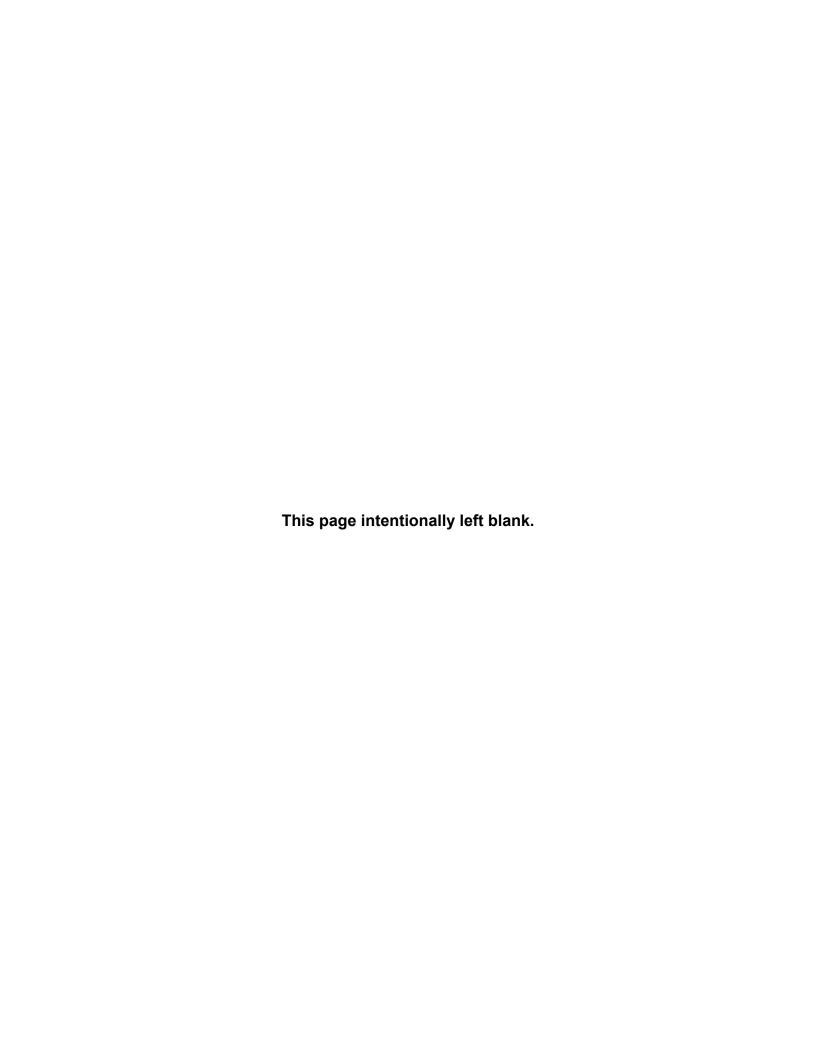




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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Montgomery Township Ashland County 1527 County Road 995 P.O. Box 5116 Ashland, Ohio 44805

To Members of the Board:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Montgomery Township, Ashland 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 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 Montgomery 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 30, 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.

111 Second St., NW / Fourth Floor / Canton, OH 44702 Telephone: (330) 438-0617 (800) 443-9272 Fax: (330) 471-0001

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Montgomery Township Ashland County Independent Accountants' Report Page 2

Butty Montgomery

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

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

April 30, 2003

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

	Governmental Fund Types		Fiduciary Fund Type	Totals
	General	Special Revenue	Expendable Trust	(Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts: Local Taxes Intergovernmental Licenses, Permits, and Fees Earnings on Investments Other Revenue	\$125,275 44,922 9,030 4,745 5.561	\$129,462 75,380 117 3.870		\$254,737 120,302 9,030 4,862 9,431
Total Cash Receipts	189,533	208,829		398,362
Cash Disbursements: Current: General Government Public Safety Public Works Health Capital Outlay	130,084 13,000 8,334 5,143 5,838	47,000 164,304 375		130,084 60,000 172,638 5,143 6,213
Total Cash Disbursements	162,399	211,679		374,078
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	27,134	(2,850)		24,284
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	321,533	28,729	\$225	350,487
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$348,667	\$25,879	\$225	\$374,771

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 AND EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2001

