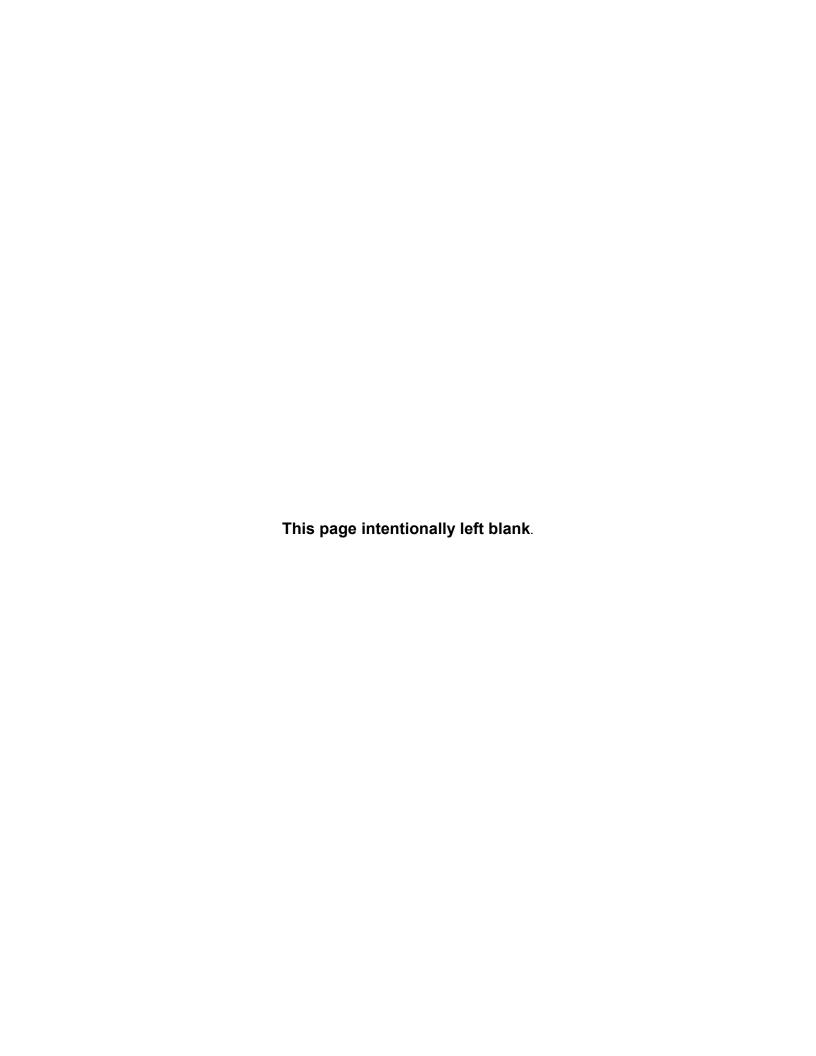




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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

Pike Township Perry County 355 Kennedy Drive P.O. Box 572 New Lexington, Ohio 43764

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Pike Township, Perry 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 Pike Township, Perry County, 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 15, 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 audit committee, 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

April 15, 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	\$29,570	\$287,427	\$316,997	
Intergovernmental	51,068	87,852	138,920	
Earnings on Investments	1,120	347	1,467	
Other Revenue	2,673		2,673	
Total Cash Receipts	84,431	375,626	460,057	
Cash Disbursements:				
Current:				
General Government	42,932	6,287	49,219	
Public Safety		206,680	206,680	
Public Works		93,280	93,280	
Health		53,891	53,891	
Debt Service:				
Redemption of Principal	6,492		6,492	
Interest and Fiscal Charges	1,703		1,703	
Capital Outlay	25,470		25,470	
Total Cash Disbursements	76,597	360,138	436,735	
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	7,834	15,488	23,322	
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	40,646	22,552	63,198	
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$40,680	\$38,040	\$86,520	

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	\$19,406	\$171,044	\$190,450
Intergovernmental	80,481	86,195	166,676
Earnings on Investments	2,668	460	3,128
Other Revenue	2,447		2,447
Total Cash Receipts	105,002	257,699	362,701
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	37,627	4,067	41,694
Public Safety		137,208	137,208
Public Works		88,901	88,901
Health		33,674	33,674
Debt Service:			
Redemption of Principal	31,790		31,790
Interest and Fiscal Charges	1,563		1,563
Capital Outlay	85,295		85,295
Total Cash Disbursements	156,275	263,850	420,125
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	(51,273)	(6,151)	(57,424)
Other Financing Receipts and (Disbursements): Proceeds from Sale of Public Debt:			
Sale of Notes	35,000		35,000
Total Other Financing Receipts and (Disbursements)	35,000	0	35,000
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements			
and Other Financing Disbursements	(16,273)	(6,151)	(22,424)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	56,919	28,703	85,622
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$40,646	\$22,552	\$63,198

