



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

**MADISON TOWNSHIP
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

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Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

Madison Township
Highland County
12646 Centerfield Road
Greenfield, Ohio 45123

To the Board of Trustees:

As you are aware, the Auditor of State's Office (AOS) must modify the *Independent Accountants' Report* we provide on your financial statements due to an interpretation from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). While AOS does not legally require your government to prepare financial statements pursuant to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), the AICPA interpretation requires auditors to formally acknowledge that you did not prepare your financial statements in accordance with GAAP. Our Report includes an adverse opinion relating to GAAP presentation and measurement requirements, but does not imply the amounts the statements present are misstated under the non-GAAP basis you follow. The AOS report also includes an opinion on the financial statements you prepared using the cash basis and financial statement format the AOS permits.

Mary Taylor

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December 22, 2009

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Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Madison Township
Highland County
12646 Centerfield Road
Greenfield, Ohio 45123

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of Madison Township Highland County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007, and have issued our report thereon dated December 22, 2009. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Township's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. The Township processes its financial transactions with the Auditor of State's Uniform Accounting Network (UAN). *Government Auditing Standards* considers this service to impair the independence of the Auditor of State to audit the Township because the Auditor of State designed, developed, implemented, and as requested, operates UAN. However, *Government Auditing Standards* permits the Auditor of State to audit and opine on this entity, because Ohio Revised Code § 117.101 requires the Auditor of State to provide UAN services, and Ohio Revised Code §§ 117.11(B) and 115.56 mandate the Auditor of State to audit Ohio governments. We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described more fully in Note 1, the Township has prepared these financial statements using accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. These practices differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Although we cannot reasonably determine the effects on the financial statements of the variances between these regulatory accounting practices and GAAP, we presume they are material.

Instead of the combined funds the accompanying financial statements present, GAAP require presenting entity wide statements and also presenting the Township's larger (i.e. major) funds separately. While the Township does not follow GAAP, generally accepted auditing standards requires us to include the following paragraph if the statements do not substantially conform to GAAP presentation requirements. The Auditor of State permits, but does not require townships to reformat their statements. The Township has elected not to follow GAAP statement formatting requirements. The following paragraph does not imply the amounts reported are materially misstated under the accounting basis the Auditor of State permits. Our opinion on the fair presentation of the amounts reported pursuant to its non-GAAP basis is in the second following paragraph.

In our opinion, because of the effects of the matter discussed in the preceding two paragraphs, the financial statements referred to above for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007 do not present fairly, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Township as of December 31, 2008 and 2007, or its changes in financial position for the years then ended.

Also, in our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances and reserves for encumbrances of Madison Township, Highland County, as of December 31, 2008 and 2007, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the accounting basis Note 1 describes.

The Township has not presented Management's Discussion and Analysis, which accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America has determined is necessary to supplement, although not required to be part of, the financial statements.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 22, 2009, 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. While we did not opine on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance, that report describes the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. You should read it in conjunction with this report in assessing the results of our audit.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Taylor".

Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

December 22, 2009

**MADISON TOWNSHIP
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008**

	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Totals (Memorandum Only)</u>
Cash Receipts:			
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$35,432	\$82,599	\$118,031
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	1,943		1,943
Intergovernmental	56,698	116,342	173,040
Earnings on Investments	10,820	3,262	14,082
Miscellaneous	10,888	393	11,281
	<u>115,781</u>	<u>202,596</u>	<u>318,377</u>
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	100,528		100,528
Public Safety		26,824	26,824
Public Works		128,927	128,927
Health	1,664		1,664
	<u>102,192</u>	<u>155,751</u>	<u>257,943</u>
Total Cash Disbursements	<u>102,192</u>	<u>155,751</u>	<u>257,943</u>
Total Receipts Over Disbursements	<u>13,589</u>	<u>46,845</u>	<u>60,434</u>
Other Financing Receipts:			
Other Financing Sources	4,176		4,176
Total Other Financing Receipts	<u>4,176</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4,176</u>
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over / (Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements	17,765	46,845	64,610
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>41,918</u>	<u>296,358</u>	<u>338,276</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$59,683</u>	<u>\$343,203</u>	<u>\$402,886</u>

