BKP AMBULANCE DISTRICT

HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO

AUDIT REPORT

For the Years Ended December 31, 2011 and 2010

Charles E. Harris and Associates, Inc. Certified Public Accountants and Government Consultants



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

Board of Trustees BKP Ambulance District 439 South Main Street Kenton, Ohio 43326

We have reviewed the *Report of Independent Accountants* of the BKP Ambulance District, Hardin County, prepared by Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc., for the audit period January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2011. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

The financial statements in the attached report are presented in accordance with a regulatory basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State. Due to a February 2, 2005 interpretation from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), modifications were required to the *Report of Independent Accountants* on your financial statements. While the Auditor of State 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. The attached report includes an opinion relating to GAAP presentation and measurement requirements, but does not imply the statements are misstated under the non-GAAP regulatory basis. The *Report of Independent Accountants* also includes an opinion on the financial statements using the regulatory format the Auditor of State permits.

Our review was made in reference to the applicable sections of legislative criteria, as reflected by the Ohio Constitution, and the Revised Code, policies, procedures and guidelines of the Auditor of State, regulations and grant requirements. The BKP Ambulance District is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

thre Yost

Dave Yost Auditor of State

November 28, 2012

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BKP AMBULANCE DISTRICT HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO Audit Report For the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010

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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

BKP Ambulance District Hardin County 439 South Main Street Kenton, Ohio 43326

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the BKP Ambulance District, Hardin County, Ohio (the District) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the District's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion 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 BKP Ambulance District 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.

While the BKP Ambulance District 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 the District to reformat their statements. The District 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, 2011 and 2010 do not present fairly, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the BKP Ambulance District as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, 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 fund cash balances as of December 31, 2011 and 2010 of the BKP Ambulance District, Hardin County, and its cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the accounting basis Note 1 describes.

As described in Note 1, during 2011 the BKP Ambulance District adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated July 20, 2012, on our consideration of the BKP Ambulance District'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.

Charlens Hawind Association

Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc. July 20, 2012

BKP AMBULANCE DISTRICT HARDIN COUNTY STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES - GENERAL FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011

Cash Receipts:	
Trips and Transports	\$699,196
Property Taxes	248,072
Intergovernmental	63,935
Interest	151
Miscellaneous	21,784
Total Cash Receipts	1,033,138
Cash Disbursements:	
Wages and Salaries	422,549
Employee Benefits	127,702
Credit Card Fees	531
Collection Fees	5,632
Internet Access	231
Postage	1,090
Audit Fees	147
Office Expenses	7,228
Attorney Fees	30,748
Deliquent OPERS Contributions	99,609
Administration and Incidentals	1,425
Administration Expenses	12,620
Real Estate Taxes	33
Property Insurance	10,791
Buildings and Grounds	4,116
Telephone	2,482
Utilities	11,713
Medical Supplies	11,125
Oxygen Supply	4,687
Freight	28
Uniform Rental and Accessories	833
Squadhouse Supplies	2,391
Fuel	23,438
Vehicle Incidentals	441
Vehicle Repairs	6,515
Vehicle Expense	2,138
New Vehicle	132,638
Equipment	73,770
Training	474
Total Cash Disbursements	997,125
Excess of Cash Receipts Over/(Under)	
Cash Disbursements	36,013
	,
Fund Cash Balance January 1, 2011	99,690
Fund Cash Balance December 31, 2011	
Unassigned	135,703
Fund Cash Balance December 31, 2011	\$135,703
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See accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements

BKP AMBULANCE DISTRICT HARDIN COUNTY STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES - GENERAL FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

