risk pool available to Ohio Townships. Note 6 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity.

The Township participates in the Western Holmes Fire District, a jointly governed organization. Note 11 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, which is organized on a fund type basis.

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.

Washington Township
Holmes County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Road and Bridge Fund - This fund receives property tax money for constructing, maintaining, and repairing township roads and bridges.

Road District Levy Fund - This fund is used to account for road levy tax money to pay for constructing, maintaining, and repairing township roads.

Corona Virus Relief Fund – This fund is used to account for monies received from the federal government as part of the American Rescue Plan Act.

Permanent Funds These funds account for and report resources that are restricted to the extent that only earnings, and not principal, may be used for purposes that support the reporting government's programs (for the benefit of the government or its citizenry). The Township had the following significant permanent fund:

Ullman, Plum Run, and Drake Valley Cemetery Funds – These funds accounts for and report interest earned on the nonexpendable corpus restricted for the general maintenance and upkeep of the Township's cemeteries.

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 (C). 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).

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 (C) 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 and 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 2022 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

Washington Township
Holmes County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

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

Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. The financial statements do not include a liability for unpaid leave.

Leases

The Township is the lessee in a lease (as defined by GASB 87) related to vehicle under a noncancelable lease. Lease revenue/disbursements are recognized when they are received/paid.

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. For regulatory purposes, nonspendable fund balance includes unclaimed monies that are required to be held for five years before they may be utilized by the Township and the nonspendable portion of the corpus in permanent funds.

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.

Assigned Assigned fund balances are intended for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as *restricted* or *committed*. For regulatory purposes, assigned fund balance in general fund is limited to encumbrances outstanding at year end.

Washington Township
Holmes County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

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.

For regulatory purposes, limited disclosure related to fund balance is included in Note 12.

Note 3 – Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2022 follows:

2022 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$46,150	\$56,213	\$10,063
Special Revenue	482,582	528,971	46,389
Permanent	40	37	(3)

2022 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Disbursements			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Disbursements	Variance
General	\$59,816	\$54,561	\$5,255
Special Revenue	620,548	593,180	27,368
Permanent	0	0	0

Note 4 – Deposits and Investments

To improve cash management, cash received by the Township is pooled. Monies for all fund are maintained in this pool. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. A summary of the Township’s deposit and investment accounts are as follows:

	2022
<i>Cash Management Pool:</i>	
Demand deposits	\$625,802
Certificates of deposit	18,410
Total deposits	644,212

Washington Township
Holmes County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Note 4 – Deposits and Investments (Continued)

The Township does not use a separate payroll clearing account. The expenditures included in the accompanying financial statements reflect net payroll plus all remitted payroll withholdings. At December 31, 2022, the Township is holding \$2,654.68 in unremitted employee payroll withholdings.

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.

Public utilities are also taxed on personal and real property located within the Township.

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

Workers' Compensation

The workers' compensation program, through the Township, is administered by Sedgwick. The experience rating for each of the participating members is calculated as one experience rate and applied to all participants of the program. Premiums paid to the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation are based on this calculation. Total savings are then determined and each participant's performance is compared to the overall savings percentage of the program. Based on the calculation of savings, members then either receive refunds for contributions or are required to make additional contributions to the program.

Risk Pool Membership

The Township belongs to the Ohio Plan Risk Management, Inc. (OPRM) (the "Plan"), a non-assessable, unincorporated non-profit association providing a formalized, jointly administered self-insurance risk management program and other administrative services to Ohio governments ("Members"). The Plan is legally separate from its member governments.

Pursuant to Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code, the plan provides property, liability, errors and omissions, law enforcement, automobile, excess liability, crime, surety and bond, inland marine and other coverages to its members sold through fourteen appointed independent agents in the State of Ohio.

Washington Township
Holmes County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Note 6 – Risk Management (Continued)

Effective November 1, 2010 (through October 31, 2017), the corridor is for losses paid is between 60% and 70% of casualty premiums earned in the first \$250,000. Effective November 1, 2016, the OPRM elected to participate in a property loss corridor deductible. The property corridor includes losses paid between 70% and 75%. In 2018, the casualty loss corridor was eliminated and the property corridor was adjusted to losses paid between 65% and 70%. Effective November 1, 2019, the property loss corridor was adjusted to losses between 60% and 67.5% and remain unchanged effective November 1, 2021 and November 1, 2020. OPRM had 769 members as of December 31, 2021. (Latest information available)

The Pool’s audited financial statements conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and equity at December 31, 2021.

