



JIM PETRO
AUDITOR OF STATE

STATE OF OHIO

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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

Washington Township
Clinton County
P.O. Box 18, E. 350
Cuba, Ohio 45114

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Washington Township, Clinton County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 1999 and 1998. 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 generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about 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. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As discussed in Note 1, the Township prepares its financial statements on the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances of the Township as of December 31, 1999 and 1998, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 31, 2000 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 grants.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Board and other officials authorized to receive this report under § 117.26, Ohio Revised Code, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Petro".

Jim Petro
Auditor of State

March 31, 2000

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES -
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1999**

	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Capital Projects</u>	<u>Totals (Memorandum Only)</u>
Cash Receipts:				
Local Taxes	\$18,976	\$76,901	\$0	\$95,877
Intergovernmental	27,548	66,291	32,663	126,502
Earnings on Investments	1,383	591	0	1,974
Other Revenue	368	5,045	0	5,413
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Cash Receipts	48,275	148,828	32,663	229,766
Cash Disbursements:				
Public Safety	0	26,616	0	26,616
General Government	38,706	0	0	38,706
Public Works	0	104,324	0	104,324
Health	568	0	0	568
Capital Outlay	190	1,545	32,663	34,398
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Cash Disbursements	39,464	132,485	32,663	204,612
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	8,811	16,343	0	25,154
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	28,458	40,529	0	68,987
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$37,269</u>	<u>\$56,872</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$94,141</u>

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES -
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1998**

	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Totals (Memorandum Only)</u>
Cash Receipts:			
Local Taxes	\$17,630	\$71,709	\$89,339
Intergovernmental	27,818	77,770	105,588
Earnings on Investments	966	699	1,665
Other Revenue	4,781	255	5,036
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Cash Receipts	51,195	150,433	201,628
Cash Disbursements:			
Public Safety	0	26,169	26,169
General Government	36,565	0	36,565
Public Works	2,568	108,806	111,374
Health	559	0	559
Capital Outlay	0	36,114	36,114
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Cash Disbursements	39,692	171,089	210,781
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	11,503	(20,656)	(9,153)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	16,955	61,185	78,140
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Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$28,458</u>	<u>\$40,529</u>	<u>\$68,987</u>

**NOTE TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 1999 AND 1998**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Washington Township, Clinton 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. The Township is directed by a publicly-elected three-member Board of Trustees. The Township provides general governmental services, including road and bridge maintenance, fire protection and emergency medical services. The Township contracts with the City Wilmington to provide ambulance services and Union Township for fire services.

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

B. Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. Receipts are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned, and disbursements are recognized 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 prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State.

C. Cash and Deposits

The Township funds are deposited in a "Now" checking account with a local commercial bank. The Township pools its cash to capture the highest rate of return. Interest income is distributed to Township funds based upon the Ohio statutes.

D. Fund Accounting

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

1. General Fund

The General Fund is the general operating fund. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

2. Special Revenue Funds

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

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

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

NOTE TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 1999 AND 1998
(Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Motor Vehicle licence Tax - Receives motor vehicle tax money for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads.

Road District Fund - Receives property tax monies from motor vehicle tax moneys for the purpose of construction, maintenance and repair of Township roads.

Fire District Fund - Receives property tax money for the purpose of paying for fire protection for Township residents.

Emergency Levy Fund - Receives property tax money for the purpose of paying for contracted ambulance services for Township residents.

3. Capital Project Funds

These funds are used to account for receipts that are restricted for the acquisition or construction of major capital projects (except those financed through enterprise or trust funds). The Township had the following significant Capital Project Funds:

Issue II Fund - To account for grant money during 1999 from the Ohio Public Works Commission to help pay for construction and maintenance of road projects within the Township.

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. Appropriations lapse at year end.

2. Estimated Resources

Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus 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 canceled, and re-appropriated in the subsequent year. The Township did not encumber all commitments required by Ohio law.

A summary of 1999 and 1998 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

**NOTE TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 1999 AND 1998
(Continued)**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

F. Property, Plant and Equipment

Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements.

