



Dave Yost • Auditor of State



**ATHENS TOWNSHIP  
HARRISON COUNTY**

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## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

Athens Township  
Harrison County  
P.O. Box 147  
New Athens, Ohio 43981

We have performed the procedures enumerated below, with which the Board of Trustees and the management of Athens Township, Harrison 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, 2015 and 2014, 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

1. We tested the mathematical accuracy of the December 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014 bank reconciliations. We found no exceptions.
2. We agreed the January 1, 2014 beginning fund balances recorded in the Cash Summary by Fund Report to the December 31, 2013 balances in the prior year audited statements. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the January 1, 2015 beginning fund balances recorded in the Cash Summary by Fund Report to the December 31, 2014 balances in the Cash Summary by Fund Report. We found no exceptions.
3. We agreed the totals per the bank reconciliations to the total of the December 31, 2015 and 2014 fund cash balances reported in the Fund Status Reports. The amounts agreed.
4. We confirmed the December 31, 2015 bank account balance with the Township's financial institution. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the confirmed balance to the amount appearing in the December 31, 2015 bank reconciliation without exception.
5. We selected five reconciling debits (such as outstanding checks) haphazardly from the December 31, 2015 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.

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### 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 2015 and one from 2014:
  - a. We traced the gross receipts from the *Statement* to the amount recorded in the Revenue Ledger Report. The amounts agreed.
  - b. We determined whether the receipt was allocated to the proper funds as required by Ohio Rev. Code §§ 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 and two manufactured home tax receipts for 2015 and 2014. We noted the Receipt Detail Report included the proper number of tax receipts for each year.
3. We selected all receipts from the State Distribution Transaction Lists (DTL) from 2015 and all from 2014. We also selected five receipts from the County Auditor's Cross Reference Report by Vendor Number from 2015 and five from 2014.
  - a. We compared the amount from the above reports to the amount recorded in the Receipt Detail Report. The amounts agreed except for 3 instances in 2015 where homestead and rollback reimbursements from the State were not deposited into the Township bank account nor recorded on the Township's accounting system. All 3 of these reimbursement checks became void after 90 days due to age; however, 2 of the checks were reissued by the State to the Township and deposited and recorded in the Township's accounting system in March 2016. For 1 check in the amount of \$2,385.54 the Fiscal Officer is currently going through the process to get the check reissued by the State. The Fiscal Officer should sign up for direct deposit with the State so the checks will be deposited directly into the Township's bank account.
  - b. We determined whether these receipts were allocated to the proper funds. We found no exceptions, however, in 2014, two real estate homestead and rollback receipts were misposted. The first half settlement was misposted for \$825, \$482, \$108, \$914, and \$144 to the General, Road and Bridge, Fire District, Cemetery, and Police Funds, respectively. The receipts should have been posted to the General, Road and Bridge, Fire District, Cemetery, and Police Funds for \$804, \$470, \$105, \$953, and \$141, respectively. The second half settlement was misposted for \$823, \$471, \$107, \$907, and \$143 to the General, Road and Bridge, Fire District, Cemetery, and Police Funds, respectively. These receipts should have been posted for \$800, \$459, \$104, \$948, and \$140, respectively. The Fiscal Officer should post the homestead and rollback tax receipts to the funds in accordance with the semi-annual tax apportionment sheets as received by the County Auditor. We brought this to management's attention. The Fiscal Officer corrected the General, Road and Bridge, Fire District, Cemetery and Police Funds' balances for these items. However, because we did not test all receipts, our report provides no assurance regarding whether or not other similar errors occurred.
  - c. We determined whether the receipts were recorded in the proper year. We noted 3 instances in 2015 where state homestead and rollback reimbursements were not deposited timely into the Township bank account and not recorded on the Township's ledger until 2016. (See exception noted in Step 3a above)

### **Property Taxes, Intergovernmental and Other Confirmable Cash Receipts (Continued)**

4. We confirmed the amounts paid from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and CONSOL Mining Company to the Township during 2014 with the Organizations.
  - a. We determined whether these receipts were allocated to the proper funds. We had one exception. The USDA grant and the bond proceeds were posted to the General Fund. Both the USDA grant and bond proceeds should have been posted to a separate fund.
  - b. 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, 2013.
2. We inquired of management, and scanned the Receipt Register Report and Payment Register Detail Report for evidence of debt issued during 2015 or 2014 or debt payment activity during 2015 or 2014. All debt noted agreed to the summary we used in step 3.
3. We obtained a summary of bonded debt activity for 2015 and 2014 and agreed principal and interest payments from the related debt amortization schedule to debt payments reported in the Payment Register Detail Report. We also compared the date the debt service payments were due to the date the Township made the payments. We noted no exceptions.
4. We agreed the amount of debt proceeds from the debt documents to amounts recorded in the General Fund per the Receipt Register Report. The amounts agreed. However, the Township did not properly record the proceeds in a bond fund (i.e. capital projects fund) as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.09(E). The USDA grant and the bond proceeds were posted to the General Fund. Both the USDA grant and bond proceeds should have been posted to a separate fund.
5. For new debt issued during 2014, we inspected the debt legislation, noting the Township must use the proceeds to purchase a dump truck and related equipment. We scanned the Payment Register Detail Report and noted the Township purchased a dump truck and related equipment in February of 2015.

