HALE TOWNSHIP

HARDIN COUNTY

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

JANUARY 1, 2002 – DECEMBER 31, 2003



Board of Trustees Hale Township Mt. Victory, Ohio

We have reviewed the Independent Auditor's Report of Hale Township, Hardin County, prepared by Vanessa L. Blevins, CPA, for the audit period January 1, 2002 through December 31, 2003. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

Our review was made in reference to the applicable sections of legislative criteria, as reflected by the Ohio Constitution, and the Revised Code, policies, procedures and guidelines of the Auditor of State, regulations and grant requirements. Hale Township is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

Betty Montgomeny

BETTY MONTGOMERY Auditor of State

July 13, 2004



JANUARY 1, 2002 TO DECEMBER 31, 2003

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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

Hale Township 310 West Mansfield Rd. Mt. Victory, Ohio 43340

To the Board of Township Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Hale Township, Hardin County, Ohio, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2003 and 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 audits 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 described 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 Hale Township, Hardin County, Ohio, as of December 31, 2003 and 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 or report dated June 8, 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.

Vanessa L. Blevins, CPA

June 8, 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

	G	Seneral	Special evenue	apital rojects	(I	Total Memorandum Only)
Cash receipts:						
Taxes	\$	14,650	\$ 26,076	\$ -	\$	40,726
Intergovernmental		20,024	67,146	83,852		171,022
Fines, licenses, and permits		-	5,300	-		5,300
Interest Revenue		3,341	689	-		4,030
Miscellaneous		459	1,093	-		1,552
Total cash receipts		38,474	100,304	83,852		222,630
Cash disbursements:						
Current:						
Public safety			-	-		-
Public health services		7,876	15,204	-		23,080
Public works		-	110,969	-		110,969
Miscellaneous		800	18,500	-		19,300
General government		34,541	717	02.052		35,258
Capital outlay	-	2,809		83,852		86,661
Total cash disbursements		46,026	145,390	83,852		275,268
Other financing receipts/(disbursements):						
Transfers-in		-	10,000	-		10,000
Transfers-out		(10,000)	-	-		(10,000)
Contingencies		(4,796)	-	-		(4,796)
Other financing sources		110	-	-		110
Total other financing receipts/(disbursements)		(14,686)	10,000			(4,686)
Total of Rec. and Other Sources Over (Under) Disbursements and Other Uses		(22,238)	(35,086)	-		(57,324)
Fund cash balances, January 1, 2003		95,622	73,688	-		169,310
Fund cash balances, December 31, 2003	\$	73,384	\$ 38,602	\$ -	\$	111,986

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

	Nonexpendable Trust	
Operating Cash receipts: Interest	\$	42
Total operating cash receipts		42
Cash disbursements: Purchased services		-
Total operating cash disbursements		-
Operating income/(loss)		42
Fund cash balances, January 1, 2003	-	1,209
Fund cash balances, December 31, 2003	\$	1,251

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

	G	eneral	Special evenue	(Men	Total norandum Only)
Cash receipts:					
Taxes	\$	16,665	\$ 22,327	\$	38,992
Intergovernmental		21,820	61,554		83,374
Fines, licenses, and permits		500	3,800		4,300
Interest Revenue		3,671	910		4,581
Miscellaneous		2,345	6,696		9,041
Total cash receipts		45,001	95,287		140,288
Cash disbursements:					
Current:					
Public safety		-	-		-
Public health services		7,866	12,252		20,118
Public Works		-	72,682		72,682
Miscellaneous		1,000	3,000		4,000
General government		34,492	595		35,087
Capital outlay		768	-		768
Total cash disbursements		44,125	88,529		132,654
Total receipts over (under) disbursements		875	6,758		7,634
Other financing resources:					
Operating Transfers In		-	5,000		5,000
Operating Transfers Out		(5,000)	_		(5,000)
Other Financing Sources		441	-		441
Other Financing Uses		(1,657)	-		(1,657)
Total other financing resources		(6,216)	5,000		(1,216)
Total of Receipts and Other Sources Over (Under) Disbursements and Other Uses		(5,340)	11,758		6,418
Fund cash balances, January 1, 2002		100,962	61,930		162,892
Fund cash balances, December 31, 2002		95,622	73,688		169,310

