



Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs, Inc.

Accounting, Auditing and Consulting Services for Federal, State and Local Governments

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MONROE TOWNSHIP
HOLMES COUNTY

REGULAR AUDIT

For the Years Ended December 31, 2014 and 2013
Fiscal Years Audited Under GAGAS: 2014 and 2013



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

Board of Trustees
Monroe Township
5207 Township Road 257
Millersburg , Ohio 45654

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of Monroe Township, Holmes County, prepared by Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs, Inc., for the audit period January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2014. 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.

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. Monroe Township is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

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

Dave Yost
Auditor of State

September 8, 2015

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Monroe Township
Holmes County, Ohio
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For the Fiscal Years Ended December 31, 2014 and 2013

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Independent Auditor's Report

Monroe Township
Holmes County
5207 Township Road 257
Millersburg , Ohio 45654

To the Board of Trustees:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements and related notes of Monroe Township, Holmes County, (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for preparing and fairly presenting these financial statements in accordance with the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D); this responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to preparing and fair presenting financial statements free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to opine on these financial statements based on our audit. We audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the financial audit standards in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require us to plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit requires obtaining evidence about financial statement amounts and disclosures. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including assessing the risks of material financial statement misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In assessing those risks, we consider internal control relevant to the Township's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not to the extent needed to opine on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control. Accordingly, we express no opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of management's accounting policies and the reasonableness of their significant accounting estimates, as well as our evaluation of the overall financial statement presentation.

We believe the audit evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to support our audit opinion.

Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

As described in Note 1 of the financial statements, the Township prepared these financial statements using the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D), which is an accounting basis other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, to satisfy requirements.

The effects on the financial statements of the variances between the regulatory basis of accounting described in Note 1 and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, although not reasonably determinable, are presumed to be material.

Though the Township does not intend these statements to conform to GAAP, auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America require us to include an adverse opinion on GAAP. However, the adverse opinion does not imply the amounts reported are materially misstated under the accounting basis Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit. Our opinion on this accounting basis permitted is in the *Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting* paragraph below.

Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the *Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles* paragraph, the financial statements referred to above do not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Township as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, or changes in financial position thereof for the years then ended.

Basis for Qualified Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting

During 2011, the Township paid trustees' wages totaling \$4,952 and \$3,538, respectively, from the Road and Bridge Fund and Road District Fund. During 2010, the Township paid trustees' wages totaling \$10,612, \$13,443 and \$1,415, respectively, from the Road & Bridge Fund, Road District fund and the Gasoline Tax Fund. During 2009, the Township paid trustees' wages totaling \$9,198 and \$9,905, respectively, from the Road & Bridge Fund and the Road District Fund. These were paid without supporting documentation as required by Ohio Revised Code Section 505.24(C) and 2004 Opinion Attorney General Number 2004-036. The Township declined to make these adjustments. Had the Township agreed to these adjustments, the effect would have resulted in negative General Fund cash balances at December 31, 2014 and 2013 would have been (\$42,670) and (\$49,220), respectively. The Road and Bridge Fund cash balances at December 31, 2014 and 2013 would have been \$28,030 and \$26,915, respectively. The Road District Fund cash balances at December 31, 2014 and 2013 would have been \$57,501 and \$52,363, respectively. The Gasoline Tax Fund cash balances at December 31, 2014 and 2013 would have been \$6,415 and \$9,444, respectively.

Qualified Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined cash balances of Monroe Township, Holmes County as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 permit, described in Note 1.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 30, 2015, on our consideration of the Township's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our internal control testing over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing, and does not opine on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standard* in considering the Township's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs

Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs, Inc.

