



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

AMES TOWNSHIP
ATHENS COUNTY

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE	PAGE
Independent Accountants' Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures.....	1

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

Ames Township
Athens County
16171 E. Kasler Creek Road
Amesville, Ohio 45711

We have performed the procedures enumerated below, with which the Board of Trustees and the management of Ames Township, Athens County, Ohio (the Township), agreed, solely to assist the Board in evaluating receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in their cash-basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances. Management is responsible for recording transactions; and management and the Board are responsible for complying with the compliance requirements. This agreed-upon procedures engagement was conducted in accordance with the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants' attestation standards and applicable attestation engagement standards included in the Comptroller General of the United States' Government Auditing Standards. The sufficiency of the procedures is solely the responsibility of the parties specified in this report. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

This report only describes exceptions exceeding \$10.

Cash and Investments

1. We tested the mathematical accuracy of the December 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013 bank reconciliations. We found no exceptions.
2. We agreed the January 1, 2013 beginning fund balances recorded in the Fund Ledger Report to the December 31, 2012 balances in the prior year audited statements. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the January 1, 2014 beginning fund balances recorded in the Fund Ledger Report to the December 31, 2013 balances in the Fund Ledger Report. We found no exceptions.
3. We agreed the totals per the bank reconciliations to the total of the December 31, 2014 and 2013 fund cash balances reported in the Fund Status Reports. The amounts agreed.
4. We confirmed the December 31, 2014 bank account balances with the Township's financial institution. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the confirmed balances to the amounts appearing in the December 31, 2014 bank reconciliation without exception.

Cash and Investments (Continued)

5. We selected five reconciling debits (such as outstanding checks) haphazardly from the December 31, 2014 bank reconciliation:
 - a. We traced each debit to the subsequent January bank statement. We found no exceptions.
 - b. We traced the amounts and dates to the check register, to determine the debits were dated prior to December 31. We noted no exceptions.
6. We tested investments held at December 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013 to determine that they:
 - a. Were of a type authorized by Ohio Rev. Code Sections 135.13, 135.14 or 135.144. We found no exceptions
 - b. Mature within the prescribed time limits noted in Ohio Rev. Code Section 135.13 or 135.14. We noted no exceptions.

Property Taxes, Intergovernmental and Other Confirmable Cash Receipts

1. We selected a property tax receipt from one *Statement of Semiannual Apportionment of Taxes* (the Statement) for 2014 and one from 2013:
 - a. We traced the gross receipts from the Statement to the amount recorded in the Receipt Detail Report. We also traced the advances noted on the Statement to the Receipt Detail Report. The amounts agreed.
 - b. We determined whether the receipt was allocated to the proper funds as required by Ohio Rev. Code Sections 5705.05-.06 and 5705.10. We found no exceptions.
 - c. We determined whether the receipt was recorded in the proper year. The receipt was recorded in the proper year.
2. We scanned the Receipt Detail Report to determine whether it included two real estate tax receipts plus one advance for 2014 and 2013. We noted the Receipts Detail Report included the proper number of tax receipts for each year.
3. We selected five receipts from the State Distribution Transaction Lists (DTL) from 2014 and all four from 2013. We also selected five receipts from the County Auditor's DTLs from 2014 and five from 2013.
 - a. We compared the amount from the above reports to the amount recorded in the Receipt Detail Report. The amounts agreed.
 - b. We determined whether these receipts were allocated to the proper funds. We found no exceptions.
 - c. We determined whether the receipts were recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.

Debt

1. The prior audit documentation disclosed no debt outstanding as of December 31, 2012.
2. We inquired of management, and scanned the Receipt Detail Report and Payment Detail Report for evidence of debt issued during 2014 or 2013 or debt payment activity during 2014 or 2013. All debt proceeds noted agreed to the amounts used in step 3. We noted no new debt issuances or any debt payment activity during 2014 or 2013.

