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Washington Township Sandusky County 3647 County Road 106 Lindsey, Ohio 43442-9733

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 6, 2005

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Washington Township Sandusky County 3647 County Road 106 Lindsey, Ohio 43442-9733

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Washington Township, Sandusky 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 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 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.

One Government Center / Room 1420 / Toledo, OH 43604-2246 Telephone: (419) 245-2811 (800) 443-9276 Fax: (419) 245-2484 www.auditor.state.oh.us Washington Township Sandusky County Independent Accountants' Report Page 2

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 Washington Township, Sandusky 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 9, 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 6, 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

	Governmental Fund Types			
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:				
Local Taxes	\$15,690	\$139,370		\$155,060
Intergovernmental	56,925	102,106	\$5,000	164,031
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	1,580	705		2,285
Earnings on Investments	161	13		174
Other Revenue	2,973	521		3,494
Total Cash Receipts	77,329	242,715	5,000	325,044
Cash Disbursements: Current:				
General Government	64,796			64,796
Public Safety	,	62,798		62,798
Public Works	1,342	164,672		166,014
Health	59	1,941		2,000
Capital Outlay	1,000			1,000
Total Cash Disbursements	67,197	229,411		296,608
Total Receipts Over Disbursements	10,132	13,304	5,000	28,436
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	6,260	93,022		99,282
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$16,392	\$106,326	\$5,000	<u>\$127,718</u>
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	\$311	\$114		\$425

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

	Governmental		
	General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:			
Local Taxes	\$14,907	\$137,095	\$152,002
Intergovernmental	35,880	88,218	124,098
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	834	1,000	1,834
Earnings on Investments	352	156	508
Other Revenue	2,734	1,756	4,490
Total Cash Receipts	54,707	228,225	282,932
Cash Disbursements: Current:			
General Government	67,894		67,894
Public Safety	- ,	62,790	62,790
Public Works	25,390	176,468	201,858
Health	814	1,576	2,390
Total Cash Disbursements	94,098	240,834	334,932
Total Disbursements Over Receipts	(39,391)	(12,609)	(52,000)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	45,651	105,631	151,282
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$6,260	\$93,022	\$99,282
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	\$304	\$133	\$437

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 the Washington Township, Sandusky 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, fire protection and emergency medical services. The Township contracts with the Village of Lindsey, Harris Township, and Helena Community Volunteer Fire Department 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. Fund Accounting

The Township uses fund accounting to segregate cash that is 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>Road and Bridge Fund</u> - This fund receives property tax money for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads and bridges.

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

Fire Levy Fund - This fund receives property tax money to pay for fire protection.

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

3. Capital Project Fund

This fund accounts for receipts restricted to acquiring or constructing major capital projects (except those financed through enterprise or trust funds). The Township had the following significant capital project fund:

<u>LTIP Fund</u> – This fund receives an engineer grant for constructing, maintaining, and repairing of Township roads.

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 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.

E. 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.

F. Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, the employee is entitled to cash payments for unused leave. The financial statements do not include a liability for unpaid leave.

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH

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

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

	2004	2003
Demand deposits	\$127,718	\$99,282

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

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	\$71,942	\$77,329	\$5,387		
Special Revenue	231,745	242,715	10,970		
Capital Projects		5,000	5,000		
Total	\$303,687	\$325,044	\$21,357		

2004 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$78,506	\$67,508	\$10,998
Special Revenue	324,898	229,525	95,373
Total	\$403,404	\$297,033	\$106,371

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$70,780	\$54,707	(\$16,073)
Special Revenue	218,423	228,225	9,802
Total	\$289,203	\$282,932	(\$6,271)

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$116,430	\$94,402	\$22,028
Special Revenue	324,051	240,967	83,084
Total	\$440,481	\$335,369	\$105,112

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

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. 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 this plan's benefits, which include 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.

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

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.

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 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:

Casualty Coverage	2004	2003
Assets	\$30,687,203	\$27,792,223
Liabilities	(13,640,962)	(11,791,300)
Retained Earnings	\$17,046,241	\$16,000,923
Property Coverage Assets	2004 \$7,799,073	2003 \$6,791,060
Liabilities	(753,906)	(750,956)
Retained Earnings	\$7,045,167	\$6,040,104

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

Washington Township Sandusky County 3647 County Road 106 Lindsey, Ohio 43442-9733

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of Washington Township (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003, and have issued our report thereon dated September 6, 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. 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 September 6, 2005, we reported other matters involving internal control over financial reporting we did not deem reportable conditions.

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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 are described in the accompanying schedule of findings as items 2004-001 and 2004-002. In a separate letter to the Township's management dated September 6, 2005, we reported other matters related to noncompliance we deemed immaterial.

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

Betty Montgomeny

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

September 6, 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

Finding for Recovery

The Township Trustees approved Bob Fish's salary at \$11.50 beginning January 1, 2003 (\$11.20 for 2002). Overtime pay at time and a half would be \$17.25 for 2003 (\$16.80 for hours worked during the first pay of 2003 at the 2002 rate). For the payroll checks issued 1/13/03, 1/28/03, 2/11/03, 2/25/03, 3/10/03, 3/25/03, and 5/27/03 Mr. Fish was paid \$25.20 for overtime wages. Review of time sheets and payroll records indicated 78.5 hours of overtime worked in 2003 (16.5 hours in 2002). As a result, an overpayment of \$762.67 occurred.

Description		Rate	Total
16.5 hours of overtime	Х	\$16.80 per hour	= \$ 277.20
78.5 hours of overtime	Х	\$17.25 per hour	= 1,354.13
			1,631.33
95 total hours of overtime	Х	\$25.20 per hour	= 2,394.00
Overpayment			\$ 762.67

In accordance with the foregoing facts and pursuant to Ohio Revised Code § 117.28, a Finding for Recovery for public money illegally expended is hereby issued against Bob Fish, Road Supervisor, Susan L. Nighswander, Clerk, and the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority, Ms. Nighswander's bonding company, jointly and severally, in the amount of \$762.67 in favor of Washington Township Road & Bridge Fund.

The Auditor of State is required, under Ohio Revised Code § 117.28, to forward a copy of the audit report containing this Finding For Recovery to the statutorily designated legal counsel for the public office, who then would have the discretionary authority to institute legal proceedings to collect the amount alleged to be due the public office. Under certain circumstances such action might also be instituted by the Attorney General of the State of Ohio.

FINDING NUMBER 2004-002

Finding for Recovery

Ohio Revised Code § 507.09 sets the 2004 salary for township clerks in townships with a budget between \$250,000.01 and \$500,000, as follows. For clerks whose terms were 4/1/00 to 3/31/04 and then started a new term of 4/1/04 to 3/31/08, the clerk is due \$2,785.75 for 1/1/2004 to 3/31/2004 and \$6,736.31 for 4/1/04 to 10/31/04 (clerk resigned 10/31/04), for a total amount due of \$9,522.06.

For 2004, Township Clerk, Susan Nighswander, was compensated \$9,623.30 resulting in an overpayment of \$101.24.

In accordance with the forgoing facts and pursuant to O.R.C. §117.28, a finding for recovery for public money illegally expended is hereby issued against Susan Nighswander, Township Clerk, and the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority, her surety, jointly and severally, in the amount of \$101.24, in favor of the Township Treasury.

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; Explain
2002-001	Ohio Revised Code § 5705.41(B), Expenditures exceeding appropriations.	Yes	



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WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

SANDUSKY 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 Babbett

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

CERTIFIED OCTOBER 4, 2005