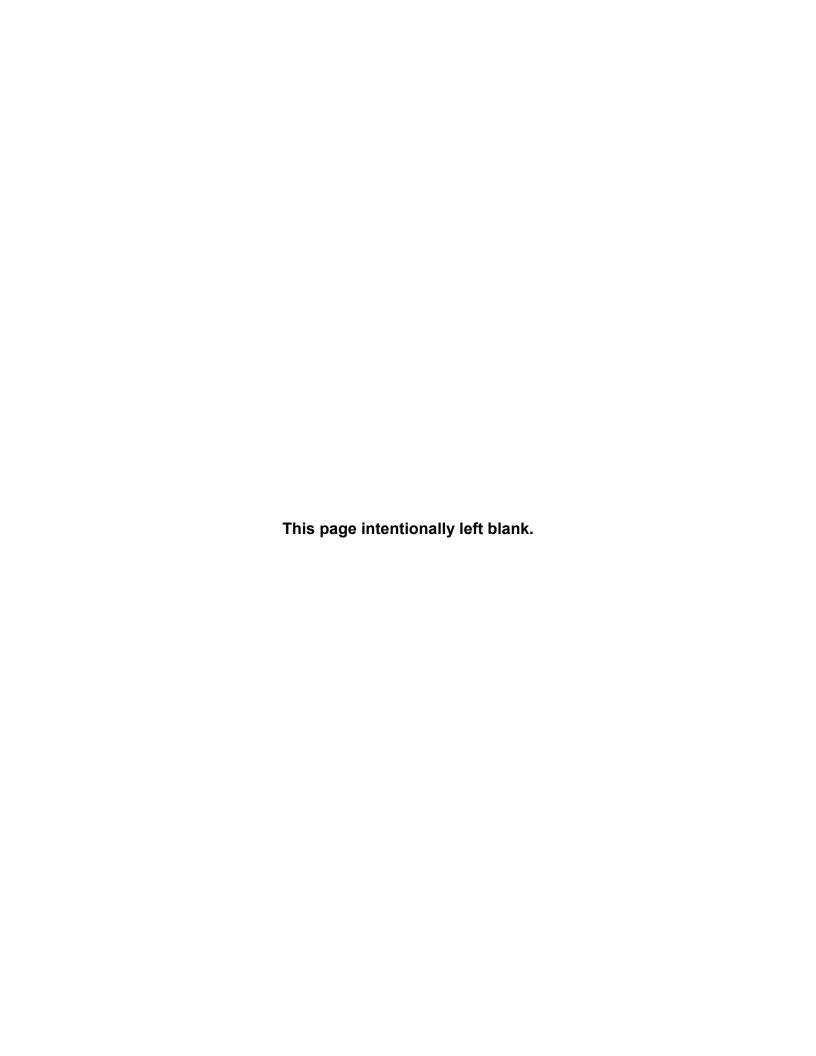




TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE	PAGE
Report of Independent Accountants	1
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Cash Balances – All Governmental Fund Types – For the Year Ended December 31, 2001	3
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Cash Balances – All Governmental Fund Types – For the Year Ended December 31, 2000	4
Notes to the Financial Statements	5
Report of Independent Accountants on Compliance and on Internal Control Required by Government Auditing Standards	11





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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

Raccoon Township Gallia County P.O. Box 313 Rio Grande. Ohio 45674

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Raccoon Township, Gallia 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 Raccoon Township, Gallia 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 5, 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

April 5, 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	\$32,280	\$10,043	\$42,323	
Intergovernmental	24,602	69,665	94,267	
Interest	518	499	1,017	
Other Revenue	616	187	803	
Total Cash Receipts	58,016	80,394	138,410	
Cash Disbursements:				
Current:				
General Government	36,174	298	36,472	
Public Safety	,	10,366	10,366	
Public Works		48,995	48,995	
Health	2,149	.0,000	2,149	
Debt Service:	_,		_,	
Redemption of Principal	8,336	9,000	17,336	
Interest and Fiscal Charges	121	494	615	
Capital Outlay	1,690		1,690	
Total Cash Disbursements	48,470	69,153	117,623	
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	9,546	11,241	20,787	
Other Financing Receipts:				
Sale of Fixed Assets		5,366	5,366	
Total Other Financing Receipts	0	5,366	5,366	
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing				
Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	9,546	16,607	26,153	
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	17,185	45,113	62,298	
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$26,731	\$61,720	\$88,451	

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, 2001

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2001 AND 2000

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Raccoon Township, Gallia 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 Township roads and cemeteries, and fire protection services.

The Township's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Township is financially accountable.

B. Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. Receipts are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned, and disbursements are recognized when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State.

C. Cash and Investments

Cash accounts are valued at cost. The Township had no investments during the audit period.

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 that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Township had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund- This fund receives motor vehicle tax money for maintaining Township roads.

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

Fire District Fund- This fund receives tax money for maintaining Township fire protection.

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

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

E. Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund be budgeted annually.

1. Appropriations

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function or object level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Board of Trustees must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. The County Budget Commission must also approve the annual appropriation measure. Appropriations lapse at year end.

2. Estimated Resources

Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus cash as of January 1. The County Budget Commission must also approve estimated resources.

3. Encumbrances

The Ohio Revised Code requires the Township to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are canceled, and reappropriated in the subsequent year.

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

F. Property, Plant and Equipment

Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements.

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH

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:

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>
Demand Deposits	\$88,451	\$62,298

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

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

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

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

	2001 B	Budgeted vs. Act	tual Receipts	
			Actual	
Fund Type		Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General		\$ 55,430	\$ 58,016	\$ 2,586
Special Revenue		93,291	85,760	(7,531)
	Total	\$ 148,721	\$ 143,776	\$ (4,945)
2001 Bu	idgeted vs	s. Actual Budge	tary Basis Expenditu	ıres
		Appropriation	0 ,	
Fund Type		Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General		\$ 61,203	\$ 48,470	\$ 12,733
Special Revenue		119,008	69,153	49,855
	Total	\$ 180,211	\$ 117,623	\$ 62,588
	2000 B	Budgeted vs. Act	tual Receipts	
		Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type		Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General		\$ 76,387	\$ 75,230	\$ (1,157)
Special Revenue		94,698	86,683	(8,015)
	Total	\$ 171,085	\$ 161,913	\$ (9,172)
2000 Bu	idgeted vs		tary Basis Expenditu	ıres
Fund Type		Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General Special Revenue		\$ 89,567 127,579	\$ 78,794 84,039	\$ 10,773
opeciai neveriue		121,519	04,039	43,540
	Total	\$ 217,146	\$ 162,833	\$ 54,313

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 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.

Public utilities are also taxed on personal and real property located in 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. RETIREMENT SYSTEM

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. The 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 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.

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

6. RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)

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.

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 information available):

Casualty Coverage	<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>
<u>Assets</u>	\$23,703,776	\$22,684,383
<u>Liabilities</u>	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>

7. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Amounts received from grantor agencies are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor, principally the federal government. Any disallowed costs may require refunding to the grantor. Amounts which may be disallowed, if any, are not presently determinable. However, based on prior experience, management believes such refunds, if any, would not be material.

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

Raccoon Township Gallia County P.O. Box 313 Rio Grand, Ohio 45674

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Raccoon Township, Galllia County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000, and have issued our report thereon dated April 5, 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 statement is 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 no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

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 statement 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.

Raccoon Township
Gallia 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

April 5, 2002



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RACCOON TOWNSHIP

GALLIA 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 21, 2002