

**AUBURN TOWNSHIP
TUSCARAWAS COUNTY**

AUDIT REPORT

JANUARY 1, 2015 - DECEMBER 31, 2016



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

Board of Trustees
Auburn Township
124 Pleasant Valley Rd NW
Sugarcreek, OH 44681

We have reviewed the Independent Auditor's Report of Auburn Township, Tuscarawas County, prepared by Wilson, Phillips & Agin, CPA's, Inc., for the audit period January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2016. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

Our review was made in reference to the applicable sections of legislative criteria, as reflected by the Ohio Constitution, and the Revised Code, policies, procedures and guidelines of the Auditor of State, regulations and grant requirements. Auburn Township is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Yost".

Dave Yost
Auditor of State

May 10, 2017

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**AUBURN TOWNSHIP
TUSCARAWAS COUNTY
JANUARY 1, 2015 - DECEMBER 31, 2016**

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**WILSON, PHILLIPS & AGIN, CPA'S, INC.
1100 BRANDYWINE BLVD. BUILDING G
ZANESVILLE, OHIO 43701**

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Auburn Township
Tuscarawas County
124 Pleasant Valley Road NW
Sugar Creek, Ohio 44681

To the Township 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 Auburn Township, Tuscarawas County, as of and for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015.

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 (GAAP, to satisfy these requirements.

Although the effects on the financial statements of the variances between the regulatory accounting basis and GAAP are not reasonable 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 permitted 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 Auburn Township, Tuscarawas County as of December 31, 2016 and 2015, 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 Auburn Township, Tuscarawas County as of December 31, 2016 and 2015, 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 a report dated March 14, 2017, on our consideration of Auburn 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.

Wilson, Phillips & Agin, CPA's, Inc.
Zanesville, Ohio
March 14, 2017

**AUBURN TOWNSHIP
TUSCARAWAS COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		Totals (Memorandum Only)
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	
Cash Receipts:			
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 36,932	\$ 84,360	\$ 121,292
Licenses, Permits and Fees	403	1,200	1,603
Intergovernmental	30,036	105,542	135,578
Earnings on Investments	12	-	12
Miscellaneous	-	2,134	2,134
Total Cash Receipts	<u>67,383</u>	<u>193,236</u>	<u>260,619</u>
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	59,294	-	59,294
Public Safety	-	40,462	40,462
Public Works	-	154,355	154,355
Health	-	11,930	11,930
Capital Outlay	-	8,961	8,961
Total Cash Disbursements	<u>59,294</u>	<u>215,708</u>	<u>275,002</u>
Excess of Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	8,089	(22,472)	(14,383)
Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)			
Sale of Capital Assets	-	170	170
Total Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)	<u>-</u>	<u>170</u>	<u>170</u>
Net Change in Fund Cash Balance	8,089	(22,302)	(14,213)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>23,594</u>	<u>71,920</u>	<u>95,514</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31			
Restricted	-	49,618	49,618
Unassigned (Deficit)	31,683	-	31,683
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$ 31,683</u>	<u>\$ 49,618</u>	<u>\$ 81,301</u>

See notes to financial statements.

**AUBURN TOWNSHIP
TUSCARAWAS COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		Totals (Memorandum Only)
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	
Cash Receipts:			
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 41,809	\$ 93,951	\$ 135,760
Licenses, Permits and Fees	1,737	1,750	3,487
Intergovernmental	34,320	96,380	130,700
Earnings on Investments	13	-	13
Miscellaneous	-	-	-
Total Cash Receipts	<u>77,879</u>	<u>192,081</u>	<u>269,960</u>
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	59,817	-	59,817
Public Safety	-	36,840	36,840
Public Works	-	196,349	196,349
Health	913	10,485	11,398
Total Cash Disbursements	<u>60,730</u>	<u>243,674</u>	<u>304,404</u>
Net Change in Fund Cash Balance	17,149	(51,593)	(34,444)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>6,445</u>	<u>123,513</u>	<u>129,958</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31			
Restricted	-	71,920	71,920
Unassigned (Deficit)	23,594	-	23,594
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$ 23,594</u>	<u>\$ 71,920</u>	<u>\$ 95,514</u>

See notes to financial statements.

