



**Auditor of State  
Betty Montgomery**



HARRISON TOWNSHIP  
PREBLE COUNTY

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**Auditor of State  
Betty Montgomery**

**INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT**

Harrison Township  
Preble County  
P.O. Box 607  
300 East South Water Street  
Lewisburg, Ohio 45338

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Harrison Township, Preble 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 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 August 28, 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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Harrison Township  
Preble County  
Independent Accountants' Report  
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 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

August 28, 2003

**HARRISON TOWNSHIP  
PREBLE 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**

	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Totals (Memorandum Only)</u>
<b>Cash Receipts:</b>			
Local Taxes	\$34,728	\$322,293	\$357,021
Intergovernmental	68,885	92,485	161,370
Special Assessments		191	191
Licenses, Permits, and Fees		52,984	52,984
Earnings on Investments	21,366	2,339	23,705
Other Revenue	1,466	7,160	8,626
	<u>126,445</u>	<u>477,452</u>	<u>603,897</u>
<b>Cash Disbursements:</b>			
Current:			
General Government	92,675	35,380	128,055
Public Safety		86,910	86,910
Public Works		258,799	258,799
Health	11,156	98,393	109,549
Capital Outlay	9,740	17,380	27,120
	<u>113,571</u>	<u>496,862</u>	<u>610,433</u>
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	<u>12,874</u>	<u>(19,410)</u>	<u>(6,536)</u>
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>677</u>	<u>545,276</u>	<u>545,953</u>
<b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</b>	<b><u><u>\$13,551</u></u></b>	<b><u><u>\$525,866</u></u></b>	<b><u><u>\$539,417</u></u></b>
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31		<u>\$14,623</u>	<u>\$14,623</u>

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

**HARRISON TOWNSHIP  
PREBLE 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**

	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Totals (Memorandum Only)</u>
<b>Cash Receipts:</b>			
Local Taxes	\$33,378	\$309,889	\$343,267
Intergovernmental	31,622	89,772	121,394
Special Assessments		227	227
Licenses, Permits, and Fees		16,357	16,357
Earnings on Investments	14,058	2,101	16,159
Other Revenue	2,373	3,540	5,913
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Cash Receipts	81,431	421,886	503,317
<b>Cash Disbursements:</b>			
Current:			
General Government	104,699	35,377	140,076
Public Safety		49,627	49,627
Public Works		117,536	117,536
Health	11,438	89,498	100,936
Capital Outlay	19,531	18,161	37,692
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Cash Disbursements	135,668	310,199	445,867
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	(54,237)	111,687	57,450
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	54,914	433,589	488,503
<b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</b>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
	<b>\$677</b>	<b>\$545,276</b>	<b>\$545,953</b>

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



**HARRISON TOWNSHIP  
PREBLE COUNTY**

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

**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**A. Description of the Entity**

Harrison Township, Preble 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 road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance, fire protection and emergency medical services. The Township contracts with the Villages of Lewisburg, Verona, and West Manchester to provide fire 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 and Deposits**

Certificates of deposit are valued at cost.

**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 to pay for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads.

**HARRISON TOWNSHIP  
PREBLE COUNTY**

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

**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

*Cemetery Fund* - This fund receives proceeds from the sale of cemetery lots for maintaining Township cemeteries.

*Fire District Fund* - This fund receives proceeds from the property tax fire levy for providing fire protection to Township residents.

*Ambulance District Fund* - This fund receives proceeds from the property tax ambulance levy for providing emergency services to Township residents.

**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. 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 canceled, and re-appropriated in the subsequent year. The Township did not encumber all commitments required by Ohio law. The budgetary presentations have been adjusted to include material items that should have been encumbered.

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.

**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.

**HARRISON TOWNSHIP  
PREBLE COUNTY**

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

**2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND DEPOSITS**

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

	2002	2001
Demand deposits	\$539,417	\$40,544
Certificates of deposit		505,409
Total deposits	539,417	545,953

**Deposits:** 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.

During the audit period up to \$313,535 of deposits were not insured or collateralized, contrary to Ohio law.

