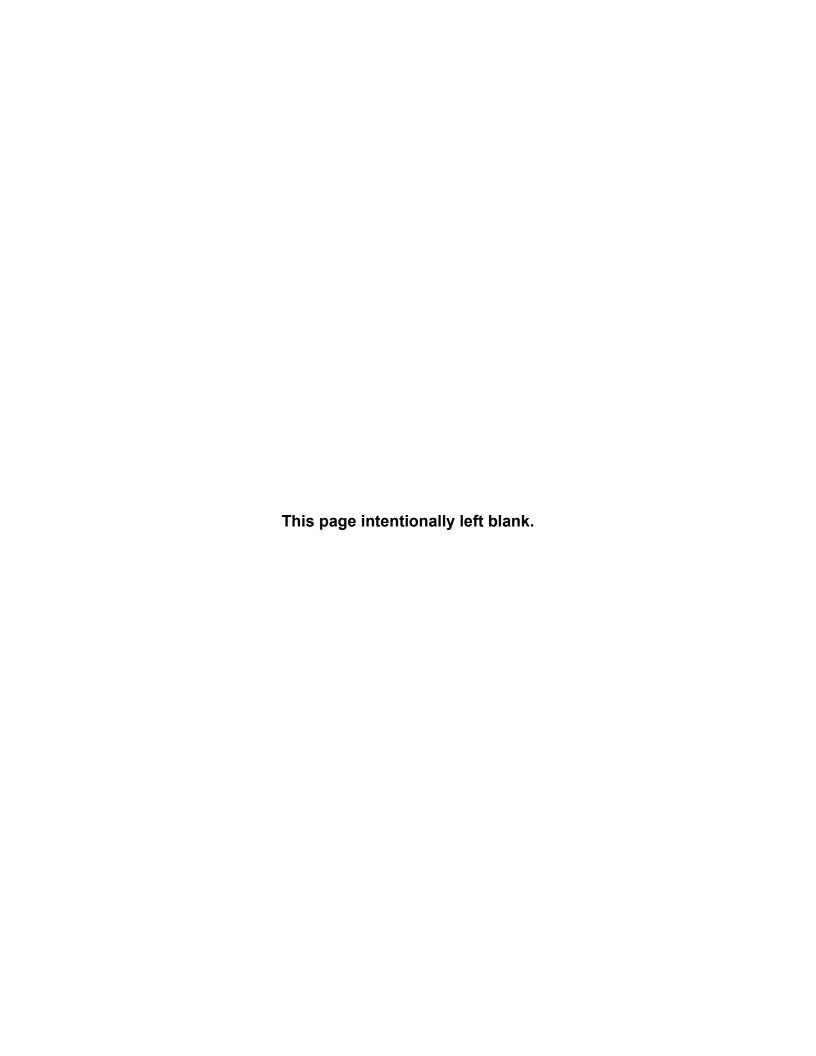




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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Delaware Township Hancock County 19788 Township Road 187 Mount Blanchard, OH 45867-9766

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Delaware Township, Hancock 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 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 March 11, 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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Delaware Township Hancock County Independent Accountants' Report Page 2

Betty Montgomeny

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

March 11, 2003

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	Capital Projects	Fiduciary Funds	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:					
Local Taxes	\$23,056	\$16,501			\$39,557
Intergovernmental	58,514	63,133	\$84,515		206,162
Charges for Services	7,366	2,464			9,830
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	1,425				1,425
Earnings on Investments	5,790	427		\$3	6,220
Other Revenue	2,667				2,667
Total Cash Receipts	98,818	82,525	84,515	3	265,861
Cash Disbursements:					
Current:					
General Government	51,901				51,901
Public Safety	25,743				25,743
Public Works	3,360	41,602			44,962
Health	6,963				6,963
Capital Outlay	32,079	28,886	121,400		182,365
Total Cash Disbursements	120,046	70,488	121,400		311,934
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(21,228)	12,037	(36,885)	3	(46,073)
Other Financing Receipts:					
Sale of Fixed Assets		7,000			7,000
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing					
Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	(21,228)	19,037	(36,885)	3	(39,073)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	270,175	60,774	36,885	480	368,314
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$248,947	\$79,811		\$483	\$329,241