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND DEPOSITS

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

	<u>1999</u>	<u>1998</u>
Demand deposits	<u>\$94,141</u>	<u>\$68,987</u>

Deposits: Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation.

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 1999 and 1998 follows:

1999 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$46,250	\$48,275	\$2,025
Special Revenue	138,678	148,828	10,150
Capital Projects	0	32,663	32,663
Total	<u>\$184,928</u>	<u>\$229,766</u>	<u>\$44,838</u>

1999 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$74,709	\$39,464	\$35,245
Special Revenue	179,206	132,485	46,721
Capital Projects	0	32,663	(32,663)
Total	<u>\$253,915</u>	<u>\$204,612</u>	<u>\$49,303</u>

**NOTE TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 1999 AND 1998
(Continued)**

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY (Continued)

1998 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$34,101	\$51,195	\$17,094
Special Revenue	124,885	150,433	25,548
Total	\$158,986	\$201,628	\$42,642

1998 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$50,740	\$39,692	\$11,048
Special Revenue	186,386	171,089	15,297
Total	\$237,126	\$210,781	\$26,345

4. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which rates are adopted by Board of Trustees. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. Homestead and rollback amounts are then paid by the State, and are reflected in the accompanying financial statements as Intergovernmental Receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to make semiannual payment, 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.

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

Elected officials belong to the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) of Ohio. PERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. This plan provides retirement benefits, including post-retirement healthcare, and survivor and disability benefits to participants as prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code.

PERS members contributed 8.5% of their gross salaries. The Township contributed an amount equal to 13.55% of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 1999.

**NOTE TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 1999 AND 1998
(Continued)**

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Township has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

- Comprehensive property and general liability
- Vehicles
- Errors and omissions

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**REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS ON COMPLIANCE AND ON
INTERNAL CONTROL REQUIRED BY *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS***

Washington Township
Clinton County
P.O. Box 18, E. 350
Cuba, Ohio 45114

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Washington Township, Clinton County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 1999 and 1998, and have issued our report thereon dated March 31, 2000. We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Township's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on 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 such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed an instance of noncompliance that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* which is described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings as item 1999-40414-001. We also noted certain immaterial instances of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated March 31, 2000.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered Township's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, we noted other matters involving the internal control over financial reporting that do not require inclusion in this report, that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated March 31, 2000.

Washington Township
Clinton County
Report of Independent Accountants on Compliance and on
Internal Control Required by *Government Auditing Standards*
Page 2

This report is intended for the information and use of management and the Board of Trustees, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Petro", written in a cursive style.

Jim Petro
Auditor of State

March 31, 2000

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 1999 AND 1998**

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS
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FINDING NUMBER 1999-40414-001

Ohio Rev. Code, Section 5705.41 (D), requires that no subdivision or taxing unit shall make any contract or give any order involving the expenditure of money unless there is attached thereto a certificate of the fiscal officer of the subdivision that the amount required to meet the obligation has been lawfully appropriated for such purpose and is in the treasury or in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrances. This certificate need be signed only by the subdivision's fiscal officer. Every contract made without such a certificate shall be void, and no warrant shall be issued in payment of any amount due thereon.

This section also provides for two exceptions to the above requirements:

1. Then and Now Certificates - If no certificate is furnished as required, upon receipt of the fiscal officer's certificate that a sufficient sum was, both at the time of the contract or order and at the time of the certificate, appropriated and free of any previous encumbrances, the Board of Education may authorize the issuance of a warrant in payment of the amount due upon such contract or order by resolution within 30 days from the receipt of such certificate.

2. If the amount involved is less than \$1,000 dollars, the Clerk may authorize payment through a Then and Now Certificate without affirmation of the Board of Trustees, if such expenditure is otherwise valid.

Expenditures and obligations made by the Township were initiated without obtaining the prior certification of the Clerk/Treasurer. Every effort should be made by the Township to properly utilize the encumbrance method of accounting by certifying funds on purchase orders. Failure to properly certify funds could result in overspending funds.



STATE OF OHIO
OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR

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WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

CLINTON 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
MAY 9, 2000**