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

**MADISON TOWNSHIP
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007**

	General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:			
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$37,479	\$82,096	\$119,575
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	1,030		1,030
Intergovernmental	76,552	113,862	190,414
Earnings on Investments	10,537	3,376	13,913
Miscellaneous	60	2,646	2,706
	<u>125,658</u>	<u>201,980</u>	<u>327,638</u>
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	140,556	335	140,891
Public Safety		44,403	44,403
Public Works		150,681	150,681
Health	2,000		2,000
	<u>142,556</u>	<u>195,419</u>	<u>337,975</u>
Total Cash Disbursements	<u>142,556</u>	<u>195,419</u>	<u>337,975</u>
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	<u>(16,898)</u>	<u>6,561</u>	<u>(10,337)</u>
Other Financing Receipts:			
Other Financing Sources	1,475		1,475
Total Other Financing Receipts	<u>1,475</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,475</u>
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over / (Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements	(15,423)	6,561	(8,862)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>57,341</u>	<u>289,797</u>	<u>347,138</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$41,918</u>	<u>\$296,358</u>	<u>\$338,276</u>
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	<u>\$3,976</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$3,976</u>

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

**MADISON TOWNSHIP
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007**

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Description of the Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of the Madison Township, Highland County, Ohio (the Township), as a body corporate and politic. A publicly-elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides road and bridge maintenance, and cemetery maintenance. The Township contracts with the City of Greenfield to provide fire services.

The Township is part of the Highland County Joint Township Hospital District, a jointly governed organization established for the public purpose of better providing for the health and welfare of the people primarily of Highland County. Trustees from each of the 17 townships of Highland County constitute the Highland County Joint Township Hospital Board of Trustees who appoints the Hospital Board of Governors which is comprised of one member from each township and three at-large members.

The Township's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Township is financially accountable.

B. Accounting Basis

These financial statements follow the accounting basis the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Township 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 Auditor of State prescribes or permits.

C. Cash and Deposits

The Township's accounting basis includes cash as assets. The Township deposits all available funds in a checking account with a commercial bank.

D. Fund Accounting

The Township uses fund accounting to segregate cash and investments that are restricted as to use. The Township classifies its funds into the following types:

1. General Fund

The General Fund reports all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

2. Special Revenue Funds

These funds account for proceeds from specific sources (other than from private-purpose trusts or for capital projects) that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Township had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

**MADISON TOWNSHIP
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007
(Continued)**

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Fire District Fund - This fund receives property tax money for Fire Protection.

Gasoline Tax Fund - This fund receives gasoline tax money to pay for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads.

E. Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund be budgeted annually.

1. Appropriations

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function or object level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Board of Trustees must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. The County Budget Commission must also approve the annual appropriation measure. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end.

2. 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 also approve estimated resources.

3. 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. The Township did not encumber all commitments required by Ohio law.

A summary of 2008 and 2007 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

F. Property, Plant, and Equipment

The Township records disbursements for acquisitions of property, plant, and equipment when paid. The accompanying financial statements do not report these items as assets.

2. Equity in Pooled Cash and Deposits

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

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Demand deposits	<u>\$402,886</u>	<u>\$338,276</u>

Deposits: Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation; or collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool.

**MADISON TOWNSHIP
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007
(Continued)**

3. Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31 follows:

2008 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$145,588	\$119,957	(\$25,631)
Special Revenue	205,634	202,596	(3,038)
Total	\$351,222	\$322,553	(\$28,669)

2008 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$128,250	\$102,192	\$26,058
Special Revenue	197,500	155,751	41,749
Total	\$325,750	\$257,943	\$67,807

2007 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$96,623	\$127,133	\$30,510
Special Revenue	199,158	201,980	2,822
Total	\$295,781	\$329,113	\$33,332

2007 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$161,206	\$146,532	\$14,674
Special Revenue	472,699	195,419	277,280
Total	\$633,905	\$341,951	\$291,954

4. Property Tax

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 homestead and rollback deductions. The financial statements include homestead and rollback 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.

