



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

**ATHENS SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
ATHENS COUNTY**

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

Athens Soil and Water Conservation District
Athens County
69 South Plains Road
The Plains, Ohio 45780

We have performed the procedures enumerated below, with which the Board of Supervisors (the Board) and the management of the Athens Soil and Water Conservation District, Athens County, Ohio (the District), 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, 2011 through 2015, 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 followed 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.

Depository Balances, Investments and Fund Balances

We applied the following procedures to each *Cash Basis Annual Financial Report* (the Reports) for the fiscal years ending December 31, 2011 through December 31, 2015:

1. We footed and cross-footed the amounts on pages 3A and 3B of the Reports, and compared the *Fund Cash Balances, December 31* to the *Fund Balances* on page 2. The amounts agreed.
2. We compared the *Disbursements plus Other Financing Uses* for the Special Fund on pages 3A and 3B of the Reports to the Disbursements reported on page 4. The amounts agreed.
3. We compared the *Receipts plus Other Financing Sources* for the Special Fund on pages 3A and 3B of the Reports to the Actual Receipts reported on page 5. The amounts agreed.
4. We tested the mathematical accuracy of the reconciliation on page 2. We found no exceptions.
5. Because the District began using Quick Books during 2014, we agreed the January 1 to the Fund Balance Report and December 31, 2015 fund cash balances reported in the District's Balance Sheet Report to the corresponding *Fund Cash Balances* on page 3B of the Reports. The amounts agreed. We agreed the January 1, 2014 Special Fund cash balance reported in the District's spreadsheets to the corresponding *Fund Cash Balances* on page 3B of the Reports. The amounts agreed. We agreed the December 31, 2014 Special Fund cash balance reported in the District's Balance Sheet Report to the corresponding *Fund Cash Balances* on page 3B of the Reports. The amounts agreed.

Depository Balances, Investments and Fund Balances (Continued)

We agreed the January 1 and December 31, 2014 District Fund cash balances reported in District Fund Cash Balances report to the corresponding *Fund Cash Balances* on page 3B of the Reports. The amounts agreed. We agreed the January 1 and December 31, 2011, 2012, and 2013 fund cash balances reported in the District's spreadsheets to the corresponding *Fund Cash Balances* on page 3B of the Reports. The amounts agreed.

We also applied the following procedures to the *Subtotals* and *Totals* reported on page 2 of the December 31, 2015 Report:

6. We confirmed the December 31 bank account depository balances for the District with the District's financial institutions. The balances agreed.
7. We compared the December 31 Special Fund depository balance from the *Report* to the amount reported in the Athens County 'Year-To-Date Fund Report for Year 2015-Month 12'. We found no exceptions.
8. For the checks comprising the Outstanding Checks, we applied the following procedures:
 - a. We footed the supporting outstanding check list and compared it to the Totals on the Report. We noted the Fiscal Agent (County Auditor) reported outstanding checks of \$3,940.77 relating to the District's Special Fund but was only able to provide support for \$242.30. We found no exceptions in the District Fund listing.
 - b. We traced each check to the subsequent January bank statements with the exception of the \$3,699 in Special Fund outstanding checks which the Fiscal Agent (Athens County) could not identify.
 - c. We traced the amounts and dates of each check, with the exception of the \$3,699 in Special Fund outstanding checks which the Fiscal Agent (Athens County) could not identify, to the check register. We determined the checks identified were recorded for the same amount and dated and recorded prior to December 31.
9. We tested investments held at December 31 to determine that they:
 - a. Were of a type authorized by Ohio Rev. Code §§ 135.13, 135.14 or 135.144. We found no exceptions
 - b. Mature within the prescribed time limits noted in Ohio Rev. Code §§ 135.13 or 135.14. We noted no exceptions.

Intergovernmental and Other Confirmable Cash Receipts

We applied the following procedures for the years ended December 31, 2011 through December 31, 2015:

We agreed the total of the receipts from the State Distribution Transaction Lists (DTL) and the total of the receipts from the County Auditor's Detail Revenue Transactions by Fund Report to the total amounts recorded in the respective receipt classification in the Special Fund in the Custom Transaction Detail Report (2015 and 2014) or District Spreadsheet's (2013-2011). The amounts agreed.

