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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Bartlow Township Henry County 140 South Wood Street P.O. Box 41 Deshler, Ohio 43516-0041

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Bartlow Township, Henry County, Ohio (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001. 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 of the Township as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, 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 February 14, 2003 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.

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This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Board 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.

Betty Montgomeny

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

February 14, 2003

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002

	Governmental	_	
	General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:			
Local Taxes	\$10,352	\$16,482	\$26,834
Intergovernmental	28,293	62,994	91,287
Charges for Services		9,389	9,389
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	1,553		1,553
Fines, Forfeitures, and Penalties	160		160
Earnings on Investments	783	1,635	2,418
Other Revenue	740		740
Total Cash Receipts	41,881	90,500	132,381
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	51,815		51,815
Public Safety	16,596		16,596
Public Works		21,846	21,846
Health	5,000		5,000
Capital Outlay	2,635	11,356	13,991
Total Cash Disbursements	76,046	33,202	109,248
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	(34,165)	57,298	23,133
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	83,872	75,636	159,508
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$49,707	\$132,934	\$182,641

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

	Governmental	_	
	General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:			
Local Taxes	\$10,404	\$16,418	\$26,822
Intergovernmental	56,315	67,207	123,522
Charges for Services	,	10,961	10,961
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	244		244
Fines, Forfeitures, and Penalties	300		300
Earnings on Investments	1,085	2,306	3,391
Other Revenue	1,136		1,136
Total Cash Receipts	69,484	96,892	166,376
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	25,030		25,030
Public Safety	16,596		16,596
Public Works		116,807	116,807
Health	5,000		5,000
Capital Outlay	1,750		1,750
Total Cash Disbursements	48,376	116,807	165,183
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	21,108	(19,915)	1,193
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	62,764	95,551	158,315
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$83,872	\$75,636	\$159,508

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Bartlow Township, Henry 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. The Township contracts with the Village of Deshler to provided for police and fire services and with Henry County for ambulance 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

Certificates of deposit are valued at cost

D. Fund Accounting

The Township uses fund accounting to segregate cash that is 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 Fund:

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001 (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 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 2002 and 2001 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. The carrying amount of cash at December 31 was as follows:

	2002	2001
Demand deposits	\$102,641	\$79,508
Certificates of deposit	80,000	80,000
Total deposits	\$182,641	\$159,508

Deposits are either (1) insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation, (2) collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the Township.

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2002 and 2001 follows:

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001 (Continued)

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$36,262	\$41,881	\$5,619
Special Revenue	93,896	90,500	(3,396)
Total	\$130,158	\$132,381	\$2,223

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$98,600	\$76,046	\$22,554
Special Revenue	150,100	33,202	116,898
Total	\$248,700	\$109,248	\$139,452

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$36,516	\$69,484	\$32,968
Special Revenue	94,341	96,892	2,551
Total	\$130,857	\$166,376	\$35,519

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$65,100	\$48,376	\$16,724
Special Revenue	154,800	116,807	37,993
Total	\$219,900	\$165,183	\$54,717

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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001 (Continued)

6. 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 2002 and 2001, PERS members contributed 8.5% of their gross salaries. The Township contributed an amount equal to 13.55% of participants' gross salaries for 2002 and 2001. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2002.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Township belongs to the Ohio Government Risk Management Plan (the Plan), an unincorporated non-profit association with over 600 governmental entity members providing a formalized, jointly administered self-insurance risk management program and other administrative services.

Pursuant to § 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Plan is deemed a separate legal entity. The Plan provides property, liability, errors and omissions, law enforcement, automobile, excess liability, crime, surety and bond, inland marine and other coverages, modified for each member's needs. The Plan pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the member's deductible.

The Plan uses conventional insurance coverages and reinsures these coverages 100%, rather than using a risk pool of member funds to pay individual and collective losses. Therefore, the individual members are only responsible for their self-retention (deductible) amounts which vary from member to member.



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

Bartlow Township Henry County 140 South Wood Street P.O. Box 41 Deshler, Ohio 43516-0041

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Bartlow Township, Henry County, Ohio (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001, and have issued our report thereon dated February 14, 2003. 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 no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*. However, we noted a certain immaterial instance of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated February 14, 2003.

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 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

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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 February 14, 2003.

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.

Betty Montgomeny

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

February 14, 2003



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BARTLOW TOWNSHIP

HENRY 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 Babbett

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

CERTIFIED MARCH 18, 2003