



**Mary Taylor, CPA**  
Auditor of State



MIDDLETON TOWNSHIP  
WOOD COUNTY

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# Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

Middleton Township  
Wood County  
114 Sugar Street, P.O. Box 206  
Haskins, Ohio 43525-0206

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.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Taylor".

**Mary Taylor, CPA**  
Auditor of State

August 26, 2007

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# Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Middleton Township  
Wood County  
114 Sugar Street, P.O. Box 206  
Haskins, Ohio 43525-0206

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Middleton Township, Wood County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006. 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.

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, 2007 and 2006, 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, 2007 and 2006, 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 and reserves for encumbrances of Middleton Township, Wood County, as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, 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 August 26, 2008, 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

August 26, 2008



**MIDDLETON TOWNSHIP  
WOOD COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND  
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES  
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>			<b>Totals (Memorandum Only)</b>
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Capital Projects</u>	
<b>Cash Receipts:</b>				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$137,831	\$829,597	\$46,013	\$1,013,441
Charges for Services		43,195		43,195
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	42,917			42,917
Intergovernmental	103,483	237,201	10,903	351,587
Special Assessments		33,147		33,147
Earnings on Investments	102,903			102,903
Miscellaneous	400	765	1,760	2,925
	<u>387,534</u>	<u>1,143,905</u>	<u>58,676</u>	<u>1,590,115</u>
<b>Total Cash Receipts</b>				
<b>Cash Disbursements:</b>				
Current:				
General Government	233,790	2,138		235,928
Public Safety	804	453,315	13,440	467,559
Public Works		198,762		198,762
Health	11,000			11,000
Capital Outlay		113,814	152,993	266,807
	<u>245,594</u>	<u>768,029</u>	<u>166,433</u>	<u>1,180,056</u>
<b>Total Cash Disbursements</b>				
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	<u>141,940</u>	<u>375,876</u>	<u>(107,757)</u>	<u>410,059</u>
<b>Other Financing Receipts / (Disbursements):</b>				
Advances-In		5,448		5,448
Advances-Out	(5,448)			(5,448)
	<u>(5,448)</u>	<u>5,448</u>		
<b>Total Other Financing Receipts / (Disbursements)</b>				
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over / (Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements	136,492	381,324	(107,757)	410,059
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>465,481</u>	<u>1,480,317</u>	<u>206,875</u>	<u>2,152,673</u>
<b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</b>	<u><b>\$601,973</b></u>	<u><b>\$1,861,641</b></u>	<u><b>\$99,118</b></u>	<u><b>\$2,562,732</b></u>
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	<u>\$2,137</u>	<u>\$182,939</u>	<u>\$123,802</u>	<u>\$308,878</u>

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

**MIDDLETON TOWNSHIP  
WOOD COUNTY**

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

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>			<b>Totals (Memorandum Only)</b>
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Capital Projects</u>	
<b>Cash Receipts:</b>				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$129,887	\$779,705	\$43,160	\$952,752
Charges for Services		56,013		56,013
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	45,870			45,870
Intergovernmental	288,066	231,284	14,797	534,147
Special Assessments		45,874		45,874
Earnings on Investments	1,705	35		1,740
Miscellaneous	120	628		748
	<u>465,648</u>	<u>1,113,539</u>	<u>57,957</u>	<u>1,637,144</u>
<b>Total Cash Receipts</b>				
<b>Cash Disbursements:</b>				
Current:				
General Government	224,306	316		224,622
Public Safety	804	403,153	20,340	424,297
Public Works		162,165		162,165
Health	11,000			11,000
Capital Outlay		327,086	13,897	340,983
	<u>236,110</u>	<u>892,720</u>	<u>34,237</u>	<u>1,163,067</u>
<b>Total Cash Disbursements</b>				
<b>Total Cash Receipts Over Cash Disbursements</b>	<u>229,538</u>	<u>220,819</u>	<u>23,720</u>	<u>474,077</u>
<b>Other Financing Receipts / (Disbursements):</b>				
Advances-In	11,447	10,512		21,959
Advances-Out	(10,512)	(11,447)		(21,959)
Other Financing Sources	17	1,070		1,087
Other Financing Uses	(333)			(333)
	<u>619</u>	<u>135</u>		<u>754</u>
<b>Total Other Financing Receipts / (Disbursements)</b>				
<b>Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements</b>	<u>230,157</u>	<u>220,954</u>	<u>23,720</u>	<u>474,831</u>
<b>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</b>	<u>235,324</u>	<u>1,259,363</u>	<u>183,155</u>	<u>1,677,842</u>
<b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</b>	<u><u>\$465,481</u></u>	<u><u>\$1,480,317</u></u>	<u><u>\$206,875</u></u>	<u><u>\$2,152,673</u></u>
<b>Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31</b>		<u><u>\$1,120</u></u>		<u><u>\$1,120</u></u>

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

**MIDDLETON TOWNSHIP  
WOOD COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006**

**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 Middleton Township, Wood 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 participates in a public entity risk pool. Note 6 to the financial statements provide additional information for this entity. This organization is:

Public Entity Risk Pool:

OTARMA is available to Ohio townships. OTARMA provides property and casualty coverage for its members.

