



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

**ERIE TOWNSHIP
OTTAWA COUNTY**

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Dave Yost • Auditor of State

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Erie Township
Ottawa County
P.O. Box 312
Lacarne, Ohio 43439-0312

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 Erie Township, Ottawa 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 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 (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 combined cash balances of Erie Township, Ottawa County, Ohio 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(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 April 4, 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.



Dave Yost
Auditor of State

Columbus, Ohio

April 4, 2016

**ERIE TOWNSHIP
OTTAWA 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	\$82,372	\$47,800	\$80,691	\$210,863
Charges for Services	12,959			12,959
Licenses, Permits and Fees	43,583	2,290	532	46,405
Intergovernmental	35,606	124,926	9,697	170,229
Refunds	3,290			3,290
Earnings on Investments	75	172		247
Miscellaneous	4,674	176		4,850
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>182,559</u>	<u>175,364</u>	<u>90,920</u>	<u>448,843</u>
Cash Disbursements				
Current:				
General Government	110,401		2,115	112,516
Public Safety	7,346	46,194		53,540
Public Works	13,457	139,241		152,698
Health		9,392		9,392
Capital Outlay	5,694	3,521	3,825	13,040
Debt Service:				
Principal Retirement		40,898	74,183	115,081
Interest and Fiscal Charges		8,969	4,982	13,951
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>136,898</u>	<u>248,215</u>	<u>85,105</u>	<u>470,218</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	45,661	(72,851)	5,815	(21,375)
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>77,208</u>	<u>288,775</u>	<u>25,239</u>	<u>391,222</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31				
Restricted		142,871	31,054	173,925
Committed		73,053		73,053
Assigned	122,869			122,869
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u>\$122,869</u>	<u>\$215,924</u>	<u>\$31,054</u>	<u>\$369,847</u>

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

**ERIE TOWNSHIP
OTTAWA 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	\$77,953	\$44,813	\$76,362	\$199,128
Licenses, Permits and Fees	28,063	4,310	512	32,885
Intergovernmental	49,475	115,400	8,961	173,836
Refunds	4,111			4,111
Earnings on Investments	178	534		712
Miscellaneous	5,159			5,159
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>164,939</u>	<u>165,057</u>	<u>85,835</u>	<u>415,831</u>
Cash Disbursements				
Current:				
General Government	103,595		1,939	105,534
Public Safety	3,705	45,756		49,461
Public Works	5,598	128,978		134,576
Health		10,098		10,098
Capital Outlay		9,645		9,645
Debt Service:				
Principal Retirement		39,227	71,442	110,669
Interest and Fiscal Charges		10,640	7,722	18,362
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>112,898</u>	<u>244,344</u>	<u>81,103</u>	<u>438,345</u>
<i>Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>	<u>52,041</u>	<u>(79,287)</u>	<u>4,732</u>	<u>(22,514)</u>
Other Financing Disbursements				
Other Financing Uses	(5)			(5)
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	52,036	(79,287)	4,732	(22,519)
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>25,172</u>	<u>368,062</u>	<u>20,507</u>	<u>413,741</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31				
Restricted		229,539	25,239	254,778
Committed		59,236		59,236
Assigned	75,371			75,371
Unassigned	1,837			1,837
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u>\$77,208</u>	<u>\$288,775</u>	<u>\$25,239</u>	<u>\$391,222</u>

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

**ERIE TOWNSHIP
OTTAWA 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 Erie Township, Ottawa County, Ohio (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, cemetery maintenance, fire protection and emergency medical services.

The Township participates in the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA) public entity risk pool which provides property and casualty coverage for its members. Note 7 to the financial statements provide additional information for this entity.

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.

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 capital projects. The Township had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

Gasoline Tax Fund - This fund receives gasoline tax money to pay for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads.

Special Levy Fund - This fund receives property tax and intergovernmental monies used to provide fire protection and emergency medical services.

**ERIE TOWNSHIP
OTTAWA COUNTY**

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

3. Capital Project Fund

This fund accounts for and reports 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 significant Capital Project Fund.

Fire Truck Fund – This fund receives property tax revenues to pay for the purchase of a new fire truck.

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. 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 Township to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over, and need not be reappropriated.

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

E. 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.

**ERIE TOWNSHIP
OTTAWA COUNTY**

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

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.

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.

