



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

**EAST GEAUGA FIRE DISTRICT
GEAUGA COUNTY**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE	PAGE
Independent Auditor's Report	1
Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Cash Balance Governmental Fund Type For the Year Ended December 31, 2015	5
Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Cash Balance Governmental Fund Type For the Year Ended December 31, 2014	6
Notes to the Financial Statements	7
Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>	13

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Dave Yost • Auditor of State

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

East Geauga Fire District
Geauga County
P.O. Box 1197
Middlefield, Ohio 44062

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 the East Geauga Fire District, Geauga County, Ohio, (the District) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014.

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 District'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 District'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 1 of the financial statements, the District 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 District 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 District as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, 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 of the East Geauga Fire District, Geauga County, Ohio as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and its 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(D) 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 August 12, 2016, on our consideration of the District'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 District'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 "D" and "Y".

Dave Yost
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

August 12, 2016

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**EAST GEAUGA FIRE DISTRICT
GEAUGA COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCE
GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015**

	<u>General</u>
Cash Receipts:	
Property Taxes	\$469,531
Intergovernmental	83,467
Miscellaneous	36
	<hr/>
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<i>553,034</i>
	<hr/>
Cash Disbursements:	
Current Disbursements:	
General Government	469,511
Insurance	1,073
	<hr/>
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<i>470,584</i>
	<hr/>
<i>Excess Receipts Over Disbursements</i>	<i>82,450</i>
	<hr/>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<i>291,553</i>
	<hr/>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	
Unassigned	<u><u>\$374,003</u></u>

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

**EAST GEAUGA FIRE DISTRICT
GEAUGA COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCE
GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014**

	<u>General</u>
Cash Receipts:	
Property Taxes	\$270,372
Intergovernmental	113,088
Miscellaneous	<u>37</u>
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>383,497</u>
Cash Disbursements:	
Current Disbursements:	
General Government	481,895
Insurance	<u>1,017</u>
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>482,912</u>
<i>Excess Receipts Under Disbursements</i>	<u>(99,415)</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>390,968</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	
Unassigned	<u><u>\$291,553</u></u>

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

**EAST GEAUGA FIRE DISTRICT
GEAUGA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014**

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 East Geauga Fire District, Geauga County, Ohio, (the District) as a body corporate and politic. A five-member Board of Trustees governs the District as follows: (1) the Chairman of the Middlefield Township Board of Trustees; (2) the Mayor of Middlefield Village; (3) a second Middlefield Township Trustee, appointed by Middlefield Township's Board of Trustees; (4) a member of the Middlefield Village Council, appointed by Middlefield Village Council; and (5) a District resident appointed by the Middlefield Township Trustee Chairman. The District provides fire protection and rescue services for the communities of Middlefield Village and Middlefield Township.

The District's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the District 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.

C. Deposits and Investments

The District's accounting basis includes investments as assets. This basis does not record disbursements for investment purchases or receipts for investment sales. This basis records gains or losses at the time of sale as receipts or disbursements, respectively.

D. Fund Accounting

The District uses fund accounting to segregate cash and investments that are restricted as to use. The District classifies its funds into the following type:

General Fund - The General Fund accounts for and reports all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund.

**EAST GEAUGA FIRE DISTRICT
GEAUGA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014
(Continued)**

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 object level of control and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Board of Trustees must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end.

2. Estimated Resources

Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus unencumbered cash as of January 1. The County Budget Commission must approve estimated resources.

3. Encumbrances

The Ohio Revised Code requires the District 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 2015 and 2014 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

F. Fund Balance

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

1. Nonspendable

The District 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 District 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.

**EAST GEAUGA FIRE DISTRICT
GEAUGA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014
(Continued)**

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 District Trustees or a District 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 District 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 District 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 AND INVESTMENTS

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

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Demand deposits	<u>\$374,003</u>	<u>\$291,553</u>

Deposits: Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation; or collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the District.

**EAST GEAUGA FIRE DISTRICT
GEAUGA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014
(Continued)**

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014 follows:

2015 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$523,871	\$553,034	\$29,163

2015 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$479,930	\$470,584	\$9,346

2014 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$379,506	\$383,497	\$3,991

2014 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$466,067	\$482,912	(\$16,845)

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 District.

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

**EAST GEAUGA FIRE DISTRICT
GEAUGA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014
(Continued)**

8. RISK MANAGEMENT

Commercial Insurance

The District has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

- Comprehensive property and general liability;
- Errors and omissions.

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

East Geauga Fire District
Geauga County
P.O. Box 1197
Middlefield, Ohio 44062

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 the East Geauga Fire District, Geauga County, Ohio, (the District) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the related notes to the financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated August 12, 2016, wherein we noted the District 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 District'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 District'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 District'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 District'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 and compliance testing and our testing results, and does not opine on the effectiveness of the District's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed under *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



Dave Yost
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

August 12, 2016



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EAST GEAUGA FIRE DISTRICT

GEAUGA 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 27, 2016**