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**

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.

**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.

**MIDDLETON TOWNSHIP  
WOOD COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006  
(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 Fund:

EMS Special Levy Fund – This fund receives property tax money for providing EMS services for the Township.

**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:

Fire Equipment Fund - The Township receives property tax money for purchasing fire equipment for the Township.

**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. The Township did not encumber all commitments required by Ohio law. Management has included audit adjustments in the accompanying budgetary presentations for material items that should have been encumbered.

A summary of 2007 and 2006 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

**MIDDLETON TOWNSHIP  
WOOD COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006  
(Continued)**

**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – (CONTINUED)**

**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. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH**

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

	2007	2006
Demand deposits	\$1,027,171	\$1,318,467
Certificates of deposit	1,535,561	834,206
Total deposits	\$2,562,732	\$2,152,673

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, 2007 and 2006 follows:

2007 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$542,620	\$387,534	(\$155,086)
Special Revenue	1,158,490	1,143,905	(14,585)
Capital Projects	53,822	58,676	4,854
Total	\$1,754,932	\$1,590,115	(\$164,817)

2007 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$1,008,101	\$247,731	\$760,370
Special Revenue	2,640,165	950,968	1,689,197
Capital Projects	260,459	290,235	(29,776)
Total	\$3,908,725	\$1,488,934	\$2,419,791

**MIDDLETON TOWNSHIP  
WOOD COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006  
(Continued)**

**3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY – (CONTINUED)**

2006 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$694,931	\$465,665	(\$229,266)
Special Revenue	1,073,419	1,114,609	41,190
Capital Projects	108,667	57,957	(50,710)
Total	\$1,877,017	\$1,638,231	(\$238,786)

2005 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$930,255	\$236,443	\$693,812
Special Revenue	2,369,112	893,840	1,475,272
Capital Projects	234,037	34,237	199,800
Total	\$3,533,404	\$1,164,520	\$2,368,884

Contrary to Ohio law, budgetary expenditures exceeded appropriation authority in the Capital Projects Fund by \$29,776 for the year ended December 31, 2007.

**4. 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.

**5. 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 plans' benefits, which include postretirement healthcare and survivor and disability benefits.

**MIDDLETON TOWNSHIP  
WOOD COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006  
(Continued)**

**5. RETIREMENT SYSTEM – (CONTINUED)**

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2007 and 2006, members contributed 9.5 and 9%, respectively, of their gross salaries and the Township contributed an amount equaling 13.85 and 13.7%, respectively, of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2007.

**6. RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Township is exposed to various risks of property and casualty losses, and injuries to employees.

The Township insures against injuries to employees through the Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation.

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

For an occurrence prior to January 1, 2006, OTARMA retains casualty risks up to \$250,000 per occurrence, including claim 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 \$10,000,000 in the aggregate per year. For an occurrence on or subsequent to January 1, 2006, the Pool retains casualty risk up to \$350,000 per occurrence. Claims exceeding \$350,000 are reinsured with APEEP in an amount not to exceed \$2,650,000 for each claim and \$10,000,000 in the aggregate per year. Governments can elect up to \$10,000,000 in additional coverage with the General Reinsurance Corporation, through contracts with OTARMA.

If losses exhaust PEP's retained earnings, APEEP provides *excess of funds available* coverage up to \$5,000,000 per year, subject to a per-claim limit of \$2,000,000 (prior to January 1, 2006) or \$3,000,000 (on or subsequent to January 1, 2006).

Property Coverage

Through 2004, OTARMA retained property risks, including automobile physical damage, up to \$100,000 on any specific loss in any one occurrence. The Travelers Indemnity Company reinsured losses exceeding \$100,000 up to \$500 million per occurrence.