Assets	\$ 21,777,439
Liabilities	(15,037,383)
Members’ Equity	\$ 6,740,056

You can read the complete audited financial statements for OPRM at the Plan’s website, www.ohioplan.org.

Note 7 – Defined Benefit Pension Plan

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Township 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, 2022.

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 2022. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the member-directed plan was 4.0 percent during calendar year 2022.

Effective January 1, 2022, OPERS discontinued the group plans currently offered to non-Medicare retirees and re-employed retirees. Instead, eligible non-Medicare retirees will select an individual medical plan. OPERS will provide a subsidy or allowance via an HRA allowance to those retirees who meet health care eligibility requirements. Retirees will be able to seek reimbursement for plan premiums and other qualified medical expenses.

Washington Township
Holmes County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Note 9 – Debt

The Township entered into a five year financed purchase agreement for a dump truck in July of 2020. Where ownership of the underlying asset transfers to the Township by the end of the contract. The Township disbursed \$28,716.12 to pay these costs for the year ended December 31 2022.

A summary of lease transactions for the year ended December 31, 2022 follows:

	Outstanding <u>12/31/2022</u>	<u>Interest</u>
Dump truck Lease	\$ 53,983	4%

Amortization

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

Year Ending <u>December 31:</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Principal</u>
2023	\$ 2,283	\$ 26,433
2024	1,165	27,551
Total	<u>\$ 3,449</u>	<u>\$ 53,983</u>

Note 10 – Contingent Liabilities

Management believes there are no pending claims or lawsuits.

Note 11 – Jointly Governed Organizations

The Western Holmes County Fire District is a jointly governed organization, created as a political subdivision pursuant to state statute. The Western Holmes County Fire District has five board members, consisting of a representative from the subdivisions it serves: Washington Township, Ripley Township, Knox Township, and the Village of Nashville. An Additional member at large is appointed annually by a different subdivision member on a rotating basis. The District provides fire protection, and EMS services within the District and by contract to areas outside the District. There is no cost associated with being a member of this fire district. The continued existence of the Western Holmes County Fire District is not dependent on the Township’s continued participation and no equity interest exists.

The Township does not retain an ongoing financial interest or an ongoing financial responsibility with this organization.

Washington Township
Holmes County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Note 12 – Fund Balances

Included in fund balance are amounts the Township cannot spend, including the balance of unclaimed monies, which cannot be spent for five years and the unexpendable corpus of the permanent funds. Encumbrances are commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods or services. Encumbrance accounting is utilized to the extent necessary to assure effective budgetary control and accountability and to facilitate effective cash planning and control. At year end, the balances of these amounts were as follows:

Fund Balances	General	Special Revenue	Permanent	Total
Nonspendable:				
Corpus			\$ 13,139	\$ 13,139
Outstanding Encumbrances	\$ 953	\$ 185,473		186,426
Total	\$953	\$185,473	\$13,139	\$199,565

The fund balance of special revenue funds is either restricted or committed. The fund balance of permanent funds that is not part of the nonspendable corpus is either restricted or committed. These restricted and committed amounts in the special revenue and permanent funds include the outstanding encumbrances. In the general fund, outstanding encumbrances are considered assigned.

Note 13 – COVID-19

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ohio’s state of emergency ended in June, 2021 while the national state of emergency continues. During 2022, the Township received COVID-19 funding. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Township. The impact on the Township’s future operating costs, revenues, and additional recovery from funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.

Note 14 – Fund Balance Adjustments

The January 1, 2022 fund balances of the General and Special Revenue funds were increased by \$165 and \$663, respectively due to voided checks.

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP
HOLMES COUNTY
COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - REGULATORY CASH BASIS
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2021**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>			Totals (Memorandum Only)
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Permanent</u>	
Cash Receipts				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 25,730	\$ 260,241	-	\$ 285,971
Intergovernmental	27,651	251,706	-	279,357
Earnings on Investments	36	58	\$ 26	120
Miscellaneous	-	421	700	1,121
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>53,417</u>	<u>512,426</u>	<u>726</u>	<u>566,569</u>
Cash Disbursements				
Current:				
General Government	26,821	1,431	-	28,252
Public Works	3,246	327,147	-	330,393
Health	21,942	-	-	21,942
Other	220	-	-	220
Debt Service:				
Principal Retirement	-	24,331	-	24,331
Interest & Fiscal Charges	-	4,385	-	4,385
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>52,229</u>	<u>357,294</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>409,523</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	1,188	155,132	726	157,046
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>76,395</u>	<u>267,568</u>	<u>18,469</u>	<u>362,432</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u>\$ 77,583</u>	<u>\$ 422,700</u>	<u>\$ 19,195</u>	<u>\$ 519,478</u>

