REGULAR AUDIT

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2001 - 2000



Jim Petro Auditor of State

STATE OF OHIO

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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

Dinsmore Township Shelby County P.O. Box 316 Botkins, Ohio 45306

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Dinsmore Township, Shelby County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000. 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 fund cash balances of the Township, as of December 31, 2001 and 2000, 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 April 10, 2002, 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 the management, 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

April 10, 2002

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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, 2001

	Governmental	Fund Types	
	General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:			
Local Taxes	\$15,892	\$84,880	\$100,772
Intergovernmental	39,312	70,518	109,830
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	1,900	,	1,900
Earnings on Investments	1,568	800	2,368
Other Revenue	4,242	4,700	8,942
Total Cash Receipts	62,914	160,898	223,812
Cash Disbursements: Current:			
General Government	37,977		37,977
Public Safety		35,894	35,894
Public Works	9,632	95,675	105,307
Health	5,000	3,324	8,324
Capital Outlay	1,232	1,200	2,432
Total Cash Disbursements	53,841	136,093	189,934_
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	9,073	24,805	33,878
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	58,069	112,620	170,689
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$67,142	\$137,425	\$204,567

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, 2000

	Governmental	Fund Types	
	General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:			
Local Taxes	\$16,262	\$82,024	\$98,286
Intergovernmental	33,631	68,833	102,464
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	1,250		1,250
Earnings on Investments	1,593	799	2,392
Other Revenue	2,573	2,200	4,773
Total Cash Receipts	55,309	153,856	209,165
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	35,807		35,807
Public Safety		35,318	35,318
Public Works	2,136	98,817	100,953
Health	8,516	5,637	14,153
Capital Outlay	1,381	1,000	2,381
Total Cash Disbursements	47,840	140,772	188,612
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	7,469	13,084	20,553
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	50,600	99,536	150,136
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$58,069	\$112,620	\$170,689

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2001 AND 2000

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Dinsmore Township, Shelby 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 road and bridge maintenance and cemetery maintenance. The Township contracts with the Village of Botkins to provide fire protection services and Anna Rescue Squad, Inc., to provide ambulance 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 Investments

Investments are included in fund cash balances. Accordingly, purchases of investments are not recorded as disbursements, and sales of investments are not recorded as receipts. Gains or losses at the time of sale are recorded as receipts or disbursements, respectively. The Township maintained an interest bearing checking account.

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 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 to construct, maintain and repair Township roads and bridges.

Gasoline Tax Fund - This fund receives gasoline tax money to construct, maintain and repair Township roads.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2001 AND 2000 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

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 reappropriated in the subsequent year. The Township did not encumber all commitments required by Ohio law.

A summary of 2001 and 2000 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

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 INVESTMENTS

The Township maintains a cash and investment 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:

	2001	2000
Demand deposits	\$204,567	\$170,689

Deposits: Deposits are either (1) insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation, (2) collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the Township, or (3) collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2001 AND 2000 (Continued)

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000 follows:

	2001 Bu	dgeted vs. Actua	al Receipts	
Fund Type		Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General		\$41,525	\$62,914	\$21,389
Special Revenue		159,983	160,898	915
	Total	\$201,508	\$223,812	\$22,304

2001 Bu	dgeted v	s. Actual Budgeta	ry Basis Expendit	ures
Fund Type		Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General Special Revenue		\$100,019 272,177	\$53,841 136,093	\$46,178 136,084
	Total	\$372,196	\$189,934	\$182,262

	2000 Би	dgeted vs. Actua		
Fund Type		Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General		\$41,284	\$55,309	\$14,025
Special Revenue		159,359	153,856	(5,503)
	Total	\$200,643	\$209,165	\$8,522

Fund Type		Appropriation Authority	ry Basis Expendite Budgetary <u>Expenditures</u>	Variance
General Special Revenue		\$92,294 258,469	\$47,840 140,772	\$44,454 117,697
	Total	\$350,763	\$188,612	\$162,151

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2001 AND 2000 (Continued)

4. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which rates are adopted by the 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 Township.

