# AUDITOR AUDITOR

### PITTSFIELD TOWNSHIP LORAIN COUNTY

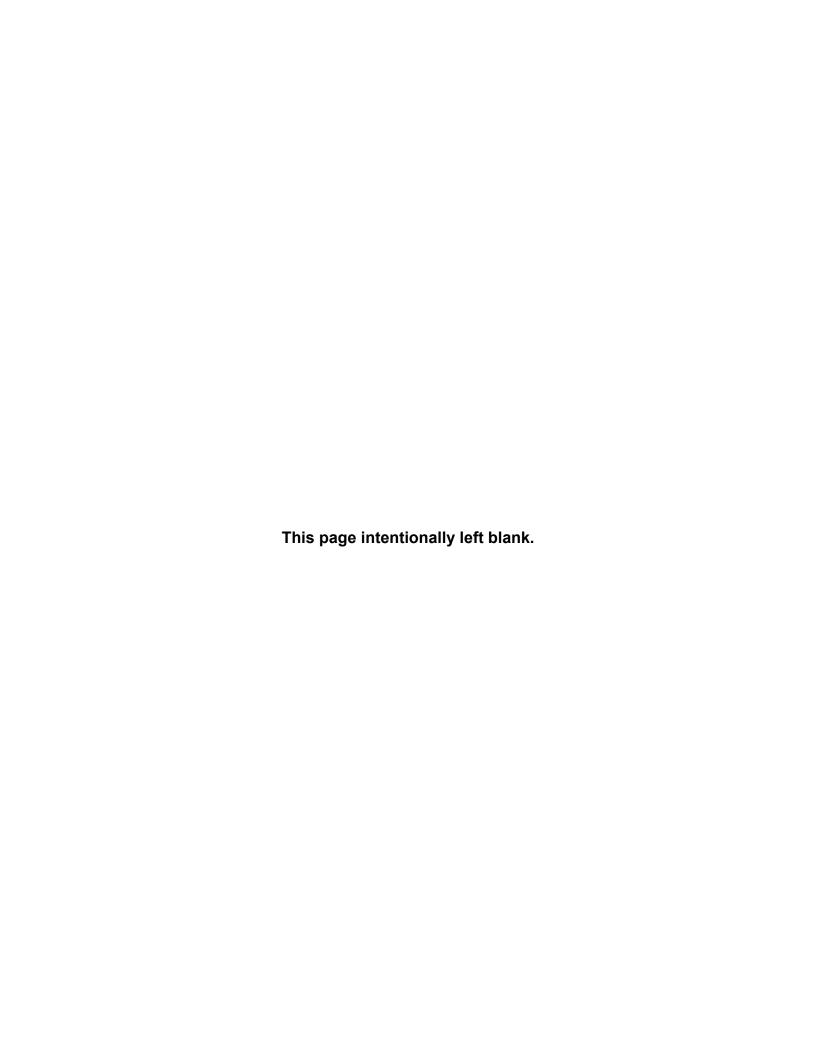
**REGULAR AUDIT** 

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2001 & 2000



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### REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

Pittsfield Township Lorain County 16940 S.R. 58 Oberlin, Ohio 44074

#### To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Pittsfield Township, Lorain County, Ohio, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2001 and December 31, 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 audits.

We conducted our audits 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 audits 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 audits provide 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 and reserves for encumbrances of Pittsfield Township, Lorain County, Ohio, as of December 31, 2001 and December 31, 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 21, 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 audits.

Pittsfield Township Lorain County Report of Independent Accountants Page 2

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Board of Trustees, and other officials authorized to receive this report under § 117.26, Ohio Revised Code, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Jim Petro Auditor of State

June 21, 2002

## 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			Fiduciary Fund Type	Totala	
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Non-Expendable Trust	Totals (Memorandum Only)	
Cash Receipts:						
Local Taxes	\$18,280	\$107,082	\$0	\$0	\$125,362	
Intergovernmental	67,186	83,407	28,139	0	178,732	
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	11,095	2,800	0	0	13,895	
Earnings on Investments	4,450	1,049	0	48	5,547	
Other Revenue	0	1,400	0	0	1,400	
Total Cash Receipts	101,011	195,738	28,139	48	324,936	
Cash Disbursements:						
Current:						
General Government	95,030	0	0	0	95,030	
Public Works	3,166	176,903	0	0	180,069	
Health	6,612	5,343	0	0	11,955	
Conservation - Recreation	819	0	0	0	819	
Capital Outlay	27,812	3,901	28,139	0	59,852	
Total Cash Disbursements	133,439	186,147	28,139	0	347,725	
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(32,428)	9,591	0	48	(22,789)	
Other Financing Receipts and (Disbursements):						
Transfers-In	0	2,594	0	0	2,594	
Advances-In	0	0	0	0	0	
Transfers-Out	(1,308)	0	0	(1,286)	(2,594)	
Advances-Out	0	0	0	0	0	
Other Sources	337	0	0	0	337	
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)	(971)	2,594	0	(1,286)	337	
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements						
and Other Financing Disbursements	(33,399)	12,185	0	(1,238)	(22,452)	
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	63,373	74,169	0	1,238	138,780	
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$29,974	\$86,354	\$0	\$0	\$116,328	
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	\$6,546	\$6,097	\$0	\$0	\$12,643	

