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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Bloom Township Seneca County 5051 East County Road 12 P.O. Box 57 Bloomville, Ohio 44818-0057

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Bloom Township, Seneca County, (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 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 and reserves for encumbrances 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 January 17, 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 audit.

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Bloom Township Seneca County Independent Accountants' Report Page 2

Betty Montgomery

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the audit committee, 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 Montgomery Auditor of State

January 17, 2003

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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, 2002

	Governmental Fund Types	
	General	Special Revenue
Cash Receipts: Local Taxes Intergovernmental Licenses, Permits, and Fees Earnings on Investments Other Revenue Total Cash Receipts	\$15,860 49,885 3,441 450 69,636	\$74,004 73,377 4,625 463 9,358
Cash Disbursements: Current:		101,021
General Government Public Safety Public Works Health Debt Service:	81,690 6,000 7,920	24,313 85,552 8,743
Redemption of Principal Interest and Fiscal Charges Capital Outlay		6,028
Total Cash Disbursements	95,610	124,636
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(25,974)	37,191
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	64,843	131,743
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$38,869	\$168,934
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	\$3,531	\$1,703

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

Governmental	Fund Types		
Debt Service	Capital Projects	Fiduciary Fund	Totals (Memorandum Only)
\$35,456 4,754			\$125,320 128,016 4,625
		\$20	3,924
		5,000	14,808
40,210		5,020	276,693
			81,690
792			25,105
			91,552
			16,663
22,000			22,000
8,855			8,855
			6,028
31,647			251,893
8,563		5,020	24,800
13,840	\$4,745		215,171
\$22,403	\$4,745	\$5,020	<u>\$239,971</u>
	\$4,745		\$9,979

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
Cash Receipts:		
Local Taxes	\$16,486	\$78,826
Intergovernmental	82,941	71,454
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	2.240	3,400
Earnings on Investments Other Revenue	3,346 4,084	1,174 7,068
Total Cash Receipts	106,857	161,922
Cash Disbursements: Current:		
General Government	72,596	
Public Safety	. 2,000	34,153
Public Works	2,000	66,648
Health	6,101	6,843
Debt Service: Redemption of Principal		
Interest and Fiscal Charges	44.000	20.440
Capital Outlay	14,302	36,112
Total Cash Disbursements	94,999	143,756
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	11,858	18,166
Other Financing Receipts:	5.007	
Sale of Fixed Assets	5,607	
Total Other Financing Receipts	5,607	
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing		
Receipts Over Cash Disbursements	17,465	18,166
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	47,378	113,577
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$64,843	\$131,743
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	 :	

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

Governmenta		
Debt Service	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)
\$37,057 4,414	\$17,146	\$132,369 175,955 3,400
		4,520 11,152
41,471	17,146	327,396
829		72,596 34,982 68,648
		12,944
22,000 9,845	22,546	22,000 9,845 72,960
32,674	22,546	293,975
8,797	(5,400)	33,421
		5,607 5,607
8,797	(5,400)	39,028
5,043	10,145	176,143
\$13,840	\$4,745	\$215,171

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Bloom Township, Seneca 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 general governmental services, including road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance, fire protection and emergency medical 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 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.

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

Fire Levy Fund - This fund receives property tax money to pay for the fire fighting services.

3. Debt Service Fund

The debt service fund is used to accumulate resources for the payment of bonds and note indebtedness. The Township had the following significant Debt Service Fund:

General Bond Retirement Fund - This fund receives tax revenue to pay off the fire truck.

4. 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 fund:

Issue II Fund - The Township received a grant from the State of Ohio to repair Township roads.

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.

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.

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.

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

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. The carrying amount of cash at December 31 was as follows:

	2002	2001
Demand deposits	\$219,071	\$194,271
Certificates of deposit	20,900	20,900
Total deposits	\$239,971	\$215,171

Deposits are either (1) insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation, or (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:

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts				
	Budgeted	Actual	_	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance	
General	\$66,181	\$69,636	\$3,455	
Special Revenue	154,974	161,827	6,853	
Debt Service	36,842	40,210	3,368	
Fiduciary		5,020	5,020	
Total	\$257,997	\$276,693	\$18,696	

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures				
Appropriation	Budgetary			
Authority	Expenditures	Variance		
\$120,488	\$99,141	\$21,347		
274,873	126,339	148,534		
52,840	31,647	21,193		
4,745	4,745			
\$452,946	\$261,872	\$191,074		
	Appropriation Authority \$120,488 274,873 52,840 4,745	Appropriation Authority Expenditures \$120,488 \$99,141 274,873 126,339 52,840 31,647 4,745 4,745		

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

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$101,623	\$112,464	\$10,841
Special Revenue	148,138	161,922	13,784
Debt Service	38,000	41,471	3,471
Capital Projects	20,000	17,146	(2,854)
Total	\$307,761	\$333,003	\$25,242

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Appropriation	Budgetary	
Authority	Expenditures	Variance
\$100,523	\$94,999	\$5,524
255,924	143,756	112,168
43,043	32,674	10,369
30,145	22,546	7,599
\$429,635	\$293,975	\$135,660
	Authority \$100,523 255,924 43,043 30,145	Authority Expenditures \$100,523 \$94,999 255,924 143,756 43,043 32,674 30,145 22,546

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, 2002 was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
General Obligation Bonds	\$154,000	Variable

The general obligation bonds were issued to finance the purchase of a new fire truck to be used for fire protection for the Township. The bonds are collateralized solely by the Township's taxing authority.

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

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

Year ending December 31:	General Obligation Bonds
2003	\$29,321
2004	28,765
2005	27,687
2006	26,587
2007	25,465
Subsequent	47,957
Total	\$185,782

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

Risk Pool Membership

The Township is a member of the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority Pool (the Pool). The Pool assumes the risk of loss up to the limits of the Township's policy. The Pool may assess supplemental premiums. The Pool covers the following risks:

- · General liability and casualty;
- Public official's liability;
- Vehicle; and
- Wrongful Acts coverage.

The Pool reported the following summary of assets and actuarially-measured liabilities available to pay those liabilities as of December 31:

	2001	2000
Cash and investments	\$23,703,776	\$22,684,383
Actuarial liabilities	\$9,379,003	\$8,924,977

The Township also provides health insurance coverage to the full-time employee through a private carrier.

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

Bloom Township Seneca County 5051 East County Road 12 P.O. Box 57 Bloomville, Ohio 44818-0057

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Bloom Township, Seneca County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001, and have issued our report thereon dated January 17, 2003. 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 a certain immaterial instance of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated January 17, 2003.

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

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Bloom Township Seneca County Independent Accountants' Report on Compliance and on Internal Control Required by *Government Auditing Standards* Page 2

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.

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.

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

Betty Montgomery

January 17, 2003

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <i>Explain</i> :
2000-40574-001	Ohio Revised Code § 5705.41(D), failure to certify funds.	Yes	



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BLOOM TOWNSHIP

SENECA 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 MARCH 18, 2003