Worthington, Ohio

June 30, 2015

Monroe Township, Holmes County
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Cash Balances
Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended December 31, 2014

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		Totals (Memorandum Only)
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	
Cash Receipts			
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 47,408	\$ 132,448	\$ 179,856
Intergovernmental	18,381	95,320	113,701
Charges for Services	-	20,019	20,019
Interest	22	15	37
Miscellaneous	3,408	1,139	4,547
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>69,219</u>	<u>248,941</u>	<u>318,160</u>
Cash Disbursements			
Current:			
General Government	62,003	2,707	64,710
Public Works	3,000	201,470	204,470
Health	201	-	201
Debt Service:			
Principal Retirement	-	18,690	18,690
Interest and Fiscal Charges	-	3,478	3,478
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>65,204</u>	<u>245,422</u>	<u>310,626</u>
<i>Excess of Cash Receipts Over /(Under) Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>4,015</u>	<u>3,519</u>	<u>7,534</u>
Other Financing Sources (Uses)			
Sale of Capital Assets	2,535	-	2,535
<i>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</i>	<u>2,535</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,535</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	6,550	3,519	10,069
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>3,843</u>	<u>38,257</u>	<u>42,100</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31			
Restricted	-	41,776	41,776
Unassigned (Deficit)	10,393	-	10,393
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u>\$ 10,393</u>	<u>\$ 41,776</u>	<u>\$ 52,169</u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

Monroe Township, Holmes County
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Cash Balances
Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended December 31, 2013

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		Totals (Memorandum Only)
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	
Cash Receipts			
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 42,838	\$ 129,097	\$ 171,935
Intergovernmental	19,816	93,444	113,260
Charges for Services	-	11,763	11,763
Interest	41	26	67
Miscellaneous	1,552	1,663	3,215
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>64,247</u>	<u>235,993</u>	<u>300,240</u>
Cash Disbursements			
Current:			
General Government	73,098	-	73,098
Public Works	5,122	162,497	167,619
Health	132	-	132
Capital Outlay	1,200	51,912	53,112
Debt Service:			
Principal Retirement	-	17,808	17,808
Interest and Fiscal Charges	-	4,358	4,358
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>79,552</u>	<u>236,575</u>	<u>316,127</u>
<i>Excess of Cash Receipts Over /(Under) Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>(15,305)</u>	<u>(582)</u>	<u>(15,887)</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>19,148</u>	<u>38,839</u>	<u>57,987</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31			
Restricted	-	38,257	38,257
Unassigned (Deficit)	3,843	-	3,843
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u>\$ 3,843</u>	<u>\$ 38,257</u>	<u>\$ 42,100</u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

**Monroe Township
Holmes County**

**Notes to The Financial Statements
December 31, 2014 and 2013**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Monroe Township, Holmes County, Ohio, (the Township) is a body corporate and politic established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The Township is directed by a publicly-elected, three-member Board of Trustees. The Township provides road and bridge maintenance. Fire protection and emergency medical services are provided by the Western Holmes County Fire District.

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. The 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. Cash and Deposits

The township deposits all available funds in an interest earning checking account at a local commercial bank. All deposits are valued at cost.

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 the proceeds from specific sources (other than from private-purpose trusts or for capital projects) that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Township had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

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.

Road District Fund – This fund receives levy money to pay for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads.

**Monroe Township
Holmes County**

**Notes to The Financial Statements
December 31, 2014 and 2013**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

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.

A summary of 2014 and 2013 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

F. Fund Balance

Fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the Township must observe constraints imposed upon the use of its governmental-fund resources. The classifications are as follows:

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.

**Monroe Township
Holmes County**

**Notes to The Financial Statements
December 31, 2014 and 2013**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

F. Fund Balance (continued)

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 acquisition of property, plant and equipments 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.