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	Tatala	
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Non-Expendable Trust	Totals (Memorandum Only)	
Cash Receipts:						
Local Taxes	\$15,593	\$98,824	\$0	\$0	\$114,417	
Intergovernmental	90,210	84,707	73,130	0	248,047	
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	11,191	2,524	0	0	13,715	
Earnings on Investments	6,507	1,860	0	70	8,437	
Other Revenue	0	2,100	0	0	2,100	
Total Cash Receipts	123,501	190,015	73,130	70	386,716	
Cash Disbursements:						
Current:						
General Government	68,904	0	0	0	68,904	
Public Works	33,047	164,189	0	0	197,236	
Health	2,614	4,028	0	0	6,642	
Conservation - Recreation	577	0	0	0	577	
Capital Outlay	16,008	4,063	101,264	0	121,335	
Total Cash Disbursements	121,150	172,280	101,264	0	394,694	
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	2,351	17,735	(28,134)	70	(7,978)	
Other Financing Receipts and (Disbursements):						
Transfers-In	0	1,211	28,134	0	29,345	
Advances-In	2,725	4,350	0	0	7,075	
Transfers-Out	(1,211)	(28,134)	0	0	(29,345)	
Advances-Out	(4,350)	(2,725)	0	0	(7,075)	
Other Sources	1,691	50	0	0	1,741	
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)	(1,145)	(25,248)	28,134	0	1,741	
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing						
Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements						
and Other Financing Disbursements	1,206	(7,513)	0	70	(6,237)	
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	62,167	81,682	0	1,168	145,017	
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$63,373	\$74,169	\$0	\$1,238	\$138,780	
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	\$38,829	\$800	\$0	\$0	\$39,629	

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

Pittsfield Township, Lorain 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 road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance, fire protection and emergency medical services. The Township's police protection is provided by the Lorain County Sheriff, emergency medical services are provided by the Central Lorain County Joint Ambulance District, and fire protection is provided by the Wellington Fire District.

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 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:

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

### 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

### D. Fund Accounting (Continued)

### 2. Special Revenue Funds

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

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

### 3. Capital Project Funds

These funds are used to account for receipts that are restricted for the acquisition or construction of major capital projects (except those financed through enterprise or trust funds). The Township had the following significant capital project funds:

*OPWC Fund* - The Township received a grant from the State of Ohio for the resurfacing of Pitts Road and Merriam Road.

CDBG Town Hall Project Fund - This fund accounted for a grant received from the Lorain County Community Development Department for removal of architectural barriers at the town hall.

#### 4. Fiduciary Funds (Non-Expendable Trust Fund)

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 fiduciary fund:

Cemetery Bequest Fund - This fund is used to account for bequests to maintain certain cemetery plots.

### 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. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end.

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

### 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

### E. Budgetary Process (Continued)

#### 2. Estimated Resources

Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus unencumbered 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 carried over, and need not be reappropriated. 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.

#### 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.

### 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	\$6,895	\$10,673
Total deposits	6,895	10,673
STAR Ohio	109,433	128,107
Total investments	109,433	128,107
Total deposits and investments	\$116,328	\$138,780

**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.

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

### 3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

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

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$109,447	\$101,348	(\$8,099)
Special Revenue	360,364	198,332	(162,032)
Capital Projects	28,139	28,139	0
Fiduciary	50	48	(2)
Total	\$498,000	\$327,867	(\$170,133)

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Appropriation	Budgetary	
Authority	Expenditures	Variance
\$147,509	\$141,293	\$6,216
221,696	192,244	29,452
28,139	28,139	0
1,286	1,286	0
\$398,630	\$362,962	\$35,668
	Authority \$147,509 221,696 28,139 1,286	Authority         Expenditures           \$147,509         \$141,293           221,696         192,244           28,139         28,139           1,286         1,286

2000 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

Budgeted	Actual	
Receipts	Receipts	Variance
\$126,772	\$125,192	(\$1,580)
253,414	191,276	(62,138)
56,272	101,264	44,992
30	70	40
\$436,488	\$417,802	(\$18,686)
	Receipts \$126,772 253,414 56,272 30	Receipts         Receipts           \$126,772         \$125,192           253,414         191,276           56,272         101,264           30         70

2000 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	_
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$171,676	\$161,190	\$10,486
Special Revenue	241,178	201,214	39,964
Capital Projects	56,272	101,264	(44,992)
Fiduciary	0	0	0
Total	\$469,126	\$463,668	\$5,458

The Township did not always certify the availability and encumber funds, prior to making any contract or ordering any expenditure of money, in either year under audit, contrary to Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41(D).

