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Northwest Ohio Area Computer Service Cooperative Allen County 645 South Main Street Lima, Ohio 45805

#### To the Board of Directors:

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

April 4, 2008

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### INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Northwest Ohio Area Computer Services Cooperative Allen County 645 South Main Street Lima, Ohio 45805

To the Board of Directors:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Northwest Ohio Area Computer Services Cooperative, Allen County, (the Cooperative) as of and for the years ended June 30, 2007 and 2006. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Cooperative'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. We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described more fully in Note 1, the Cooperative 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 Cooperative's larger (i.e. major) funds separately. While the Cooperative 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 Boards to reformat their statements. The Cooperative 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 June 30, 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 Cooperative as of June 30, 2007 and 2006, or its changes in financial position for the years then ended.

Northwest Ohio Area Computer Services Cooperative Allen County Independent Accountants' Report Page 2

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 the Northwest Ohio Area Computer Services Cooperative, Allen County, as of June 30, 2007 and 2006, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the accounting basis Note 1 describes.

The Cooperative 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 April 4, 2008, on our consideration of the Cooperative'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

April 4, 2008

# COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2007

	Gov	ernment	tal Fund	Types
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·	Governmental Fund Types		
	General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:		_	
Intergovernmental	\$471,753	\$2,605,130	\$3,076,883
Charges for Services	1,509,943	209,362	1,719,305
Earnings on Investments	71,415		71,415
Miscellaneous	33,050		33,050
Total Cash Receipts	2,086,161	2,814,492	4,900,653
Cash Disbursements:			
Personal Services	799,461	1,307,304	2,106,765
Retirement and Insurance	257,487	421,116	678,603
Purchased Services	755,376	943,971	1,699,347
Supplies and Materials	17,205	9,747	26,952
Capital Outlay	99,473	58,571	158,044
Other	41,898		41,898
Total Cash Disbursements	1,970,900	2,740,709	4,711,609
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	115,261	73,783	189,044
Other Financing Receipts / (Disbursements):			
Refund of Prior Years Expenditures	1,003		1,003
Transfers-In		150,000	150,000
Transfers-Out	(150,000)		(150,000)
Total Other Financing Receipts / (Disbursements)	(148,997)	150,000	1,003
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements			
and Other Financing Disbursements	(33,736)	223,783	190,047
Fund Cash Balances, July 1	1,178,461	248,641	1,427,102
Fund Cash Balances, June 30	\$1,144,725	\$472,424	\$1,617,149
Reserve for Encumbrances, June 30	\$50,448	\$62,422	\$112,870

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 FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

Governmenta	I Fund Types
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	Governmental	ruliu Types	
	General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:			
Intergovernmental	\$475,589	\$1,815,195	\$2,290,784
Charges for Services	1,439,833	208,440	1,648,273
Earnings on Investments	40,608		40,608
Miscellaneous	29,920		29,920
Total Cash Receipts	1,985,950	2,023,635	4,009,585
Cash Disbursements:			
Personal Services	744,084	1,250,028	1,994,112
Retirement and Insurance	248,693	379,823	628,516
Purchased Services	845,232	512,671	1,357,903
Supplies and Materials	32,556	15,544	48,100
Capital Outlay	85,032	9,434	94,466
Other	48,289	23	48,312
Total Cash Disbursements	2,003,886	2,167,523	4,171,409
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(17,936)	(143,888)	(161,824)
Other Financing Receipts / (Disbursements):			
Transfers-In		150,000	150,000
Transfers-Out	(150,000)		(150,000)
Total Other Financing Receipts / (Disbursements)	(150,000)	150,000	
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements			
and Other Financing Disbursements	(167,936)	6,112	(161,824)
Fund Cash Balances, July 1	1,346,397	242,529	1,588,926
Fund Cash Balances, June 30	\$1,178,461	\$248,641	\$1,427,102
Reserve for Encumbrances, June 30	\$22,675	\$3,086	\$25,761

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

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2007 AND 2006

### 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### A. Description of the Entity

The Northwest Ohio Area Computer Services Cooperative (the Cooperative), is a jointly governed organization established in 1980 under Ohio Revised Code Section 3301.75 and is comprised of 50 member school districts. It was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to the administrative and instructional functions of member districts. Each of these schools support the Cooperative based upon a per pupil charge dependent on the software package utilized. The Cooperative is governed by a board of directors consisting of 13 members, the Superintendent of the Fiscal Agent District, and two representatives from each county.

The Western Buckeye Educational Service Center (ESC) serves as the fiscal agent and custodian of the Cooperative's assets.

The Cooperative's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Cooperative 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 Cooperative recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred.

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as the Auditor of State prescribes or permits.

### C. Cash and Investments

The Western Buckeye Educational Service Center (ESC), is custodian for the Cooperative's cash. To improve cash management, all cash received by the fiscal agent is pooled. Monies for all funds are maintained in this pool. Individual fund integrity is maintained through the fiscal agent's accounting records.

#### D. Fund Accounting

The Cooperative uses fund accounting to segregate cash and investments that are restricted as to use. The Cooperative 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 that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Cooperative had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2007 AND 2006 (Continued)

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

**INFOhio Fund** – The Cooperative has an agreement to render services to the Management Council of the Ohio Educational Computer Network (MCOECN) as an INFOhio Support Site for the benefit of the Ohio Education Computer Network and Ohio school districts. The monies received in this fund are a result of services rendered through this agreement.

**DASL Project Fund** – The Cooperative has an agreement to render services to the Management Council of the Ohio Educational Computer Network (MCOECN) as a Data Analysis for Student Learning (DASL) Development and Support Site for the benefit of the Ohio Education Computer Network and Ohio school districts. The monies received in this fund are a result of services rendered through this agreement.