**MADISON TOWNSHIP
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007
(Continued)**

4. Property Tax (Continued)

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

Tangible personal property tax is assessed by the property owners, who must file a list of such property to the County by each April 30.

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

5. Retirement Systems

The Township's elected officials and part-time employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS are cost-sharing, multiple-employer plans. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes these plans' benefits, which include postretirement healthcare and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2008 and 2007, OPERS members contributed 9.5 and 10%, respectively, of their gross salaries and the Township contributed an amount equaling 13.85 and 14%, respectively, of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2008.

6. Risk Management

The Township is exposed to various risks of property and casualty losses, and injuries to employees.

The Township insures against injuries to employees through the Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation.

The Township belongs to the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio townships. OTARMA provides property and casualty coverage for its members. American Risk Pooling Consultants, Inc. (ARPCO), a division of York Insurance Services Group, Inc. (York), functions as the administrator of OTARMA and provides underwriting, claims, loss control, risk management, and reinsurance services for OTARMA. OTARMA is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP), which is also administered by ARPCO. Member governments pay annual contributions to fund OTARMA. OTARMA pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

Casualty and Property Coverage

APEEP provides OTARMA with an excess risk-sharing program. Under this arrangement, OTARMA retains insured risks up to an amount specified in the contracts. At December 31, 2008, OTARMA retained \$350,000 for casualty claims and \$100,000 for property claims.

The aforementioned casualty and property reinsurance agreement does not discharge OTARMA's primary liability for claims payments on covered losses. Claims exceeding coverage limits are the obligation of the respective government.

Property and casualty settlements did not exceed insurance coverage for the past three fiscal years.

**MADISON TOWNSHIP
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007
(Continued)**

6. Risk Management (Continued)

Financial Position

OTARMA's financial statements (audited by other accountants) conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and retained earnings at December 31, 2008 and 2007:

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Assets	\$40,737,740	\$43,210,703
Liabilities	<u>(12,981,818)</u>	<u>(13,357,837)</u>
Net Assets	<u>\$27,755,922</u>	<u>\$29,852,866</u>

At December 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively, liabilities above include approximately \$12.1 and \$12.5 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets and retained earnings above also include approximately \$10.9 and \$11.6 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 950 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. The Township's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$2,764.

Based on discussions with OTARMA, the expected rates OTARMA charges to compute member contributions, which are used to pay claims as they become due, are not expected to change significantly from those used to determine the historical contributions detailed below. By contract, the annual liability of each member is limited to the amount of financial contributions required to be made to OTARMA for each year of membership.

<u>Contributions to OTARMA</u>	
2007	\$2,990
2008	\$2,940

After completing one year of membership, members may withdraw on each anniversary of the date they joined OTARMA provided they provide written notice to OTARMA 60 days in advance of the anniversary date. Upon withdrawal, members are eligible for a full or partial refund of their capital contributions, minus the subsequent year's budgetary contribution. Withdrawing members have no other future obligation to the pool. Also upon withdrawal, payments for all casualty claims and claim expenses become the sole responsibility of the withdrawing member, regardless of whether a claim occurred or was reported prior to the withdrawal.

7. Subsequent Events

In 2009, the Township became part of a new fire district, the Paint Creek Joint EMS-Fire District, consisting of the City of Greenfield and Madison Township in Highland County and Buckskin Township and Paint Township in Ross County. The Township will turn over the cash balance of the Fire Fund and all fire equipment owned by the Township to the new joint fire district.

