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FOX TOWNSHIP CARROLL COUNTY

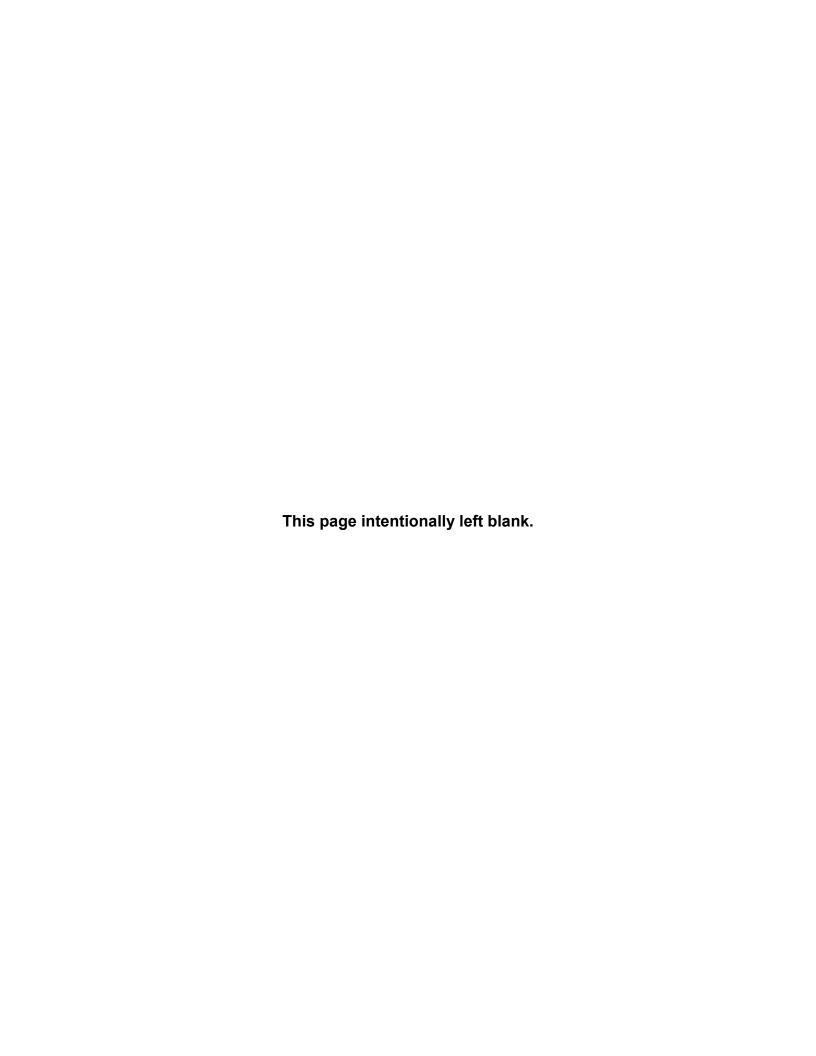
REGULAR AUDIT

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2001 - 2000



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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

Fox Township Carroll County 10075 Salineville Road NE Salineville, Ohio 43945

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Fox Township, Carroll 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 combined fund cash balances of Fox 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 March 22, 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 audit committee, 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

March 22, 2002

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COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL AND FIDUCIARY FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2001

	Governmental Fund Types		ypes	Fiduciary Fund Type	
	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Agency	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:					
Local Taxes	\$11,064	\$56,516			\$67,580
Intergovernmental	17,947	82,737			100,684
Earnings on Investments	56	108			164
Other Revenue	2,288	19			2,307
Total Cash Receipts	31,355	139,380			170,735
Cash Disbursements:					
Current:					
General Government	19,089				19,089
Public Safety		15,911			15,911
Public Works	859	89,156			90,015
Health	4,846				4,846
Miscellaneous		14,649			14,649
Debt Service:			***		
Redemption of Principal			\$16,728		16,728
Interest and Fiscal Charges			3,784		3,784
Total Cash Disbursements	24,794	119,716	20,512		165,022
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	6,561	19,664	(20,512)		5,713
Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements):					
Non-operating Disbursements				(\$1,000)	(1,000)
Transfers-In			20,512		20,512
Transfers-Out	(5,000)	(15,512)			(20,512)
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)	(5,000)	(15,512)	\$20,512	(1,000)	(1,000)
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements					
and Other Financing Disbursements	1,561	4,152		(1,000)	4,713
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	38	18,081		4,000	22,119
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$1,599	\$22,233		\$3,000	26,832