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

	Nonexpendable Trust	
Operating Cash receipts: Interest	\$	52
Total operating cash receipts		52
Cash disbursements: Other		21
Total operating cash disbursements		21
Operating income/(loss)		32
Fund cash balances, January 1, 2002		1,177
Fund cash balances, December 31, 2002	\$	1,209

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Hale Township, Hardin 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. The Township provides general governmental 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

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 it funds into the following types:

General Fund - The General Fund is the general operating fund. It is used to acount for all financial resources except those required by law or contract to be restricted.

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 for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township streets.

Motor Vehicle License Tax - This fund receives tax money for maintaining and repairing Township roads.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

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

Cemetery Fund - This fund receives money and fees from the sale of lots, and grave openings and closings for purpose of maintaining, grooming and operating of Township cemeteries.

Fiduciary Funds (Trust and Agency Funds) - Trust funds are used to account for resources restricted by legally binding trust agreements. If the agreement requires the Township to maintain the corpus of the trust, the fund is classified as a nonexpendable trust fund. Other trust funds are classified as expendable. Funds for which the Township is acting in an agency capacity are classified as agency funds. The Township had the following significant fiduciary funds:

Cemetery Bequest Funds - these funds account for resources restricted by legally binding agreements.

E. Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund be budgeted annually.

Apropriations - 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 must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. The County Budget Commission must also approve the annual appropriation measure. Appropriations lapse at year end.

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.

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 2003 and 2002 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 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

2. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

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

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

Fund Type General Special Revenue Capital Projects Fiduciary	Total	Budgeted Receipts \$ 45,942 113,367 - 52 \$ 159,361	Actual Receipts \$ 38,584 110,303 83,852 42 \$ 232,782	Variance \$ (7,358) (3,064) 83,852 (10) \$ 73,421
Fund Type	2003 Budgeted vs.	Actual Budgetary Bas Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General Special Revenue Capital Projects Fiduciary	Total	\$ 101,696 162,926 - 141 \$ 264,762	\$ 60,822 145,390 83,852 - \$ 290,063	\$ 40,874 17,536 (83,852) 141 \$ (25,301)
	<u>2002 Bu</u>	udgeted vs. Actual Rec	<u>eipts</u> Actual	
Fund Type		Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General Special Revenue Fiduciary	Total	48,087 105,050 50 \$ 153,187	45,442 100,287 52 \$ 145,781	\$ (2,645) (4,763) 2 \$ (7,406)
	2002 Budgeted vs.	. Actual Budgetary Bas	sis Expenditures	
Fund Type		Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General Special Revenue Fiduciary	Total	\$ 108,787 149,284 107 \$ 258,178	\$ 50,782 88,529 21 \$ 139,331	\$ 58,006 \$ 60,755 \$ 86 \$ 118,847

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

3. 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:

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
Demand deposits	\$ 112,117	\$ 169,399
Certificates of deposit	1,121	1,121
Total deposits	\$113,238	\$ 170,519

Deposits

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

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. 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.

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 full-time 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 percent of their gross salaries. The Township contributed an amount equal to 13.55 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2003.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Township has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

- General liability
- Public Officials Liability
- Automobile Liability, Comprehensive and Collision
- Property Coverage

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REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Hale Township 310 West Mansfield Road Mt. Victory, Ohio 43340

To the Board of Township Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of Hale Township, Hardin County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2003 and 2002, and have issued our report thereon dated June 8, 2004. We conducted our audits in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards 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 audits and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no material instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING

In planning and performing our audits, 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 June 8, 2004.

This report is intended for the information of the board of trustees and management. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

Sincerely,

Vanessa L. Blevins, CPA



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HALE TOWNSHIP

HARDIN 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 27, 2004