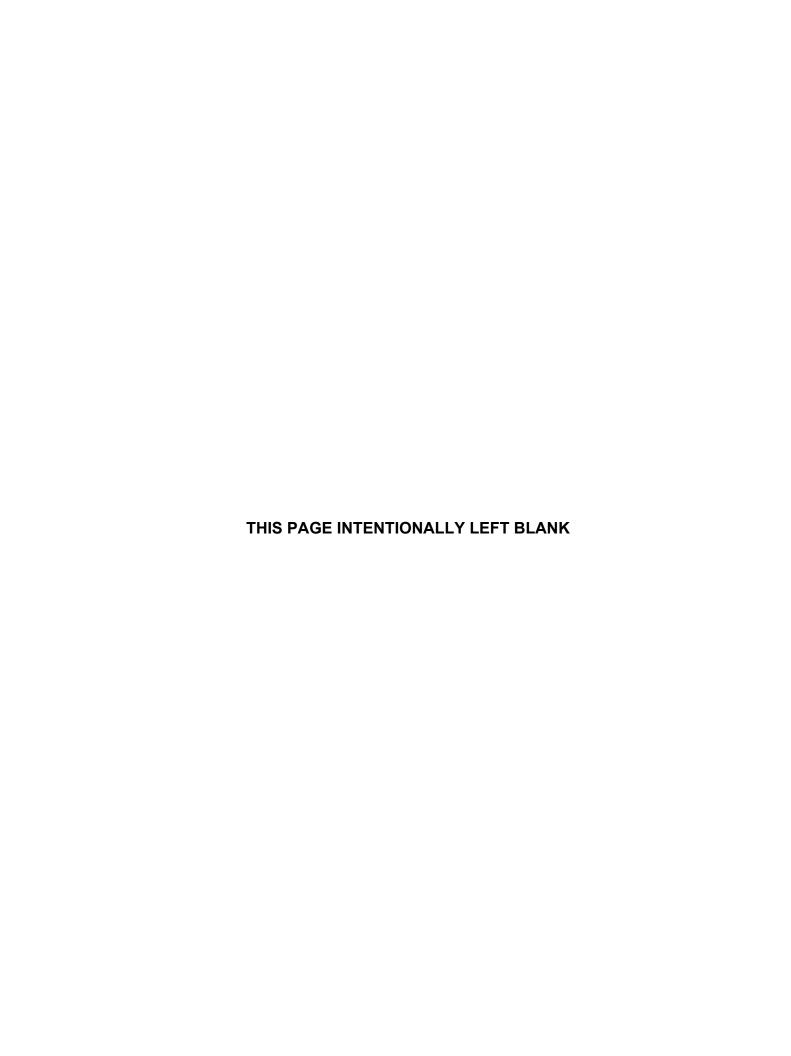




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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Brown Township Knox County 17681 Workman Road Danville. Ohio 43014

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Brown Township, Knox County, Ohio, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2003, and December 31, 2002. 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 of the Township as of December 31, 2003 and December 31, 2002, 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 10, 2004, 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.

35 N. Fourth St. / Second Floor / Columbus, OH 43215 Telephone: (614) 466-3402 (800) 443-9275 Fax: (614) 728-7199 www.auditor.state.oh.us Brown Township Independent Accountants' Report Page 2

Betty 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

March 10, 2004

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003

	Governmental Fund Types			
	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:				
Local Taxes	\$15,567	\$57,229	\$12,904	\$85,700
Intergovernmental	34,663	87,734	. ,	122,397
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	5,803	0	0	5,803
Earnings on Investments	368	152	0	520
Other Revenue	947	0	0_	947
Total Cash Receipts	57,348	145,115	12,904	215,367
Cash Disbursements: Current:				
General Government	52,872	0	0	52,872
Public Works	565	111,788	0	112,353
Health	2,587	158	0	2,745
Debt Service:	0	0	0	
Redemption of Principal	0	0	9,445	9,445
Interest and Fiscal Charges	0	0	3,459	3,459
Capital Outlay	11,251	28,689	0	39,940
Total Cash Disbursements	67,275	140,635	12,904	220,814
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(9,927)	4,480	0	(5,447)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	43,741	28,549	0	72,290
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$33,814	\$33,029	\$0_	\$66,843

