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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Walnut Township Pickaway County 16457 Ett Noecker Road Ashville, Ohio 43103

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Walnut Township, Pickaway County, Ohio (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2002 and December 31, 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 accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

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 Walnut Township, Pickaway County, Ohio as of December 31, 2002 and December 31, 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 25, 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.

Walnut Township Pickaway 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 than these specified parties.

BETTY MONTGOMERY

Auditor of State

April 25, 2003

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

Governmental Fund Types Non **Totals** Special Expendable (Memorandum General Revenue **Trust Fund** Only) Cash Receipts: Local Taxes \$409,569 \$73,788 \$335,781 \$0 Intergovernmental 26,803 100,946 0 127,749 Licenses, Permits, and Fees 28,586 0 28.586 0 Earnings on Investments 2.419 6,846 3,705 722 Other Revenue 10,688 500 12,358 1.170 **Total Cash Receipts** 105.466 476.723 2.919 585.108 **Cash Disbursements:** Current: General Government 108,541 9,253 0 117,794 Public Safety 209,660 0 209.660 0 Public Works 0 160,863 0 160,863 Health 11,428 35,454 0 46,882 Miscellaneous 0 1,373 1,373 0 **Total Cash Disbursements** 119,969 415,230 1,373 536,572 1,546 Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements (14,503)61,493 48,536 Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements (14,503)61.493 1,546 48.536 Fund Cash Balances, January 1 103,631 57,576 304,380 143,173 \$165,124 \$59.122 Fund Cash Balances, December 31 **\$128.670** \$352.916

\$2,344

\$173

\$0

\$2,517

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

Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31

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

Governmental Fund Types Non Totals Special Expendable (Memorandum General Revenue **Trust Fund** Only) Cash Receipts: Local Taxes \$73,074 \$301,041 \$0 \$374,115 Intergovernmental 56,421 97,349 0 153,770 Licenses, Permits, and Fees 18,097 0 18.097 0 Earnings on Investments 5,900 1,062 1,899 8,861 Other Revenue 2.708 16,863 19,571 0 **Total Cash Receipts** 138,103 434.412 1.899 574.414 **Cash Disbursements:** Current: General Government 114,318 6,377 0 120,695 Public Safety 176,297 0 0 176,297 Public Works 0 184,686 0 184,686 Health 4,741 51,550 0 56,291 Miscellaneous 1,376 0 1,376 Capital Outlay 3,360 2,646 0 6,006 1,376 **Total Cash Disbursements** 122,419 421,556 545,351 Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements 15,684 12,856 523 29.063 Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements 15,684 12,856 523 29,063 Fund Cash Balances, January 1 127,489 90,775 57,053 275,317 Fund Cash Balances, December 31 \$143.173 \$103.631 \$57.576 \$304.380

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

Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31

\$0

\$2,147

\$0

\$2,147

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Walnut Township, Pickaway 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, fire protection and emergency medical services. The Township contracts with Harrison Township, Pickaway County 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 Investments

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.

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.

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

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

D. Fund Accounting

2. Special Revenue Funds

Fire District Fund - This fund receives real estate and personal property tax money from a special levy passed by the voters to pay for fire and emergency medical services.

3. Fiduciary Funds (Trust and Agency Funds)

These funds are used to account for resources restricted by legally binding trust agreements and funds for which the Township is acting in an agency capacity. The Township had the following significant fiduciary fund:

Cemetery Bequest Fund - This fund receives interest earned on certificates of deposit to be used for the upkeep of the 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 fund 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. The Township did not encumber all commitments as required.

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 INVESTMENTS

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

	2002	2001
Demand deposits	\$288,824	\$240,788
Certificates of deposit	64,092_	63,592
Total deposits	\$352,916	\$304,380

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.

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

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

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$137,830	\$105,466	(\$32,364)
Special Revenue	442,224	476,723	34,499
Non-Expendable Trust	2,472	2,919	447
Total	\$582,526	\$585,108	\$2,582

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$281,003	\$120,142	\$160,861
Special Revenue	504,855	417,574	87,281
Non-Expendable Trust	57,576	1,373	56,203
Total	\$843,434	\$539,089	\$304,345

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$134,380	\$138,103	\$3,723
Special Revenue	427,115	434,412	7,297
Non-Expendable Trust	2,369	1,899	(470)
Total	\$563,864	\$574,414	\$10,550

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

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY (Continued)

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Appropriation	Budgetary	
Authority	Expenditures	Variance
\$267,787	\$122,419	\$145,368
509,372	423,703	85,669
56,422	1,376	55,046
\$833,581	\$547,498	\$286,083
	Authority \$267,787 509,372 56,422	Authority Expenditures \$267,787 \$122,419 509,372 423,703 56,422 1,376

Contrary to Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(B) expenditures exceeded appropriations within the Fire District and Zoning Fund by \$41,902 and \$1,904, respectively, in 2001.

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.

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.

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:

Casualty Coverage	<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>

Property Coverage	2002	2001
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>

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

Walnut Township Pickaway County 16457 Ett Noecker Road Ashville, Ohio 43103

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Walnut Township, Pickaway County, Ohio (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2002 and December 31, 2001, and have issued our report thereon dated April 25, 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* 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 April 25, 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 25, 2003.

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Pickaway 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

Betty Montgomeny

Auditor of State

April 25, 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	2002-001

Fiscal Officer Certification

Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D) states no orders or contracts involving the expenditure of money are to be made unless there is a certificate of the fiscal officer that the amount required for the order or contract has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury or in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrances.

The following exceptions to this basic requirement are provided by statute:

<u>Then and Now Certificate</u>: This exception provides that, if the fiscal officer can certify that both at the time that the contract or order was made and at the time that he is completing his certification, 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 taxing authority can authorize the drawing of a warrant. The taxing authority has 30 days from the receipt of such certificate to approve payment by resolution or ordinance. If approval is not made within 30 days, there is no legal liability on the part of the subdivision or taxing district.

Amounts of less than \$1,000 may be paid by the fiscal officer without such affirmation of the taxing authority upon completion of the "then and now" certificate, provided that the expenditure is otherwise lawful. This does not eliminate any otherwise applicable requirement for approval of expenditures by the taxing authority (Effective April 7, 2003, the maximum allowable under this section without affirmation of the taxing authority increases to \$3,000)

In sixty percent of the expenditures tested, certification was not made at the time of the purchase commitment. There was no indication the Township used a "then and now" certificates.

We recommend the Township certify purchase commitments in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D).

FINDING NUMBER	2002-002
LINDING MOMBER	2002-002

Expenditures Exceeding Appropriations

Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(B) states no subdivision or taxing unit is to expend money unless it has been appropriated.

For 2001, expenditures totaled \$211,902 in the Fire District Fund. Yet, the Board only authorized \$170,000 of spending authority for the same fund for the corresponding period. The Township expended \$41,902 in excess of its authority in this fund. The Township also expended \$1,904 in the Zoning Fund in 2001; however, the Board approved no appropriations for the Zoning Fund in 2001.

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001 (Continued)

FINDING NUMBER (Continued)	2002-002

Expenditures Exceeding Appropriations, (Continued)

We recommend the Township not expend in excess of its spending authority. In instances where additional appropriations are needed, the Board should approve such amendments prior to the obligation of funds.

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS FISCAL YEAR END

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <i>Explain</i> :
2000-40665-001	Revised Code 5705.41(D), failure to certify funds	No	Not Corrected – reissued as finding number 2002-001



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WALNUT TOWNSHIP

PICKAWAY 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 22, 2003