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Meigs Township Adams County 160 Second Street, Jacksonville Peebles, Ohio 45660

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.

Betty Montgomeny

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

September 20, 2005

Corporate Centre of Blue Ash / 11117 Kenwood Rd. / Blue Ash, OH 45242 Telephone: (513) 361-8550 (800) 368-7419 Fax: (513) 361-8577 www.auditor.state.oh.us This page intentionally left blank.



## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Meigs Township Adams County 160 Second Street, Jacksonville Peebles, Ohio 45660

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Meigs Township, Adams County, Ohio (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 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 the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit 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 audit provides 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.

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.

Corporate Centre of Blue Ash / 11117 Kenwood Rd. / Blue Ash, OH 45242 Telephone: (513) 361-8550 (800) 368-7419 Fax: (513) 361-8577 www.auditor.state.oh.us Meigs Township Adams County Independent Accountants' Report Page 2

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 Meigs Township, Adams 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 September 20, 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 audit.

Betty Montgomeny

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

September 20, 2005

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

	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts: Local Taxes Intergovernmental Charges for Services Interest Other Revenue	\$14,202 54,170 2,710	\$115,159 131,792 10,225 441 3,868		\$129,361 185,962 10,225 3,151 3,868
Total Cash Receipts	71,082	261,485	0	332,567
Cash Disbursements: Current: General Government Public Works Health Conservation - Recreation	54,586 2,371	2,011 145,011 30,299		56,597 145,011 30,299 2,371
Capital Outlay		40,868		40,868
Total Cash Disbursements	56,957	218,189	0	275,146
Total Receipts Over Disbursements	14,125	43,296	0	57,421
Other Financing Receipts: Other Sources	17			17
Total Other Financing Receipts	17	0	0	17
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over Cash Disbursements	14,142	43,296	0	57,438
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	30,068	230,538	1,077	261,683
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$44,210	<u>\$273,834</u>	<u>\$1,077</u>	<u>\$319,121</u>
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	\$190	\$0	\$0	\$190

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, 2003

	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts: Local Taxes Intergovernmental Charges for Services Interest Other Revenue	\$13,327 37,301 2,577	\$106,134 96,687 5,407 509 3,500		\$119,461 133,988 5,407 3,086 3,500
Total Cash Receipts	53,205	212,237	0	265,442
Cash Disbursements: Current: General Government Public Works	55,767	2,006 121,364		57,773 121,364
Health Conservation - Recreation Miscellaneous Capital Outlay	5,263 514	21,438 <u>41,505</u>		21,438 5,263 514 41,505
Total Cash Disbursements	61,544	186,313	0	247,857
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(8,339)	25,924	0	17,585
Other Financing Receipts: Other Sources	1,917			1,917
Total Other Financing Receipts	1,917	0	0	1,917
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	(6,422)	25,924	0	19,502
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	36,490	204,614	1,077	242,181
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$30,068	\$230,538	\$1,077	\$261,683

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

#### 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 Meigs Township, Adams County, Ohio (the Township), as a body corporate and politic. A publiclyelected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides road and bridge maintenance and cemetery maintenance. The Township contracts with the Village of Peebles to provide fire 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 Deposits

The Township maintains a cash deposit pool used by all funds. All Township funds are maintained in an interest-bearing checking account with a local financial institution.

## 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 or for capital projects) that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Township had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

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

<u>Cemetery Fund</u> - This fund receives tax money and fees from the sale of lots, opening and closing of graves for the purpose of maintaining, grooming and operating Township cemeteries.

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

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

<u>Special Levy (Fire) Fund</u> – This fund receives tax and intergovernmental receipts money to pay for fire protection for the Township residents.

#### 3. Debt Service Fund

The debt service fund is used to account for resources the Township accumulates to pay bond and note debt.

## 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.

## 2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS

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

	2004	2003
Demand deposits	\$319,121	\$261,683

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

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

## 3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

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

2004 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
	Budgeted Actual		
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$47,300	\$71,099	\$23,799
Special Revenue	177,600	261,485	83,885
Total	\$224,900	\$332,584	\$107,684

2004 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
	Appropriation		
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$98,663	\$57,147	\$41,516
Special Revenue	387,211	218,189	169,022
Debt Service	1,077	0	1,077
Total	\$486,951	\$275,336	\$211,615

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts				
Budgeted Actual				
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance	
General	\$50,000	\$55,122	\$5,122	
Special Revenue	183,232	212,237	29,005	
Total	\$233,232	\$267,359	\$34,127	

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Appropriation Budgetary			
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$106,119	\$61,544	\$44,575
Special Revenue	367,924	186,313	181,611
Debt Service	1,077	0	1,077
Total	\$475,120	\$247,857	\$227,263

Contrary to Ohio law, budgetary expenditures exceeded appropriation authority in the FEMA Special Revenue fund by \$12,245 for the year ended December 31, 2003 and in the CDBG Special Revenue fund by \$35,000 for the year ended December 31, 2004.

## 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.

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

## 4. **PROPERTY TAX (Continued)**

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 officials and employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes this plans' 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.

## 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.

## Casualty Coverage

OTARMA retains casualty risks up to \$250,000 per claim, including loss adjustment expenses. OTARMA pays a percentage of its contributions to APEEP. APEEP reinsures claims exceeding \$250,000, up to \$1,750,000 per claim and \$5,000,000 in the aggregate per year. Townships 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 \$100,000 on any specific loss in any one occurrence. The Travelers Indemnity Company reinsures losses exceeding \$100,000 up to \$500,000,000 per occurrence. APEEP's Guarantee Fund pays losses and loss adjustment expenses exceeding operating contributions.