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

Pike Township, Perry 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 and a publicly-elected Clerk. The Township provides general governmental services, including road and bridge maintenance (public works), fire protection (public safety) and emergency medical services (health).

The Township is also affiliated with the New Lexington - Pike Township Union Cemetery (the Union Cemetery). Members of the Board of Trustees of the Union Cemetery are appointed by the City of New Lexington and Pike Township. Taxes levied by the Township for cemetery maintenance are collected by Perry County, and distributed to the Township, which then distributes the proceeds to the Union Cemetery. The Union Cemetery is a legally-separate entity that prepares and files its own financial statements. The financial activity of the Union Cemetery is not included in the accompanying financial statements. Independent audits of the Union Cemetery are performed by the Auditor of State. To obtain financial information, write to the New Lexington-Pike Township Union Cemetery, Delinda Lacey, Treasurer, at 440 Swigart Street, New Lexington, Ohio 43764.

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 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:

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

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

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

C. Fund Accounting (Continued)

2. Special Revenue Funds (Continued)

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

Road and Bridge Fund - This fund receives property tax money for maintaining Township roads and bridges.

Fire District Fund - This fund receives property tax money to provide fire protection through a contract with the City of New Lexington.

Emergency Medical Services - This fund receives property tax money to provide emergency medical services through a contract with the City of New Lexington.

Cemetery Fund - This fund receives property tax money which is paid over to the Union Cemetery for cemetery maintenance.

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 balances 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.

A summary of 2001 and 2000 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.

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

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

F. Unpaid Vacation and Sick Leave

Employees are entitled to cash payments for unused vacation and sick leave in certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment. Unpaid vacation and sick leave are not reflected as liabilities under the cash basis of accounting used by the Township.

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 and investments at December 31 was as follows:

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>
Demand deposits	\$86,520	\$63,198

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

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

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

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$69,293	\$84,431	\$15,138
Special Revenue	357,143	375,626	18,483
Total	\$426,436	\$460,057	\$33,621
2001 Budgeted vs.	Actual Budgetary	Basis Expenditure	s
	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$140,630	\$76,597	\$64,033
Special Revenue	322,824	360,138	(37,314)
Total	\$463,454	\$436,735	\$26,719
2000 Bud	dgeted vs. Actual	Receipts	
	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$141,287	\$140,002	(\$1,285)
Special Revenue	291,550	257,699	(33,851)
Total	\$432,837	\$397,701	(\$35,136)

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

3. **BUDGETARY ACTIVITY (Continued)**

2000 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$198,672	\$156,275	\$42,397
Special Revenue	319,787	263,850	55,937
Total	\$518,459	\$420,125	\$98,334

Accountability and Compliance:

Contrary to Ohio Law, budgetary expenditures exceeded appropriation authority in the Cemetery Fund by \$11,791; Fire Fund by \$5,772; Emergency Medical Services Fund by \$25,090 and the Emergency Medical Technician Fund by \$11,404 for the year ended December 31, 2001. Also contrary to Ohio Law, at December 31, 2001, appropriations exceeded total estimated resources available for expenditure in the General Fund by \$30,691 and the Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund by \$1,936.

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.

Public utilities are also taxed on personal and real property located within the Township.

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 <u>Rate</u>
Promissory Note	\$23,925	6.20%

The Township issued a tax anticipation note dated February 25, 2000 in the amount of \$35,000 to finance the purchase of a dump truck to be used for Township road maintenance. The note is collateralized by the Township's taxing authority.

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

5. DEBT (Continued)

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

Year ending December 31:	Promissory Note
2002	\$8,195
2003	8,195
2004	8,195
2005	2,049
	\$26,634

6. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

The Township's elected officials and 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 the periods January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2001 and January 1, 2000 through June 30, 2000. For the period July 1, 2000 through December 31, 2000, PERS temporarily reduced the employer's contribution rate to 8.13% of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2001.

7. 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 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 judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

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.

