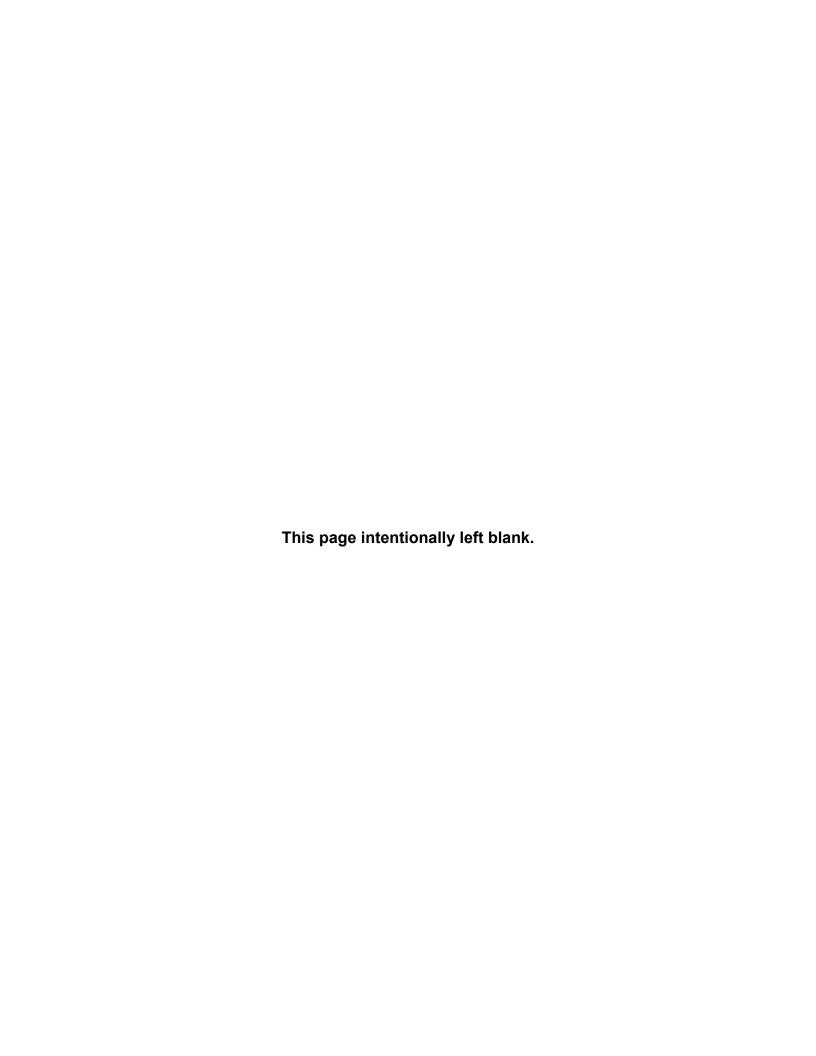




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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Marshall Township Highland County 11867 State Route 124 Hillsboro, Ohio 43152

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Marshall Township, Highland 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 April 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.

Marshall Township Highland County Independent Accountants' Report Page 2

Butty Montgomery

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

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

April 21, 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 Fund Types

	General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:			
Local Taxes Intergovernmental	\$22,853 14,131	\$37,203 63,385	\$60,056 77,516
Earnings on Investments	1,069	2,023	3,092
Other Revenue	621	1,132	1,753
Total Cash Receipts	38,674	103,743	142,417
Cash Disbursements: Current:			
General Government	28,200	34,176	62,376
Public Safety Public Works	202 0	31,233 61,919	31,435 61,919
Health	0	3,227	3,227
Total Cash Disbursements	28,402	130,555	158,957
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	10,272	(26,812)	(16,540)
Fund Cook Relences January 1	6 130	10E 7G4	111 004
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	6,130	105,764	111,894
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$16,402</u>	\$78,952	\$95,354

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 Fund Types

	General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:			
Local Taxes	\$23,452	\$34,851	\$58,303
Intergovernmental	18,800	65,884	84,684
Earnings on Investments	1,433	3,814	5,247
Other Revenue	0	200	200
Total Cash Receipts	43,685	104,749	148,434
Cash Disbursements: Current:			
General Government	55,572	0	55,572
Public Safety	0	16,928	16,928
Public Works	0	61,844	61,844
Health	2,508	2,580	5,088
Total Cash Disbursements	58,080	81,352	139,432
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(14,395)	23,397	9,002
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	20,525	82,367	102,892
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$6,130</u>	\$105,764	<u>\$111,894</u>

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

Marshall Township, Highland 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, cemetery maintenance, and fire protection. The Township contracts with the Highland County Joint Township Hospital District. The Township has one Trustee which serves on the Joint Board. All seventeen townships in the county are members.

