



**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

**FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP
HURON COUNTY**

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**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

Fairfield Township
Huron County
One North Main Street
P.O. Box 118
North Fairfield, Ohio 44855-0118

To the Board of Trustees:

As you are aware, the Auditor of State's Office (AOS) must modify the *Independent Accountants' Report* we provide on your financial statements due to a February 2, 2005 interpretation from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). While AOS does not legally require your government to prepare financial statements pursuant to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), the AICPA interpretation requires auditors to formally acknowledge that you did not prepare your financial statements in accordance with GAAP. Our Report includes an opinion relating to GAAP presentation and measurement requirements, but does not imply the amounts the statements present are misstated under the non-GAAP basis you follow. The AOS report also includes an opinion on the financial statements you prepared using the cash basis and financial statement format the AOS permits.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Betty Montgomery".

Betty Montgomery
Auditor of State

August 23, 2005

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**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Fairfield Township
Huron County
One North Main Street
P.O. Box 118
North Fairfield, Ohio 44855-0118

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Fairfield Township, Huron County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003. 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 audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to reasonably assure 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. The Township processes its financial transactions with the Auditor of State's Uniform Accounting Network (UAN). *Government Auditing Standards* considers this service to impair the independence of the Auditor of State to audit the Township because the Auditor of State designed, developed, implemented, and as requested, operates UAN. However, *Government Auditing Standards* permits the Auditor of State to audit and opine on this entity, because Ohio Revised Code § 117.101 requires the Auditor of State to provide UAN services, and Ohio Revised Code §§ 117.11(B) and 115.56 mandate the Auditor of State to audit Ohio governments. We believe our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described more fully in Note 1, the Township has prepared these financial statements using accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. These practices differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Although we cannot reasonably determine the effects on the financial statements of the variances between these regulatory accounting practices and GAAP, we presume they are material.

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Revisions to GAAP would require the Township to reformat its financial statement presentation and make other changes effective for the year ended December 31, 2004. Instead of the combined funds the accompanying financial statements present for 2004 (and 2003), the revisions require presenting entity wide statements and also to present its larger (i.e. major) funds separately for 2004. While the Township does not follow GAAP, generally accepted auditing standards requires us to include the following paragraph if the statements do not substantially conform to the new GAAP presentation requirements. The Auditor of State permits, but does not require governments to reformat their statements. The Township has elected not to reformat its statements. Since this Township does not use GAAP to measure financial statement amounts, the following paragraph does not imply the amounts reported are materially misstated under the accounting basis the Auditor of State permits. Our opinion on the fair presentation of the amounts reported pursuant to its non-GAAP basis is in the second following paragraph.

In our opinion, because of the effects of the matter discussed in the preceding two paragraphs, the financial statements referred to above for the year ended December 31, 2004 do not present fairly, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Township as of December 31, 2004, or its changes in financial position for the year then ended.

Also, 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 Fairfield Township, Huron County, as of December 31, 2004 and 2003, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the accounting basis Note 1 describes.

The aforementioned revision to generally accepted accounting principles also requires the Township to include Management's Discussion and Analysis for the year ended December 31, 2004. The Township has not presented Management's Discussion and Analysis, which accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America has determined is necessary to supplement, although not required to be part of, the financial statements.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated August 23, 2005, 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 grant agreements and other matters. While we did not opine on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance, that report describes the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. You should read it in conjunction with this report in assessing the results of our audits.