	Governmental Fund Types		Fiduciary Fund Type		
	General	Special Revenue	Expendable Trust	Totals (Memorandum Only)	
Cash Receipts: Local Taxes Intergovernmental Licenses, Permits, and Fees Earnings on Investments Other Revenue	\$120,173 52,586 5,685 6,581 11,755	\$127,517 79,797 127 1,105		\$247,690 132,383 5,685 6,708 12,860	
Total Cash Receipts	196,780	208,546		405,326	
Cash Disbursements: Current: General Government Public Safety Public Works Health Capital Outlay	122,485 31,140 17,181 832	40,000 172,343		122,485 40,000 203,483 17,181 832	
Total Cash Disbursements	171,638	212,343		383,981	
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	25,142	(3,797)		21,345	
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	296,391	32,526	\$225	329,142	
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$321,533	\$28,729	\$225	\$350,487	

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2002

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Montgomery Township, Ashland 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 cemetery maintenance. The Township contracts with the City of Ashland to provide emergency medical services and fire protection.

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 Investments

The investment of U.S. Savings Bonds are valued at cost.

Investments are reported as assets. Accordingly, purchases of investments are not recorded as cash disbursements, and sales of investments are not recorded as cash receipts. Gains or losses at the time of sale are recorded as cash receipts or cash 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 has the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

Road and Bridge Fund - This fund receives property taxes for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads and bridges.

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

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

D. Fund Accounting (Continued)

2. Special Revenue Funds

Gasoline Tax Fund - This fund receives gasoline tax monies for maintaining and repairing the Township roads.

Fire Levy Fund - This fund receives property tax monies for the purpose of fire protection and emergency medical services provided by the City of Ashland.

3. Fiduciary Fund (Expendable Trust Fund)

This fund is used to account for resources restricted by legally binding trust agreements. The Township had the following Expendable Trust Fund.

Cemetery Bequest Fund - This fund is used to account for receipts and expenditures for the maintenance of the Township's cemetery.

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, which is the Township's legal level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Board of Trustees must annually approve the appropriation measure and subsequent amendments. The County Budget Commission must also approve the annual appropriation measure and subsequent amendments. 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 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 capital outlay disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements.

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

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (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 AND INVESTMENTS

The Township maintains a cash and investment 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	\$374,546	\$350,262
U.S. Savings Bonds	225	225
-		
Total deposits and Investments	\$374,771	\$350,487

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

Investments: U.S. Savings Bonds are held in book-entry form by the Federal Reserve, in the name of the Township.

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

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

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Re	eceipts
-----------------------------	---------

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$158,887	\$189,533	\$30,646
Special Revenue	202,204	208,829	6,625
Total	\$361,091	\$398,362	\$37,271

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$298,818	\$162,399	\$136,419
Special Revenue	231,261	211,679	19,582
Total	\$530,079	\$374,078	\$156,001

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

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY (Continued)

2001	Budgeted	l vs. Actual	Receints

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$140,158	\$196,780	\$56,622
Special Revenue	199,990	208,546	8,556
Total	\$340,148	\$405,326	\$65,178

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Appropriation	Budgetary	_
Authority	Expenditures	Variance
\$278,067	\$171,638	\$106,429
225,268	212,343	12,925
\$503,335	\$383,981	\$119,354
	Authority \$278,067 225,268	Authority Expenditures \$278,067 \$171,638 225,268 212,343

4. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which rates are adopted by the Board of Health. 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 Local Taxes. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to make semiannual payments, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

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 Board of Health.

5. 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 payments, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

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.

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

6. RETIREMENT SYSTEM

The Township's full-time employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) of Ohio. 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.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

Commercial Insurance

The Township has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

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

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

Montgomery Township Ashland County 1527 County Road 995 P.O. Box 5116 Ashland, Ohio 44805

To Members of the Board:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Montgomery Township, Ashland County, Ohio, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001, and have issued our report thereon dated April 30, 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 an immaterial instance of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated April 30, 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 April 30, 2003.

111 Second St., NW / Fourth Floor / Canton, OH 44702 Telephone: (330) 438-0617 (800) 443-9272 Fax: (330) 471-0001

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Montgomery Township
Ashland 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 management, the Board of Trustees 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 then these specified parties.

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

Butty Montgomery

April 30, 2003

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001

Finding	Finding	Fully	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; Explain: Per ADAM 2001-10-disclose
Number 2000-40503-001	Summary Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41 (D) –	Corrected? Yes	the current year finding in this schedule Finding no longer valid
	Failure to certify funds.		



88 East Broad Street P.O. Box 1140 Columbus, Ohio 43216-1140

Telephone 614-466-4514

800-282-0370

Facsimile 614-466-4490

MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP

ASHLAND 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 JULY 8, 2003