



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

**BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP
LORAIN COUNTY**

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Dave Yost • Auditor of State

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Brighton Township
Lorain County
19996 Baird Road
Wellington, Ohio 44090

To the Board of Trustees:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the cash balances, receipts and disbursements by fund type, and related notes of Brighton Township, Lorain County, Ohio, (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 Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit; this responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to preparing and fairly 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 opinions.

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

As described in Note 1B 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 (GAAP), to satisfy these requirements.

Although the effects on the financial statements of the variances between the regulatory accounting basis and GAAP are not reasonably determinable, we presume they are 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 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.

Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the cash balances by fund type of Brighton Township, Lorain County, Ohio as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, and its cash receipts and disbursements by fund type 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(D) permit, described in Note 1B.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated January 25, 2016 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. That report describes 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 Standards* in considering the Township's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

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

January 25, 2016

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**BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP
LORAIN COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (CASH BASIS)
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014**

	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$53,493	\$53,765		\$107,258
Licenses, Permits and Fees	650	675		1,325
Intergovernmental	23,581	93,334		116,915
Earnings on Investments	826	535		1,361
Miscellaneous	7,703	1,916		9,619
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>86,253</u>	<u>150,225</u>		<u>236,478</u>
Cash Disbursements				
Current:				
General Government	88,975			88,975
Public Works	26,025	155,874		181,899
Health		1,870		1,870
Conservation-Recreation	4,630			4,630
Capital Outlay	12,640	1,000		13,640
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>132,270</u>	<u>158,744</u>		<u>291,014</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	(46,017)	(8,519)		(54,536)
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>243,140</u>	<u>384,071</u>	<u>\$68,966</u>	<u>696,177</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31				
Restricted		375,552	68,966	444,518
Unassigned (Deficit)	197,123			197,123
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u>\$197,123</u>	<u>\$375,552</u>	<u>\$68,966</u>	<u>\$641,641</u>

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

**BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP
LORAIN COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (CASH BASIS)
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2013**

	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$52,973	\$53,243		\$106,216
Licenses, Permits and Fees	550	2,775		3,325
Intergovernmental	29,525	101,637		131,162
Earnings on Investments	860	461		1,321
Miscellaneous	9,604	2,843		12,447
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>93,512</u>	<u>160,959</u>		<u>254,471</u>
Cash Disbursements				
Current:				
General Government	98,092			98,092
Public Works	6,896	107,309		114,205
Health		4,606		4,606
Human Services		6,809		6,809
Other		2,775		2,775
Capital Outlay	4,117			4,117
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>109,105</u>	<u>121,499</u>		<u>230,604</u>
<i>Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>	<u>(15,593)</u>	<u>39,460</u>		<u>23,867</u>
Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)				
Transfers In			\$6,299	6,299
Transfers Out	(6,299)			(6,299)
<i>Total Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)</i>	<u>(6,299)</u>		<u>6,299</u>	
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	(21,892)	39,460	6,299	23,867
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>265,032</u>	<u>344,611</u>	<u>62,667</u>	<u>672,310</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31				
Restricted		384,071	68,966	453,037
Unassigned (Deficit)	243,140			243,140
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u>\$243,140</u>	<u>\$384,071</u>	<u>\$68,966</u>	<u>\$696,177</u>

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

**BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP
LORAIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013**

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 Brighton Township, Lorain County, (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 and cemetery maintenance. The Township contracts with Wellington Fire District and Southern Lorain County Ambulance District to provide fire and ambulance services to provide ambulance services.

The Township participates in jointly governed organizations, joint ventures and a public entity risk pool. Notes 6 and 8 to the financial statements provides additional information for these entities. These organizations are:

Public Entity Risk Pool:

- Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority provides property and casualty coverage for its members.

Jointly Governed Organizations:

- Rural Lorain County Water Authority provides water supply for domestic, industrial, and public use to users inside and outside the district.
- South Lorain County Ambulance District provides emergency medical services to the residents within the Ambulance District which includes the township.
- Wellington Community Fire District provides fire protection and rescue services within the fire district which includes the township.
- Lorain County General Health District provides health services to the community including education and prevention of disease.

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 permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Board 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 financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit.

**BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP
LORAIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013
(Continued)**

C. 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 accounts for and reports all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund.

2. Special Revenue Funds

These funds account for and report the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditure for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects. 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.

Special Levy - Road Repair Fund - This fund receives tax money from a 1-mill levy approved by Township voters for repairing Township roads.

Permissive Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund - This fund receives local motor vehicle tax money for repair and maintenance of Township roads.

3. Capital Project Funds

These funds account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for capital outlays, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets. The Township had the following capital project fund:

Permanent Improvement - This fund was set up years ago to accumulate estate tax revenue for any township permanent improvement in the future, such as a possible new township hall or a new township garage.

D. 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. Appropriations lapse at year end.

**BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP
LORAIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013
(Continued)**

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 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.

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.

**BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP
LORAIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013
(Continued)**

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.

2. Equity in Pooled Deposits

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

	2014	2013
Demand deposits	\$114,523	\$170,420
Certificates of deposit	85,437	85,179
Other time deposits (savings and NOW accounts)	441,681	440,578
Total deposits and investments	\$641,641	\$696,177

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

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	\$90,397	\$86,253	(\$4,144)
Special Revenue	158,854	150,225	(8,629)
Capital Projects	1,000	0	(1,000)
Total	\$250,251	\$236,478	(\$13,773)

**BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP
LORAIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013
(Continued)**

2014 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$307,800	\$132,270	\$175,530
Special Revenue	444,300	158,744	285,556
Capital Projects	65,000	0	65,000
Total	\$817,100	\$291,014	\$526,086

2013 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$93,184	\$93,512	\$328
Special Revenue	158,943	160,959	2,016
Capital Projects	1,000	6,299	5,299
Total	\$253,127	\$260,770	\$7,643

2013 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$256,100	\$115,404	\$140,696
Special Revenue	416,800	121,499	295,301
Capital Projects	60,000	0	60,000
Total	\$732,900	\$236,903	\$495,997

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 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.