F. 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.

G. 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 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	\$284,847	\$306,222
Certificates of deposit	85,000	85,000
Total deposits	<u>369,847</u>	<u>391,222</u>

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

**ERIE TOWNSHIP
OTTAWA COUNTY**

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

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	\$143,650	\$182,559	\$38,909
Special Revenue	162,100	175,364	13,264
Capital Projects	84,000	90,920	6,920
Total	\$389,750	\$448,843	\$59,093

2014 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$219,021	\$137,278	\$81,743
Special Revenue	447,083	251,837	195,246
Capital Projects	109,000	85,105	23,895
Total	\$775,104	\$474,220	\$300,884

2013 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$89,350	\$164,939	\$75,589
Special Revenue	165,200	165,057	(143)
Capital Projects	90,000	85,835	(4,165)
Total	\$344,550	\$415,831	\$71,281

2013 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$114,520	\$114,279	\$241
Special Revenue	532,900	249,838	283,062
Capital Projects	110,500	81,103	29,397
Total	\$757,920	\$445,220	\$312,700

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.

**ERIE TOWNSHIP
OTTAWA COUNTY**

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

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:

	Principal	Interest Rate
Maintenance Building Loan	\$174,797	4.55%
Fire Truck Loan	75,466	3.8%
Total	\$250,263	

The Township entered into a \$400,000 promissory note with Croghan Colonial Bank for the construction of a new maintenance building to house the vehicles and equipment for Township road maintenance and was approved in the amount of \$400,000. The loan will be repaid in monthly installments of \$4,156 over seven years, commencing on November 28, 2008 and ending November 28, 2015 with a final lump sum payment due in the amount of \$143,744 for remaining principal and interest.

The Township entered into a \$315,417 promissory note with Croghan Colonial Bank for the purchase of a new fire truck. The loan will be repaid on semiannual installments of \$39,582 over 5 years, commencing on May 29, 2011 and ending November 29, 2015.

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

	Maintenance Building Loan	Fire Truck Loan
Year ending December 31: 2015	\$181,134	\$79,164

6. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

A. Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

The Township's employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes this plan's 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%, of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2014.

B. Social Security

All employees not otherwise covered by the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System contribute to Social Security. The Township's liability is 6.2% of wages paid.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

**ERIE TOWNSHIP
OTTAWA COUNTY**

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

Risk Pool Membership

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 net position at December 31, 2013 and 2014:

	<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 \$6,000.

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,

**ERIE TOWNSHIP
OTTAWA COUNTY**

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

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>
\$10,828	\$10,924

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.

8. SUBSEQUENT EVENT

On November 28, 2015 the Township executed a promissory note to refinance the remaining principal and interest due on the maintenance building loan.

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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

Erie Township
Ottawa County
P.O. Box 312
Lacarne, Ohio 43439-0312

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 Erie Township, Ottawa 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 April 4, 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 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. 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*.

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 style with a large, looping "D" and "Y".

Dave Yost
Auditor of State

Columbus, Ohio

April 4, 2016

**ERIE TOWNSHIP
OTTAWA 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

The Township's management is responsible for the fair presentation of the financial statements. In addition, Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 54 requires fund balance be divided into one of five classifications based on the extent to which constraints are imposed upon the resources.

We identified the following errors requiring adjustment to the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2014:

- Motor Vehicle License Fund (Special Revenue fund type) balance in the amount of \$68,656 was reclassified to restricted from committed in accordance with GASB 54; and
- Gasoline Tax Fund (Special Revenue fund type) balance in the amount of \$46,663 was reclassified to restricted from committed in accordance with GASB 54.

We identified the following errors requiring adjustment to the financial statements and notes to the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2013:

- General Fund appropriations reported in the accounting system in the amount of \$132,420 were reduced by \$17,900 in order to adjust reported appropriations to the actual amount authorized by the Board of Trustees;
- Motor Vehicle license Fund (Special Revenue fund type) balance in the amount of \$55,599 was reclassified to restricted from committed in accordance with GASB 54; and
- Gasoline Tax Fund (Special Revenue fund type) balance in the amount of \$126,708 was reclassified to restricted from committed in accordance with GASB 54.

These errors were not identified and corrected prior to the Township preparing its financial statements due to deficiencies in the Township's internal controls over financial statement monitoring. The accompanying financial statements, and where applicable, the Township's accounting records have been adjusted to reflect these changes. Sound financial reporting is the responsibility of the Fiscal Officer and the Board of Trustees and is essential to ensure the information provided to the readers of the financial statements and accompanying notes is complete and accurate.

To ensure the Township's financial statements and notes to the statements are complete and accurate, the Township should adopt policies and procedures, including a final review of the statements and notes by the Fiscal Officer, to identify and correct errors and omissions. Also, the Fiscal Officer can refer to the Ohio Township Handbook at the following web site address for guidance on the recording of transactions: <https://ohioauditor.gov/publications/15OhioTownshipHandbook.pdf>.

Officials' Response:

We did not receive a response from Officials to this finding.

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Dave Yost • Auditor of State

ERIE TOWNSHIP

OTTAWA 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
APRIL 26, 2016**