



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

**CARROLL TOWNSHIP
OTTAWA COUNTY**

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Dave Yost • Auditor of State

Carroll Township
Ottawa County
11080 West Toussaint East Road
Oak Harbor, Ohio 43449-8820

To the Board of Trustees:

As you are aware, the Auditor of State's Office (AOS) must modify the *Independent Accountants' Report* we provide on your financial statements due to an interpretation from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). While AOS does not legally require your government to prepare financial statements pursuant to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), the AICPA interpretation requires auditors to formally acknowledge that you did not prepare your financial statements in accordance with GAAP. Our Report includes an adverse opinion relating to GAAP presentation and measurement requirements, but does not imply the amounts the statements present are misstated under the non-GAAP basis you follow. The AOS report also includes an opinion on the financial statements you prepared using the cash basis and financial statement format the AOS permits.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Yost".

Dave Yost
Auditor of State

January 31, 2013

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Dave Yost • Auditor of State

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Carroll Township
Ottawa County
11080 West Toussaint East Road
Oak Harbor, Ohio 43449-8820

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Carroll Township, Ottawa County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010. 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.

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 Township 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 combined fund cash balances as of December 31, 2011 and 2010 of Carroll Township, Ottawa County, Ohio, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the accounting basis Note 1 describes.

As described in Note 2, during 2011, the Township 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 January 31, 2013, 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

January 31, 2013

**CARROLL TOWNSHIP
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (CASH BASIS)
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011**

	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$538,221	\$174,363		\$712,584
Charges for Services	1,875			1,875
Licenses, Permits and Fees	6,368	965		7,333
Fines and Forfeitures	2,389			2,389
Intergovernmental	655,586	230,920		886,506
Special Assessments		3,092		3,092
Earnings on Investments	1,583	601		2,184
Miscellaneous	27,832	1,374		29,206
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>1,233,854</u>	<u>411,315</u>		<u>1,645,169</u>
Cash Disbursements				
Current:				
General Government	780,367	3,740		784,107
Public Safety	457,281			457,281
Public Works	114,715	476,611		591,326
Conservation-Recreation	9,472			9,472
Capital Outlay	33,808		\$62,960	96,768
Debt Service:				
Principal Retirement		17,439		17,439
Interest and Fiscal Charges		2,561		2,561
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>1,395,643</u>	<u>500,351</u>	<u>62,960</u>	<u>1,958,954</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	(161,789)	(89,036)	(62,960)	(313,785)
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>1,640,019</u>	<u>1,654,549</u>	<u>672,600</u>	<u>3,967,168</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31				
Restricted		1,272,899		1,272,899
Committed		292,614		292,614
Assigned			609,640	609,640
Unassigned	1,478,230			1,478,230
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u>\$1,478,230</u>	<u>\$1,565,513</u>	<u>\$609,640</u>	<u>\$3,653,383</u>

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

**CARROLL TOWNSHIP
OTTAWA COUNTY**

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

	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$547,146	\$188,671		\$735,817
Charges for Services	320			320
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	7,960	1,150		9,110
Fines and Forfeitures	3,866			3,866
Intergovernmental	724,177	273,590		997,767
Special Assessments		38,622		38,622
Earnings on Investments	2,599	1,119		3,718
Miscellaneous	22,475	500		22,975
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>1,308,543</u>	<u>503,652</u>		<u>1,812,195</u>
Cash Disbursements:				
Current:				
General Government	618,718			618,718
Public Safety	424,739			424,739
Public Works	214,451	490,241		704,692
Health	62,927	1,457		64,384
Capital Outlay			\$148,481	148,481
Debt Service:				
Redemption of Principal		16,822		16,822
Interest and Other Fiscal Charges		3,178		3,178
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>1,320,835</u>	<u>511,698</u>	<u>148,481</u>	<u>1,981,014</u>
<i>Excess of Disbursements Over Receipts</i>	<u>(12,292)</u>	<u>(8,046)</u>	<u>(148,481)</u>	<u>(168,819)</u>
Other Financing Receipts / (Disbursements):				
Sale of Capital Assets		8,628		8,628
Other Financing Sources	56,330			56,330
Other Financing Uses	(13,590)			(13,590)
<i>Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)</i>	<u>42,740</u>	<u>8,628</u>		<u>51,368</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	30,448	582	(148,481)	(117,451)
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>1,609,571</u>	<u>1,653,967</u>	<u>821,081</u>	<u>4,084,619</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u><u>\$1,640,019</u></u>	<u><u>\$1,654,549</u></u>	<u><u>\$672,600</u></u>	<u><u>\$3,967,168</u></u>