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 AND FIDUCIARY FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2000

	Governmental	Fund Types	Fiduciary Fund Type	_
	General	Special Revenue	Agency	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:				
Local Taxes	\$10,514	\$53,839		\$64,353
Intergovernmental	14,999	82,401		97,400
Earnings on Investments	223	491		714
Other Revenue	320	256		576
Total Cash Receipts	26,056	136,987		163,043
Cash Disbursements:				
Current:				
General Government	17,707			17,707
Public Safety	•••	15,046		15,046
Public Works	694	109,699		110,393
Health	4,705	00.400		4,705
Capital Outlay		99,126		99,126
Total Cash Disbursements	23,106	223,871		246,977
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	2,950	(86,884)		(83,934)
Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements):				
Proceeds from Sale of Public Debt:		05.400		05.400
Sale of Notes		65,402		65,402
Transfers-In	(7.006)	7,886		7,886
Transfers-Out	(7,886)	-		(7,886)
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)	(7,886)	73,288		65,402
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements				
and Other Financing Disbursements	(4,936)	(13,596)		(18,532)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	4,974	31,677	\$4,000	40,651
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$38	\$18,081	\$4,000	\$22,119

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

Fox Township, Carroll 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 general governmental services. The Township contracts with the Fox Township Volunteer Fire Department to provide fire protection to the residents within the Township.

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. Fund Accounting

The Township uses fund accounting to segregate cash that is 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)

3. Debt Service Fund

The debt service fund is used to accumulate resources for the payment of note indebtedness. The Township had the following significant Debt Service Fund:

Debt Service Fund - This fund receives resources to pay Township debt principal and interest.

4. Fiduciary Funds (Agency Funds)

These funds are used to account for resources restricted by legally binding trust agreements and funds for which the Township is acting in an agency capacity. The Township had the following significant Agency Fund:

Road Bond Fund -This fund receives monies from various mining or logging companies for the use of certain township roads. These monies are held in escrow in the event that road repairs would be necessary after the mining or logging has been completed.

D. Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund (except certain agency funds) be budgeted annually.

1. Appropriations

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function and 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 as required by Ohio law.

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

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

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

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.

F. Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. Unpaid leave is not reflected as a liability under the Township's basis of accounting.

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 cash at December 31 was as follows:

	2001	2000
Demand deposits	<u>\$26,832</u>	<u>\$22,119</u>

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

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

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

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts				
		Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type		Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General		\$31,300	\$31,355	\$55
Special Revenue		140,307	139,380	(927)
Debt Service		0	20,512	20,512
	Total	\$171,607	\$191,247	\$19,640

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$25,895	\$29,794	(\$3,899)
Special Revenue	130,289	135,228	(4,939)
Debt Service	0	20,512	(20,512)
To	otal \$156,184	\$185,534	(\$29,350)

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

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY (Continued)

Fund Type		Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General		\$25,885	\$26,056	\$171
Special Revenue Debt Service		184,081 7,000	210,275 0	26,194 (7,000)
	Total	\$216,966	\$236,331	\$19,365

2000 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Fund Type		Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General Special Revenue Debt Service		\$28,352 133,213 7,000	\$30,992 223,871 <u>0</u>	(\$2,640) (90,658) 7,000
	Total	\$168,565	\$254,863	(\$86,298)

Contrary to Ohio law, budgetary expenditures exceeded appropriation authority in the General Fund by \$3,899, Road and Bridge Fund by \$21,660, and in the Debt Service Fund by \$20,512 for the year ended December 31, 2001.

