



**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

**BRUSH CREEK TOWNSHIP
ADAMS COUNTY**

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**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Brush Creek Township
Adams County
680 Rhodes Road
Lynx, Ohio 45650

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Brush Creek Township, Adams 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 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 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 May 21, 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.

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 Section 117.26, Ohio Revised Code, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Betty Montgomery". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Betty Montgomery
Auditor of State

May 21, 2003

**BRUSH CREEK TOWNSHIP
ADAMS COUNTY**

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

	General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:			
Local Taxes	\$6,772	\$3,261	\$10,033
Intergovernmental	23,753	62,874	86,627
Interest	666	1,155	1,821
Other Revenue	864	1,520	2,384
	<u>32,055</u>	<u>68,810</u>	<u>100,865</u>
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	21,259		21,259
Public Safety	2,575		2,575
Public Works	142	65,233	65,375
Health	8,606	4,004	12,610
Capital Outlay	359	4,346	4,705
	<u>32,941</u>	<u>73,583</u>	<u>106,524</u>
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	<u>(886)</u>	<u>(4,773)</u>	<u>(5,659)</u>
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>32,254</u>	<u>56,655</u>	<u>88,909</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$31,368</u>	<u>\$51,882</u>	<u>\$83,250</u>

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

**BRUSH CREEK TOWNSHIP
ADAMS COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2001**

	General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:			
Local Taxes	\$6,072	\$3,182	\$9,254
Intergovernmental	24,371	61,201	85,572
Interest	893	1,623	2,516
Other Revenue	1,706	2,172	3,878
Total Cash Receipts	33,042	68,178	101,220
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	18,866		18,866
Public Safety	2,560		2,560
Public Works	143	70,377	70,520
Health	7,212	1,586	8,798
Capital Outlay	426	8,020	8,446
Total Cash Disbursements	29,207	79,983	109,190
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	3,835	(11,805)	(7,970)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	28,419	68,460	96,879
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$32,254	\$56,655	\$88,909

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

**BRUSH CREEK TOWNSHIP
ADAMS COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Brush Creek Township, Adams 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 cemetery maintenance. The Township contracts with the Village of West Union to provide 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 Deposits

The Township maintains a cash deposit pool used by all funds. All Township funds are maintained in an interest-bearing checking account with a local commercial bank. Interest income is distributed to Township funds based upon the Ohio Constitution.

D. Fund Accounting

The Township uses fund accounting to segregate cash deposits 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:

Motor Vehicle License Fund

This fund receives motor vehicle license tax money to pay for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads and bridges.

**BRUSH CREEK TOWNSHIP
ADAMS COUNTY**

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

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Gasoline Tax Fund

This fund receives gasoline tax money to pay for constructing, maintaining and repairing 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. 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. There were no encumbrances as of December 31, 2002 and 2001

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 DEPOSITS

The Township maintains a cash deposit pool used by all funds. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits. The carrying amount of cash deposits at December 31 was as follows:

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
Demand deposits	<u>\$83,250</u>	<u>\$88,909</u>

Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation.

**BRUSH CREEK TOWNSHIP
ADAMS COUNTY**

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

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

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

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$30,343	\$32,055	\$1,712
Special Revenue	70,853	68,810	(2,043)
Total	\$101,196	\$100,865	(\$331)

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$65,858	\$32,941	\$32,917
Special Revenue	124,246	73,583	50,663
Total	\$190,104	\$106,524	\$83,580

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$32,761	\$33,042	\$281
Special Revenue	66,812	68,178	1,366
Total	\$99,573	\$101,220	\$1,647

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$63,431	\$29,207	\$34,224
Special Revenue	135,518	79,983	55,535
Total	\$198,949	\$109,190	\$89,759

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.

**BRUSH CREEK TOWNSHIP
ADAMS COUNTY**

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

4. PROPERTY TAX (Continued)

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 SYSTEMS

The Township's 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. PERS members contribute 8.5% of their gross salaries. The Township contributes an amount equal to 13.55% of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2002.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk Pool Membership

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 reinsure.

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.

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.

**BRUSH CREEK TOWNSHIP
ADAMS COUNTY**

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

6. RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)

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 (the latest information available):

<u>Casualty Coverage</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>
Assets	\$23,703,776	\$22,684,383
Liabilities	<u>9,379,003</u>	<u>8,924,977</u>
Retained earnings	<u>\$14,324,773</u>	<u>\$13,759,406</u>

<u>Property Coverage</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>
Assets	\$5,011,131	\$4,156,784
Liabilities	<u>647,667</u>	<u>497,831</u>
Retained earnings	<u>\$4,363,464</u>	<u>\$3,658,953</u>

7. LEASE OBLIGATION

The Township entered into a lease agreement with John Deere Credit in 1999 for a tractor to be used for Township work. The lease was for five years and required semi-annual payments of \$2,173. As of December 31, 2002, the remaining obligation, including interest of \$1,208, is as follows:

For the year ending December 31:	Capital Lease
2003	\$ 4,346
2004	<u>2,173</u>
Total	<u>\$ 6,519</u>

8. COMPLIANCE

The Township passed resolutions in 2002 and 2001 specifying the funds from which the Trustees' compensation was to be paid; however, the Township did not pay the Trustees from the funds specified in the resolutions, contrary to Ohio Law.

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**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

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

Brush Creek Township
Adams County
680 Rhodes Road
Lynx, Ohio 45650

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Brush Creek Township, Adams County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001, and have issued our report thereon dated May 21, 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 an instance of noncompliance that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*, which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2002-40401-001. We also noted certain immaterial instances of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated May 21, 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 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 21, 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.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Betty Montgomery". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Betty Montgomery
Auditor of State

May 21, 2003

**BRUSH CREEK TOWNSHIP
ADAMS COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001**

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS
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FINDING NUMBER 2002-40401-001

Noncompliance Citation

Ohio Rev. Code, Section 505.24, states a Township Board of Trustees may adopt a method of compensation consisting of an annual salary to be paid in equal monthly payments and the amount of the salary shall be paid from the General Fund or from other township funds in such proportions as the board may specify by resolution. The board passed a resolution in 2002 and 2001, specifying the funds from which the Trustees were to be compensated. The 2002 resolution indicated that Trustees were to be paid three months from the General Fund. However, for two of the three months in which the Trustees were to be compensated from the General Fund, they were actually paid from the Cemetery Fund. The 2001 resolution indicated that Trustees were to be paid two months from the General Fund. However, for the two months in which the Trustees were to be compensated from the General Fund, they were actually paid from the Township's Cemetery Fund. The remaining months in both 2002 and 2001 were paid correctly from the Gasoline and Motor Vehicle Funds, in accordance with the resolutions. The total amounts which were paid from the Cemetery Fund and should have been paid from the General Fund in 2002 and 2001, were \$2,498 and \$2,848, respectively. These adjustments have been made to these financial statements and the Township records.



**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

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BRUSH CREEK TOWNSHIP

ADAMS 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 Babbitt

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

**CERTIFIED
JUNE 12, 2003**