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Venice Township Seneca County 7303 South Township Road 187 Attica, Ohio 44807-9430

#### 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.

**Dave Yost** Auditor of State

August 29, 2011

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#### INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Venice Township Seneca County 7303 South Township Road 187 Attica, Ohio 44807-9430

#### To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Venice Township, Seneca County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009. 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(A) mandates 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.

Venice Township Seneca County Independent Accountants' Report Page 2

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, 2010 and 2009 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, 2010 and 2009, 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 Venice Township, Seneca County, as of December 31, 2010 and 2009, 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 29, 2011, 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.

**Dave Yost** Auditor of State

August 29, 2011

# COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

	Governmental Fund Types			
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:	<b>M40.440</b>	<b>#</b> 50.077		074.547
Property and Other Local Taxes Charges for Services	\$18,140	\$56,377 1,093		\$74,517 1,093
Intergovernmental	106,706	120,186	\$28,506	255,398
Earnings on Investments	740	326		1,066
Total Cash Receipts	125,586	177,982	28,506	332,074
Cash Disbursements:				
Current: General Government	85,263			85,263
Public Works		170,316		170,316
Health	1,322		00.500	1,322
Capital Outlay Debt Service:	42,558		28,506	71,064
Redemption of Principal		22,057		22,057
Interest and Other Fiscal Charges		2,481		2,481
Total Cash Disbursements	129,143	194,854	\$28,506	352,503
Total Disbursements Over Receipts	(3,557)	(16,872)		(20,429)
Other Financing Receipts:				
Sale of Capital Assets		13,000		13,000
Other Financing Sources	1,011			1,011
Total Other Financing Receipts	1,011	13,000		14,011
Excess of Cash Disbursements Over Cash Receipts				,
and Other Financing Receipts	(2,546)	(3,872)		(6,418)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	52,229	167,125		219,354
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$49.683	\$163.253		\$212.936

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

## COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2009

	Governmental Fund Types			_
	<u>General</u>	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$18,698	\$57,739		\$76,437
Intergovernmental	86,173	119,242	\$26,186	231,601
Earnings on Investments	1,017	601	160	1,778
Total Cash Receipts	105,888	177,582	26,346	309,816
Cash Disbursements:				
Current:	04.070			04.070
General Government Public Safety	81,673 130			81,673 130
Public Salety Public Works	130	199,771		199,771
Health	2,517	100,771		2,517
Capital Outlay	2,220		97,703	99,923
Debt Service:	•		,	,
Interest and Other Fiscal Charges			265	265
Total Cash Disbursements	86,540	199,771	97,968	384,279
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	19,348	(22,189)	(71,622)	(74,463)
Other Financing Receipts / (Disbursements): Other Debt Proceeds			50,000	E0 000
Transfers-In			265	50,000 265
Transfers-Out	(265)		200	(265)
Other Financing Sources	2,130		265	2,395
Total Other Financing Receipts / (Disbursements)	1,865		50,530	52,395
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing				
Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements	21,213	(22,189)	(21,092)	(22,068)
Other I manding Dispulsements	21,213	(22,109)	(21,092)	(22,000)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	31,016	189,314	\$21,092	241,422
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$52,229</u>	\$167,125		\$219,354

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

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2010 AND 2009

#### 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 Venice Township, Seneca County, Ohio (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 Village of Attica for sanitary sewer services.

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. Fund Accounting

The Township uses fund accounting to segregate cash that is restricted as to use. The Township classifies its funds into the following types:

#### 1. General Fund

The General Fund reports all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

#### 2. Special Revenue Funds

These funds account for proceeds from specific sources (other than from 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 Fund

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

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2010 AND 2009 (Continued)

#### 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

<u>Works Projects Fund</u> - The Township received Issue I monies from the County and Ohio Public Works Commission for maintaining and repairing Township roads.

#### D. Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund be budgeted annually.

#### 1. Appropriations

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function or object level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Board of Trustees must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. The County Budget Commission must also approve the annual appropriation measure. 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.

#### 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 2010 and 2009 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

#### E. Property, Plant, and Equipment

The Township records disbursements for acquisitions of property, plant, and equipment when paid. The accompanying financial statements do not report these items as assets.

#### F. Accumulated Leave

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

#### 2. Equity in Pooled Deposits

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

	2010	2009
Demand deposits	\$72,870	\$90,231
Other time deposits (savings and NOW accounts)	140,066	129,123
Total deposits	\$212,936	\$219,354

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

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2010 AND 2009 (Continued)

#### 3. Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2010 and 2009 follows:

2010 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$136,837	\$126,597	(\$10,240)
Special Revenue	174,000	190,982	16,982
Capital Projects	28,506	28,506	
Total	\$339,343	\$346,085	\$6,742

2010 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Appropriation	Budgetary	
Authority	Expenditures	Variance
\$154,979	\$129,143	\$25,836
341,978	194,854	147,124
28,506	28,506	
\$525,463	\$352,503	\$172,960
	Authority \$154,979 341,978 28,506	Authority         Expenditures           \$154,979         \$129,143           341,978         194,854           28,506         28,506

2009 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$104,266	\$108,018	\$3,752
Special Revenue	153,000	177,582	24,582
Capital Projects	76,611	76,876	265
Total	\$333,877	\$362,476	\$28,599

2009 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	_
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$104,620	\$86,805	\$17,815
Special Revenue	326,107	199,771	126,336
Capital Projects	97,968	97,968	
Total	\$528,695	\$384,544	\$144,151

#### 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.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2010 AND 2009 (Continued)

#### 4. Property Tax (Continued)

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 plan's benefits, which include postretirement healthcare and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2010 and 2009, OPERS members contributed 10%, of their gross salaries and the Township contributed an amount equaling 14%, of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2010.