Contrary to Ohio law, budgetary expenditures exceeded appropriation authority in the General Fund by \$2,640 and in the Road and Bridge Fund by \$102,283 for the year ended December 31, 2000.

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. DEBT

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2001 was as follows:

	<u>Principal</u>	Interest Rate
General Obligation Note	\$48,674	5.95%

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

5. DEBT (Continued)

The general obligation note was issued to finance the purchase of a new grader to be used for Township road maintenance. The note was dated October 12, 2000 for \$65,402. The note is collateralized solely by the Township's taxing authority.

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

Year ending December 31:	General Obligation Note
2002 2003	\$15,512 15,512
2004	15,512
2005	9,040
Total	\$55,576

6. RETIREMENT SYSTEM

The Township's employees belong to the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) of Ohio. PERS is 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. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2001.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

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

A. Casualty Insurance

OTARMA retains casualty risks up to \$250,000 per claim. 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 from the General Reinsurance Corporation. 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)

7. RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)

B. Property Insurance

OTARMA retains property risks including automobile physical damage up to \$100,000 on any specific loss. The Travelers Indemnity Company reinsures specific losses exceeding up \$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 liablity for claims payments on covered losses. Claims exceeding coverage limits are the obligation of the respective government.

C. Financial Position

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

Casualty Coverage	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>
Assets	\$22,684,383	\$18,172,222
Liabilities	8,924,977	5,947,013
Retained Earnings	\$13,759,406	\$12,225,209
Property Coverage		
and party and and		
Assets	\$4,156,784	\$3,544,437
. ,	\$4,156,784 487,831	\$3,544,437 674,752



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

Fox Township Carroll County 10075 Salineville Road NE Salineville, Ohio 43945

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Fox Township, Carroll County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000, and have issued our report thereon dated March 22, 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 instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* which are described in the accompanying schedule of findings as items 2001-41210-001 and 2001-41210-002. We also noted a certain immaterial instance of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated March 22, 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 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 a matter involving the internal control over financial reporting that does not require inclusion in this report, that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated March 22, 2002.

Fox Township Carroll 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 audit committee, 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

March 22, 2002

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2001 AND 2000

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

FINDING NUMBER 2001-41210-001

Ohio Revised Code § 5705.41 (D) states that no subdivision shall make any contract or order any expenditure of money unless the certificate of the fiscal officer is attached. The fiscal officer must certify that the amount required to meet such a commitment has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury or in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrance. The amount so certified shall be recorded against the applicable appropriation account.

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, both at the time of the contract or order and at the time of the certificate, appropriated and free of any previous encumbrances, the Township 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 issues a certificate, but may authorize it to be paid without the affirmation of the Board of Trustees.

The Township did not properly certify 34% of tested expenditures in 2001 and 26% of tested expenditures in 2000. The Township did not exercise either of the abovementioned exceptions.

Failure to certify the availability of funds and encumber appropriations could result in overspending and negative cash balances. The Township should obtain approved purchase orders which include the fiscal officer's certification that the amount required to meet the obligation has been lawfully appropriated and authorized prior to making a commitment.

FINDING NUMBER 2001-41210-002

Ohio Revised Code § 5705.41 (B) states that no subdivision or taxing unit is to expend money unless it has been appropriated.

In fiscal year 2001, expenditures exceeded appropriations in the General Fund by 15%, in the Special Revenue Funds by 3.7% and in the Debt Service Fund by 100%. In fiscal year 2000, expenditures exceeded appropriations in the General Fund by 8.5% and in the Special Revenue Funds by 40.5%.

The Township Clerk should monitor expenditures by comparing the expenditures to appropriations and should approach the Board of Trustees to request amendments to the original appropriations as necessary.



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FOX TOWNSHIP

CARROLL 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 MAY 9, 2002