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

Washington Township
Holmes County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2021

Note 1 – Reporting Entity

Washington Township, Holmes County, Ohio, (the Township) is a body corporate and politic established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. A publicly elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides road, bridge, and cemetery maintenance. Fire protection and emergency medical services are provided by Western Holmes County Fire District. Police protection is provided by the Holmes County Sheriff's Department.

Jointly Governed Organizations and Public Entity Risk Pools

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The Township participates in the Western Holmes Fire District, a jointly governed organization. Note 11 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, which is organized on a fund type basis.

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.

Washington Township
Holmes County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2021

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Road and Bridge Fund - This fund receives property tax money for constructing, maintaining, and repairing township roads and bridges.

Road District Levy Fund - This fund is used to account for road levy tax money to pay for constructing, maintaining, and repairing township roads.

Corona Virus Relief Fund – This fund is used to account for monies received from the federal government as part of the American Rescue Plan Act.

Permanent Funds These funds account for and report resources that are restricted to the extent that only earnings, and not principal, may be used for purposes that support the reporting government's programs (for the benefit of the government or its citizenry). The Township had the following significant permanent fund:

Ullman, Plum Run, and Drake Valley Cemetery Funds – These funds accounts for and report interest earned on the nonexpendable corpus restricted for the general maintenance and upkeep of the Township's cemeteries.

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 (C). 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).

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 (C) 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 and 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 2021 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

Washington Township
Holmes County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2021

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

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.

Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. The financial statements do not include a liability for unpaid leave.

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. For regulatory purposes, nonspendable fund balance includes unclaimed monies that are required to be held for five years before they may be utilized by the Township and the nonspendable portion of the corpus in permanent funds.

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.

Assigned Assigned fund balances are intended for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as *restricted* or *committed*. For regulatory purposes, assigned fund balance in the general fund is limited to encumbrances outstanding at year end.

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.

Washington Township
Holmes County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2021

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

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.

For regulatory purposes, limited disclosure related to fund balance is included in Note 12.

Note 3 – Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2021 follows:

2021 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$45,920	\$53,417	\$7,497
Special Revenue	453,057	512,426	59,369
Permanent	40	726	686

2021 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Disbursements			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Disbursements	Variance
General	\$58,428	\$53,445	\$4,983
Special Revenue	389,960	360,682	29,278
Permanent	0	0	0

Note 4 – Deposits and Investments

To improve cash management, cash received by the Township is pooled. Monies for all fund are maintained in this pool. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. A summary of the Township's deposit and investment accounts are as follows:

	2021
<i>Cash Management Pool:</i>	
Demand deposits	\$501,105
Certificates of deposit	18,373
Total deposits	\$519,478

The Township does not use a separate payroll clearing account. The expenditures included in the accompanying financial statements reflect net payroll plus all remitted payroll withholdings. At December 31, 2021, the Township is holding \$0.00 in unremitted employee payroll withholdings.

Washington Township
Holmes County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2021

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.

Public utilities are also taxed on personal and real property located within the Township.

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

Workers' Compensation

The workers' compensation program, through the Township, is administered by Sedgwick (formerly Comp Management, Inc). The experience rating for each of the participating members is calculated as one experience rate and applied to all participants of the program. Premiums paid to the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation are based on this calculation. Total savings are then determined and each participant's performance is compared to the overall savings percentage of the program. Based on the calculation of savings, members then either receive refunds for contributions or are required to make additional contributions to the program.

Risk Pool Membership

The Township belongs to the Ohio Plan Risk Management, Inc. (OPRM) (the "Plan"), a non-assessable, unincorporated non-profit association providing a formalized, jointly administered self-insurance risk management program and other administrative services to Ohio governments ("Members"). The Plan is legally separate from its member governments.

Pursuant to Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code, the plan provides property, liability, errors and omissions, law enforcement, automobile, excess liability, crime, surety and bond, inland marine and other coverages to its members sold through fourteen appointed independent agents in the State of Ohio.