**AUBURN TOWNSHIP
TUSCARAWAS COUNTY**

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. REPORTING ENTITY

Description of the Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of Auburn Township, Tuscarawas County, (the Township) as a body corporate and politic. A publically-elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides general government services, road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance, fire protection and emergency medical services. The Township contracts with the Village of Sugar Creek to provide fire protection and Swiss Valley Ambulance to provide ambulance services.

The Township participates in a jointly governed organization. Note 9 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity.

The Township's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Township is financially accountable.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Basis of Presentation

The Township's financial statements consist of a combined statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balances (regulatory cash basis) for all governmental fund types and a combined statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balances (regulatory cash basis) for all proprietary and fiduciary fund types which are organized on a fund type basis.

B. Fund Accounting

The Township uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. The funds of the Township are presented below:

General Fund

The General Fund accounts for and reports all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund. The general fund balance is available to the Township for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

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:

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

Road and Bridge Fund – This fund receives property tax monies to pay for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads.

Fire and Ambulance Fund – This fund receives property tax monies to pay for fire protection and emergency medical services.

**AUBURN TOWNSHIP
TUSCARAWAS COUNTY**

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

C. Basis of Accounting

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

D. Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund be budgeted annually.

Appropriations

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function and object level of control and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Trustees must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end.

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.

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 2016 and 2015 appear in Note 3.

**AUBURN TOWNSHIP
TUSCARAWAS COUNTY**

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

E. Deposits and Investments

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

F. Capital Assets

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.

H. 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:

Nonspendable

The Township classifies assets as *nonspendable* when legally or contractually required to maintain the amounts intact.

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.

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.

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.

**AUBURN TOWNSHIP
TUSCARAWAS COUNTY**

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

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.

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015 is as follows:

2016 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 65,476	\$ 67,383	\$ 1,907
Special Revenue	234,577	193,406	(41,171)
Total	\$ 300,053	\$ 260,789	\$ (39,264)

2016 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 69,454	\$ 59,294	\$ 10,160
Special Revenue	235,900	215,708	20,192
Total	\$ 305,354	\$ 275,002	\$ 30,352

2015 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 63,490	\$ 77,879	\$ 14,389
Special Revenue	196,755	192,081	(4,674)
Total	\$ 260,245	\$ 269,960	\$ 9,715

2015 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 63,602	\$ 60,730	\$ 2,872
Special Revenue	245,237	243,674	1,563
Total	\$ 308,839	\$ 304,404	\$ 4,435

Contrary to ORC 5705.41(D), the Township had made expenditures prior to certification.

**AUBURN TOWNSHIP
TUSCARAWAS COUNTY**

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

4. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH

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:

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Demand Deposits	\$ 81,301	\$ 95,514
Total Deposits	<u>\$ 81,301</u>	<u>\$ 95,514</u>

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

5. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which rates are adopted by Township Trustees. 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.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

Commercial Insurance

The Township has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

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

7. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

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

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2016 and 2015, OPERS members contributed 10.0% of their gross wages and the Township contributed an amount equal to 14.00% of participant's gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2016.

**AUBURN TOWNSHIP
TUSCARAWAS COUNTY**

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

8. POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

Both OPERS and OP&F offers cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plans, which include multiple health care plans including medical coverage, prescription drug coverage, deposits to a Health Reimbursement Arrangement and Medicare Part B premium reimbursements, to qualifying benefit recipients. OPERS contributes 2 percent of the employer contribution to fund these benefits, and OP&F contributes 0.5 percent to fund these benefits.

9. JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATION

The Township is associated with the Tuscarawas County Regional Planning Commission, (the Commission) as a Jointly Governed Organization. The Commission is statutorily created political subdivision of the state. The Commission is jointly governed among Tuscarawas County municipalities and townships. Each member's control over the Commission is limited to its representation on the board. The Commission make studies, maps, plans, recommendations and reports concerning the physical, environmental, social, economical and governmental characteristics, functions and services of the county. The Township contributed \$171 in both 2016 and 2015 to the Regional Planning Commission.