#### 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. American Risk Pooling Consultants, Inc. (ARPCO), a division of York Insurance Services Group, Inc. (York), functions as the administrator of OTARMA and provides underwriting, claims, loss control, risk management, and reinsurance services for OTARMA. OTARMA is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP), which is also administered by ARPCO. 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 and Property Coverage

APEEP provides OTARMA with an excess risk-sharing program. Under this arrangement, OTARMA retains insured risks up to an amount specified in the contracts. At December 31, 2010, OTARMA retained \$350,000 for casualty claims and \$150,000 for property claims.

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

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2010 AND 2009 (Continued)

#### 6. Risk Management (Continued)

#### 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, 2010 and 2009.

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
Assets	\$35,855,252	\$38,982,088
Liabilities	(10,664,724)	(12,880,766)
Net Assets	<u>\$25,190,528</u>	\$26,101,322

At December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively, the liabilities above include approximately \$9.9 and \$12.0 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets above also include approximately \$9.5 and \$11.5 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 940 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. As of December 31, 2010, the Township's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$4,000.

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.

Contributions to OTARMA			
2010 2009			
\$5,557	\$3,356		

After one year of membership, a member may withdraw on the anniversary of the date of joining OTARMA, if the member notifies OTARMA in writing 60 days prior to the anniversary date. Upon withdrawal, members are eligible for a full or partial refund of their capital contributions, minus the subsequent year's 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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## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Venice Township Seneca County 7303 South Township Road 187 Attica, Ohio 44807-9430

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of Venice Township, Seneca County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009, and have issued our report thereon dated August 29, 2011, wherein we noted the Township followed 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 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 Township, because Ohio Revised Code § 117.101 requires the Auditor of State to provide UAN services, and Ohio Revised Code § 117.11(A) mandates 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 the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of opining 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 was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. Therefore, we cannot assure that we have identified all deficiencies, significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. However, as described in the accompanying schedule of findings we identified a certain deficiency in internal control over financial reporting, that we consider a material weakness.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, when performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and timely correct misstatements. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and timely corrected. We consider finding 2010-001 described in the accompanying schedule of findings to be a material weakness.

One Government Center, Suite 1420, Toledo, Ohio 43604-2246 Phone: 419-245-2811 or 800-443-9276 Fax: 419-245-2484 Venice Township Seneca 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 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 instance of noncompliance we must report under *Government Auditing Standards*.

We also noted certain matters not requiring inclusion in this report that we reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated August 29, 2011.

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 Board of Trustees, management and others within the Township. We intend it for no one other than these specified parties.

Dave Yost Auditor of State

August 29, 2011

#### SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2010 AND 2009

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

#### **FINDING NUMBER 2010-001**

#### **Material Weakness - Financial Reporting**

As a result of the audit procedures performed, errors were noted in the financial statements that required audit reclassifications. In 2010, Recycling reimbursement (General Fund \$1,433) was recorded to Other Financing Sources instead of Intergovernmental Revenues. Dealers Intangible (General Fund \$89) was recorded to Taxes instead of Intergovernmental Revenues. Dealers Intangible (Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund \$640) was recorded to Miscellaneous Revenues instead of Intergovernmental Revenues. Court Cost reimbursement (General Fund \$715) was recorded at net to Charges for Services instead of Intergovernmental Revenues. The sale of a truck, snow plow and tailgate spreader (Gasoline Tax Fund \$13,000) were recorded as Miscellaneous Revenues instead of Sale of Capital Assets. Debt principal payments were overstated and interest understated (Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund \$527 and Gasoline Tax Fund \$416). In 2009, Excess IRP (Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund \$546) was recorded as Miscellaneous Revenue instead of Intergovernmental Revenue.

The accompanying financial statements have been adjusted to correct these errors.

Sound financial reporting is the responsibility of the Fiscal Officer and governing board 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 the Board, to identify and correct errors and omissions. The Fiscal Officer should also review the Township Handbook's chart of accounts to ensure all accounts are being properly recorded to the financial statements.

#### Officials' Response:

The Board will address these issues at the next board meeting.

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#### SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2010 AND 2009

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <i>Explain</i>
2008-001	Noncompliance citation/material weakness – ORC 505.24 failure to maintain records to document Trustees' time.	No	Improvement made, reducing this to a management letter comment.
2008-002	Noncompliance citation – ORC 5705.41(B) failure to appropriate for all expenditures.	Yes	
2008-003	Noncompliance citation – ORC 5705.41(D)(1) failure to certify expenditures.	No	Improvement made, reducing this to a management letter comment.
2008-004	Material Weakness Financial Reporting	No	Not Corrected. Repeated as Finding 2010-001 in this report.





#### **VENICE 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.

**CLERK OF THE BUREAU** 

Susan Babbitt

CERTIFIED SEPTEMBER 20, 2011