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Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

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

Madison Township
Highland County
12646 Centerfield Road
Greenfield, Ohio 45123

To the Township Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of Madison Township, Highland County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007, and have issued our report thereon dated December 22, 2009 wherein we noted the Township prepared its financial statements using accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits rather than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We also noted the Township uses the Auditor of State's Uniform Accounting Network (UAN) to process its financial transactions. *Government Auditing Standards* considers this service to impair the Auditor of State's independence to audit the Township. However, *Government Auditing Standards* permits the Auditor of State to audit and opine on this entity, because Ohio Revised Code § 117.101 requires the Auditor of State to provide UAN services, and Ohio Revised Code §§ 117.11(B) and 115.56 mandate the Auditor of State to audit Ohio governments. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Township's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our audit procedures for expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not to opine on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we have not opined on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control over financial reporting.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. However, as discussed below, we identified a certain deficiency in internal control over financial reporting that we consider a significant deficiency.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the Township's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with its applicable accounting basis, such that there is more than a remote likelihood that the Township's internal control will not prevent or detect a more-than-inconsequential financial statement misstatement.

Corporate Centre of Blue Ash / 11117 Kenwood Rd. / Blue Ash, OH 45242
Telephone: (513) 361-8550 (800) 368-7419 Fax: (513) 361-8577
www.auditor.state.oh.us

We consider finding 2008-002 in the accompanying schedule of findings to be a significant deficiency in internal control over financial reporting.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies resulting in more than a remote likelihood that the Township's internal control will not prevent or detect a material financial statement misstatement.

Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in the internal control that might be significant deficiencies and accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all significant deficiencies that are also material weaknesses. We believe the significant deficiency described above is a material weakness.

We also noted certain internal control matters that we reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated December 22, 2009.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of reasonably assuring whether the Township's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed instances of noncompliance or other matters that we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which are described in the accompanying schedule of findings as items 2008-001 and 2008-002.

We did note certain noncompliance or other matters that we reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated December 22, 2009.

We intend this report solely for the information and use of the management and Township Board of Trustees. We intend it for no one other than these specified parties.



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

December 22, 2009

**MADISON TOWNSHIP
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007**

**FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS**

FINDING NUMBER 2008-001

Noncompliance Citation

Ohio Revised Code, Section 5705.41(D)(1), prohibits a subdivision or taxing entity from making any contract or ordering any expenditure of money unless a certificate signed by the fiscal officer is attached thereto. The fiscal officer must certify that the amount required to meet any such contract or expenditure has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury, or is in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrance.

There are several exceptions to the standard requirement stated above that a fiscal officer's certificate must be obtained prior to a subdivision or taxing authority entering into a contract or order involving the expenditure of money. The main exceptions are: "then and Now" certificates, blanket certificates, and super blanket certificates, which are provided for in sections 5705.41(D)(1) and 5705.41(D)(3), respectively, of the Ohio Revised Code.

1. "Then and now" Certificate – If the fiscal officer can certify that both at the time that the contract or order was made ("then"), and at the time that the fiscal officer is completing the certification ("now"), that sufficient funds were available or in the process of collection, to the credit of a proper fund free from any previous encumbrance, the Township can authorize the drawing of a warrant for the payment of the amount due. The Township has thirty days from the receipt of the "then and now" certificate to approve payment by ordinance or resolution.

Amounts less than three thousand dollars (\$3,000) may be paid by the fiscal officer without a resolution or ordinance upon completion of the "then and now" certificate, provided that the expenditure is otherwise lawful. This does not eliminate any otherwise applicable requirement for approval of expenditures by the Township.

2. Blanket Certificate – Fiscal officers may prepare "blanket" certificates for a certain sum of money not in excess of an amount established by resolution or ordinance adopted by a majority of the members of the legislative authority against any specific line item account over a period not running beyond the end of the current fiscal year. The blanket certificates may, but need not, be limited to a specific vendor. Only one blanket certificate may be outstanding at one particular time for any one particular line item appropriation.
3. Super blanket certificate – The Township may also make expenditures and contracts for any amount from a specific line item appropriation account in a specified fund upon certification of the fiscal officer for most professional services, fuel, oil, food items, and any other specific recurring and reasonably predictable operating expense. This certification is not to extend beyond the current year. More than one super blanket certificate may be outstanding at one particular time for any line item appropriation.

Contrary to the above requirement, the availability of funds was not certified for 48% (67% in 2007 and 15% in 2008) of the expenditures tested. We recommend expenditures receive prior certification; however, in instances where this is not practical, we recommend then and now certificates over \$3,000 be approved by legislative authority.