Cash Receipts:	
Trips and Transports	\$658,116
Property Taxes	59,355
Intergovernmental	29,814
Interest	67
Miscellaneous	22,370
Total Cash Receipts	769,722
Cash Disbursements:	
Wages and Salaries	439,007
Employee Benefits	165,626
Credit Card Fees	588
Collection Fees	8,896
Internet Access	952
Postage	410
Audit Fees	2,433
Office Expenses	7,790
Attorney Fees	25,120
Administration and Incidentals	2,578
Administration Expenses	6,070
Real Estate Taxes	33
Property Insurance	12,222
Buildings and Grounds	4,167
Telephone	4,828
Utilities	11,536
Medical Supplies	5,556
Oxygen Supply	3,564
Freight	215
Uniform Rental and Accessories	3,517
Fuel	16,215
Vehicle Incidentals	394
Vehicle Repairs	6,652
Vehicle Expense	1,554
Equipment	3,780
Training	3,599
Total Cash Disbursements	737,302
Excess of Cash Receipts Over/(Under)	32,420
Cash Disbursements	
Fund Cash Balance January 1, 2010	67,270
Fund Cash Balance December 31, 2010	\$99,690

See accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. <u>DESCRIPTION OF THE ENTITY</u>

The BKP Ambulance District, Hardin County, is a body politic and corporate established for the purpose of exercising the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The District is directed by a seven-member Board of Trustees governs the District. Each political subdivision within the District appoints one member. Those subdivisions are Buck District, Cessna District, Dudley District, Goshen District, Lynn District, Pleasant District, and the City of Kenton.

The District's management believes these financial statements included in this report represent all of the funds of the District over which the District has the ability to exercise direct operating control.

B. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The BKP Ambulance District prepares its financial statements following the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. Receipts are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned, and disbursements are recognized 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 prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State.

C. <u>CASH</u>

The District'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.

D. FUND ACCOUNTING

The District maintains its accounting records in accordance with the principles of "Fund" accounting. Fund accounting is a concept developed to meet the needs of governmental entities in which legal or other restraints require the recording of specific receipts and disbursements. The transactions of each fund are reflected in a self-balancing group of accounts, an accounting entity, which stands separate from the activities reported in other funds. The restriction associated with each class of funds is as follows:

1. <u>SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES</u> – (Continued)

D. <u>FUND ACCOUNTING</u> - (Continued)

Governmental Fund Type:

<u>General Fund</u>: The general operating fund of the District. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required by law or contract to be accounted for in a specific fund.

E. <u>BUDGETARY PROCESS</u>

A budget of estimated cash receipts and disbursements is prepared by the Fiscal Officer, approved by the District Board of Trustees, and submitted to the county auditor, as secretary of the County Budget Commission, by July 20 of each year, for the period January 1 to December 31 of the following year.

1. <u>Estimated Resources</u>

The county auditor calculates the estimated revenues available to the District. He prepares a certificate of estimated resources based upon this calculation and upon the other financial information supplied in the budget sent by the District. The certificate is approved by the county budget commission and sent to the District Fiscal Officer by September 1.

Prior to December 31, the District must revise its budget so that the total budgeted expenditures for a fund will not exceed the amount of estimated resources stated in the certificate of estimated resources. The revised budget serves as the basis for the annual appropriation measure.

On or about January 1, the Fiscal Officer sends the county auditor a certificate which includes the actual unencumbered balances from the preceding year. The county auditor prepares an amended certificate, submits it to the county budget commission for approval. This amended certificate may be further amended during the year if projected revenue increases or the Fiscal Officer identifies decreases in revenue.

Budgeted receipts, as shown in Note 4, do not include the unencumbered fund balances as of January 1, 2011 and 2010. However, those fund balances are available for appropriation.

1. <u>SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES</u> – (Continued)

E. <u>BUDGETARY PROCESS</u> - (Continued)

2. <u>Appropriations</u>

A temporary appropriation measure to control cash expenditures may be passed on or about January 1 of each year for the period January 1 to March 31. An annual appropriation measure must be passed by March 31 of each year for the period January 1 to December 31. The appropriation measure may be amended or supplemented during the year as new information becomes available. Appropriations may not exceed estimated resources.

3. <u>Encumbrances</u>

The District is required to use the encumbrance method of accounting by virtue of Ohio law. Under this system, purchase orders, contracts and other commitments for the expenditure of funds are recorded in order to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation and to determine and maintain legal compliance. The sum of expenditures and encumbrances may not exceed appropriated totals at any level of budgetary control. The legal level of control is the object level.