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

**BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP
LORAIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013
(Continued)**

5. Retirement Systems

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

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% respectively, of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2014.

6. 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.

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. York Risk Pooling Services, Inc. (formally known as American Risk Pooling Consultants, Inc.) (York or Management), functions as the administrator of the Pool and provides underwriting claims, loss control, risk management, and reinsurance services for the Pool. 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

The Pool is a member of American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP), which is also administered by York. APEEP provides the Pool with an excess risk-sharing program. Under this arrangement, OTARMA retains insured risks up to an amount specified in the contracts. At December 31, 2014, OTARMA retained \$350,000 for casualty claims and \$250,000 for property claims.

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, 2013 and 2014:

**BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP
LORAIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013
(Continued)**

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
Assets	\$34,954,286	\$35,970,263
Liabilities	8,486,363	8,912,432
Net Position	\$26,467,923	\$27,057,831

At December 31, 2013 and 2014, respectively, the liabilities above include approximately \$7.9 and \$8.2 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets above also include approximately \$7.4 and \$7.2 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 957 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2013 and 2014, respectively. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. As of December 31, 2014, the Township's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$4,000.

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>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
\$5,988	\$6,800

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.

7. Contingent Liabilities

Amounts grantor agencies pay to the township are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor. The grantor may require refunding any disallowed costs. Management cannot presently determine amounts grantors may disallow. However, based on prior experience, management believes any refunds would be immaterial.

**BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP
LORAIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013
(Continued)**

8. Jointly Governed Organizations

Rural Lorain County Water Authority – The Rural Lorain County Water Authority, a regional water district, is a political subdivision of the State of Ohio created by order of the Lorain County Common Pleas Court. The Authority was incorporated in the State of Ohio on August 23, 1973 as a public use to users inside and outside the district. The Authority is exempt from federal income tax. The Authority operates under a Board of Trustees which consists of as many members as equals the total number of villages and townships within this regional water district.

South Lorain County Ambulance District – The Ambulance District is an ambulance district organized pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 505.71 and is directed by an appointed seven-member Board of Trustees representing the Village of Wellington, and Wellington, Huntington, Penfield, Rochester, Brighton and Pittsfield Townships. The Ambulance District provides emergency medical services to the residents within the Ambulance District which includes the township.

Wellington Community Fire District – The Fire District is a joint or community fire district organized pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 505.371 and is directed by an appointed six-member Board of Trustees representing the Village of Wellington, and Brighton, Huntington, Penfield, Pittsfield, and Wellington Townships. The Fire District provides fire protection and rescue services within the Fire District which includes the township.

Lorain County General Health District – The Health District is a joint or community health district organized pursuant to Ohio Revised Code and an eight-member Board, including a Health Commissioner to govern the District which provides health services to the community including education and prevention of disease.



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

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

Brighton Township
Lorain County
19996 Baird Road
Wellington, Ohio 44090

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States and the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*, the financial statements of the cash balances, receipts, and disbursements by fund type of Brighton Township, Lorain County, Ohio (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 January 25, 2016 wherein we noted the Township followed financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit.

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 opinions 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. Therefore, unidentified material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist. We did identify a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings that we consider a material weakness. We consider finding 2014-001 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, 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*.

Entity's Response to Findings

The Township's response to the finding identified in our audit is described in the accompanying schedule of findings. We did not audit the Township's response and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

Purpose of this Report

This report only describes the scope of our internal control 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.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Yost". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dave Yost
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

January 25, 2016

**BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP
LORAIN COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013**

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS
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FINDING NUMBER 2014-001

Material Weakness – Financial Reporting

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

The following deficiencies were identified:

- Taxes were overstated by \$4,467 and Intergovernmental Revenues were understated by \$4,467 respectively due to improper classification of homestead and rollback receipts in the General Fund in 2014.
- Taxes were overstated by \$7,962 and Intergovernmental Revenues were understated by \$7,962 respectively due to improper classification of homestead and rollback receipts in the Special Revenue Fund in 2014.
- Taxes were overstated by \$8,825 and Intergovernmental Revenues were understated by \$8,825 respectively due to improper classification of homestead and rollback receipts in the General Fund in 2013.
- Taxes were overstated by \$7,973 and Intergovernmental Revenues were understated by \$7,973 respectively due to improper classification of homestead and rollback receipts in the Special Revenue Fund in 2013.

The financial statements were adjusted and corrected by the Township for the errors identified above.

Failure to record receipts in the proper accounts hinders management's ability to effectively monitor the Township's performance.

Therefore to increase control and accountability over financial reporting we recommend management establish procedures to ensure receipts are recorded in the proper account codes, thereby increasing the reliability of the financial data throughout the year.

Officials Response:

The Trustees are provided with a Revenue Report at each meeting which details the receipts and account numbers to which the revenue is credited. This was not being done in 2013 and 2014, but has been done in 2015 and will continue to be the procedure so trustees have all the information to review.

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Dave Yost • Auditor of State

BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP

LORAIN 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 9, 2016**