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, 2002

	Governmental Fund Types			_
	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:				
Local Taxes	\$16,853	\$77,702	\$3,766	\$98,321
Intergovernmental	61,808	83,147	0	144,955
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	4,252	0	Ö	4,252
Earnings on Investments	755	384	0	1,139
Other Revenue	707	0	0	707
Total Cash Receipts	84,375	161,233	3,766	249,374
Cash Disbursements: Current:				
General Government	55,854	0	0	55,854
Public Safety	0	33,719	0	33,719
Public Works	565	101,088	0	101,653
Health	2,350	0	0	2,350
Debt Service:	,			,
Redemption of Principal	0	0	3,194	3,194
Interest and Fiscal Charges	0	0	572	572
Capital Outlay	44,790	27,006	0	71,796
Total Cash Disbursements	103,559	161,813	3,766	269,138
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(19,184)	(580)	0	(19,764)
Other Financing Receipts: Sale of Notes	20.021	0	0	20.024
Sale of Notes	39,031	0	0	39,031
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	19,847	(580)	0	19,267
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	23,894	29,129	0	53,023
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$43,741	\$28,549	\$0	\$72,290

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Brown Township, Knox 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 government services, road and bridge maintenance and cemetery maintenance. The Township contracts with the Eastern Knox County Joint Fire District to provide fire protection 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. 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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

C. Fund Accounting (Continued)

2. Special Revenue Funds (Continued)

Road District Fund – This fund receives property tax money to pay for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads.

3. Debt Service Fund

The Debt Service Fund is used to accumulate resources for the payment of note indebtedness.

D. 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 and 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 are reappropriated in the subsequent year. The Township did not encumber all commitments required by Ohio law.

A summary of 2003 and 2002 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

E. 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, 2003 AND 2002 (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:

	2003	2002
Demand deposits	\$66,843	\$72,290

Deposits: Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation.

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2003 and December 31, 2002 follows:

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$62,545	\$57,348	(\$5,197)
Special Revenue	141,827	145,115	3,288
Debt Service	12,904	12,904	0
Total	\$217,276	\$215,367	(\$1,909)

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	_
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$106,285	\$67,275	\$39,010
Special Revenue	169,607	140,635	28,972
Debt Service	12,904	12,904	0
Total	\$288,796	\$220,814	\$67,982

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$114,050	\$123,406	\$9,356
Special Revenue	179,934	161,233	(18,701)
Debt Service	3,766	3,766	0
Total	\$297,750	\$288,405	(\$9,345)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002 (Continued)

3. **BUDGETARY ACTIVITY (Continued)**

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$114,050	\$103,559	\$10,491
Special Revenue	211,667	161,813	49,854
Debt Service	3,766	3,766	0
Total	\$329,483	\$269,138	\$60,345
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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 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.

5. DEBT

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2003 was as follows:

5.75%
4.50%
74

On July 7, 1999, the Township issued notes for the purchase of a new mower. The note will be repaid in annual installments of \$3,766, including interest over 5 years with the remainder of the note being repaid in 2004. In 2002, the Township issued general obligation notes for a backhoe. The note will be repaid in annual installments of \$9,138 including interest. These notes are fully collateralized by pledged taxes.

Amortization of the above debt, including interest, is scheduled as follows:

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002 (Continued)

5. DEBT (Continued)

•		General
	General	Obligation
	Obligation	Notes -
	Notes - Mower	Backhoe
Year ending December 31:		
2004	\$3,376	\$9,138
2005	0	9,138
2006	0	9,138
2007	0	9,138
Total	\$3,376	\$36,552

6. RETIREMENT SYSTEM

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 2003 and 2002, PERS members contributed 8.5% of their gross salaries. The Township contributed an amount equal to 13.55% of participants' gross salaries for 2003 and 2002.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk Pool Membership

The Township belongs to the Ohio Government Risk Management Plan (the "Plan"), an unincorporated non-profit association with over 600 governmental entity members providing a formalized, jointly administered self-insurance risk management program and other administrative services.

Pursuant to Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Plan is deemed a separate legal entity. The Plan provides property, liability, errors and omissions, law enforcement, automobile, excess liability, crime, surety and bond, inland marine and other coverages, modified for each member's needs. The Plan pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the member's deductible.

The Plan uses conventional insurance coverages and reinsures these coverages 100%, rather than using a risk pool of member funds to pay individual and collective losses. Therefore, the individual members are only responsible for their self-retention (deductible) amounts which vary from member to member.