Payroll Cash Disbursements

1. We haphazardly selected one payroll check for five employees from 2014 and one payroll check for five employees from 2013 from the Wage Detail Report and:
 - a. We compared the hours and pay rate, or salary recorded in the Wage Detail Report to supporting documentation (timecard, legislatively or statutorily-approved rate or salary). We found no exceptions.
 - b. We determined whether the fund and account codes to which the check was posted were reasonable based on the employees' duties as documented in the minute record or as required by statute. We also determined whether the payment was posted to the proper year. We found no exceptions.

2. We scanned the last remittance of tax and retirement withholdings for the year ended December 31, 2014 to determine whether remittances were timely paid, and if the amounts paid agreed to the amounts withheld, plus the employer's share where applicable, during the final withholding period of 2014. We noted the following:

Withholding (plus employer share, where applicable)	Date Due	Date Paid	Amount Due	Amount Paid
Federal Income Taxes and Medicare	01/31/15	01/09/15	\$1,128	\$1,128
State Income Taxes	01/15/15	12/31/14	\$767	\$767
OPERS Retirement	01/30/15	12/31/14	\$2,277	\$2,277

3. For the pay periods ended June 30, 2014 and April 30, 2013, we recomputed the allocation of the Boards' salaries to the General, Gasoline Tax, Road & Bridge, Road Maintenance and Cemetery Funds per the Wage Detail Report. We found no exceptions.

4. For the pay periods described in the preceding step, we traced the Boards' salary for time or services performed to supporting certifications the Revised Code requires. Ohio Revised Code § 505.24 (C) sets forth the method by which Township Trustee's compensation should be allocated. The Auditor of State issued Bulletin 2013-002 on June 7, 2013 explaining that the allocation of 100 percent of an official's compensation to funds other than the general fund is not permitted under Ohio law. House Bill 153 modified Ohio Rev. Code § 505.24 to require Township Trustees paid by the annual salary method, that compensate from funds other than the General Fund, to certify the percentage of the time spent working on matters that are to be paid from funds other than the General Fund. Each Township Trustee that is compensated from funds other than the general fund must complete the certification prior to receiving his/her pay for that pay period. The certification must be done individually, but is not required to be notarized. The certification is not required to be a time log. Rather, all that is required is a statement detailing the percentage of time that the trustee spent during that pay period providing services related to each fund to be charged.

During 2014 and 2013, the Township paid a portion of Trustee salaries and related payroll withholdings from restricted funds (Gasoline Tax Fund and Cemetery Fund) without Trustees certifying hours spent providing these services to the Township. The Township maintained time logs that were used to determine the reasonableness of the allocation charged; however, actual certifications were not used as required.

Payroll Cash Disbursements (Continued)

5. We inquired of management and scanned the Payment Detail Report and Wage Detail Report for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013 to determine if township employees and/or trustees were reimbursed for out-of-pocket insurance premiums.

Ohio Rev. Code § 505.601(A) provides that, if a township opts not to procure its own health insurance, it still is permitted to reimburse any township officer or employee for each out-of-pocket premium that the officer or employee incurs pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code § 505.601. However, pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code §505.601, the township must meet the following three conditions:

1. The board of township trustees adopts a resolution stating that the township has chosen not to procure a health care plan and has chosen instead to reimburse its officers and employees for each out-of-pocket premium,
2. The resolution provides for a uniform maximum monthly or yearly payment amount for each officer and employee,
3. The resolution states the specific benefits, pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code §505.60(A), that will be reimbursed.

At the December 29, 2011 special meeting, the trustees approved a resolution not to procure health insurance but rather to reimburse the fiscal officer and trustee effective at the beginning of their terms. However, the resolution did not address the maximum amounts nor did it define the specific benefits allowed. During 2013, Trustee, Gene Hines, began receiving reimbursements for out-of-pocket costs associated with health insurance. The total amount paid to Trustee Hines as reimbursement was \$1,305 during 2013.