F. <u>PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT</u>

Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment are recorded as capital outlay disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements.

G. FUND BALANCE

For December 31, 2011, fund balance is divided into classifications based primarily on the extent to which the District must observe constraints imposed upon the use of its governmental-fund resources. The classifications are as follows:

1. Nonspendable

The District classifies assets as nonspendable when legally or contractually required to maintain the amounts intact.

1. <u>SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES</u> – (Continued)

G. <u>FUND BALANCE</u> - (Continued)

2. <u>Restricted</u>

Fund balance is restricted when constraints placed on the use of resources are either externally imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or is imposed by law through constitutional provisions.

3. <u>Committed</u>

The Trustees can commit amounts via formal action (resolution). The District must adhere to these commitments unless the Trustees amend the resolution. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed to satisfy contractual requirements.

4. Assigned

Assigned fund balances are intended for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. Governmental funds other than the general fund report all fund balances as assigned unless they are restricted or committed. In the general fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by District Trustees or a District official delegated that authority by resolution, or by State Statute.

5. Unassigned

Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund and includes amounts not included in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is used only to report a deficit balance.

The District applies restricted resources first when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which either restricted or unrestricted (committed, assigned, and unassigned) amounts are available. Similarly, within unrestricted fund balance, committed amounts are reduced first followed by assigned, and then unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

2. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

The District maintains a cash and investment pool used by general fund. The Ohio Revised Code prescribed allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of cash at December 31, 2011 and 2010 follows:

	2011		2010	
Demand Deposit	\$	14,892	\$	23,977
Total Deposits		14,892		23,977
Investments:				
STAR-Ohio		120,811		75,713
Total Investments		120,811		75,713
Total Deposits and Investments	\$	135,703	\$	99,690

<u>Deposits:</u> Deposits are either: (1) insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation; (2) collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the District or (3) collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool.

3. PROPERTY TAX

Property taxes are levied, assessed and collected on a calendar year basis. They include amounts levied against all real, public utility, and tangible personal property located in the District. Taxes collected on real property (other than public utility) in one calendar year are levied in the preceding calendar year on assessed values as of January 1 of that preceding year, the lien date. Assessed values are established by the Hardin County Auditor at 35% of appraised market value. All property is required to be revalued every six years. The last revaluation for the District was completed in 2010. The next revaluation is scheduled for 2013.

Real property taxes are payable annually or semi-annually. If paid annually, payment is due December 31. If paid semi-annually, the first payment is usually due December 31, with the remainder payable June 20.

Taxes collected from tangible personal property (other than public utility) received during calendar year 2011 represent the collection of 2010 taxes levied against local and interexchange telephone companies. Tangible personal property taxes on business inventory, manufacturing and equipment, and furniture and fixtures is no longer levied and collected. Tangible personal property taxes received from telephone companies in calendar year 2011 were levied April 1, 2010 on the values listed as of December 31, 2009. Public utility real and public utility personal property taxes collected in one calendar year are levied in the preceding calendar year on assessed values determined as of December 31 of the second year preceding the tax collection year, the lien date. Real property is assessed at 35% of market value and personal property is assessed at 100% of market value. Public utility property taxes are payable on the same dates as real property taxes described previously.

3. **PROPERTY TAX** (continued)

The Hardin County Treasurer collects property taxes on behalf of the District. The Hardin County Auditor remits the collected taxes to the District. Tax settlements are made each March and August for real property taxes and each June and October for personal property.