Betty Montgomery
Auditor of State

August 23, 2005

**FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP
HURON COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL AND FIDUCIARY FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>			Totals (Memorandum Only)
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Fiduciary Funds</u>	
Cash Receipts:				
Local Taxes	\$16,899	\$46,877		\$63,776
Intergovernmental	30,371	86,577		116,948
Charges for Services	24,456			24,456
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	3,080			3,080
Earnings on Investments	1,525	1,322	\$30	2,877
Other Revenue	1,076	1,375		2,451
	<u>77,407</u>	<u>136,151</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>213,588</u>
Total Cash Receipts				
Cash Disbursements:				
Current:				
General Government	45,683			45,683
Public Safety	32,756			32,756
Public Works		70,365		70,365
Health	6,311	2,890	6	9,207
Capital Outlay		61,279		61,279
	<u>84,750</u>	<u>134,534</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>219,290</u>
Total Cash Disbursements				
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	<u>(7,343)</u>	<u>1,617</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>(5,702)</u>
Other Financing Receipts:				
Sale of Fixed Assets	<u>8,550</u>			<u>8,550</u>
Total Other Financing Receipts	<u>8,550</u>			<u>8,550</u>
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	1,207	1,617	24	2,848
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>83,301</u>	<u>177,489</u>	<u>2,759</u>	<u>263,549</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$84,508</u>	<u>\$179,106</u>	<u>\$2,783</u>	<u>\$266,397</u>
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	<u>\$6,081</u>	<u>\$75</u>		<u>\$6,156</u>

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

**FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP
HURON COUNTY**

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

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>			Totals (Memorandum Only)
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Fiduciary Funds</u>	
Cash Receipts:				
Local Taxes	\$15,010	\$45,926		\$60,936
Intergovernmental	89,204	75,816		165,020
Charges for Services	20,730			20,730
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	2,735			2,735
Earnings on Investments	1,210	1,065	\$77	2,352
Other Revenue	7,802	6,175		13,977
	<u>136,691</u>	<u>128,982</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>265,750</u>
Total Cash Receipts				
Cash Disbursements:				
Current:				
General Government	47,924			47,924
Public Safety	24,215			24,215
Public Works		99,492		99,492
Health	6,804			6,804
Capital Outlay	300			300
	<u>79,243</u>	<u>99,492</u>		<u>178,735</u>
Total Cash Disbursements				
Total Receipts Over Disbursements	<u>57,448</u>	<u>29,490</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>87,015</u>
Other Financing Receipts:				
Sale of Fixed Assets	1,600			1,600
	<u>1,600</u>			<u>1,600</u>
Total Other Financing Receipts				
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	59,048	29,490	77	88,615
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	24,253	147,999	2,682	174,934
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$83,301</u>	<u>\$177,489</u>	<u>\$2,759</u>	<u>\$263,549</u>
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	<u>\$3,020</u>	<u>\$188</u>		<u>\$3,208</u>

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

**FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP
HURON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2003**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of Fairfield Township, Huron County, (the Township) as a body corporate and politic. A publicly-elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance and fire protection services. The Township contracts with North Central Emergency Medical Services, Inc., to provide ambulance 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 the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements. The Township recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements 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 the Auditor of State prescribes or permits.

C. Cash and Investments

The Township's accounting basis includes investments as assets. This basis does not record disbursements for investment purchases or disbursements investment sales. This basis records gains or losses at the time of sale 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 reports all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

2. Special Revenue Funds

These funds account for proceeds from specific sources (other than from trusts) that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Township had the following significant special revenue funds:

**FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP
HURON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2003
(Continued)**

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.

Special Levy II – This fund receives property tax money to support the Township's Fire Deposit

3. Fiduciary Funds (Trust and Agency Funds)

These funds 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 from a bequest left to the Township to help with 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, 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. 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.

A summary of 2004 and 2003 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

F. Property, Plant, and Equipment

The Township records disbursements for acquisitions of property, plant, and equipment when paid. The accompanying financial statements do not report these items as assets.

**FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP
HURON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2003
(Continued)**

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS

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

	2004	2003
Demand deposits	\$263,997	\$261,149
Certificates of deposit	2,400	2,400
Total deposits and investments	\$266,397	\$263,549

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

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2004 and 2003 follows:

2004 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$84,629	\$85,957	\$1,328
Special Revenue	132,891	136,151	3,260
Fiduciary	120	30	(90)
Total	\$217,640	\$222,138	\$4,498

2004 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$167,930	\$90,831	\$77,099
Special Revenue	310,382	134,609	175,773
Fiduciary	2,879	6	2,873
Total	\$481,191	\$225,446	\$255,745

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$148,918	\$138,291	(\$10,627)
Special Revenue	119,785	128,982	9,197
Fiduciary	120	77	(43)
Total	\$268,823	\$267,350	(\$1,473)

**FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP
HURON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2003
(Continued)**

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$173,171	\$82,263	\$90,908
Special Revenue	267,784	99,680	168,104
Fiduciary	2,802	2,802	2,802
Total	\$443,757	\$181,943	\$261,814

4. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Trustees adopt rates. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. The financial statements include homestead and rollback amounts the State pays as Intergovernmental Receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to pay semiannually, 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. DEBT

In 2004 the Township entered into a three year lease agreement with Radio Communications of Ohio through the Government Leasing Company in order to purchase new fire radios.

Amortization of the lease, including interest, is scheduled as follows:

Year ending December 31:	Principal	Interest	Total
2005	\$6,235	\$1,038	\$7,273
2006	6,734	539	\$7,273
Total	\$12,969	\$1,577	\$14,546

6. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

The Township's employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes the plan's benefits, which includes postretirement healthcare and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2004 and 2003, OPERS members contributed 8.5 percent of their gross salaries. The Township contributed an amount equaling 13.55 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2004.

**FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP
HURON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2003
(Continued)**

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk Pool Membership

The Township belongs to the Ohio Government Risk Management Plan (the Plan), an unincorporated non-profit association providing a formalized, jointly administered self-insurance risk management program and other administrative services to approximately 500 Ohio governments (Members).

Pursuant to § 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Plan is 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 issues its own policies and reinsures the Plan with A- VII or better rated carriers, except for the 5 percent portion retained by the Plan. After September 1, 2003, the Plan pays the lesser of 5 percent or \$25,000 of casualty losses and the lesser of 5 percent or \$50,000 of property losses. The individual members are only responsible for their self-retention (deductible) amounts, which vary from member to member.

The Pool's audited financial statements conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities, and retained earnings at December 31:

	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
Assets	\$6,685,522	\$5,402,167
Liabilities	<u>2,227,808</u>	<u>1,871,123</u>
Members' Equity	<u>\$4,457,714</u>	<u>\$3,531,044</u>

You can read the complete audited financial statements for The Ohio Government Risk Management Plan at the Plan's website, www.ohioplan.org.

8. LAND INSTALLMENT CONTRACT

In October 2003, the Township entered into a land installment contract with the North Fairfield House of Prayer. The contract allowed the House of Prayer to purchase the Township's grange/church building, including the land. The purchase price of the building and land was \$32,500, payable, together with interest on the unpaid balance, in equal monthly installments of \$360.82 over a 10 year period.

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**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

**INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER
FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS
REQUIRED BY *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS***

Fairfield Township
Huron County
One North Main Street
P.O. Box 118
North Fairfield, Ohio 44855-0118

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of Fairfield Township (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003, and have issued our report thereon dated August 23, 2005, wherein we noted the Township followed accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes rather than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We also noted that the Township uses the Auditor of State's Uniform Accounting Network (UAN) to process its financial transactions. *Government Auditing Standards* considers this service to impair the Auditor of State's independence to audit the Township because the Auditor of State designed, developed, implemented, and, as requested, operates UAN. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audits, we considered the Township's internal control over financial reporting to determine our auditing procedures to express our opinion on the financial statements and not to opine on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a reportable 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 caused by error or fraud in amounts material to the financial statements we audited may occur and not be timely detected by employees when performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider material weaknesses. In a separate letter to the Township's management dated August 23, 2005, we reported other matters involving internal control over financial reporting we did not deem reportable conditions.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of reasonably assuring whether the Township's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect 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 an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards*.

We intend this report solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management, and the Board of Trustees. It is not intended for anyone other than these specified parties.



Betty Montgomery
Auditor of State

August 23, 2005



**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

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**FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP
HURON 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
SEPTEMBER 20, 2005**