All Other Cash Receipts

We haphazardly selected 10 other cash receipts from the year ended December 31, 2015 and five other cash receipts from each of the years ended 2011 through 2014 recorded in the duplicate cash receipts book and determined whether the:

1. Receipt amount agreed to the amount recorded in the exported District Fund Revenue Report (2015 and 2014) or District Spreadsheet's (2013-2011). The amounts agreed.
2. Amount charged complied with rates in force during the period, if applicable. We found no exceptions.
3. Receipt was posted to the proper funds, and was recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.

Payroll Cash Disbursements

1. We haphazardly selected one payroll check for five employees from 2015 and one payroll check for two employees for each of the years ended December 31, 2011 through 2014 from the Payroll Worksheets and:
 - a. We compared the hours and pay rate recorded in the Payroll Worksheets to supporting documentation (timecard and legislatively approved rate). We found no exceptions.
 - b. We determined whether salaries and benefits were paid only from the *Special Fund*, as required by the SWCD Administrative Handbook Chapter 5. We noted no exceptions.
 - c. We determined whether the check was classified as *salaries*. We also determined whether the payment was posted to the proper year. We found no exceptions.
2. For the five employees tested in step 1 from 2015, we determined whether the following information in the employees' personnel files was consistent with the information used to compute gross and net pay related to the check:
 - a. Name.
 - b. Authorized salary or pay rate.
 - c. Retirement system participation and payroll withholding.
 - d. Federal, State & Local income tax withholding authorization and withholding.
 - e. Any other deduction authorizations (deferred compensation, etc.).

We found no exceptions related to steps a. – e. above.

3. We haphazardly selected and recomputed one termination payment (unused vacation, etc.) occurring between January 1, 2011 and December 31, 2015, and agreed the computation to the amount paid as recorded in the Payroll Worksheets:
 - a. Accumulated leave records.
 - b. The employee's pay rate in effect as of the termination date.
 - c. The District's payout policy.

The amount paid was consistent with the information recorded in a. through c. above.

Non-Payroll Cash Disbursements

1. From the District Fund Expenses Report, we re-footed checks recorded as *District Fund* disbursements for *contract services* and *supplies* for 2015. We found no exceptions.

Non-Payroll Cash Disbursements (Continued)

2. We haphazardly selected five disbursements from the *Special Fund* and five disbursements from the *District Fund* and other funds from the Expenses Report for the year ended December 31, 2015 and two from the *Special Fund* and three from the *District Fund* and other funds from the Expenses Report (2014) or District Spreadsheet's (2013-2011) for each of the years ended 2011 through 2014 and determined whether:
 - a. The disbursements were for a proper public purpose. We found no exceptions.
 - b. For *District Fund* and other funds disbursements, we determined whether:
 - i. The check number, date, payee name and amount recorded on the returned, canceled check agreed to the similar data recorded in the Expenses Report (2015 and 2014) or District Spreadsheet's (2013-2011) and to the names and amounts on the supporting invoices. We found no exceptions.
 - ii. The payment was posted to a fund consistent with the purpose for which the fund's cash can be used. We found no exceptions.
 - c. For *Special Fund* disbursements, we determined whether:
 - i. The payee name and amount recorded on the voucher submitted to the County Auditor agreed to the payee name and amount recorded in the Expenses Report (2015 and 2014) or District Spreadsheet's (2013-2011) and County Detail Expense Transaction Report. We found no exceptions.
 - ii. The names and amounts on the voucher agreed to supporting invoices. We found no exceptions.
 - iii. The voucher was signed by the fiscal officer and approved by a majority of the Board of Supervisors. We found no exceptions.