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

The Township deposits all available funds in a "Public Fund Now" checking account and a savings account with local commercial banks.

D. Fund Accounting

The Township uses fund accounting to segregate cash and 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:

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)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Motor Vehicle Tax Fund

Receives motor vehicle tax money for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads.

Road & Bridge Fund

This fund receives property tax money for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads and bridges.

Cemetery Fund

Receives proceeds from the sale of cemetery lots for maintaining Township cemeteries.

Permissive Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund

Receives proceeds from tax levied on all motor vehicle licenses sold in the Township for road maintenance and repairs.

E. Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund (except certain agency funds) 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. There were no material encumbrances outstanding at 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.

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

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND DEPOSITS

The Township maintains a cash and deposit 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	\$36,565	\$20,555
Certificate of deposit	58,789	91,339
Total deposits	\$95,354	\$111,894

Deposits: Deposits are either (1) insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation, (2) 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	\$34,503	\$38,674	\$4,171	
Special Revenue	104,429	103,743	(686)	
Total	\$138,932	\$142,417	\$3,485	

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures					
Appropriation Budgetary					
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance		
General	\$40,633	\$28,402	\$12,231		
Special Revenue	210,192	130,555	\$79,637		
Total	\$250,825	\$158,957	\$91,868		

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts				
2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipt				
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance	
General	\$33,985	\$43,685	\$9,700	
Special Revenue	105,135	104,749	(386)	
Total	\$139,120	\$148,434	\$9,314	

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures				
Appropriation Budgetary				
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance	
General	\$64,011	\$58,080	\$5,931	
Special Revenue	178,001	81,352	96,649	
Total	\$242,012	\$139,432	\$102,580	

The Township did not obtain prior certification of the fiscal officer for all purchases as required by Ohio Law.

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

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

Township Officials belong to the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) of Ohio. PERS are cost-sharing, multiple-employer plans. These plans provide retirement benefits, including post-retirement 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. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2002.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

Commercial Insurance

The Township has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

- Comprehensive property and general liability;
- · Vehicles; and
- · Errors and omissions.

The township also provides group health insurance to officials through private carriers.

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

Marshall Township Highland County 11867 State Route 124 Hillsboro, Ohio 43152

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Marshall Township, Highland County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001, and have issued our report thereon dated April 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* and which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2002-40436-001.

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 April 21, 2003.

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

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the 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

Butty Montgomery

April 21, 2003

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001

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

FINDING NUMBER 2002-40436-001

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 appropriate 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. This certificate need be signed only by the subdivision's fiscal officer. Every contract made without such a certificated 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:

- A. Then and Now Certificates If no certificate is furnished as required, upon receipt of the fiscal officer's certificate that a sufficient sum was, both at the time of the contract order and at the time of the certificate, appropriated and free of any previous encumbrances, the Board of Trustees may authorize the issuance of a warrant in payment of the amount due upon such contract or order by resolution within 30 days from the receipt of such certificate.
- B. If the amount involved is less than \$1,000, the Clerk may authorize payment through a Then and Now Certificate without affirmation of the Board of Trustees, if such expenditure is otherwise valid.

Of the expenditures tested, 30% did not contain either prior certification or then and now certification of the fiscal officer.

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SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2000

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected ?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <i>Explain</i> :
2000-40436-001	ORC, Section 5705.09 (F) requires the Township to establish a special fund for each class of revenues derived from a source other than the general property tax.	Yes	Corrected
2000-40436-002	ORC, Section 5705.10, requires all revenue derived from a source other than general property tax and which the law prescribes shall be used for a particular purpose is to be paid into a special fund for such purpose.	Yes	Corrected



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MARSHALL TOWNSHIP

HIGHLAND 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 JUNE 3, 2003