REGULAR AUDIT

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND 1999



TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE	PAGE
Report of Independent Accountants	1
Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Cash Balance For the Years Ended December 31, 2000 and December 31, 1999	3
Notes to the Financial Statements	5
Report on Compliance and on Internal Control Required by Government Auditing Standards	9





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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

Board of Trustees Bladensburg Township Fire District Knox County 22600 Deal Road Gambier, Ohio 43022

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Bladensburg Township Fire District, Knox County, Ohio, (the District) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2000 and December 31, 1999. These financial statements are the responsibility of the District'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 District 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 cash balance of the Bladensburg Township Fire District, Knox County, Ohio, as of December 31, 2000 and December 31, 1999, and its 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 June 5, 2001 on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with government auditing standards and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

Bladensburg Township Fire District Knox County Report of Independent Accountants Page 2

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

JIM PETRO Auditor of State

June 5, 2001

CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND 1999

	2000	1999
Cash Receipts:		
Local Taxes	\$59,381	\$56,258
Intergovernmental	14,726	6,773
Earnings on Investments	1,103	2,005
Miscellaneous	1,373	155
Total Cash Receipts	76,583	65,191
Cash Disbursements:		
Current:		
Security of Persons and Property	69,316	68,008
Other	3,035	460
Debt Service:	6,914	10,697
Total Cash Disbursements	79,265	79,165
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	(2,682)	(13,974)
Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements):		
Sale of Fixed Assets	1,276	0
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements		
and Other Financing Disbursements	(1,406)	(13,974)
Cash Balance January 1, 2000	48,565	62,539
Cash Balance, December 31, 2000	\$47,159	\$48,565

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

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND 1999

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Bladensburg Township Fire District, Knox County, Ohio, (the District) 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 District is directed by an appointed Board of Trustees. The Board consists of a trustee from each Township and a council person from the Village of Bladensburg. The District provides fire protection and rescue services within the District and by contract to areas outside the District.

The District's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the District 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

The District maintains an interest bearing checking account.

D. Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that the District budget annually -

Appropriations

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the 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.

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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND 1999 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

D. Budgetary Process (Continued)

Encumbrances

The Ohio Revised Code requires the District to reserve (encumber) appropriations when commitments are made.

A summary of 2000 and 1999 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

E. Property, Plant and Equipment

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

2. EQUITY IN CASH

The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of cash at December 31 follows:

	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>
Demand Deposits	\$47,159	\$48,565
Total	\$47,159	\$48,565

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

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ended December 31, 2000 and December 31, 1999 follows:

2000 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted Receipts		Actual Receipts		Variance	
\$	62,100	\$	77,859	\$	15,759	

2000 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Appropr Autho		udgetary penditures	Variance	
I_\$ 107	,356 \$	79,265	\$ 28,091	

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND 1999 (Continued)

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY (Continued)

1999 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

Budgeted Receipts		F	Actual Receipts		Variance	
\$	59,000	\$	65,191	\$	6,191	

1999 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Appropriation Authority		Budgetary Expenditures		 Variance	
\$	119,672	\$	79,165	\$ 40,507	

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.

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 District.

5. DEBT

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2000 was as follows:

		Interest
	<u>Principal</u>	Rate
Notes - Peoples Bank	\$11,200	8%

The District issued notes to finance the purchase of a new fire truck. The notes were issued on February 20, 1997 in the amount of \$44,800, and have maturities through February 20, 2005. The District made an advance payment in 1999 for 2002 and an advance payment in 2000 for 2003 toward scheduled principal and interest payments.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND 1999 (Continued)

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

The District has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

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



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REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Board of Trustees Bladensburg Township Fire District Knox County 22600 Deal Road Gambier, Ohio 43022

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Bladensburg Township Fire District, Knox County, Ohio (the District), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2000 and December 31, 1999, and have issued our report thereon dated June 5, 2001. 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 District'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 no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*. However, we noted a certain immaterial instance of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the District in a separate letter dated June 5, 2001.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the District'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.

Bladensburg Township Fire District Knox County Report on Compliance and onInternal 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.

JIM PETRO Auditor of State

June 5, 2001



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BLANDENSBURG TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT

KNOX 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.

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

Susan Babbitt

CERTIFIED JUNE 28, 2001