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

**CARROLL TOWNSHIP
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2011 AND 2010**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of the Carroll Township, Ottawa 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, cemetery maintenance, police and fire protection and emergency medical services

The Township participates in the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA) public entity risk pool. OTARMA provides property and casualty coverage for its members. Note 8 to the financial statements provide additional information for this entity.

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. Deposits and Investments

The Township's accounting basis includes investments as assets. This basis does not record disbursements for investment purchases or receipts for investment sales. This basis records gains or losses at the time of sale as receipts or disbursements, respectively.

STAR Ohio is reported at share values the State Treasurer reports.

D. Fund Accounting

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

1. General Fund

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

2. Special Revenue Funds

These funds account for proceeds from specific sources (other than from capital projects) that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Township had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

**CARROLL TOWNSHIP
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2011 AND 2010
(Continued)**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Road and Bridge Fund - This fund receives property tax money for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads and bridges.

Gasoline Tax Fund - This fund receives gasoline tax money to pay for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads.

3. Capital Project Funds

These funds account for receipts restricted to acquiring or constructing major capital projects. The Township had the following significant Capital Project Fund:

Permanent Improvement Fund – Received operating transfers from the General Fund in prior years. The proceeds are being used to fund capital related expenditures of equipment and building improvements.

E. Budgetary Process

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

1. Appropriations

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

A summary of 2011 and 2010 budgetary activity appears in Note 4.

F. Fund Balance

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

**CARROLL TOWNSHIP
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2011 AND 2010
(Continued)**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

1. Nonspendable

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

2. Restricted

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. Committed

Trustees can *commit* amounts via formal action (resolution). The Township 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 Township Trustees or a Township 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 Township 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.

G. 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.

H. 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.

**CARROLL TOWNSHIP
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2011 AND 2010
(Continued)**

2. CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLE

For 2011, the Township implemented Governmental Accounting Standard Board (GASB) Statement No. 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*. Implementing GASB Statement No. 54 had no effect on fund balances previously reported.

3. EQUITY IN POOLED DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

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

	2011	2010
Demand deposits	\$857,231	\$1,172,586
STAR Ohio	2,796,152	2,794,582
Total deposits and investments	\$3,653,383	\$3,967,168

Deposits: Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation or collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool.

Investments: Investments in STAR Ohio are not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book-entry form.

4. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2011 and 2010 follows:

2011 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$1,479,950	\$1,233,854	(\$246,096)
Special Revenue	535,100	411,315	(123,785)
Capital Projects	1,500		(1,500)
Total	\$2,016,550	\$1,645,169	(\$371,381)

2011 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$1,705,000	\$1,395,643	\$309,357
Special Revenue	805,468	500,351	305,117
Capital Projects	300,000	62,960	237,040
Total	\$2,810,468	\$1,958,954	\$851,514

**CARROLL TOWNSHIP
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2011 AND 2010
(Continued)**

4. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY (Continued)

2010 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$1,702,500	\$1,364,873	(\$337,627)
Special Revenue	706,000	512,280	(193,720)
Capital Projects	200,000		(200,000)
Total	\$2,608,500	\$1,877,153	(\$731,347)

2010 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$2,491,000	\$1,334,425	\$1,156,575
Special Revenue	1,462,020	511,698	950,322
Capital Projects	800,000	148,481	651,519
Total	\$4,753,020	\$1,994,604	\$2,758,416

5. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Trustees adopted tax rates. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. The financial statements include homestead and rollback amounts the State pays as Intergovernmental Receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to pay semiannually, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

Public utilities are also taxed on personal and real property located within the Township.