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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002 (Continued)

8. JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATION

The Eastern Knox County Joint Fire District (The District) is a jointly governed organization pursuant to Ohio Revised Code section 505.371. The District was formed in 2001 and consists of Brown, Butler, Harrison, Howard, Jefferson, and Union Townships and the Villages of Brinkhaven and Danville. The Board consists of a trustee from each township and village and an at large member appointed by the vote of the District Board. Revenues are generated from a five mil operating levy. In 2002, Brown Township transferred the remaining balance in the Fire Fund to the District.



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

Brown Township Knox County 17681 Workman Road Danville. Ohio 43014

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Brown Township, Knox County, Ohio, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2003 and December 31, 2002, and have issued our report thereon dated March 10, 2004. 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* which is described in the accompanying schedule of finding as item 2003-001. We have also noted a certain immaterial instance of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated March 10, 2004.

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 a 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 10, 2004.

35 N. Fourth St. / Second Floor / Columbus, OH 43215 Telephone: (614) 466-3402 (800) 443-9275 Fax: (614) 728-7199 www.auditor.state.oh.us Brown Township
Knox 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 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 Montgomery

Auditor of State

March 10, 2004

SCHEDULE OF FINDING DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002

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

FINDING NUMBER 2003-001

Noncompliance Citation

Certification of Funds

Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D)(1) prohibits a subdivision or taxing entity from making any contract or ordering any expenditure of money unless a certificate signed by the fiscal officer is attached thereto. The fiscal officer must certify that the amount required to meet any such contract or expenditure has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury, or is in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrance.

There are several exceptions to the standard requirement stated above that a fiscal officer's certificate must be obtained prior to a subdivision or taxing authority entering into a contract or order involving the expenditure of money. The <u>main</u> exceptions are: "then and now" certificates, blanket certificates, and super blanket certificates, which are provided for in sections 5705.41(D)(1) and 5705.41(D)(3), respectively, of the Ohio Revised Code.

1. "Then and Now" certificate – 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.

Amounts of less than \$3,000 (\$1,000 prior to March 31, 2003) may be paid by the fiscal officer without a resolution or ordinance upon completion of the "then and now" certificate, provided that the expenditure is otherwise lawful. This does not eliminate any otherwise applicable requirements for approval of expenditures by the Township.

- **2. Blanket Certificate** Fiscal officers may prepare "blanket" certificates for a certain sum of money not in excess of an amount established by resolution or ordinance adopted by a majority of the members of the legislative authority against any specific line item account over a period not running beyond the end of the current fiscal year. (Prior to September 26, 2003, blanket certificates were limited to \$5,000 and three months.) The blanket certificates may, but need not, be limited to a specific vendor. Only one blanket certificate may be outstanding at one particular time for any one particular line item appropriation.
- **3. Super Blanket Certificate –** The Township may also make expenditures and contracts for any amount from a specific line-item appropriation account in a specified fund upon certification of the fiscal officer for most professional services, fuel, oil, food items, and any other specific recurring and reasonably predictable operating expense. This certification is not to extend beyond the current year. More than one super blanket certificate may be outstanding at a particular time for any line item appropriation.

The Township did not properly certify the availability of funds prior to purchase commitment for 95% of the expenditures tested and there was no evidence that the Township followed the aforementioned exceptions. Failure to properly certify the availability of funds can result in overspending funds and negative cash fund balances.

SCHEDULE OF FINDING) DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002 (Continued

FINDING RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (Continued)

FINDING NUMBER 2003-001 (Continued)

Noncompliance Citation (Continued)

Unless the exceptions noted above are used, prior certification is not only required by statute but is a key control in the disbursement process to assure that purchase commitments receive prior approval. To improve controls over disbursements and to help reduce the possibility of the Township's funds exceeding budgetary spending limitations, we recommend that the Clerk certify that the funds are or will be available prior to obligation by the Township. When prior certification is not possible, "then and now" certification should be used.

We recommend the Township certify purchases to which section 5705.41(D) applies. The most convenient certification method is to use purchase orders that include the certification language 5705.41(D) requires to authorize disbursements. The fiscal officer should sign the certification at the time the Township incurs a commitment, and only when the requirements of section 5705.41(D) are satisfied. The fiscal officer should post approved purchase commitments to the proper appropriation code, to reduce the available appropriation.

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; Explain :
2001-40642-001	Revised Code 5705.41(D), failure to certify funds	No	This comment is repeated in the report



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BROWN TOWNSHIP

KNOX 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 27, 2004