AUDITOR O

MONROE TOWNSHIP MUSKINGUM COUNTY

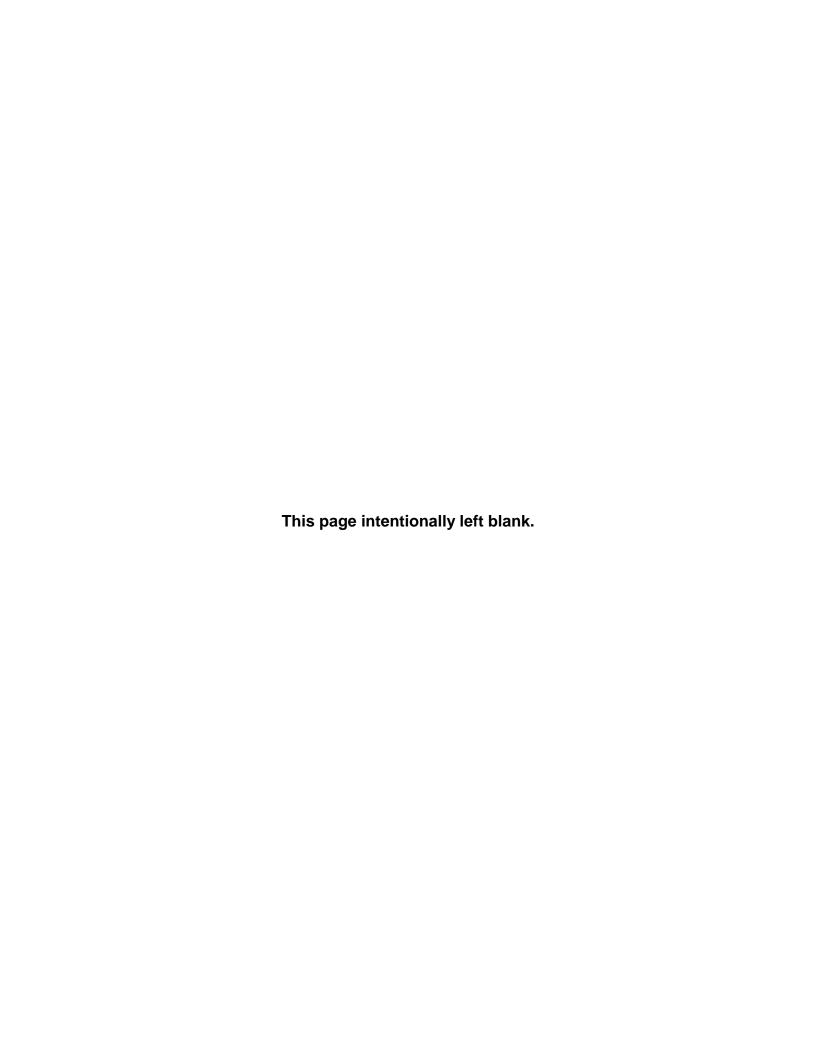
REGULAR AUDIT

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2000 - 1999



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743 East State Street Athens Mall Suite B Athens, Ohio 45701

Telephone 740-594-3300

800-441-1389

Facsimile 740-594-2110 www.auditor.state.oh.us

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

Monroe Township Muskingum County 12295 Parks Road New Concord, Ohio 43762

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Monroe Township, Muskingum County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2000 and 1999. 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 *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 Monroe Township, Muskingum County, as of December 31, 2000 and 1999, 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 June 26, 2001 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. 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.