Tangible personal property tax is assessed by the property owners, who must file a list of such property to the County by each April 30.

The County is responsible for assessing property, and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on behalf of the Township.

6. DEBT

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2011 was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
Special Assessment Bonds	\$42,843	4.3%

The Township issued special assessment bonds to improve waterways by constructing break wall improvements at Turtle Creek. The bonds are collateralized by the Township's taxing authority.

**CARROLL TOWNSHIP
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2011 AND 2010
(Continued)**

6. DEBT (Continued)

Amortization of the above debt, including interest, is scheduled as follows:

Year ending December 31:	Special Assessment Bonds
2012	\$17,372
2013	17,373
2014	17,060
Total	\$51,805

7. 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 the plans' benefits, which include postretirement healthcare and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2011 and 2010, OPERS members contributed 10% of their gross salaries and the Township contributed an amount equaling 14% of participants' gross salaries. For 2011 and 2010 Police Officers of the Township covered under OPERS contributed 11.61 and 11.10%, respectively, of their gross salaries and the Township contributed an amount equaling 18.10 and 17.87%, respectively, of participants' gross salaries. The Township pays the entire employee portion for all full-time employees as a fringe benefit. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2011.

8. 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.

Risk Pool Membership

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.

**CARROLL TOWNSHIP
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2011 AND 2010
(Continued)**

8. RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)

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.

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, 2011 and 2010.

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
Assets	\$35,086,165	\$35,855,252
Liabilities	<u>(9,718,792)</u>	<u>(10,664,724)</u>
Net Assets	<u>\$25,367,373</u>	<u>\$25,190,528</u>

At December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively, the liabilities above include approximately \$9.1 and \$9.9 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets above also include approximately \$8.6 and \$9.5 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 938 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 Township's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$31,000.

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.

<u>Contributions to OTARMA</u>	
<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
\$46,653	\$40,080

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.

**CARROLL TOWNSHIP
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2011 AND 2010
(Continued)**

9. OUTSTANDING LOAN RECEIVABLE

- A. The Township entered into a loan agreement with the Carroll Water and Sewer District in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code Sections 505.705 and 6119.04. The agreement has provided that the Township could loan funds to the District to be used for the construction of the water and sewer facilities. The Township assesses interest at the current rate paid by STAR Ohio (the State Treasury Asset Reserve).

As of December 31, 2011, the outstanding receivable owed to the Township totaled \$1,892,936.

- B. On February 16, 2005, the Township entered into a \$50,000 interest free loan agreement with the Carroll Township Fire and EMS Services, Inc., and on February 15, 2006, the Township entered into an additional \$25,000 loan agreement with the Carroll Township Fire and EMS Services, Inc. for the purpose of constructing and maintaining a memorial for Carroll Township Fire, Emergency Medical, and Police Personnel in Carroll Township, Ottawa County, Ohio. The loan agreement states the repayment to be at the rate of \$5,000 per year on the 1st of March each year until it is repaid in full to the Board of Carroll Township Trustees.

As of December 31, 2011, the outstanding receivable owed to the Township totaled \$40,000.



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

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

Carroll Township
Ottawa County
11080 West Toussaint East Road
Oak Harbor, Ohio 43449-8820

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of Carroll Township, Ottawa County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, and have issued our report thereon dated January 31, 2013 wherein we noted the Township followed accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes rather than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and in 2011 the Township implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*. 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 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 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 2011-001 described in the accompanying schedule of findings to be a material weakness.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of reasonably assuring whether the Township's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed instances of noncompliance we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which are described in the accompanying schedule of findings as items 2011-001 and 2011-002.

We also noted certain matters not requiring inclusion in this report that we reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated January 31, 2013.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Yost". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping "D" and "Y".

Dave Yost
Auditor of State

January 31, 2013

**CARROLL TOWNSHIP
OTTAWA 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 2011-001

Noncompliance Citation / Material Weakness

Ohio Revised Code, § 5705.10(D), provides in part that all revenues derived from a source other than the general property tax and which the law prescribes shall be used for a particular purpose, shall be paid into a special fund for such purpose.