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 \$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.

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

7. RISK POOL MEMBERSHIP (Continued)

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 reported the following assets, liabilities and retained earnings at December 31, 2001 and 2000 (the latest years available):

Casualty Coverage	<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>
Assets	\$23,703,776	\$22,684,383
Liabilities	9,379,003	8,924,977
Retained earnings	<u>\$14,324,773</u>	<u>\$13,759,406</u>
Property Coverage	<u>2001</u>	2000
Assets	\$5,011,131	\$4,156,784
Liabilities	647,667	497,831
Retained earnings	<u>\$4,363,464</u>	<u>\$3,658,953</u>

The Township also provides health and life insurance coverage to elected officials and its full-time employee through a private carrier.



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

Pike Township
Perry County
355 Kennedy Drive
P.O. Box 572
New Lexington, Ohio 43764

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Pike Township, Perry County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000, and have issued our report thereon dated April 15, 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 2001-41064-001 through 2001-41064-003. We also noted certain immaterial instances of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated April 15, 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 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 April 15, 2002.

Pike Township
Perry County
Report on Compliance and on Internal Control Required by
Government Auditing Standards
Page 2

This report is intended for the information and use of management, the audit committee, 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

April 15, 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 2001-41056-001

Noncompliance Citation

Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(D) states that no subdivision or taxing unit shall make any contact 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:

- 1. Then and Now Certificate This exception provides that, if the fiscal officer can certify that both at the time that the contract or order was made and at the time the certification is being completed, sufficient funds were available or in the process of collection, to the credit of a proper fund, properly appropriated and free from any previous encumbrance, the Board of Trustees may authorize the drawing of a warrant. The taxing authority has 30 days from the receipt of such certificate to approve payment by resolution or ordinance. If approval is not made within 30 days, there is no legal liability on the part of the Township.
- 2. 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.

Certain liabilities, contracts, and open purchase commitments were not certified by the Clerk prior to obligations being incurred. There was no documentation that a "Then and Now" Certificate was used and subsequently approved by the Board of Trustees within the aforementioned 30-day time period. Twenty-eight percent of expenditure transactions tested for 2000 and 2001 were not certified.

We recommend the Township Clerk certify the availability of funds prior to an obligation being incurred on behalf of the Township.

FINDING NUMBER 2001-41056-002

Noncompliance Citation

Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(B) states that no subdivision is to expend money unless it has been appropriated. Failure to comply with this section can result in deficit spending by the Township.

At December 31, 2001, expenditures exceeded appropriations in the following funds:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Appropriations</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Cemetery	\$42,100	\$53,891	(\$11,791)
Fire	13,700	19,472	(5,772)
Emergency Medical Services	6,280	31,370	(25,090)
Emergency Medical Technician	150,720	162,124	(11,404)

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2001 AND 2000 (Continued)

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

FINDING NUMBER 2001-41056-002 (Continued)

Noncompliance Citation - Ohio Rev. Code §5705.41(B) (Continued)

We recommend the Township Clerk make expenditures only when appropriations are available. The Board of Trustees should monitor expenditures and modify appropriations when needed. Obtaining the Township Clerk's certification of funds prior to an obligation being incurred would also help prevent expenditures from exceeding appropriations. Amendments to appropriations should be formally approved by the Board of Trustees and sent to the County Auditor to obtain the County Auditor's certification that appropriations do not exceed estimated resources.

FINDING NUMBER 2001-41056-003

Noncompliance Citation

Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.39 prohibits a subdivision from making appropriations from any fund in excess of the amount of available resources for that fund as certified by the County Budget Commission.

Appropriations exceeded total estimated resources available for expenditure, as certified by the County Budget Commission, in the General Fund by \$30,691 and Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund by \$1,936 for the year ended December 31, 2001.

Failure to comply with these budgetary procedures could result in deficit spending.

We recommend the Township management adopt appropriations that are within the amounts of estimated resources as certified by the County Budget Commission. Appropriations are not valid until the County Auditor certifies that appropriations do not exceed estimated resources.

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> :
1999-41064-001	Ohio Rev. Code 5705.41(D), failure to encumber funds until the time of payment.	No	Not Corrected. Repeated in this report.



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PIKE TOWNSHIP

PERRY COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

This is a true and correct copy of the report which is required to be filed in the Office of the Auditor of State pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in Columbus, Ohio.

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

Susan Babbitt

CERTIFIED JUNE 13, 2002