### **Payroll Cash Disbursements**

1. We haphazardly selected one payroll check for five employees from 2015 and one payroll check for five employees from 2014 from the Wage Detail Adjustment Report and:
  - a. We compared the hours and pay rate, or salary recorded in the Wage Detail Adjustment 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 employees' payroll certifications and timesheets 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, 2015 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 2015. We noted the following:

**Payroll Cash Disbursements (Continued)**

<b>Withholding (plus employer share, where applicable)</b>	<b>Date Due</b>	<b>Date Paid</b>	<b>Amount Due</b>	<b>Amount Paid</b>
Federal income taxes & Medicare	1/31/16	12/31/15	\$714.19	\$714.19
State income taxes	1/15/16	12/28/15	\$136.22	\$136.22
OPERS retirement	1/30/16	12/28/15	\$1,639.58	\$1,639.58

3. For the pay periods ended March 31, 2015 and August 31, 2014, we recomputed the allocation of the Boards' salaries to the General and Gasoline Tax Fund 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. We found no exceptions.
5. We inquired of management and scanned the Wage Detail Report for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014 to determine if township employees and/or trustees were reimbursed for out-of-pocket insurance premiums. Insurance reimbursements made were in compliance with Ohio Rev. Code §§ 505.60 and 505.601 and federal regulations.

**Non-Payroll Cash Disbursements**

We haphazardly selected ten disbursements from the Cash Journal for the year ended December 31, 2015 and ten from the year ended 2014 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 Cash Journal 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 Section 5705.41(D). We found 1 instance where the certification date was after the vendor invoice date, and there was also no evidence that a *Then and Now Certificate* was issued. Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(D) requires certifying at the time of a commitment, which should be on or before the invoice date, unless a *Then and Now Certificate* is used. Because we did not test all disbursements requiring certification, our report provides no assurance whether or not additional similar errors occurred.

**Compliance – Budgetary**

1. We compared the total estimated receipts from the *Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources* required by Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.36(A)(1), to the amounts recorded in the Revenue Status Report for the General, Gasoline Tax and Cemetery Funds for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014. The amounts agreed.

### Compliance – Budgetary (Continued)

2. We scanned the appropriation measures adopted for 2015 and 2014 to determine whether, for the General, Gasoline Tax and Cemetery Funds, the Trustees appropriated separately 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.
3. We compared total appropriations required by Ohio Rev. Code §§ 5705.38 and 5705.40, to the amounts recorded in the Appropriation Status Report for 2015 and 2014 for the following funds: General, Gasoline Tax, and Cemetery Funds. The amounts on the appropriation resolutions agreed to the amounts recorded in the Appropriation Status report, except for the General Fund in 2014 and the Cemetery and General Funds in 2015. The Appropriation Status Report recorded appropriations for the General Fund of \$219,758 for 2015. However, the appropriation resolutions reflected \$173,524. In addition, the Appropriation Status Report recorded appropriations for the Cemetery Fund of \$88,600 for 2015. However, the appropriation resolutions reflected \$73,600. In 2014, the Appropriation Status Report recorded appropriations for the General Fund of \$169,990 while the appropriation resolution reflected \$45,990. The Fiscal Officer should periodically compare amounts recorded in the Appropriation Status report to the amounts recorded in the appropriation resolutions to assure they agree. If the amounts do not agree, the Trustees may be using inaccurate information for budgeting and monitoring purposes.
4. 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 Cemetery Funds for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014. We noted that General Fund appropriations for 2015 exceeded certified resources by \$61,203, contrary to Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.39. The Trustees should not pass appropriations exceeding certified resources. Allowing this to occur could cause the Township to incur fund balance deficits.
5. 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, 2015 and 2014 for the General, Gasoline Tax and Cemetery Funds, as recorded in the Appropriation Status Report. We noted that General Fund expenditures exceeded total appropriations by \$32,640 in 2015 and \$116,605 in 2014, contrary to Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(B). The Fiscal Officer should not certify the availability of funds and should deny payment requests exceeding appropriations. The Fiscal Officer may request the Trustees to approve increased expenditure levels by increasing appropriations and amending estimated resources, if necessary, and if resources are available.
6. Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.09 requires establishing separate funds to segregate externally-restricted resources. We scanned the Receipt Detail Report for evidence of new restricted receipts requiring a new fund during December 31, 2015 and 2014. We also inquired of management regarding whether the Township received new restricted receipts. The Township did not establish a separate fund during 2014 to segregate the USDA Truck Grant receipts, debt proceeds, and disbursements in compliance with Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.09.
7. We scanned the 2015 and 2014 Revenue Status Reports and Appropriation Status Reports for evidence of interfund transfers exceeding \$1,000 which Ohio Rev. Code §§ 5705.14 - .16 restrict. We found no evidence of transfers these §§ prohibit, or for which § 5705.16 would require approval by the Tax Commissioner and Court of Common Pleas.
8. 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.

### **Compliance – Budgetary (Continued)**

9. We scanned the Cash Summary by Fund Report for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014 for a 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 a negative cash fund balance.

### **Compliance – Contracts & Expenditures**

We inquired of management and scanned the Payment Register Detail Report for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014 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 § 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.

### **Other Compliance**

Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 requires townships to file their financial information in the HINKLE system formerly known as the Annual Financial Data Reporting System (AFDRS) within 60 days after the close of the fiscal year. We reviewed AFDRS to verify the Township filed their financial information within the allotted timeframe for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014. No exceptions noted.

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.



**Dave Yost**  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

June 9, 2016



# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

**ATHENS TOWNSHIP**

**HARRISON 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 28, 2016**