**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	\$110,000	\$126,445	\$16,445
Special Revenue	393,380	477,452	84,072
Total	\$503,380	\$603,897	\$100,517

**2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures**

Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$128,219	\$113,571	\$14,648
Special Revenue	606,900	511,485	95,415
Total	\$735,119	\$625,056	\$110,063

**2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts**

Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$80,000	\$81,431	\$1,431
Special Revenue	367,150	421,886	54,736
Total	\$447,150	\$503,317	\$56,167

**HARRISON TOWNSHIP  
PREBLE COUNTY**

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

**3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY (continued)**

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$125,000	\$135,668	(\$10,668)
Special Revenue	457,300	310,199	147,101
Total	\$582,300	\$445,867	\$136,433

**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 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.

**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.

**HARRISON TOWNSHIP  
PREBLE COUNTY**

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

**6. RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)**

Casualty Coverage

OTARMA retains casualty risks up to \$250,000 per claim, including loss adjustment expenses. 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, from the General Reinsurance Corporation.

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 \$10,000 on any specific loss with an annual aggregate of \$700,000 for 2001 and \$1,250,000 for 2002. The Travelers Indemnity Company reinsures losses exceeding \$10,000 if the annual aggregate is reached and all specific losses exceeding \$100,000. APEEP's Operating Fund and Guarantee Fund pay for losses and loss adjustment expenses should they exceed operating contributions.

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 reported the following assets, liabilities and retained earnings at December 31:

<u>Casualty Coverage</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
Assets	\$23,757,036	\$23,703,776
Liabilities	(9,197,512)	(9,379,003)
Retained earnings	<u>\$14,559,524</u>	<u>\$14,324,773</u>

<u>Property Coverage</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
Assets	\$6,596,996	\$5,011,131
Liabilities	(1,204,326)	(647,667)
Retained earnings	<u>\$5,392,670</u>	<u>\$4,363,464</u>

**HARRISON TOWNSHIP  
PREBLE COUNTY**

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

**7. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

The Township's Clerk is part owner of a local gas station, Webster Station, from which the Township acquired fuel during the audit period. The Township paid \$998 for fuel in 2001 and \$3,872 for fuel in 2002.



**Auditor of State  
Betty Montgomery**

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

Harrison Township  
Preble County  
P.O. Box 607  
300 East South Water Street  
Lewisburg, Ohio 45338

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Harrison Township, Preble County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001, and have issued our report thereon dated August 28, 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 instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which are described in the accompanying schedule of findings as items 2002-001 and 2002-002. We also noted certain immaterial instances of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated August 28, 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. However, we noted certain matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be reportable conditions. Reportable conditions involve matters coming to our attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal control over financial reporting that, in our judgment, could adversely affect the Township's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the financial statements. Reportable conditions are described in the accompanying schedule of findings as items 2002-001, 2002-002, and 2002-003.

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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. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be reportable conditions and, accordingly would not necessarily disclose all reportable conditions that are also considered to be material weaknesses. However, we believe none of the reportable conditions described above is a material weakness.

We also 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 August 28, 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

August 28, 2003



HARRISON TOWNSHIP  
PREBLE COUNTY

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS

FINDING NUMBER 2002-001

**Noncompliance/Reportable Condition**

**Ohio Rev. Code, Section 5705.41 (D)** requires that no subdivision or taxing unit shall make any contract or give any order involving the expenditure of money unless there is attached thereto a certificate of the fiscal officer of the subdivision that the amount required to meet the obligation has been lawfully appropriated for such purpose and is in the treasury or in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrances. Every contract made without such a certificate shall be void, and no warrant shall be issued in payment of any amount due thereon.

This Section also provides for two exceptions to the above requirements:

1. Then and Now Certificates - If the fiscal officer can certify that both at the time that the contract or order was made ("then"), and at the time that the fiscal officer is completing the certification ("now"), that sufficient funds were available or in the process of collection, to the credit of a proper fund, properly appropriated and free from any previous encumbrance, the township can authorize the drawing of a warrant for the payment of the amount due. The township has thirty days from the receipt of the "then and now" certificate to approve payment by ordinance or resolution.
2. If the amount involved is less than \$1,000 (\$3,000 effective April 7, 2003), the fiscal officer may authorize payment through a Then and Now Certificate without affirmation of the Board, if such expenditure is otherwise valid.

