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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

Salem Township Meigs County 26239 Legion Road Langsville, Ohio 45741

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Salem Township, Meigs 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 Salem Township, Meigs 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 May 13, 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.

Salem Township Meigs 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

May 13, 2002

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

	Governmentari unu Types		<u> </u>
	General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:			
Local Taxes	\$16,135	\$85,374	\$101,509
Intergovernmental	26,442	80,890	107,332
Earnings on Investments	3,013	1,823	4,836
Other Revenue	2,021	2,731	4,752
Total Cash Receipts	47,611	170,818	218,429
Cash Disbursements: Current:			
General Government	34,254	53,431	87,685
Public Safety		15,913	15,913
Public Works		79,818	79,818
Health Debt Service:		12,551	12,551
Redemption of Principal		7,500	7,500
Interest and Fiscal Charges		1,527	1,527
Capital Outlay		15,360	15,360
Total Cash Disbursements	34,254	186,100	220,354
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	13,357	(15,282)	(1,925)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	45,315	177,756	223,071
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$58,672	\$162,474	\$221,146

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

11,489

7,409

1,617

168,299

4,437

173,319

\$177,756

26,168

27,033

18,282

\$45,315

573

Totals

11,489

7,409

1,617

194,467

31,470

191,601

\$223,071

573

		Special	(Memorandum
	<u>General</u>	Revenue	Only)
Cash Receipts:			
Local Taxes	\$17,999	\$94,035	\$112,034
Intergovernmental	31,781	75,717	107,498
Earnings on Investments	3,043	1,794	4,837
Other Revenue	378	1,190	1,568
Total Cash Receipts	53,201_	172,736	225,937
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	26,168	54,064	80,232
Public Safety		22,714	22,714
Public Works		70.433	70.433

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

Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements

Health

Debt Service:

Capital Outlay

Redemption of Principal

Interest and Fiscal Charges

Total Cash Disbursements

Fund Cash Balances, January 1

Fund Cash Balances, December 31

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2001 AND 2000

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Salem Township, Meigs County (the Township), is a body corporate and politic established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The Township is directed by a publicly-elected three-member Board of Trustees. The Township provides road and bridge maintenance (public works), cemetery maintenance (health), and fire protection (public safety).

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

The Township had one primary checking account 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 (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.

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)

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.

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

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:

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

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH (Continued)

	2001	2000
Demand deposits	\$221,146	\$223,071
Total deposits	\$221,146	\$223,071

Deposits: Deposits are either (1) insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or (2) collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool.

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

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

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$35,956	\$47,611	\$11,655
Special Revenue	137,052	170,818	33,766
Total	\$173,008	\$218,429	\$45,421
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2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$81,218	\$34,254	\$46,964
Special Revenue	313,824	186,100	127,724
Total	\$395,042	\$220,354	\$174,688

2000 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

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	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$40,146	\$53,201	\$13,055
Special Revenue	161,894	172,736	10,842
Total	\$202,040	\$225,937	\$23,897

2000 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	_
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$58,403	\$26,168	\$32,235
Special Revenue	334,502	168,299	166,203
Total	\$392,905	\$194,467	\$198,438

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 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:

	Principal	Interest Rate
Road Grader Loan	\$16,780	5.00%
Total	\$16,780	

The road grader loan was issued to finance the purchase of a new road grader to be used for maintenance and repair of Township roads. The note is collateralized by the grader.

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

	Road Grader
Year ending December 31:	
2002	\$9,027
2003	9,022
Total	\$18,049

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 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.

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

7. **RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Township has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

- Comprehensive property and general liability; Public Officials liability Vehicles; and

- Errors and omissions.

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

Salem Township Meigs County 26239 Legion Road Langsville, Ohio 45741

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Salem Township, Meigs County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000, and have issued our report thereon dated May 13, 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 no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*. However, we noted certain immaterial instances of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated May 13, 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 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 May 13, 2002.

Salem Township
Meigs 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 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

May 13, 2002



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SALEM TOWNSHIP

MEIGS 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 5, 2002