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 § 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 26, 2001

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COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2000

Governmental Fund Types

O O TO THIN OTHER	Tuna Types	
General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)
\$6,685	\$9,971	\$16,656
24,002	60,439	84,441
263	287	550
119		119_
31,069	70,697	101,766
31,137		31,137
	,	5,429
1,702	61,133	62,835
	,	5,000
	, -	1,344
	6,645	6,645
32,839	79,551	112,390
s(1,770)	(8,854)	(10,624)
19,092	37,461	56,553
\$17,322	\$28,607	\$45,929
	\$6,685 24,002 263 119 31,069 31,137 1,702 32,839 (1,770) 19,092	General Revenue \$6,685 \$9,971 24,002 60,439 263 287 119 70,697 31,069 70,697 31,702 61,133 5,000 1,344 6,645 32,839 79,551 3 (1,770) (8,854) 19,092 37,461

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

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

Governmental Fund Types

	Covernincina	i una rypes	
	General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:			
Local Taxes	\$5,713	\$9,169	\$14,882
Intergovernmental	25,329	63,735	89,064
Earnings on Investments	269	553	822
Other Revenue	126		126
Other Financing Sources		25,000	25,000
Total Cash Receipts	31,437	98,457	129,894
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	26,808		26,808
Public Safety	4 740	2,896	2,896
Public Works	1,710	87,857	89,567
Capital Outlay		35,000	35,000
Total Cash Disbursements	28,518	125,753	154,271
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	2,919	(27,296)	(24,377)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	16,173	64,757	80,930
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$19,092	\$37,461	\$56,553

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND 1999

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Monroe Township, Muskingum County (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 maintenance of roads, bridges, swimming pool, and park, fire protection, and emergency management services. The Township contracts with Adamsville Fire Department for fire protection services and emergency management 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.

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State.

C. 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 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 for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads.

Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund - This fund receives motor vehicle money for maintaining and repairing Township roads.

Fire District Fund - This fund receives property tax money for maintaining and equipping a volunteer Fire Department.

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

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

D. 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 reappropriated in the subsequent year. The Township did not encumber certain commitments required by Ohio law to be encumbered.

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 disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements.

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH

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

	2000	1999
Demand Deposits	\$45,929	\$56,553

Deposits: Deposits were insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

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

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

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

2000 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts				
		Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type		Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General		\$26,543	\$31,069	\$4,526
Special Revenue	_	126,825	70,697	(56,128)
	Total	\$153,368	\$101,766	(\$51,602)
	_			

2000 Budgeted vs.	. Actual Bud(getary Basis	Expenditures

		Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type		Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General		\$31,194	\$32,839	(\$1,645)
Special Revenue		162,151	79,551	82,600
	Total	\$193,345	\$112,390	\$80,955

1999 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

		Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type		Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General		\$23,740	\$31,437	\$7,697
Special Revenue		65,286	98,457	33,171
	Total	\$89,026	\$129,894	\$40,868

1999 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

		Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type		Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General		\$39,914	\$28,518	\$11,396
Special Revenue		130,042	125,753	4,289
	Total	\$169,956	\$154,271	\$15,685

Accountability and Compliance:

The certification of availability of unencumbered appropriations for expenditure was not always made prior to purchase commitments being incurred. Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41(D) requires a certificate of the fiscal officer to be attached to any order of expenditure, prior to a commitment being incurred.

The Township's expenditures exceeded appropriations by \$1,645 in the General Fund during 2000. Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41(B) prohibits a subdivision from making an expenditure unless it has been properly appropriated.

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

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY (Continued)

Accountability and Compliance (Continued):

Various appropriation amounts which had not been approved by the Board of Trustees and filed with the County Auditor were posted to the Township's records. Section 5705.40, Ohio Revised Code, requires that any appropriation measure may be amended or supplemented, provided that such amendment or supplement shall comply with all provisions of law governing the taxing authority in making an original appropriation. Appropriation amounts reported above include only those amounts approved by the Board of Trustees and filed with the County Auditor.

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 payments, 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 Township.

5. DEBT

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2000 was as follows:

		Interest
	Principal	Rate
4000 O 1015 C N	Φοο οοο	
1999 - General Obligation Notes	\$20,000	5.36%

The general obligation notes were issued to finance the purchase of a used backhoe to be used for the Township road maintenance. The notes are collateralized solely by the Township's taxing authority.