### E. Budgetary Process

The Cooperative is not bound by the budgetary laws prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code. The Board of Directors annually approves the budget for the Cooperative. The budget includes an estimate of the amounts expected to be received and expended by the Cooperative during the fiscal year. Budget amendments are approved by the Board of Directors during the year as required.

The Cooperative utilizes the encumbrance method of accounting. Under this system, purchase orders, contracts, and other commitments for the expenditure of funds are recorded in order to reserve the portion of the applicable appropriation. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over, and need not be reappropriated.

A summary of June 30, 2007 and 2006 budgetary activity appears in Note 2.

### F. Property, Plant, and Equipment

The Cooperative 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. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending June 30, 2007 and 2006 follows:

2007 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$2,001,590	\$2,087,164	\$85,574
Special Revenue	2,912,486	2,964,492	52,006
Total	\$4,914,076	\$5,051,656	\$137,580

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2007 AND 2006 (Continued)

### 2. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY (Continued)

2007 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	_
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$3,152,876	\$2,171,348	\$981,528
Special Revenue	3,174,000	2,803,131	370,869
Total	\$6,326,876	\$4,974,479	\$1,352,397

2006 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$2,058,625	\$1,985,950	(\$72,675)
Special Revenue	1,961,213	2,173,635	212,422
Total	\$4,019,838	\$4,159,585	\$139,747

2006 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	<b>Expenditures</b>	Variance
General	\$3,378,497	\$2,176,561	\$1,201,936
Special Revenue	2,209,590	2,170,609	38,981
Total	\$5,588,087	\$4,347,170	\$1,240,917

#### 3. DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

The Western Buckeye Educational Service Center (ESC), as fiscal agent, maintains a cash and investment pool used by all funds. The ESC's records indicated the Cooperative's cash balances at June 30, 2007 and June 30, 2006 were \$1,617,149 and \$1,427,102, respectively. For information regarding risk relating to the deposits and investments of the Cooperative, the Treasurer of the Western Buckeye ESC may be contacted at 202 North Cherry Street, P.O. Box 176, Paulding, Ohio 45879-0176.

#### 4. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

The Cooperative's employees belong to the School Employees Retirement System of Ohio (SERS). SERS is a cost-sharing multiple employer defined benefit pension plan. SERS provides retirement and disability benefits, annual cost-of-living adjustments, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by Chapter 3309 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Contribution rates are also prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code. For fiscal years ended June 30, 2007 and 2006, SERS members contributed 10 percent of their annual covered salary. The Cooperative contributed an amount equal to 14 percent of annual covered payroll. The Cooperative has paid all contributions required through June 30, 2007.

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2007 AND 2006 (Continued)

### 5. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Cooperative has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

- Comprehensive property and general liability; and
- Vehicles.

The Cooperative also provides medical, dental, and life insurance benefits to employees and their covered dependents (See Note 6B).

### 6. INSURANCE POOLS

### A. Ohio School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan

The Cooperative participates in a group rating plan for workers' compensation as established under Section 4123.29 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Ohio School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (GRP) was established through the Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA) as an insurance purchasing pool.

The GRP's business and affairs are conducted by a three member Board of Directors consisting of the President, the President-Elect, and the Immediate Past President of the OSBA. The Executive Director of the OSBA, or his designee, serves as coordinator of the GRP. Each year, the participants pay an enrollment fee to the GRP to cover the costs of administering the program.

### **B.** Van Wert Area Schools Insurance Group

The Van Wert Area School Insurance Group (VWASIG) is a public entity shared risk pool consisting of five members. VWASIG is a Voluntary Employee Benefit Association under Section 501(c)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code and provides medical, dental, and life insurance benefits to the employees of the participants. Each member appoints a representative to the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees is the legislative and managerial body of VWASIG. Financial information can be obtained from the Van Wert City School District, who serves as fiscal agent, 641 North Jefferson Street, Van Wert, Ohio 45891.

#### 7. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

#### A. Grants

Amounts grantor agencies pay to the Cooperative are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor. The grantor may require refunding any disallowed costs. Management cannot presently determine amounts grantors may disallow. However, based on prior experience, management believes any refunds would be immaterial.

### **B.** Jointly Governed Organization

The Cooperative is considered a jointly governed organization (See Note 1). In the event of dissolution of the organization, all current members will share in net obligation or asset liquidations in a ratio proportionate to their last twelve months financial contributions.



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

Northwest Ohio Area Computer Services Cooperative Allen County 645 South Main Street Lima, Ohio 45805

To the Board of Directors:

We have audited the financial statements of the Northwest Ohio Area Computer Services Cooperative, Allen County, (the Cooperative), as of and for the years ended June 30, 2007 and 2006, and have issued our report thereon dated April 4, 2008, wherein we noted the Cooperative followed accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes rather than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. 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 Cooperative'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 Cooperative's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we have not opined on the effectiveness of the Cooperative's internal control over financial reporting.

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 Cooperative'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 Cooperative's internal control will not prevent or detect a more-than-inconsequential financial statement misstatement.

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

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all internal control deficiencies that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider material weaknesses, as defined above.

We noted certain matters that we reported to the Cooperative's management in a separate letter dated April 4, 2008.

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Northwest Ohio Area Computer Services Cooperative Allen 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 Cooperative'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 a certain noncompliance or other matter that we reported to the Board's management in a separate letter dated April 4, 2008.

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

Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

Mary Taylor

April 4, 2008



### NORTHWEST OHIO AREA COMPUTER SERVICE COOPERATIVE

### **ALLEN 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 MAY 6, 2008