4. **BUDGETARY ACTIVITY**

Budgetary activity for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 is as follows:

2011 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts				
	Budgeted	Actual		
	Receipts	Receipts	Variance	
Fund Type				
General	\$1,116,626	\$1,033,138	(\$83,488)	
			•	
<u>2011 Budge</u>	ted vs. Actual Budge	etary Basis Disburse	ements	
	Total	Budgetary		
	Appropriations	Disbursements	Variance	
Fund Type				
General	\$960,966	\$997,125	(\$36,159)	
	2010 Budgeted vs.	Actual Receipts		
	Budgeted	Actual		
	Receipts	Receipts	Variance	
Fund Type	•			
General	\$740,887	\$769,722	\$28,835	
2010 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Disbursements				
	Total	Budgetary		
	Appropriations	Disbursements	Variance	
Fund Type	<u> </u>			
General	\$808,184	\$737,302	\$70,882	

5. DEFINED BENEIT PENSION PLAN

The District's employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS), a state operated, cost sharing, multiple employer plans. The plan provides retirement benefits, including postretirement healthcare, and survivor and disability benefits to participants as prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code.

Contribution rates are prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code. OPERS members contributed 10% in 2010 and 2011 of their gross pay while the District contributed an amount equal to 14% of covered payroll for both years. The District paid all required contributions through 2011.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

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

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

The District belongs to the Public Entities Pool of Ohio (PEP), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio local governments. PEP 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 PEP and provides underwriting, claims, loss control, risk management, and reinsurance services for PEP. PEP is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP), which is also administered by ARPCO. Member governments pay annual contributions to fund PEP. PEP pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

Casualty and Property Coverage

APEEP provides PEP with an excess risk-sharing program. Under this arrangement, PEP retains insured risks up to an amount specified in the contracts. At December 31, 2011, PEP retained \$350,000 for casualty claims and \$150,000 for property claims.

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

Financial Position

PEP'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, 2011 and 2010:

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
Assets	\$33,362,404	\$34,952,010
Liabilities	<u>(14,187,273)</u>	<u>(14,320,812)</u>
Retained Earnings	\$19,175,131	\$20,631,198

At December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively, the liabilities above include approximately \$13.0 million and \$12.9 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets above also include approximately \$12.11 million and \$12.4 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 455 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. As of December 31, 2011, the District's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$11,833.

6. <u>RISK MANAGEMENT</u> - (continued)

Based on discussions with PEP, the expected rates PEP 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 PEP for each year of membership.

Contributions to PEP	
2009	\$12,394
2010	\$12,222
2011	\$12,724

After one year of membership, a member may withdraw on the anniversary of the date of joining PEP, if the member notifies PEP 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 PEP. 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.

7. <u>SUBSEQUENT EVENTS/PENDING LITIGATION</u>

Management believes there are no pending claims or lawsuits.

8. <u>COMPLIANCE</u>

Contrary to Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41 (B), the District had expenditures plus encumbrances exceeding appropriations.

Contrary to Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41 (D), the District did not always certify funds.

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

BKP Ambulance District Hardin County 439 South Main Street Kenton, Ohio 43326

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of the BKP Ambulance District, Hardin County, Ohio (the District) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, and have issued our report thereon dated July 20, 2012, wherein we noted the District followed accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes rather than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Also, we noted the District implemented Governmental Accounting Standard Board Statement No. 54, "Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions." 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 *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Internal Controls Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the District's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our audit procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of opining on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we have not opined on the effectiveness of the District'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 to be 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 2011-BKP-04 described in the accompanying schedule of findings to be a material weakness.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of reasonably assuring whether the District'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 2011-BKP-01 and 2011-BKP-02.

The District's responses to the findings identified in our audit are described in the accompanying schedule of findings. We did not audit the District's responses and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

We also noted certain matters that we have reported to management of the District in a separate letter dated July 20, 2012.

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

Charlens Hawind Association

Charles E. Harris and Associates, Inc. July 20, 2012

BKP AMBULANCE DISTRICT HARDIN COUNTY

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS December 31, 2011 and 2010

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

FINDING NUMBER 2011-BKP-01 Non-Compliance Citation

Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41 (D) (1) prohibits a subdivision or taxing entity from making a contract or ordering any expenditure of money unless a certificate signed by a fiscal officer is attached thereto. The fiscal officer must certify that the amount required to meet any such contract or expenditure has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury, or is in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrance.

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

Amounts of less than \$3,000 may be paid by the fiscal officer without a resolution 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 District.

