



JIM PETRO
AUDITOR OF STATE

STATE OF OHIO

**MONROE TOWNSHIP
PREBLE COUNTY**

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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

Monroe Township
Preble County
1791 Holtzmuller Road
West Manchester, Ohio 45382

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Monroe Township, Preble County, Ohio (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 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 June 20, 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 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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Petro". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jim Petro
Auditor of State

June 20, 2002

**MONROE TOWNSHIP
PREBLE COUNTY**

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

	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Totals (Memorandum Only)</u>
Cash Receipts:			
Local Taxes	\$22,878	\$122,394	\$145,272
Intergovernmental	50,680	77,364	128,044
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	6,580		6,580
Earnings on Investments	3,776	3,186	6,962
Other Revenue	2,544	1,125	3,669
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Cash Receipts	86,458	204,069	290,527
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	30,274	2,627	32,901
Public Safety		83,886	83,886
Public Works		136,243	136,243
Health	16,806		16,806
Capital Outlay	24,088	20,750	44,838
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Cash Disbursements	71,168	243,506	314,674
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	15,290	(39,437)	(24,147)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	51,838	111,157	162,995
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
	\$67,128	\$71,720	\$138,848

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

**MONROE TOWNSHIP
PREBLE COUNTY**

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

	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Totals (Memorandum Only)</u>
Cash Receipts:			
Local Taxes	\$23,224	\$123,219	\$146,443
Intergovernmental	30,998	77,773	108,771
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	6,096		6,096
Earnings on Investments	4,467	4,103	8,570
Other Revenue	135	3,025	3,160
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Cash Receipts	64,920	208,120	273,040
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	29,619	2,697	32,316
Public Safety		80,401	80,401
Public Works		102,021	102,021
Health	13,830	1,177	15,007
Capital Outlay	2,331	12,371	14,702
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Cash Disbursements	45,780	198,667	244,447
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	19,140	9,453	28,593
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	32,698	101,704	134,402
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
	\$51,838	\$111,157	\$162,995

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

**MONROE TOWNSHIP
PREBLE COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2001 AND 2000**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Monroe Township, Preble 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 and cemetery services. The Township contracts with the Villages of Eldorado and West Manchester to provide fire protection to its residents.

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.

Certificates of deposit are valued at cost. The investment in STAR Ohio (the State Treasurer's investment pool) is valued at amounts reported by the State Treasurer.

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 for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads and bridges.

**MONROE TOWNSHIP
PREBLE COUNTY**

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

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

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

Special Fire Levy Fund – This fund receives property tax money to pay for fire protection for Township residents.

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 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. However, there were no material encumbrances outstanding at December 31, 2001, and 2000.

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.

G. 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.

**MONROE TOWNSHIP
PREBLE COUNTY**

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

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS

The Township maintains a cash and investments 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	\$11,716	\$5,933
Certificates of deposit	10,000	20,000
Total deposits	21,716	25,933
STAR Ohio		
Total investments	117,132	137,062
Total deposits and investments	\$138,848	\$162,995

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

Investments:

Investments in STAR Ohio are not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book-entry form.

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

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

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$52,000	\$86,458	\$34,458
Special Revenue	203,590	204,069	479
Total	\$255,590	\$290,527	\$34,937

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$103,838	\$71,168	\$32,670
Special Revenue	314,747	243,506	71,241
Total	\$418,585	\$314,674	\$103,911

2000 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$45,020	\$64,920	\$19,900
Special Revenue	194,960	208,120	13,160
Total	\$239,980	\$273,040	\$33,060

**MONROE TOWNSHIP
PREBLE COUNTY**

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

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY (Continued)

2000 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$77,718	\$45,780	\$31,938
Special Revenue	296,664	198,667	97,997
Total	\$374,382	\$244,447	\$129,935

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 Township.

5. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

The Township's full-time and part-time 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 MANAGEMENT

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 annual contributions to fund OTARMA. OTARMA pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

**MONROE TOWNSHIP
PREBLE COUNTY**

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

6. RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)

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.

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:

<u>Casualty Coverage</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>
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>
 <u>Property Coverage</u>	 <u>2001</u>	 <u>2000</u>
Assets	\$5,011,131	\$4,156,784
Liabilities	<u>647,667</u>	<u>497,831</u>
Retained earnings	<u>\$4,363,464</u>	<u>\$3,658,953</u>

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

Monroe Township
Preble County
1791 Holtzmuller Road
West Manchester, Ohio 45382

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Monroe Township, Preble County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000, and have issued our report thereon dated June 20, 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* and which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2001-40368-001.

We also noted certain immaterial instances of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated June 20, 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. However, we noted a certain matter involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be a reportable condition. 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 judgment, 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. A reportable condition is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2001-40368-001.

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 that might be reportable conditions and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all reportable conditions that are also considered to be material weaknesses. However, we believe the reportable condition described above is not a material weakness.

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

We also noted a matter involving the internal control structure over financial reporting that does not require inclusion in this report that we have reported to the management of the Township in a separate letter dated June 20, 2002.

This report is intended solely 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

June 20, 2002

**MONROE TOWNSHIP
PREBLE COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2001 AND 2000**

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

FINDING NUMBER 2001-40368-001

Noncompliance/Reportable Condition

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

The Township did not properly certify the availability of funds for 70% of expenditures tested. Neither of the two exceptions listed above were used.

Failure to properly certify the availability of funds can result in overspending funds and negative cash fund balances.

Effort should be made by the Township to properly utilize the encumbrance method of accounting by certifying the availability funds on properly approved purchase orders. We recommend the Township obtain approved purchase orders, which contain the Clerk's certification indicated by a signature that the amount required to meet the obligation has been lawfully appropriated and authorized, prior to making a commitment.

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**MONROE TOWNSHIP
PREBLE COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2001 AND 2000**

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <i>Explain:</i>
1999-40368-001	Revised Code 5705.41(D), failure to properly certify funds	No	Not corrected - reissued as Finding Number 2001-40368-001



STATE OF OHIO
OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR

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MONROE TOWNSHIP

PREBLE 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
JULY 23, 2002**