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

	General
Year ending	Obligation
December 31:	Notes
2001	\$6,072
2002	5,804
2003	5,536
2004	5,268
Total	\$22,680

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

6. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

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

Contribution rates are also prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code. PERS members contributed 8.5% of their gross salaries. The Township contributed an amount equal to 10.84% and 13.55% for 2000 and 1999, respectively, of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2000.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Township belongs to the Ohio Government Risk Management Plan (the Plan), an unincorporated non-profit association with over 600 governmental entity members providing a formalized, jointly administered self-insurance risk management program and other administrative services.

Pursuant to Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Plan is deemed a separate legal entity. The Plan provides property, liability, errors and omissions, law enforcement, automobile, excess liability, crime, surety and bond, inland marine and other coverages, modified for each member's needs. The Plan pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the member's deductible.

The Plan uses conventional insurance coverages and reinsures these coverages 100%, rather than using a risk pool of member funds to pay individual and collective losses. Therefore, the individual members are only responsible for their self-retention (deductible) amounts which vary from member to member.

The following risks are covered by the Plan:

- Comprehensive property and general liability
- Wrongful acts
- Automobile
- Bond
- Inland Marine
- Electronic Data Processing

The Township also provides health insurance coverage to a full-time employee through a private carrier.

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743 East State Street Athens Mall Suite B Athens, Ohio 45701

Telephone 740-594-3300

800-441-1389 740-594-2110

Facsimile 740-594-2110 www.auditor.state.oh.us

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

Monroe Township Muskingum County 12295 Parks Road New Concord, Ohio 43762

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Monroe Township, Muskingum County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2000 and 1999, and have issued our report thereon dated June 26, 2001. 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 *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 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 such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* which are described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings as items 2000-41060-001 through 2000-41060-003. We also noted certain immaterial instances of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated June 26, 2001.

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. However, we noted certain matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be reportable conditions. Reportable conditions involve matters coming to our attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal control over financial reporting that, in our judgement, could adversely affect the Township's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the financial statements. Reportable conditions are described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings as items 2000-41060-001, 2000-41060-003, 2000-41060-004, and 2000-41060-005.

Monroe Township
Muskingum County
Report of Independent Accountants
on Compliance and on Internal Control
Required by Government Auditing Standards
Page 2

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. 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 reportable conditions and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all reportable conditions that are also considered to be material weaknesses. However, of the reportable conditions described above, we consider item 2000-41060-001 to be a material weakness. We also 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 June 26, 2001.

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 26, 2001

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND 1999

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

FINDING NUMBER 2000-41060-001

Noncompliance Citation and Material Weakness

Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(D) states that no subdivision or taxing unit shall make any contract or order any expenditure of money unless there is attached thereto a certificate of the fiscal officer of the subdivision that the amount required to meet the same 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. Every such contract made without such a certificate shall be null and void and no warrant shall be issued in payment of any amount due thereon. This section also provides two "exceptions" to the above requirements:

- A. Then and Now Certificate If no certificate is furnished as required, upon receipt of the fiscal officer's certificate that a sufficient sum was appropriated and free of any previous encumbrances, the Board of Trustees 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, if such expenditure is otherwise valid.
- B. If the amount involved is less than one thousand dollars, the fiscal officer may authorize it to be paid without the affirmation of the Board of Trustees.

The Township included certification language as part of its purchase order. However, certain Township checks were issued without properly approved purchase orders. These commitments were not subsequently approved using a Then and Now Certificate by the Clerk or by the Board of Trustees, as applicable, within the aforementioned 30 day time period. We noted that 80% of tested expenditures were not properly certified.

We recommend Township personnel obtain proper certification for every contract or order involving an expenditure of money.

FINDING NUMBER 2000-41060-002

Noncompliance Citation

Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(B) prohibits a subdivision from making an expenditure unless it has been properly appropriated.

During 2000, the General Fund had expenditures in excess of appropriations by \$1,645.

We recommend expenditures of each fund be reviewed on a monthly basis by the Board of Trustees and the Clerk to determine the adequacy of appropriations. The Clerk should not make expenditures without proper appropriations.

