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Ridgefield Township Huron County 1660 Jacob Road Norwalk, Ohio 44857-9786

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 an 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 adverse 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.

Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

Mary Taylor

September 4, 2007

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Ridgefield Township Huron County 1660 Jacob Road Norwalk, Ohio 44857-9786

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Ridgefield Township, Huron County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005. 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. As described in Note 2 the Township reclassified its nonexpendable trust fund in 2005.

Ridgefield Township Huron County Independent Accountants' Report Page 2

Instead of the combined funds the accompanying financial statements present, GAAP require presenting entity wide statements and also presenting the Township's larger (i.e. major) funds separately. 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 GAAP presentation requirements. The Auditor of State permits, but does not require townships to reformat their statements. The Township has elected not to follow GAAP statement formatting requirements. 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 years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005, 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, 2006 and 2005, or its changes in financial position for the years then ended.

Also, in our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances of Ridgefield Township, Huron County, as of December 31, 2006 and 2005, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the accounting basis Note 1 describes.

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 4, 2007, 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.

Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

Mary Taylor

September 4, 2007

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL AND OTHER FIDUCIARY FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2006

_	Governmental Fund Types		Fiduciary Fund Type		
_	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Private Purpose Trust	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:					
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$25,583	\$65,476			\$91,059
Charges for Services	47				47
Licenss, Permits, and Fees	633	7,425			8,058
Intergovernmental	21,181	107,663	\$99,274		228,118
Earnings on Investments	12,325	1,696		\$94	14,115
Miscellaneous	602	5,641			6,243
Total Cash Receipts	60,371	187,901	99,274	94	347,640
Cash Disbursements:					
Current:					
General Government	59,394	2,697			62,091
Public Safety		9,219			9,219
Public Works	66,151	134,933			201,084
Health	4,255	9,964		59	14,278
Capital Outlay	53,497	1,200	99,274		153,971
Total Cash Disbursements	183,297	158,013	\$99,274	59	440,643
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(122,926)	29,888		35	(93,003)
Other Financing Receipts / (Disbursements):					
Sale of Notes	36,608				36,608
Sale of Fixed Assets		8,400			8,400
Other Financing Uses	(541)				(541)
Total Other Financing Receipts / (Disbursements_	36,067	8,400			44,467
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing					
Receipts Over / (Under) Cash Disbursements	(OC OEO)	38,288		35	(40 E2C)
and Other Financing Disbursements	(86,859)	30,208		35	(48,536)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	265,110	42,470		1,868	309,448
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$178,251	\$80,758		\$1,903	\$260,912

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 AND OTHER FIDUCIARY FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005

	Gover	nmental Fund Ty	pes	Fiduciary Fund Type	
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Private Purpose Trust	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:					
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$25,295	\$65,774			\$91,069
Charges for Services	3				3
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	1,801	4,550			6,351
Integovernmental	43,828	102,016	\$72,923		218,767
Earnings on Investments	9,830	602		\$58	10,490
Miscellaneous	24	2,125			2,149
Total Cash Receipts	80,781	175,067	72,923	58	328,829
Cash Disbursements:					
Current:					
General Government	50,518	2,237			52,755
Public Safety		10,712			10,712
Public Works	70,245	150,871			221,116
Health	3,675	9,840		48	13,563
Capital Outlay	247	7,153	72,923		80,323
Total Cash Disbursements	124,685	180,813	\$72,923	48	378,469
Total Receipts (Under) Disbursements	(43,904)	(5,746)		10	(49,640)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	309,014	48,216		1,858	359,088
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$265,110	\$42,470		\$1,868	\$309,448

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005

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 Ridgefield 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 and cemetery maintenance. The Township contracts with the North Central Emergency Medical Services, Inc., to provide ambulance services.

The Township participates in a jointly governed organization. Note 9 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity. This organization is:

Jointly Governed Organization:

Huron River Joint Fire District provides fire protection and rescue services within the District and by contract to areas outside the District.

The Township's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Township is financially accountable.

B. Accounting Basis

These financial statements follow the accounting basis the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. 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 receipts for investment sales. This basis records gains or losses at the time of sale as receipts or disbursements, respectively.

The Township values certificates of deposit at cost. Money market mutual funds (including STAR Ohio) are recorded at share values the mutual funds report.

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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – (CONTINUED)

2. Special Revenue Funds

These funds account for proceeds from specific sources (other than from private-purpose 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.

3. Capital Project Funds

These funds account 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>Issue II Fund</u> - The Township received a grant from the State of Ohio to improve River Road.

4. Fiduciary Fund

Fiduciary funds include private purpose trust funds and agency funds. Trust funds account for assets held under a trust agreement for individuals, private organizations, or other governments which are not available to support the Township's own programs. The Township did not have any agency funds.

<u>Cemetery Endowment Fund</u> – This fund receives interest earned on the nonexpendable corpus from a trust agreement. These earnings are used for the floral arrangements for a specific grave.

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 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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – (CONTINUED)

3. Encumbrances

The Ohio Revised Code requires the Township to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are canceled, and reappropriated in the subsequent year.

A summary of 2006 and 2005 budgetary activity appears in Note 4.

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.

G. Accumulated Leave

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

2. RECLASSIFICATION OF FUND BALANCE

Pursuant to Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement Number 34, the Village has reclassified its nonexpendable trust fund to a permanent fund for 2005. The effect on fund balances is as follows:

	Nonexpendable Trust	Private Purpose Trust
Fund Blances as reported at		
December 31, 2004	\$1,858	
Reclassification of Fund		
Balances	(\$1,858)	\$1,858
Restated Fund Balances at		
January 1, 2005		\$1,858

3. 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:

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005 (Continued)

3. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS – (CONTINUED)

	2005	2006
Demand deposits	\$11,313	\$7,993
Certificates of deposit	40,000	40,000
Total deposits	51,313	47,993
STAR Ohio	258,135	212,919
Total deposits and investments	\$309,448	\$260,912

Deposits: Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation.

