



**Auditor of State  
Betty Montgomery**



**UNION TOWNSHIP  
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

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**Auditor of State  
Betty Montgomery**

**INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT**

Union Township  
Highland County  
9219 Fawley Road  
Lynchburg, Ohio 45142

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Union Township, Highland 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 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, 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 our 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.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Betty Montgomery". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Betty Montgomery**  
Auditor of State

June 8, 2004

**UNION TOWNSHIP  
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

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

	<b>Governmental Fund Types</b>		<b>Totals (Memorandum Only)</b>
	<b>General</b>	<b>Special Revenue</b>	
<b>Cash Receipts:</b>			
Local Taxes	\$ 22,407	\$ 23,105	\$ 45,512
Intergovernmental	74,600	70,286	144,886
Earnings on Investments	40	38	78
Other Revenue	108	147	255
 Total Cash Receipts	 97,155	 93,576	 190,731
 <b>Cash Disbursements:</b>			
Current:			
General Government	41,244		41,244
Public Works		79,166	79,166
Health	3,610	7,955	11,565
Debt Service:			
Lease Purchase Principal Payment		6,222	6,222
Interest and Fiscal Charges		2,171	2,171
 Total Cash Disbursements	 44,854	 95,514	 140,368
 Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	 52,301	 (1,938)	 50,363
 <b>Other Financing Receipts:</b>			
Other Sources		570	570
 Total Other Financing Receipts	 -	 570	 570
 Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	 52,301	 (1,368)	 50,933
 Fund Cash Balances, January 1	 22,706	 41,526	 64,232
 <b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</b>	 <b>\$ 75,007</b>	 <b>\$ 40,158</b>	 <b>\$ 115,165</b>

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

**UNION TOWNSHIP  
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

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

	<b>Governmental Fund Types</b>		<b>Totals (Memorandum Only)</b>
	<b>General</b>	<b>Special Revenue</b>	
<b>Cash Receipts:</b>			
Local Taxes	\$ 21,370	\$ 22,658	\$ 44,028
Intergovernmental	24,410	66,744	91,154
Earnings on Investments	30	95	125
Other Revenue	328	5,163	5,491
 Total Cash Receipts	 46,138	 94,660	 140,798
<b>Cash Disbursements:</b>			
Current:			
General Government	38,821		38,821
Public Safety		340	340
Public Works		89,919	89,919
Health	3,439	6,918	10,357
Capital Outlay		12,097	12,097
 Total Cash Disbursements	 42,260	 109,274	 151,534
 Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	 3,878	 (14,614)	 (10,736)
<b>Other Financing Receipts:</b>			
Other Sources		660	660
 Total Other Financing Receipts	 -	 660	 660
 Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	 3,878	 (13,954)	 (10,076)
 Fund Cash Balances, January 1	 18,828	 55,480	 74,308
 <b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</b>	 <b>\$ 22,706</b>	 <b>\$ 41,526</b>	 <b>\$ 64,232</b>

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

**UNION TOWNSHIP  
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002**

**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**A. Description of the Entity**

Union 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 road maintenance and cemetery maintenance 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 Deposits**

The Township invests all available funds in a public funds NOW checking account with a local commercial bank. Certificates of deposit are valued at cost.

**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:

*Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund* - This fund receives motor vehicle tax money to pay for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads.

*Gasoline Tax Fund* - This fund receives gasoline tax money to pay for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads.

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

**UNION TOWNSHIP  
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

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

**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

*Cemetery Levy Fund* - This fund receives the proceeds from a property tax levy for providing cemetery maintenance.

*Permissive Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund* - This fund receives proceeds from the tax levied on all motor vehicle license sold in the Township for road maintenance and repairs.

**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, 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. 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 carried over, and need not be reappropriated. There were no encumbrances at December 31, 2003 or 2002.

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.

**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 and deposits at December 31 was as follows:

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
Demand deposits	<u>\$115,165</u>	<u>\$64,232</u>

**Deposits:** Deposits are either insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation, or collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the Township.

**UNION TOWNSHIP  
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

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

**3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY**

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

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$29,350	\$97,155	\$67,805
Special Revenue	102,475	94,146	(8,329)
Total	\$131,825	\$191,301	\$59,476

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$45,066	\$44,854	\$212
Special Revenue	128,068	95,514	32,554
Total	\$173,134	\$140,368	\$32,766

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$39,031	\$46,138	\$7,107
Special Revenue	102,690	95,320	(7,370)
Total	\$141,721	\$141,458	(\$263)

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$42,260	\$42,260	\$0
Special Revenue	109,274	109,274	0
Total	\$151,534	\$151,534	\$0

**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.

**UNION TOWNSHIP  
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

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

**5. DEBT**

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2003 was as follows:

	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>
Lease Purchase Agreement	\$36,108	5.5%

The lease purchase agreement was entered into in 2002 for a back hoe.

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

Year ending December 31:	<u>Lease/Purchase Agreement</u>
2004	8,393
2005	8,393
2006	8,393
2007	8,393
2008	8,393
Total	<u><u>\$41,965</u></u>

**6. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS**

The Township's elected officials and part time employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). 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 2003 and 2002, 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, 2003.

**7. 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.

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.

**UNION TOWNSHIP  
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

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

**7. RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)**

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: (the latest information available)

<u>Casualty Coverage</u>	<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>

<u>Property Coverage</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
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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**Auditor of State  
Betty Montgomery**

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

Union Township  
Highland County  
9219 Fawley Road  
Lynchburg, Ohio 45142

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Union Township, Highland County, Ohio (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 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 certain immaterial instances of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated June 8, 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 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 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.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Betty Montgomery". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Betty Montgomery**  
Auditor of State

June 8, 2004



**Auditor of State  
Betty Montgomery**

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**UNION 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.**

*Susan Babbitt*

**CLERK OF THE BUREAU**

**CERTIFIED  
JULY 1, 2004**