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND 1999 (Continued)

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (Continued)

FINDING NUMBER 2000-41060-003

Noncompliance Citation and Reportable Condition

Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.40 provides that any appropriation ordinance or measure may be amended or supplemented, provided that such amendment or supplement shall comply with all provisions of law governing the taxing authority in making an original appropriation.

The Clerk posted amended appropriations to the appropriations ledger without obtaining Board approval and without obtaining the County Auditor's certification that total fund appropriations do not exceed estimated resources. The following schedules compare approved appropriations to those posted to the appropriations ledger:

Fund	Appropriations and Carry Over Encumbrances Posted to the UAN system for 2000	Approved Appropriations for 2000	Variance
General	\$41,994	\$31,194	\$10,800
Gasoline Tax	138,018	136,848	1,170
Total	\$180,012	\$168,042	\$11,970

Fund	Appropriations and Carry Over Encumbrances Posted to the UAN system for 1999	Approved Appropriations for 1999	Variance
Gasoline Tax	\$110,220	\$105,220	\$5,000

We recommend the Township management review budgetary procedures for amending appropriations and file all appropriation amendments with the County Auditor in order to receive certification from the County Auditor that appropriations do not exceed estimated resources. In addition, we recommend the Clerk document Board approval of these appropriation amendments in the minutes and post those measures only after proper approval has been obtained. The accompanying budgetary presentation includes only appropriations the Trustees approved.

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND 1999 (Continued)

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (Continued)

FINDING NUMBER 2000-41060-004

Reportable Condition

The Township did not properly post budgeted receipts to the accounting system, and, as a result, variances existed between the amounts on certificates of estimated resources and the amounts posted to the accounting system throughout the year.

Fund	Budgeted Receipts at December 31,2000 per the UAN system	2000 Budgeted Receipts per the final Certificate of Estimated Resources	Variance
General Fund	\$45,594	\$26,543	\$19,051
Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund	11,919	9,913	2,006
Gasoline Tax Fund	138,018	106,357	31,661
Road and Bridge	7,920	6,416	1,504
Fire Levy Fund	5,514	4,139	1,375
Total	\$208,965	\$153,368	\$55,597

Fund	Budgeted Receipts at December 31, 1999 per the UAN system	1999 Budgeted Receipts per the final Certificate of Estimated Resources	Variance
General Fund	\$39,903	\$23,740	\$16,163
Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund	9,812	7,292	2,520
Gasoline Tax Fund	105,220	48,278	56,942
Road and Bridge	10,944	5,910	5,034
Fire Levy Fund	4,066	3,806	260
Total	\$169,945	\$89,026	\$80,919

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND 1999 (Continued)

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (Continued)

FINDING NUMBER 2000-41060-004 (Continued)

Reportable Condition (Continued)

We recommend the Clerk record only estimated receipts from the certificate of estimated resources and any amendment(s) thereto. This would enable useful comparisons of estimated to actual receipts to be made throughout the year. The accompanying budgetary presentation includes only budgeted receipts from the final Certificate of Estimated Resources.

FINDING NUMBER 2000-41060-005

Reportable Condition

The Township issued \$25,000 in general obligation notes 1999 for the purpose of purchasing a backhoe for road maintenance. The check issued by the bank for the proceeds of the notes was made payable directly to the vendor. The Township's records reflected neither the proceeds of the notes as revenue nor the purchase of the backhoe as an expenditure. As a result, receipts and disbursements were understated in 1999. Adjustments with which Township management agrees have been made to the 1999 financial statements to properly reflect the note proceeds and capital outlay expenditure.

We recommend the Township properly recognize the revenue and expenditure associated with debt issuance and equipment purchases.



88 East Broad Street P.O. Box 1140 Columbus, Ohio 43216-1140

Telephone 614-466-4514

800-282-0370

Facsimile 614-466-4490

MONROE TOWNSHIP

MUSKINGUM 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 AUGUST 9, 2001