Investments: Investments in STAR Ohio and mutual funds are not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book-entry form.

4. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2006 and 2006 follows:

2006 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$87,440	\$96,979	\$9,539
Special Revenue	162,206	196,301	34,095
Capital Projects	99,274	99,274	
Trust	50	94	44
Total	\$348,970	\$392,648	\$43,678

2006 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	totalan = alagotan j		
	Appropriation	Budgetary	_
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$352,550	\$183,838	\$168,712
Special Revenue	204,670	158,013	46,657
Capital Projects	99,274	99,274	
Trust	1,917	59	1,858
Total	\$658,411	\$441,184	\$217,227

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005 (Continued)

4. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY – (CONTINUED)

2005 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$72,406	\$80,781	\$8,375
Special Revenue	164,511	175,067	10,556
Capital Projects	172,197	72,923	(99,274)
Trust	25	58	33
Total	\$409,139	\$328,829	(\$80,310)

2005 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	totalar = araigotar j		
	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$381,420	\$124,685	\$256,735
Special Revenue	212,954	180,813	32,141
Capital Projects	172,197	72,923	99,274
Trust	1,883	48	1,835
Total	\$768,454	\$378,469	\$389,985

5. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Trustees adopted tax 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.

6. DEBT

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2006 was as follows:

_	Principal	Interest Rate
Loan	\$36,608	5.50%

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005 (Continued)

6. DEBT – (CONTINUED)

The Township obtained a loan from Sutton Bank to finance the purchase of a new dump truck and loader for Township road maintenance.

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

Year ending December 31:	Bank Loan
2007	\$10,429
2008	10,429
2009	10,429
2010	10,429
Total	\$41,716

7. RETIREMENT SYSTEM

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 2006 and 2005, OPERS members contributed 9 and 8.5%, respectively, of their gross salaries and the Township contributed an amount equaling 13.7 and 13.55%, respectively, of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2006.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT

Commercial Insurance

The Township has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

- Comprehensive property and general liability;
- Vehicles: and
- Errors and omissions.

9. JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATION

Huron River Joint Fire District

A four-member Board of Trustees governs the District. One board member is appointed by each political subdivision within the District. Those subdivisions are the Village of Monroeville, Peru Township, Ridgefield Township, and Sherman Township, all of which are located in Huron County. The District provides fire protection and rescue services within the District and by contract to areas outside the District. Financial information can be obtained from Deborah Ewell, Clerk, Huron River Joint Fire District, 130 North West Street, Norwalk, Ohio 44857-1269.



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

Ridgefield Township Huron County 1660 Jacob Road Norwalk, Ohio 44857-9786

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of Ridgefield Township, Huron County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005, and have issued our report thereon dated September 4, 2007, 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 and the Township reclassified its nonexpendable trust fund. We also noted 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 as a basis for designing our audit procedures for expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not to opine on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we have not opined on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control over financial reporting.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. However, as discussed below, we identified a certain deficiency in internal control over financial reporting that we consider a significant deficiency.

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

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the Township's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with its applicable accounting basis, such that there is more than a remote likelihood that the Township's internal control will not prevent or detect a more-than-inconsequential financial statement misstatement.

We consider the following deficiency described in the accompanying schedule of findings to be a significant deficiency in internal control over financial reporting: 2006-001.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies resulting in more than a remote likelihood that the Township's internal control will not prevent or detect a material financial statement misstatement.

Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in the internal control that might be significant deficiencies and accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all significant deficiencies that are also material weaknesses. We believe the significant deficiency described above is not a material weakness.

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 no instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards*.

We did note certain noncompliance or other matters that we reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated September 4, 2007.

The Township's response to the finding identified in our audit is described in the accompanying schedule of findings. We did not audit the Township's response and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

We intend this report solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management and the Township Board of Trustees. We intend it for no one other than these specified parties.

Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

Mary Saylor

September 4, 2007

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005

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

FINDING NUMBER 2006-001

Significant Deficiency

Financial Reporting

We found numerous errors requiring adjustment to the financial statements. The Fiscal officer posted homestead, rollback (totaling \$4,251 in 2006 and \$4,658 in 2005) and exempt personal property (\$366 in 2006 and \$586 in 2005) as taxes rather than intergovernmental revenue; and two months of cents per gallon gas taxes (\$2,202 and \$2,675) as motor vehicle licenses.

Sound financial reporting is the responsibility of the Fiscal Officer and Trustees and is essential to ensure the information provided to the readers of the financial statements is complete and accurate.

To ensure the Township's financial statements and notes to the statements are complete and accurate, the Township should adopt policies and procedures, including a final review of the statements and notes by the Fiscal Officer and Board of Trustees, to identify and correct errors and omissions. To ensure the Township's financial statements are complete and accurate the Fiscal Officer should also review the coding of accounts included in the Accounting Manual prepared by the Uniform Accounting Network at http://uanlink.auditor.state.oh.us/pdf/uan_win_software/AccountingManual.pdf.

Officials' Response:

The Township will review activity to ensure it is correct.

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005

Finding	Finding	Fully	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <i>Explain</i>
Number	Summary	Corrected?	
2004-001	Finding for recovery for overpaid overtime.	Yes	



RIDGEFIELD 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.

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

Susan Babbitt

CERTIFIED OCTOBER 9, 2007