Non-Payroll Cash Disbursements

We haphazardly selected ten disbursements from the Payment Register Detail Report for the year ended December 31, 2014 and ten from the year ended 2013 and determined whether:

- a. The disbursements were for a proper public purpose. We found no exceptions.
- b. The check number, date, payee name and amount recorded on the returned, canceled check agreed to the check number, date, payee name and amount recorded in the Payment Register Detail Report and to the names and amounts on the supporting invoices. We found no exceptions.
- c. The payment was posted to a fund consistent with the restricted purpose for which the fund's cash can be used. We found no exceptions.
- d. The fiscal officer certified disbursements requiring certification or issued a *Then and Now Certificate*, as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(D). We found no exceptions.

Compliance – Budgetary

1. We compared the total estimated receipts from the *Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources, and Certificate of the Total Amount From All Sources Available For Expenditures and Balances*, required by Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.36(A)(1), to the amounts recorded in the Revenue Status Report for the General, Gasoline Tax, and Road and Bridge Funds for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. The amounts per the 2013 Revenue Status Report exceeded the amounts per the 2013 certificate in the General, Gasoline Tax and Road and Bridge Funds by \$6,870, \$6,050 and \$400, respectively.
2. The Township did not formally adopt appropriation measures for 2014 and 2013 as is required by Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.38(C).

Compliance – Budgetary (Continued)

3. Ohio Rev. Code §§ 5705.36(A)(5) and 5705.39 prohibits appropriations from exceeding the certified resources. We compared total appropriations to total certified resources for the General, Gasoline Tax, and Road and Bridge Funds for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013. Because the Township did not formally adopt appropriation measures for 2014 and 2013, certified resources did not exceed appropriations.
4. Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(B) prohibits expenditures (disbursements plus certified commitments) from exceeding appropriations. We compared total expenditures to total appropriations for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013 for the General, Gasoline Tax, and Road and Bridge Funds, as recorded in the Appropriation Status Report. Because the Township did not formally adopt appropriation measures for 2014 and 2013, 100% of budgetary expenditures were made absent of the legal appropriation authority.
5. Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.09 requires establishing separate funds to segregate externally-restricted resources. We scanned the Receipt Register Report for evidence of new restricted receipts requiring a new fund during December 31, 2014 and 2013. We also inquired of management regarding whether the Township received new restricted receipts. We noted no evidence of new restricted receipts for which Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.09 would require the Township to establish a new fund.
6. We scanned the 2014 and 2013 Interfund Transfers Listing Report for evidence of interfund transfers which Ohio Rev. Code §§ 5705.14 - .16 restrict. We found no evidence of transfers these Sections prohibit, or for which Section 5705.16 would require approval by the Tax Commissioner and Court of Common Pleas
7. We inquired of management and scanned the Appropriation Status Reports to determine whether the Township elected to establish reserve accounts permitted by Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.13. We noted the Township did not establish these reserves.
8. We scanned the Cash Summary by Fund Report for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013 for negative cash fund balance. Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.10 (I) provides that money paid into a fund must be used for the purposes for which such fund is established. As a result, a negative fund cash balance indicates that money from one fund was used to cover the expenses of another. We noted no funds having negative cash fund balances.

Compliance – Contracts & Expenditures

We inquired of management and scanned the Payment Register Detail Report for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013 to determine if the township proceeded by force account (i.e. used its own employees) to maintain or repair roads (cost of project \$15,000-\$45,000) or to construct or reconstruct township roads (cost of project \$5,000-\$15,000/per mile) for which Ohio Rev. Code Section 5575.01 requires the county engineer to complete a force account project assessment form (i.e., cost estimate). We identified no projects requiring the county engineer to complete a force account cost estimate.

We were not engaged to, and did not conduct an examination, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion on the Township's receipts, disbursements, balances and compliance with certain laws and regulations. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, those charged with governance, and others within the Township, and is not intended to be, and should not be used by anyone 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

Columbus, Ohio

June 3, 2015



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

AMES TOWNSHIP

ATHENS COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

This is a true and correct copy of the report which is required to be filed in the Office of the Auditor of State pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in Columbus, Ohio.

Susan Babbitt

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

**CERTIFIED
JUNE 30, 2015**