The Township did not properly certify the availability of funds for purchase commitments for 32% of expenditures tested and neither of the exceptions above were used. We couldn't determine if seven additional expenditures were properly certified because: one invoice wasn't dated and six expenditures were not supported by original documents (i.e. no invoices). Failure to properly certify the availability of funds can result in overspending funds and negative cash fund balances.

Effort should be made by the Township to properly utilize the encumbrance method of accounting by certifying the availability funds on properly approved purchase orders. We recommend the Township obtain approved purchase orders, which contain the Clerk's certification indicated by a signature that the amount required to meet the obligation has been lawfully appropriated and authorized, prior to making a commitment.

FINDING NUMBER 2002-002

**Noncompliance/Reportable Condition**

**Ohio Rev. Code, Section 135.18**, provides that the treasurer of a political subdivision must require a depository to provide as security an amount equal to the funds on deposit at all times. Such security may consist of federal deposit insurance, surety company bonds, or pledged securities.

The Township's deposits were not adequately covered by collateral at all times during the audit period. During the audit period, deposits exceeded legal security (FDIC and pledged collateral) by up to \$313,535. Failure to adequately collateralize deposits can result in loss of funds. The Township should implement procedures to verify that depository balances are adequately secured by eligible collateral at all times.

**FINDING NUMBER 2002-003**

**Reportable Condition**

The Township did not properly post several tax and intergovernmental receipts.

- Homestead/rollback receipts were posted entirely to the General Fund, rather than being posted to the funds as indicated on the county auditor tax settlement sheets.
- Taxes and county auditor deductions were often posted entirely to the General Fund, rather than being posted to the funds as indicated on the county auditor tax settlement sheets.
- Some of the Local Government Revenue was misclassified as Tax Revenue; it should have been posted as Intergovernmental Revenue.
- Public utility reimbursements were posted as Tax Revenues; they should have been posted as Intergovernmental Revenue.
- A public utility reimbursement receipt of \$400 was posted to the wrong fund.
- Some of the taxes were improperly posted at net.
- One of the local government distributions was posted entirely to the General Fund; it should have been posted to the funds as indicated on the county auditor tax settlement sheet.
- One of the personal property tax receipts was incorrectly posted as Intergovernmental Revenue and Other Revenue; it should have been posted as Tax Revenue.

Numerous adjustments were needed to properly classify the monies received. Failure to properly post revenue can result in inaccurate records and cause the Township to misappropriate funds. We recommend that all county and state revenue receipts be properly posted. Receipts posted to the receipt ledger should be reviewed for accuracy. Comparisons between years may aid in the determination if a receipt has been properly posted. To improve accountability and record keeping, we recommend that the Township post receipts at gross and to the correct funds and line items. The Clerk can refer to the Ohio Township Handbook, available at [www.auditor.state.oh.us](http://www.auditor.state.oh.us) , Publications, Manuals and Handbooks, for a description of proper account codes to use.

**HARRISON TOWNSHIP  
PREBLE COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS  
FISCAL YEAR END 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><b>Explain:</b></i>
2000-40368-001	Ohio Rev. Code, Section 135.18, the Township's deposits were not adequately covered by collateral.	No	Not corrected – reissued as Finding No. 2002-002
2000-40368-002	Ohio Rev. Code, Section 5705.41 (D), the Township did not properly certify the availability of funds for all purchase commitments.	No	Not corrected – reissued as Finding No. 2002-001
Management Letter Recommendation #3	The Township did not accurately post homestead rollback receipts.	No	Not corrected – reissued as Finding No. 2002-003





**Auditor of State  
Betty Montgomery**

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**HARRISON TOWNSHIP**

**PREBLE 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  
SEPTEMBER 11, 2003**