The Fiscal Officer posted rollbacks and motor vehicle license tax monies to incorrect funds during the years ended December 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010. The Fiscal Officer also posted public utilities tax reimbursement to the incorrect fund during the year ending December 31, 2010. The following table shows the amounts in error:

<u>FUND TYPE / FUND</u>	<u>2010 AUDIT ADJUSTMENT</u>	<u>2011 AUDIT ADJUSTMENT</u>
General Fund	(\$82,630)	(\$8,196)
Special Revenue:		
Road and Bridge	82,166	7,761
MVL	464	435

The accompanying financial statements and Township accounting records have been adjusted to reflect these changes.

Sound financial reporting is the responsibility of the Fiscal Officer and the Board of Trustees and is essential to ensure the information provided to the readers of the financial statements and accompanying notes is complete and accurate.

To ensure the Township's financial statements and notes to the financial 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 of Trustees, to identify and correct errors and omissions, as well as recording correct budgetary information. Also, the Fiscal Officer can refer to the Ohio Township Handbook available from the following web address for guidance on the posting of transactions: <http://www.auditor.state.oh.us/services/lgs/publications/LocalGovernmentManualsHandbooks/Ohio%20Township%20Handbook%202012.pdf>

FINDING NUMBER 2011-002

Noncompliance Citation

Ohio Revised Code, § 5705.41(D)(1), states no subdivision or taxing unit shall make any contract or give any order involving the expenditure of money unless there is attached thereto a certificate of the fiscal officer of the subdivision that the amount required for the order or contract has been lawfully appropriated for such purpose and is in the treasury or in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrances. Every such contract made without such a certificate shall be void, and no warrant shall be issued in payment of any amount due thereon.

**FINDING NUMBER 2011-002
(Continued)**

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

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

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

2. Blanket Certificate – Fiscal officers may prepare "blanket" certificates for a certain sum of money not in excess of an amount established by resolution or ordinance adopted by a majority of the members of the legislative authority against any specific line item account over a period not running beyond the end of the current fiscal year. The blanket certificates may, but need not, be limited to a specific vendor. Only one blanket certificate may be outstanding at one particular time for any particular line item appropriation.
3. Super Blanket Certificate – The Board may also make expenditures and contracts for any amount from a specific line-item appropriation account in a specified fund upon certification of the fiscal officer for most professional services, fuel, oil, food items, and any other specific recurring and reasonably predictable operating expense. This certification may, but need not, be limited to a specific vendor. 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.

Fifty percent of transactions tested were not properly certified by the Fiscal Officer at the time the commitments were incurred, and there was no evidence the Township followed the aforementioned exceptions. Failure to properly certify the availability of funds can result in overspending funds and negative cash fund balances.

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 purchase commitments receive prior approval. To improve controls over disbursements and to help reduce the possibility of the Township's funds exceeding budgetary spending limitations, we recommend the Fiscal Officer certify the funds are or will be available prior to obligation by the Township. When prior certification is not possible, "then and now" certification should be used.

We recommend the Fiscal Officer certify all purchases to which Ohio Revised Code § 5705.41(D) applies. The Fiscal Officer should sign the certification at the time the Township incurs a commitment, and only when the requirements of Ohio Revised Code § 5705.41(D) are satisfied. The Fiscal Officer should post approved purchase commitments to the proper appropriation code, to reduce the available appropriation.

Officials' Response:

We did not receive a response from Officials to the findings reported above.

**CARROLL TOWNSHIP
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2011 AND 2010**

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <i>Explain</i>
2009-001	Ohio Revised Code 5705.41(D) – certification of funds.	No	Not corrected. Repeated as Finding 2011-002 in this report.
2009-002	Ohio Revised Code 5705.10(D) – improper revenue posting.	No	Not corrected. Repeated as Finding 2011-001 in this report.
2009-003	Ohio Revised Code 5705.39 – appropriations in excess of estimated resources.	Yes	
2009-004	Ohio Revised Code 135.21 – improper posting of earnings on investments.	No	Partially corrected reducing this to a management letter comment.

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Dave Yost • Auditor of State

CARROLL TOWNSHIP

OTTAWA 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
FEBRUARY 28, 2013**