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 AND FIDUCIARY FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2001

	Governmental Fund Types				
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Fiduciary Funds	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:					
Local Taxes	\$21,526	\$15,708			\$37,234
Intergovernmental	64,719	64,265	\$63,000		191,984
Charges for Services	8,296	,	. ,		8,296
Earnings on Investments	6,454	1,365		\$5	7,824
Other Revenue	267				267
Total Cash Receipts	101,262	81,338	63,000	5	245,605
Cash Disbursements:					
Current:					
General Government	46,736				46,736
Public Safety	14,275				14,275
Public Works	2,699	49,748			52,447
Health	7,702				7,702
Capital Outlay	6,912	63,266	26,115		96,293
Total Cash Disbursements	78,324	113,014	26,115		217,453
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	22,938	(31,676)	36,885	5	28,152
Other Financing Receipts:					
Other Sources	846				846
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing					
Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	23,784	(31,676)	36,885	5	28,998
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	246,391	92,450		475	339,316
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$270,175	\$60,774	\$36,885	\$480	\$368,314

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

Delaware Township, Hancock 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, cemetery maintenance, and fire protection for portions of the Township. The Township contracts with Jackson Township, Hardin County, to provide fire services to portions of the Township.

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.

Investments are reported as assets. Accordingly, purchases of investments are not recorded as disbursements, and sales of investments are not recorded as receipts. Gains or losses at the time of sale are recorded as receipts or disbursements, respectively.

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.

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

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

3. Capital Projects 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 projects fund:

Miscellaneous Capital Projects Fund – This fund accounts for a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the purchase of fire fighting equipment.

4. Fiduciary Funds (Trust Funds)

These funds are used to account for resources restricted by legally binding trust agreements. The Township had the following significant fiduciary fund:

Briggs Nonexpendable Trust Fund - This fund is for the perpetual care of the cemetery lots designated by the Briggs Trust.

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, 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.

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

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:

	2002	2001
Demand deposits	\$239,023	\$286,894
Certificates of deposit	90,218	81,420
Total deposits	\$329,241	\$368,314

Deposits are either insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation or collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool.

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	\$90,862	\$98,818	\$7,956
Special Revenue	66,667	89,525	22,858
Capital Projects	84,515	84,515	
Nonexpendable Trust	5	3	(2)
Total	\$242,049	\$272,861	\$30,812

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$361,037	\$120,046	\$240,991
Special Revenue	127,441	70,488	56,953
Capital Projects	121,400	121,400	
Nonexpendable Trust	485		485
Total	\$610,363	\$311,934	\$298,429

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

Receipts	ipts Variance
\$85,067	2,108 \$17,041
nue 64,612	1,338 16,726
cts 147,515	3,000 (84,515)
ole Trust 10	5 (5)
Total \$297,204	6,451 (\$50,753)

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

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$331,458	\$78,324	\$253,134
Special Revenue	157,062	113,014	44,048
Capital Projects	210,515	26,115	184,400
Nonexpendable Trust	485		485
Total	\$699,520	\$217,453	\$482,067

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. RETIREMENT SYSTEM

The Township's officials and employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS 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, members of OPERS 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.

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.

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

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.

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:

Casualty Coverage	2001	2000
Assets	\$23,703,776	\$22,684,383
Liabilities	9,379,003	8,924,977
Retained Earnings	\$14,324,773	\$13,759,406
Property Coverage	2001	2000
Assets	\$5,011,131	\$4,156,784
Liabilities	647,667	497,831
Retained Earnings	\$4,363,464	\$3,658,953

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

Delaware Township Hancock County 19788 Township Road 187 Mount Blanchard, OH 45867-9766

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Delaware Township, Hancock County (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001, and have issued our report thereon dated March 11, 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*.

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 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

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

the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, we noted another 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 March 11, 2003.

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

March 11, 2003



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DELAWARE TOWNSHIP

HANCOCK 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 APRIL 1, 2003