**FINDING NUMBER 2008-001
 (Continued)**

Unless the exceptions noted above are used, prior certification is not only required by statute but is a key control in the disbursement process to assure that purchase commitments receive prior approval. To improve controls over disbursements and to help reduce the possibility of the Township's funds exceeding budgetary spending limitations, we recommend that the fiscal officer certify that the funds are or will be available prior to obligation by the Township. When prior certification is not possible, "then and now" certification should be used.

We recommend the Township certify purchases to which section 5705.41(D) applies. The most convenient certification method is to use purchase orders that include the certification language 5705.4(D) requires to authorize disbursements. The fiscal officer should sign the certification at the time the Township incurs a commitment, and only when the requirements of 5705.41(D) are satisfied. The fiscal officer should post approved purchase commitments to the proper appropriation code, to reduce the available appropriation.

Officials' Response:

We did not receive a response from Officials to this finding.

FINDING NUMBER 2008-002

Material Noncompliance/Material Weakness

The Ohio Admin Code Section 117-2-02 (A) states "all public offices shall maintain an accounting system and accounting records sufficient to enable the public office to identify, assemble, analyze, classify, record and report its transactions, maintain accountability for the related assets (and liabilities, if generally accepted accounting principles apply), document compliance with finance-related legal and contractual requirements and prepare financial statements required by rule 117-2-03 of the Administrative Code." We noted the following deficiencies in the Township's records:

The Township did not maintain an accurate record of all moneys received. The accounting records of the Township contained posting errors, and lacked correct classifications of receipts and expenditures. As a result, those records which were maintained by the Fiscal Officer were not an accurate reflection of all monies received and expended. All of these conditions exhibit a lack of control over the recording and reporting of Township financial activity and did result in inaccurate accounting records or financial statements.

We proposed appropriate adjusting entries.

The following receipt amounts were posted erroneously to the Township's accounting system:

2008	Amount
General Fund: Overstatement of Taxes	\$ 18,640
General Fund: Understatement of Intergovernmental	(18,403)
MVL Fund: Overstatement of Taxes	48,016
MVL Fund: Understatement of Intergovernmental	(12,583)
Road & Bridge Fund: Overstatement of Taxes	19,711
Road & Bridge Fund: Understatement of Intergovernmental	(3,829)
Fire Levy Fund: Understatement of Taxes	(18,440)
Fire Levy Fund: Understatement of Intergovernmental	(7,796)
Permissive MVL Fund: Understatement of Taxes	(11,938)
Permissive MVL Fund: Understatement of Intergovernmental	(7,163)

**FINDING NUMBER 2008-002
 (Continued)**

2007	Amount
General Fund: Overstatement of Taxes	\$ 89,429
General Fund: Understatement of Intergovernmental	(69,586)
MVL Fund: Overstatement of Taxes	22,026
MVL Fund: Understatement of Intergovernmental	(12,898)
Road & Bridge Fund: Overstatement of Taxes	2,835
Road & Bridge Fund: Understatement of Intergovernmental	(3,850)
Fire Levy Fund: Understatement of Taxes	(25,542)
Fire Levy Fund: Understatement of Intergovernmental	(1,191)
Permissive MVL Fund: Understatement of Taxes	(8,055)
Permissive MVL Fund: Understatement of Intergovernmental	(1,073)

Failure to properly post transactions resulted in transactions being inaccurately classified in the annual report and inaccurate fund balances. The Township made the above adjustments to the financial statements and accounting records. We recommend that the Fiscal Officer post receipts and disbursements timely and accurately.

Officials' Response:

We did not receive a response from Officials to this finding.

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**MADISON TOWNSHIP
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007**

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <i>Explain</i>
2006-001	Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41(D), Did not certify the availability of funds for certain commitments.	No	Not Corrected, reissued as finding 2008-001



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

MADISON TOWNSHIP

HIGHLAND COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

This is a true and correct copy of the report which is required to be filed in the Office of the Auditor of State pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in Columbus, Ohio.

Susan Babbitt

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

**CERTIFIED
JANUARY 12, 2010**