2. Blanket Certificates - Fiscal officers may prepare "blanket" certificates for a certain sum of money not in excess of an amount established by resolution adopted by a majority of members of the legislative authority against any specific line item amount 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 Certificates – The District may also make expenditures and contracts for any amount for a specific line-item appropriation account in a specified fund upon certification of the fiscal officer for most profession 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 District did not make the proper certification of funds in all instances. In 23 of 73 selections tested during the audit period, the District either certified the purchase after receiving the invoice or used a "then and now" certificate over \$3,000 that was not approved by the Board of Trustees.

BKP AMBULANCE DISTRICT HARDIN COUNTY

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS December 31, 2011 and 2010

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

FINDING NUMBER 2011-BKP-01 Non-Compliance Citation (continued)

Unless the exceptions noted above are used, prior certification is not only required by statute but is a key control in the disbursement process to assure that purchase commitments receive prior approval. To improve controls over disbursements and to help reduce the possibility of the District's expenditures exceeding budgetary spending limitations, we recommend that the District certify expenditures prior to incurring the liability. Also, we recommend the District only use "then and now" certificates for items under \$3,000 and to have all certificates approved by the Board. This will assist in keeping controls over disbursements and encumbrances.

Management Response: The new fiscal officer will correct in future.

FINDING NUMBER 2011-BKP-02 Non-Compliance Citation

Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41 (B) states that no subdivision or taxing authority shall make any expenditure of money unless it has been appropriated and unless it has been appropriated as provided in such chapter.

During the year ended December 31, 2011, the General Fund's expenditures exceeded total appropriations by \$36,159. We recommend that the District monitor appropriations and expenditures on a regular basis and modify accordingly.

<u>Management Response:</u> This item was caused by the former fiscal officer. The new fiscal officer will properly monitor budgetary information on a regular basis.

FINDING NUMBER 2011-BKP-03 Material Weakness

Format, Activity, and Reconciliation of the Annual Financial Statements

The annual financial statements of the District should be presented in a manner that is consistent with the presentation used by governmental entities. Cash basis financial statements should only reflect cash transactions and not include revenue and expenditure accruals. In addition, the financial statements should present beginning and ending fund balances and the ending fund balance should reconcile to the bank/investment balances.

BKP AMBULANCE DISTRICT HARDIN COUNTY

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS December 31, 2011 and 2010

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

FINDING NUMBER 2011-BKP-03 Material Weakness (continued)

The District's annual financial statements did not include the beginning 2011 and 2010 General Fund balances, in the amount of \$99,690 and \$67,270, respectively, or the ending 2011 and 2010 General Fund balances, in the amount of \$135,703 and \$99,690, respectively. The cash basis financial statements reflected revenue and expenditure accruals which resulted in the 2011 ending fund balance being understated by \$12,608 and the 2010 ending fund balance being overstated by \$2,819. The accompanying financial statements have been adjusted to properly reflect the balances and/or financial activity of the District.

The failure to prepare cash basis financial statements that are consistent with the presentation used by governmental entities, that only reflect cash activity, and that reconcile to the bank/investment balances, not only inhibits the user's ability to fully understand the results of operations but may also result in material financial statement reporting errors and the inability to detect errors and/or irregularities.

The District should utilize governmental accounting resources such as those provided on the Auditor of State website when preparing annual financial statements. A review should be performed of the financial statements to help assure that only cash activity is being presented, that the ending balances reconcile to the bank/investment balances, and that the beginning and ending fund balances are presented.

<u>Management Response:</u> The new fiscal officer will review the accounting software and prepare the statements on a cash basis in the future.

BKP AMBULANCE DISTRICT HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO For the Years Ended December 31, 2011 and 2010

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS December 31, 2011 and 2010

FINDING NUMBER	FUNDING SUMMARY	FULLY CORRECTED?	Not Corrected. Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; Explain
2009-001	Format, Activity, and Reconciliation of the Annual Financial Statements	Νο	Repeated as 2011- BKP-03



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

BKP AMBULANCE DISTRICT

HARDIN 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 Babbett

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

CERTIFIED DECEMBER 11, 2012

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