Contrary to Ohio Rev. code Section 5705.36, the Township certified, to the county auditor, tax revenues not due to the Township in FY 2001 and FY 2000.

### 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 with 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 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 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.

#### 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 insure.

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

### 6. RISK MANAGEMENT (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	9,379,003	8,924,977
Retained earnings	\$14,324,773	\$13,759,406
Property Coverage	2001	2000
Assets	\$5,011,131	\$4,156,784
Liabilities	647,667	497,831
Retained earnings	\$4,363,464	\$3,658,953



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### REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Pittsfield Township Lorain County 16940 S.R. 58 Oberlin, Ohio 44074

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Pittsfield Township, Lorain County, Ohio, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2001 and December 31, 2000, and have issued our report thereon dated June 21, 2002. We conducted our audits 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 audits 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 2001-40847-001 and 2001-40847-002.

### **Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audits, 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 June 21, 2002.

Pittsfield Township Lorain County Report on Compliance and on Internal Control Required by *Government Auditing Standards* Page 2

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.

Jim Petro Auditor of State

June 21, 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 2001-40847-001

Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41(D), requires in part that no subdivision or taxing unit shall make any contract or order any expenditure of money unless there is attached thereto a certificate of the fiscal officer of the subdivision that the amount required to meet the same has been lawfully appropriated for such purposes and is in the treasury or in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from previous encumbrances.

This section also provides two exceptions to the above requirements:

- A. Then and Now Certificates If no certificate is furnished as required, upon receipt of the fiscal officer's certificate that a sufficient sum was appropriated and free of any previous encumbrances, the Board of Trustees may authorize the issuance of a warrant in payment of the amount due upon such contract or order by resolution within thirty days from the receipt of such certificates, if such expenditure is otherwise valid.
- B If the amount involved is less than one thousand dollars, the fiscal officer may authorize it to be paid without the affirmation of the Board of Trustees.

During 2001 and 2000, in 37 out of 60 items tested, the Township Clerk certified the availability of funds after the purchase commitment was already made.

We recommend that the Township utilize purchase orders and certify the funds prior to making the purchase commitments. We also recommend the Township utilize the "Then and Now Certificates" when appropriate.

### **FINDING NUMBER 2001-40847-002**

Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.36 requires in part that on or about the first day of each fiscal year, the fiscal officers of subdivisions and other taxing units are to certify to the county auditor the total amount from all sources which is available for expenditures from each fund in the tax budget along with any unencumbered balances that existed at the end of the proceeding year.

In fiscal year 2001, the Township incorrectly included \$83,891 in tax revenue of the Central Lorain County Joint Ambulance District and \$78,141 in tax revenue of the Wellington Community Fire District, which are a separate taxing authorities, in the total amount from all sources which was available for expenditures from each fund in the amounts certified to the county auditor.

In fiscal year 2000, the Township incorrectly included \$66,907 in tax revenue of the Wellington Community Fire District, which is a separate taxing authority in the total amount from all sources which was available for expenditures from each fund in the amounts certified to the county auditor.

Per Ohio Rev. Code Sections 505.24 and 507.09, the compensation of township trustees and clerks is based on the township's budget. 1999 Op. Att'y Gen. No. 99-015 states in part "for purposes of calculating the authorized compensation of the township trustees and the township clerk pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 505.24 and 507.09, the term "budget" refers to the total amount of resources available to the township pursuant to the official certificate of estimated resources or amendments to the certificate."

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

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

### FINDING NUMBER 2001-40847-002 (Continued)

Incorrectly including the Central Lorain County Joint Ambulance District and Wellington Community Fire District tax revenues on the Township's certificate of estimated resources may cause the Township Trustees and Clerk to be over compensated if these additional amounts elevate the budget into a range which provides a higher level of compensation. This did not occur during the period under audit.

The Township should take steps to ensure that only township allowable revenues and fund balances are certified to the county auditor per Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.39.

### 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> :
1999-40847-001	Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D), failure to certify the availability of funds.	No	Not corrected – Reissued as 2001-40847-001



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### PITTSFIELD TOWNSHIP

### **LORAIN 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 JULY 23, 2002