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

## 6. **RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)**

The aforementioned casualty and property reinsurance agreements do not discharge OTARMA's primay liability for claims payments on covered losses. Claims exceeding coverage limits are the obligation of the respective township.

## **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 2004 and 2003:

Casualty Coverage	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
Assets	\$30,687,203	\$27,792,223
Liabilities	<u>(13,640,962)</u>	<u>(11,791,300)</u>
Retained earnings	<u>\$17,046,241</u>	<u>\$16,000,923</u>

Property Coverage	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
Assets	\$7,799,073	\$6,791,060
Liabilities	<u>(753,906)</u>	<u>(750,956)</u>
Retained earnings	<u>\$7,045,167</u>	<u>\$6,040,104</u>

The Township also provides health insurance to employees and officials through a private carrier through reimbursement.

## 7. COMPLIANCE

The Township did not post utility deregulation reimbursement revenue or homestead and rollback revenue to the proper funds in 2003 and 2004. Audit adjustments were made to the financial statements and posted to the Township's financial records. Expenditures exceeded appropriations in the FEMA fund in 2003 and in the CDBG fund in 2004.

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

Meigs Township Adams County 160 Second Street, Jacksonville Peebles, Ohio 45660

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of the Meigs Township, Adams County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003 and have issued our report thereon dated September 20, 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 audit 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 audit, 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. However, we noted certain matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be reportable conditions. Reportable conditions involve matters coming to our attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal control over financial reporting that, in our judgment, could adversely affect the Township's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the financial statements. The reportable conditions are described in the accompanying schedule of findings as items 2004-001 and 2004-002.

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 amount 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. Our consideration of the internal control would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be reportable conditions and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all reportable conditions that are considered to be material weaknesses. However, we do not believe the reportable conditions described above are material weaknesses. We also noted other matters involving the internal control over financial reporting that do not require inclusion in the report, that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated September 20, 2005.

Meigs Township Adams County Independent Accountants' Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by *Government Auditing Standards* Page 2

#### **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 audit and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed instances of noncompliance we must report under *Government Auditing Standards*, which is described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings as items 2004-002 and 2004-003. In a separate letter to the Township's management dated September 20, 2005, we reported other matters related to noncompliance we deemed immaterial.

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

Bitty Montgomeny

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

September 20, 2005

## SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2003

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

## FINDING NUMBER 2004-001

## **Reportable Condition**

The Township did not prepare accurate monthly cash reconciliations during the audit period. The Township's attempted reconciliations were given to the Trustees for approval and they signed off on these reconciliations even though they contained various errors. Examples of discrepancies found are:

- Adjusting factors were not explained and documented
- Amounts shown as deposits in transit were unsupported, and used as a plug number in order to balance
- Monies were held for up to two months before being deposited
- The outstanding check list included checks that cleared the bank

Reconciliations are an effective tool to help management determine the completeness of recorded transactions and to verify that all recorded transactions have been deposited with the financial institution. We recommend the Township properly reconcile their accounts on a monthly basis. Any variances should be immediately investigated and justified. The Trustees should familiarize themselves with the bank reconciliation process and review the monthly bank reconciliation and bank statements, to properly determine that correct balances are used and that the reconciliation is complete.

## FINDING NUMBER 2004-002

## Noncompliance Citation/Reportable Condition

Ohio Rev. Code, Section 5705.41(B), prohibits expenditures in excess of appropriations. Expenditures exceeded appropriations, as follows:

Date	Fund	Appropriations	Expenditures	Variance
December 31, 2003	Special Revenue FEMA	\$0	\$12,245	(\$12,245)
December 31, 2004	Special Revenue CDBG	\$0.	\$35,000	(\$35,000)

The Clerk should deny payment requests exceeding appropriations to avoid overspending. The Clerk may request Council to approve increased expenditure levels by increasing appropriations and amending estimated resources, if necessary. The Township had the resources, but failed to amend appropriations for the FEMA and CDBG projects.

Meigs Township Adams County Schedule of Findings Page 2

#### FINDING NUMBER 2004-003

#### **Noncompliance Citation**

Ohio Rev. Code, Section 5705.10, provides that all revenue derived from a source other than the general property tax and which the law prescribes shall be used for a particular purpose is to be paid into a special fund for such purpose. The Township did not properly post utility deregulation reimbursement revenue or homestead and rollback revenues received from the State and utility deregulation revenues received from the County. For 2004, \$12,689 was adjusted from the General Fund to the Road and Bridge, Cemetery, and Special Levy (Fire) Fund. In 2003, \$12,132 was adjusted from the General Fund to the Road and Bridge, Cemetery, and Special Levy (Fire) Fund. These adjustments decreased the General Fund balance by 22% in 2004 and 29% in 2003. These adjustments have been posted to the Township's accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements.

## SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2003

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <b>Explain</b>
2002-001	5705.41(D), Disbursements not fully certified in advance	No	Partially corrected, management letter citation
2002-002	Accounting and Reporting Records	No	Partially corrected, repeated as finding number 2004-001
2002-003	5705.10, Revenue derived from source other than general property tax not paid into a special fund	No	Not corrected, repeated as finding number 2004-003



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**MEIGS TOWNSHIP** 

ADAMS 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 Babbrtt

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

CERTIFIED OCTOBER 13, 2005