2015 Special Fund Budgetary Compliance

1. We read the District's Special Fund Budget Request submitted to the County Commissioners. We noted the request included the Special Fund's *Needs, Income and Balances* anticipated for carry over from the current year, as required by the Soil and Water Conservancy District Administrative Handbook, Chapter 5. We also compared the budget amounts to the budgetary schedules on pages 4 and 5 of the Cash Basis Annual Financial Report. The Special Fund Budget Request Needs totaled \$362,852 which was \$655 more than the budgetary schedule on pages 4 of the Cash Basis Annual Financial Report amount of \$362,197. The Special Fund Budget Request Income totaled \$297,852 which was \$1,326 less than the budgetary schedules on pages 5 of the Cash Basis Annual Financial Report amount of \$299,178.
2. We compared the total estimated receipts reported on Page 5 of the Report to the *Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources* required by Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.36(A)(1), and to the amounts recorded in the Profit and Loss Budget Overview for the Special Fund. The receipts reported on Page 5 of the Report and the *Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources* agreed. The Profit and Loss Budget Overview recorded budgeted (i.e. certified) receipts for the Special fund of \$285,500 for 2015. However, the final *Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources* reflected \$299,178. The Fiscal Officer should periodically compare amounts recorded in the Profit and Loss Budget Overview to amounts recorded on the *Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources* to assure they agree. If the amounts do not agree, the Board of Supervisors may be using inaccurate information for budgeting and monitoring purposes.
3. We scanned the appropriation measures to determine whether the Supervisors appropriated separate amounts within the Special Fund for "each office, department, and division, and within each, the amount appropriated for personal services," as is required by Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.38(C). We found no exceptions.

2015 Special Fund Budgetary Compliance (Continued)

4. We compared total appropriations required by Ohio Rev. Code §§ 5705.38 and 5705.40, to the amounts recorded in the Profit and Loss Budget Overview for the Special Fund, and to the appropriations reported on Page 4 of the Report. The total approved appropriations for the District totaled \$362,852. The amounts recorded in the Profit and Loss Budget Overview totaled \$285,500, a variance of \$77,352. The amounts recorded on Page 4 of the Report totaled \$362,197, a variance of \$655. The Fiscal Officer should compare amounts recorded in the Profit and Loss Budget Overview and recorded on Page 4 of the Report to total approved appropriations to assure they agree. If the amounts do not agree, the Board of Supervisors may be using inaccurate information for budgeting and monitoring purposes.
5. Ohio Rev. Code §§ 5705.36(A)(5) and 5705.28(B)(2)(C) prohibit appropriations from exceeding estimated revenue. We compared total appropriations to total estimated revenue for the Special Fund for the year ended December 31, 2015. We noted appropriations did not exceed estimated revenues for the Special Fund.
5. Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(B) prohibits expenditures (disbursements plus year-end certified commitments (i.e. encumbrances)) from exceeding appropriations. We compared total disbursements plus outstanding year-end encumbrances to total appropriations for the year ended December 31, 2015 for the "Special" Fund, as recorded in the Current MTD/YTD Expense Report. We noted expenditures did not exceed appropriations for the Special Fund.
7. We scanned the Annual Cash Basis Financial Report for the year ended December 31, 2015 for negative cash fund balances. Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.10(l) 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 a negative cash fund balance.

2015 Compliance – Contracts & Expenditures

We inquired of management and scanned the Expense Reports for the year ended December 31, 2015 to determine if the District purchased equipment and services allowed by Ohio Rev. Code § 1515.09 or purchased goods or services allowed by Ohio Rev. Code § 1515.08(H)(1) whose cost, other than personal service compensation or office space rent, exceeded \$50,000. We noted no purchases exceeding \$50,000.

2015 Other Compliance

Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 requires Districts to file their financial information in the HINKLE system within 60 days after the close of the fiscal year. We reviewed the HINKLE system and noted the District filed their financial information within the allotted timeframe for the year ended December 31, 2015.

We were not engaged to, and did not conduct an examination, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion on the District'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 District, 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 initial "D".

Dave Yost
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

November 29, 2016



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

ATHENS COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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
DECEMBER 13, 2016**