Beginning in 2005, Travelers reinsures specific losses exceeding \$250,000 up to \$600 million per occurrence. This amount increased to \$300,000 in 2007. For 2007, APEEP reinsures members for specific losses exceeding \$100,000 up to \$300,000 per occurrence, subject to an annual aggregate loss payment. Travelers provides aggregate stop-loss coverage based upon the combined members' total insurable values. If the stop loss is reached by payment of losses between \$100,000 and \$250,000 in 2006, or \$100,000 and \$300,000 in 2007, Travelers will reinsure specific losses exceeding \$100,000 up to their \$600 million per occurrence limit. The aggregate stop-loss limit for 2007 was \$2,014,548.

**MIDDLETON TOWNSHIP  
WOOD COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006  
(Continued)**

**6. RISK MANAGEMENT – (CONTINUED)**

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

Property and casualty settlements did not exceed insurance coverage for the past three fiscal years.

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, 2007 and 2006.

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Assets	\$43,210,703	\$42,042,275
Liabilities	<u>(13,357,837)</u>	<u>(12,120,661)</u>
Net Assets	<u>\$29,852,866</u>	<u>\$29,921,614</u>

At December 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively, liabilities above include approximately \$12.5 million and \$11.3 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets and retained earnings above also include approximately \$11.6 million and \$10.8 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 950 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. The Township's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$16,000. This payable includes the subsequent year's contribution due if the Township terminates participation, as described in the last paragraph below.

Based on discussions with OTARMA, the expected rates OTARMA charges to compute member contributions, which are used to pay claims as they become due, are not expected to change significantly from those used to determine the historical contributions detailed below. By contract, the annual liability of each member is limited to the amount of financial contributions required to be made to OTARMA for each year of membership.

<b><u>Contributions to OTARMA</u></b>	
2005	\$20,570
2006	\$20,203
2007	\$17,374



**MIDDLETON TOWNSHIP  
WOOD COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006  
(Continued)**

**6. RISK MANAGEMENT – (CONTINUED)**

After completing one year of membership, members may withdraw on each anniversary of the date they joined OTARMA provided they provide written notice to OTARMA 60 days in advance of the anniversary date. Upon withdrawal, members are eligible for a full or partial refund of their capital contributions, minus the subsequent year's budgetary contribution. Withdrawing members have no other future obligation to the pool. Also upon withdrawal, payments for all casualty claims and claim expenses become the sole responsibility of the withdrawing member, regardless of whether a claim occurred or was reported prior to the withdrawal.

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# Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

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

Middleton Township  
Wood County  
114 Sugar Street, P.O. Box 206  
Haskins, Ohio 43525-0206

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of Middleton Township, Wood County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006, and have issued our report thereon dated August 26, 2008, wherein we noted the Township prepared its financial statements using accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits rather than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. 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. 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 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.

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: 2007-002.

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. However, we believe the significant deficiency described above is also a material weakness.

We also noted certain matters that we reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated August 26, 2008.

### **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 or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which are described in the accompanying schedule of findings as items 2007-001 through 2007-003.

We also noted certain noncompliance matters not requiring inclusion in this report that we reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated August 26, 2008.

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



**Mary Taylor, CPA**  
Auditor of State

August 26, 2008

**MIDDLETON TOWNSHIP  
WOOD COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006**

<b>FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS</b>
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**FINDING NUMBER 2007-001**

**Noncompliance Citation – Health Care Reimbursement**

Ohio Rev. Code Section 505.60(C) states that if any township officer or employee is denied coverage under a health care plan procured under division (B) of this section or if any township officer or employee elects not to participate in the township's health care plan, the township may reimburse the officer or employee for each out of pocket premium that the officer or employee incurs for insurance policies described in division (A) of this section that the officer or employee otherwise obtains, but not to exceed an amount equal to the average premium paid by the township for its officer and employees under policies it procures under division (B) of this section.

Attorney General Opinion 2005-038 concluded that, pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code Section 505.60(C), a board of trustees may reimburse a township officer or employee for the out-of-pocket premiums attributable to that officer or employee for health care coverage under insurance policies described in Ohio Rev. Code Section 505.60(A) if the officer or employee is denied health care coverage under a policy procured by the township under Ohio Rev. Code Section 505.60(B), or if the officer or employee elects not to participate in the township's health care plan. The policies described in 505.60(A) do not include family coverage. Therefore, the township should not reimburse for premium costs attributable to the spouse or dependents of an officer or employee.

The Township reimbursed the Trustees for family coverage for the years 2006 and 2007 which was in excess of actual out-of-pocket premium expenses attributable to them only in the amount of \$5,231.

Our audits of townships during this audit period have revealed ambiguity in the interpretation of the health care reimbursement statutes, as demonstrated in the opinions of several prosecuting attorneys submitted to our office. In addition, legislation has been introduced and passed the Ohio House of Representatives to extend reimbursement to township officials and employees for premiums for family coverage. Therefore, we will not issue Findings for Recovery for these expenditures during the 2006-2007 audit period.