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH

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

	2014	2013
Demand Deposits	<u>\$ 52,169</u>	<u>\$ 42,100</u>

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

**Monroe Township
Holmes County**

**Notes to The Financial Statements
December 31, 2014 and 2013**

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2014 and 2013 follows:

2014 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 62,018	\$ 71,754	\$ 9,736
Special Revenue	222,373	248,941	26,568
Total	\$ 284,391	\$ 320,695	\$ 36,304

2014 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 65,203	\$ 65,204	\$ (1)
Special Revenue	245,422	245,422	-
Total	\$ 310,625	\$ 310,626	\$ (1)

2013 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 68,187	\$ 64,247	\$ (3,940)
Special Revenue	225,550	235,993	10,443
Total	\$ 293,737	\$ 300,240	\$ 6,503

2013 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 81,333	\$ 79,552	\$ 1,781
Special Revenue	245,072	236,575	8,497
Total	\$ 326,405	\$ 316,127	\$ 10,278

**Monroe Township
Holmes County**

**Notes to The Financial Statements
December 31, 2014 and 2013**

4. PROPERTY TAX

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

5. DEBT

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2014 was as follows:

	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>
Truck Note	\$71,810	4.0%

In 2011, the Township obtained a \$117,000, 4.00% loan from a local bank. This loan was obtained in order to pay for the construction of a new building, to pay off the remaining balance on a loan for a grader, and to purchase a new tractor. The loan will be paid in semi-annual installments of \$11,084, with the final payment due in 2018. The semi-annual payments will be made from the Road & Bridge Fund and the Road District Fund.

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

Year Ending December 31:	<u>Bank Loan</u>
2015	\$22,168
2016	22,168
2017	22,168
2018	22,168
Total	<u><u>\$88,672</u></u>

6. RETIREMENT SYSTEM

The Township's elected officials and employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. This plan provides retirement benefits, which include postretirement healthcare and survivor and disability benefits as prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2014 and 2013, OPERS members contributed 10% of their gross salaries and the Township contributed an amount equaling 14% of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2014.

**Monroe Township
Holmes County**

**Notes to The Financial Statements
December 31, 2014 and 2013**

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Township has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

- Comprehensive property and general liability
- Vehicles
- Public Officials Liability

Settled claims have not exceeded this commercial coverage in any of the last three years. There have been no significant reductions in insurance coverage from last year.

The Township pays the State Worker's Compensation System a premium based on a rate per \$100 of salaries. The rate is calculated based on accident history and administrative costs

8. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Management believes there are no pending claims or lawsuits.

9. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Subsequent events have been evaluated through June 30, 2015 which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.



Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs, Inc.

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Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

Monroe Township
Holmes County
5207 Township Road 257
Millersburg , Ohio 45654

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States and the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*, the financial statements of Monroe Township, Holmes County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013 and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated June 30, 2015, wherein we noted the Township followed accounting and financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit, described in Note 1. We qualified our opinion due to the Township declining to make the adjustments related to improper trustee salary allocation in 2009, 2010 and 2011.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

As part of our financial statement audit, we considered the Township's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures appropriate in the circumstances to the extent necessary to support our opinion on the financial statements, but not to the extent necessary to opine on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control. Accordingly, we have not opined on it.

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 combination of internal control deficiencies resulting in a reasonable possibility that internal control will not prevent or detect and timely correct a material misstatement of the Township's financial statements. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all internal control deficiencies that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider material weaknesses. However, unidentified material weaknesses may exist.

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, opining on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

This report only describes the scope of our internal control testing and compliance testing and our testing results, and does not opine on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed under *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Township's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs

Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs, Inc.
Worthington, Ohio
June 30, 2015

**MONROE TOWNSHIP
HOLMES COUNTY
DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013**

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; Explain:
2012-Monroe-001	Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41(D)	Yes	
2012-Monroe-002	Material Weakness – Audit Adjustments	Yes	
2012-Monroe-2003	Non-Compline and Material Weakness – Trustee Salary Allocation	No	Trustee salaries are no longer being paid from other funds, however past audit adjustments have not been posted to the UAN system as of the date of our report.

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Dave Yost • Auditor of State

MONROE TOWNSHIP

HOLMES 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
SEPTEMBER 22, 2015**