5. 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. For 2001 and 2000, PERS members contributed 8.5% of their gross salaries. The Township contributed an amount equal to 13.55% of participants' gross salaries for 2001 and from January 1, 2000 through June 30, 2000. PERS temporarily reduced the employer contribution rate to 8.13% effective July 1, 2000 through December 31, 2000. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2001.

6. RISK POOL MEMBERSHIP

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. OTARMA is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP). Member governments pay an annual contribution to fund OTARMA. OTARMA pays judgements, settlements, and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

Casualty Coverage

OTARMA retains casualty risks up to \$250,000 per occurrence. Claims exceeding \$250,000 are reinsured with APEEP up to \$1,750,000 per claim and \$5,000,000 in the aggregate per year. Governments can elect additional coverage, from \$2,000,000 to \$10,000,000, which the General Reinsurance Corporation will reinsure.

If losses exhaust OTARMA's retained earnings, APEEP covers OTARMA losses up to \$5,000,000 per year, subject to a per-claim limit of \$2,000,000.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2001 AND 2000 (Continued)

6. RISK POOL MEMBERSHIP (Continued)

Property Coverage

OTARMA retains property risks including automobile physical damage up to \$100,000 on any specific loss. The Travelers Indemnity Company reinsures specific losses exceeding \$100,000. The Travelers Indemnity Company also provides aggregate excess coverage for property including automobile physical damage subject to an annual stop loss. When the stop loss is reached in any year, the Travelers Indemnity Company provides coverage in excess of \$10,000.

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

Financial Position

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

Casualty Coverage	2001	2000
Assets	\$23,703,776	\$22,684,383
Liabilities	<u>9,379,003</u>	<u>8,924,977</u>
Retained Earnings	<u>\$14,324,773</u>	<u>\$13,759,406</u>
Property Coverage	2001	2000
Property Coverage Assets	2001 \$5,011,131	2000 \$4,156,784

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Township provides health insurance coverage to the elected officials through private carriers up to a maximum of coverage and benefits set by the Trustees.

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STATE OF OHIO OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR

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

Dinsmore Township Shelby County P.O. Box 316 Botkins, Ohio 45306

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Dinsmore Township, Shelby County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000, and have issued our report thereon dated April 10, 2002. 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 an instance of noncompliance that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* which is described in the accompanying schedule of finding as item 2001-40275-001. We also noted certain immaterial instances of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated April 10, 2002.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the 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 April 10, 2002. Dinsmore Township Shelby County Report of Independent Accountants on Compliance and on Internal Control Required by *Government Auditing Standards* Page 2

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the management and 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

April 10, 2002

SCHEDULE OF FINDING DECEMBER 31, 2001 AND 2000

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

FINDING NUMBER 2001-40275-001

Noncompliance Citation

Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41 (D), provides that no subdivision or taxing unit shall make any contract or give any order involving the expenditure of money without attaching thereto the certificate of the fiscal officer of the subdivision that the amount required to meet the same in the fiscal year in which the contract is made 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. Contracts and orders for expenditures lacking prior certification should be null and void.

This section also provides an exception to this requirement:

If no certificate is issued at the time the contract or order is entered into, the fiscal officer may later certify that these funds were properly appropriated and in the treasury or in the process of collection and such funds are free from previous encumbrance both at the time the contract or order was entered into and at the time of payment. After certifying this, the fiscal officer may proceed to pay for such order or contract. If the amount involved is over \$1,000, the taxing authority must approve of such payment within 30 days of the date of the fiscal officer's certification.

Fifteen percent of the expenditures during 2001 and 2000 did not have prior certification and the exception was not utilized.

The Township should adopt policies and procedures to improve compliance with the certification requirement.



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DINSMORE TOWNSHIP

SHELBY 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 Babbett

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

CERTIFIED MAY 9, 2002