



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

**REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
ATHENS COUNTY**

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Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

Regional Planning Commission
Athens County
28 Curran Drive
Athens, Ohio 45701

To the Commission Members:

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

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March 19, 2008

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Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Regional Planning Commission
Athens County
28 Curran Drive
Athens, Ohio 45701

To the Commission Members:

We have audited the accompanying financial statement of the Regional Planning Commission, Athens County, Ohio (the Commission), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006. This financial statement is the responsibility of the Commission's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial statement 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 Commission has prepared this financial statement 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 statement of the variances between these regulatory accounting practices and GAAP, we presume they are material.

GAAP requires presenting entity wide statements and also presenting the Commission's larger (i.e., major) funds separately. While the Commission 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 planning commissions to reformat their statements. The Commission 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 statement referred to above for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006 does not present fairly, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Commission as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, or its changes in financial position for the years then ended.

Also, in our opinion, the financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the cash balance of Regional Planning Commission, Athens County, Ohio, as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, and its cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the accounting basis Note 1 describes.

The Commission 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 March 19, 2008, on our consideration of the Commission'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.

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

Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

March 19, 2008

**REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
ATHENS COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN CASH BALANCE
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006**

	2007	2006
Cash Receipts:		
Contributions from Athens County	\$ 120,000	\$ 139,500
Subdivisions	3,095	4,165
Other Receipts	6,221	283
Total Cash Receipts	129,316	143,948
Cash Disbursements:		
Salaries	85,775	90,418
Supplies	2,830	3,273
Equipment	1,967	427
Contracts - Services	5,431	8,377
Advertising	1,605	924
Travel	1,743	1,559
Public Employee's Retirement	11,701	12,317
Workers' Compensation	409	2,043
Insurances	18,217	18,692
Contract Services - Utilities	1,610	1,504
Other	1,063	195
Total Cash Disbursements	132,351	139,729
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	(3,035)	4,219
Cash Balance, January 1	33,451	29,232
Cash Balance, December 31	\$ 30,416	\$ 33,451

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

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**REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
ATHENS 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 for the Regional Planning Commission, Athens County (the Commission), as a body corporate and politic. A twenty-one member Board governs the Commission. The Board consists of representatives from participating political subdivisions, the County Commissioners and appointed citizens. The Commission formulates and reviews plans affecting long and short term social, economic, and governmental development within the region. The participating subdivisions are:

City of Athens	City of Nelsonville	Village of Albany
Village of Amesville	Village of Buchtel	Village of Chauncey
Village of Coolville	Village of Glouster	Village of Jacksonville
Village of Trimble	Athens County	

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

B. Accounting Basis

The financial statement follows the accounting basis the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Commission 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).

The statement includes adequate disclosure of material matters, as the Auditor of State prescribes or permits.

C. Cash and Investments

As the Ohio Revised Code permits, the Athens County Treasurer holds the Commission's cash as the Commission's custodian. The County holds the Commission's assets in its cash and investment pool, valued at the Treasurer's reported carrying amount.

D. Budgetary Process

The Commission budgets on an annual basis.

1. Appropriations

The Board annually approves appropriations and subsequent amendments. Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function, object level of control. Unencumbered 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.

**REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
ATHENS COUNTY**

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

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

D. Budgetary Process (Continued)

3. Encumbrances

The Commission reserves (encumbers) appropriations when commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over, and need not be reappropriated.

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

E. Property, Plant, and Equipment

The Commission records disbursements for acquisitions of property, plant, and equipment when paid. The accompanying financial statement does not report these items as assets.

F. Accumulated Leave

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

2. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2007 and 2006 follows:

2007 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts		
Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
\$ 168,050	\$ 129,316	\$ (38,734)

2007 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures		
Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
\$ 143,281	\$ 132,351	\$ 10,930

2006 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts		
Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
\$ 143,600	\$ 143,948	\$ 348

2006 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures		
Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
\$ 162,566	\$ 139,729	\$ 22,837

**REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
ATHENS COUNTY**

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

3. RETIREMENT SYSTEM

The Commission'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 2007 and 2006, OPERS members contributed 9.5% and 9%, respectively, of their gross salaries and the Commission contributed an amount equaling 13.85% and 13.7%, respectively, of participants' gross salaries. The Commission has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2007.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Athens County Commissioners maintain comprehensive insurance coverage with private carriers for liability, real property, building contents, and vehicles. Vehicle policies include liability coverage for bodily injury and property damage. Real property and contents are 90% coinsured. The Commission is covered by these policies.

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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*

Regional Planning Commission
Athens County
28 Curran Drive
Athens, Ohio 45701

To the Commission Members:

We have audited the financial statement of the Regional Planning Commission, Athens County, Ohio (the Commission), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006, and have issued our report thereon dated March 19, 2008, wherein we noted the Commission 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 Commission's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our audit procedures for expressing our opinion on the financial statement, but not to opine on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we have not opined on the effectiveness of the Commission'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 Commission'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 Commission'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 Commission'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.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of reasonably assuring whether the Commission's financial statement is 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 intend this report solely for the information and use of the management and the Commissioner members. We intend it for no one other than these specified parties.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Taylor". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

March 19, 2007



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

ATHENS 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
MAY 1, 2008**