We recommend the Township revise its health care premium reimbursement policy to limit reimbursement to amounts attributable to township officials and employees only, unless and until HB 458 is passed by the legislature and becomes law.

**FINDING NUMBER 2007-002**

**Noncompliance Citation/Material Weakness**

Ohio Revised Code § 5705.41(D) states no orders or contracts involving the expenditure of money are to be made unless there is attached thereto a certificate of the fiscal officer certifying that the amount required for the order or contract has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury or in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrances. Every such contract made without such a certificate shall be null and void and no warrant shall be issued in payment of any amount due thereon.

**FINDING NUMBER 2007-002  
(Continued)**

There are several exceptions to the standard requirement stated above that a fiscal officer's certificate must be obtained prior to a subdivision or taxing authority entering into a contract or order involving the expenditure of money. The main exceptions are: "then and now" certificates, blanket certificates, and super blanket certificates, which are provided for in sections 5705.41(D)(1) and 5705.41(D)(3), respectively, of the Ohio Revised Code.

**1. "Then and Now" certificate** – If the fiscal officer can certify that both at the time that the contract or order was made ("then"), and at the time that the fiscal officer is completing the certification ("now"), that sufficient funds were available or in the process of collection, to the credit of a proper fund, properly appropriated and free from any previous encumbrance, the Board can authorize the drawing of a warrant for the payment of the amount due. The Board has thirty days from the receipt of the "then and now" certificate to approve payment by ordinance or resolution.

Amounts of less than \$3,000 may be paid by the fiscal officer without a resolution or ordinance upon completion of the "then and now" certificate, provided that the expenditure is otherwise lawful. This does not eliminate any otherwise applicable requirement for approval of expenditures by the Trustees.

**2. Blanket Certificate** – Fiscal officers may prepare "blanket" certificates for a certain sum of money not in excess of an amount established by resolution or ordinance adopted by a majority of the members of the legislative authority against any specific line item account over a period not running beyond the end of the current fiscal year.

The blanket certificates may, but need not, be limited to a specific vendor. Only one blanket certificate may be outstanding at one particular time for any one particular line item appropriation.

**3. Super Blanket Certificate** – The Board may also make expenditures and contracts for any amount from a specific line-item appropriation account in a specified fund upon certification of the fiscal officer for most professional services, fuel, oil, food items, and any other specific recurring and reasonably predictable operating expense. This certification is not to extend beyond the current year. More than one super blanket certificate may be outstanding at a particular time for any line item appropriation.

The Township improperly certified twenty-eight percent of the transactions tested. For each compliance violation the Fiscal Officer signed the fiscal certificate after the goods or services had been ordered or an invoice already received.

The Township had \$123,802, \$166,211 and \$7,425 in unrecorded outstanding purchase commitments at December 31, 2007, in the Fire Equipment, Road Levy and Fire Levy Funds, respectively that were not certified at year end. The accompanying financial statements and budgetary disclosures have been adjusted to include these amounts as outstanding encumbrances at year end.

Certification is not only required by Ohio law but is a key control in the disbursements process to help assure purchase commitments receive prior approval, and to help reduce the possibility of Township funds being over expended or exceeding budgetary spending limitations as set by the Board. To improve controls over disbursements, we recommend all Township disbursements received prior certification of the Fiscal Officer and the Board periodically review the expenditures made to ensure they are within the appropriations adopted by the Board, certified by the Fiscal Officer and recorded against appropriations.

**FINDING NUMBER 2007-003**

**Noncompliance Citation**

Ohio Revised Code § 5705.41(B) states no subdivision shall make any expenditure of money unless it has been lawfully appropriated as provided in such chapter.

Actual expenditures of \$290,235 exceeded approved appropriations of \$260,459 by \$29,776 in the Capital Projects Fire Fund in 2007.

The Township Fiscal Officer and Board of Trustees should review appropriations prior to processing and approving expenditures. Expenditures should only be made for which there are sufficient appropriations. Appropriations should be increased as needed, and if necessary amend the corresponding estimated resources.

**Officials Response:**

We received no response from official's to the above findings..

MIDDLETON TOWNSHIP  
WOOD COUNTY

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS  
DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <b><i>Explain</i></b>
2005-001	ORC 5705.41(D) certifying availability of funds.	No	Reissued in this report as finding 2007-002.





**Mary Taylor, CPA**  
Auditor of State

**MIDDLETON TOWNSHIP**

**WOOD 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 18, 2008**