Washington Township
Holmes County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2021

Note 6 – Risk Management (Continued)

OPRM coverage programs are developed specific to each member’s risk management needs and the related premiums for coverage are determined through the application of uniform underwriting criteria addressing the member’s exposure to loss. Effective November 1, 2017, the OPRM retained 47% of the premium and losses on the first \$250,000 casualty treaty and 30% of the first \$1,000,000 property treaty. The OPRM is also participated in a property primary excess of loss treaty. This treaty reimbursed the OPRM 30% for losses between \$200,000 and \$1,000,000. The reimbursement is based on the amount of loss between \$200,000 and \$1,000,000. Effective November 1, 2018, the OPRM the property retention remained unchanged, however, the Plan assumed 100% of the first \$250,000 casualty treaty. Members are only responsible for their self-retention (deductible) amounts, which vary from member to member. Effective November 1, 2019, the OPRM’s property retention increased from 30% to 33%, while the casualty treaty remains unchanged and still assumes 100% of the first \$250,000 casualty treaty. OPRM had 776 members as of December 31, 2021.

The Pool’s audited financial statements conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and equity at December 31, 2021.

Assets	\$ 15,920,504
Liabilities	(11,329,011)
Members’ Equity	\$ 4,591,493

You can read the complete audited financial statements for OPRM at the Plan’s website, www.ohioplan.org.

Note 7 – Defined Benefit Pension Plan

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Township 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, 2021.

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 2021. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the member-directed plan was 4.0 percent during calendar year 2021.

Washington Township
Holmes County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2021

Note 9 – Leases

Leases

The Township leases a dump truck under a noncancelable lease. The Township disbursed \$28,716 to pay lease costs for the year ended December 31, 2021.

Amortization

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

Year Ending December 31:	Leases
2022	\$28,716
2023	28,716
2024	28,716
Total	<u>\$86,148</u>

Note 10 – Contingent Liabilities

Management believes there are no pending claims or lawsuits.

Note 11 – Jointly Governed Organizations

The Western Holmes County Fire District is a jointly governed organization, created as a political subdivision pursuant to state statute. The Western Holmes County Fire District has five board members, consisting of a representative from the subdivisions it serves: Washington Township, Ripley Township, Knox Township, and the Village of Nashville. An Additional member at large is appointed annually by a different subdivision member on a rotating basis. The District provides fire protection, and EMS services within the District and by contract to areas outside the District. There is no cost associated with being a member of this fire district. The continued existence of the Western Holmes County Fire District is not dependent on the Township's continued participation and no equity interest exists. During 2021, the Township paid \$405 to Western Holmes County Fire District to reimburse half the repair cost of a tornado siren.

The Township does not retain an ongoing financial interest or an ongoing financial responsibility with this organization.

Washington Township
Holmes County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2021

Note 12 – Fund Balances

Included in fund balance are amounts the Township cannot spend, including the balance of unclaimed monies, which cannot be spent for five years and the unexpendable corpus of the permanent funds. Encumbrances are commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods or services. Encumbrance accounting is utilized to the extent necessary to assure effective budgetary control and accountability and to facilities effective cash planning and control. At year end, the balances of these amounts were as follows:

Fund Balances	General	Special Revenue	Permanent	Total
Nonspendable:				
Corpus			\$ 13,139	\$ 13,139
Outstanding Encumbrances	\$ 1,216	\$ 3,387		4,603
Total	\$1,216	\$3,387	\$13,139	\$17,742

The fund balance of special revenue funds is either restricted or committed. The fund balance of permanent funds that is not part of the nonspendable corpus is either restricted or committed. These restricted and committed amounts in the special revenue and permanent funds include the outstanding encumbrances. In the general fund, outstanding encumbrances are considered assigned.

Note 13 – Subsequent Events

The Township applied for and was awarded grant funds under the American Rescue Plan Act. The Township anticipates receiving the remainder of the funds from this grant in 2022.

Note 14 – COVID-19

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ohio’s state of emergency ended in June, 2021 while the national state of emergency continues. During 2021, the Township received COVID-19 funding. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Township. The impact on the Township’s future operating costs, revenues, and additional recovery from emergency funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.

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

Washington Township
Holmes County
14464 Twp. Rd 464
Lakeville, Ohio 44638

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the cash balances, receipts, and disbursements for each governmental fund type of Washington Township, Holmes County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated April 26, 2023, wherein we noted the Township followed financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(C) permit. We also noted the financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures which may impact subsequent periods of the Township.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Township's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purposes of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Township's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.


Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Township's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of This Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Township's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc.
April 26, 2023

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

HOLMES 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 6/20/2023

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