**WILSON, PHILLIPS & AGIN, CPA'S, INC.
1100 BRANDYWINE BLVD. BUILDING G
ZANESVILLE, OHIO 43701**

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

Auburn Township
Tuscarawas County
124 Pleasant Valley Road NW
Sugar Creek, Ohio 44681

To the Township Trustees:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards general accepted in the United States and the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*, the financial statements of Auburn Township, Tuscarawas County as of and for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, and the related notes to the financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated March 14, 2017, 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 Auburn 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.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Therefore, unidentified material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist. However, as described in the accompanying schedule of findings we identified a certain deficiency in internal control over financial reporting, that we consider a material weakness.

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 a 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. We consider Finding 2016-002 described in the accompanying schedule of findings to be a material weakness.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Auburn 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 was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed one instance of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2016-001.

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.

Wilson, Phillips & Agin, CPA's, Inc.
Zanesville, Ohio
March 14, 2017

**AUBURN TOWNSHIP
TUSCARAWAS COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND 2015**

**FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS**

FINDING NUMBER 2016-001

Noncompliance – Certification of Funds

Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41(D) prohibits a subdivision or taxing authority from making any contract or ordering any expenditure of money unless a certificate signed by the fiscal officer is attached thereto. The fiscal officer must certify that the amount required to meet any such contract or expenditure has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury, or is in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrance.

There are several exceptions to the standard requirement stated above that a fiscal officer’s certificate must be obtained prior to a subdivision or taxing authority entering into a contract or order involving the expenditure of money. The main exceptions are: “then and now” certificates, blanket certificates and super blanket certificates, which are provided for in Sections 5705.41(D)(1) and 5705.41(D)(3), respectively, of the Ohio Revised Code.

- If the fiscal officer can certify that both at the time that the contract or order was made (“then”) and at the time that the fiscal officer is completing the certification (“now”), that sufficient funds were available or in the process of collection, to the credit of a proper fund, properly appropriated and free from any previous encumbrance, the Township can authorize the drawing of a warrant for the payment of the amount due. The Township has 30 days from the receipt of the “then and now” certificate to approve payment by ordinance or resolution. Amounts less than \$3,000 may be paid by the fiscal officer without a resolution or ordinance upon completion of the “then and now” certificate, provided that the expenditure is otherwise lawful. This does not eliminate any otherwise applicable requirement for approval of the expenditures by the Township.
- Blanket Certificates. Fiscal officers may prepare “blanket” certificates if the Township has approved their use and established maximum amounts.
- Super Blanket Certificates. The Township may also make expenditures and contracts for any amount from a specific line item appropriation account in a specified fund upon certification of the fiscal officer for most professional services, fuel, oil, food items, and any other specific recurring and reasonable predictable operation expense. This certification is not to extend beyond the current year. More than one so-called “super blanket” certificate may be outstanding at a particular time for any line item appropriation.

**AUBURN TOWNSHIP
TUSCARAWAS COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND 2015**

**FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS**

FINDING NUMBER 2016-001 (Continued)

The Township did not certify the availability of funds prior to the purchase commitment for 17% of expenditures tested. For these item the Township also did not prepare blanket certificates, super blankets certificates or then and now certificates in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code. Failure to properly certify the availability of funds can result in overspending funds and negative cash fund balances.

We recommend the Township certify purchases to which Section 5705.41(D) applies. The most convenient certification method is to use purchase orders that include the certification language 5705.41(D) requires to authorize disbursements. The Fiscal Officer should sign the certification at the time the Township incurs a commitment and only when the requirements of 5705.41(D) are satisfied. The Fiscal Officer should post approved purchase commitments to the proper code, to reduce available appropriations.

Client Response: We received no response from client.

FINDING 2016-002

Material Weakness – Reclassifications

All local offices should maintain an accounting system and accounting records sufficient to enable the public office to identify, assemble, analyze, classify, record and report its transactions, maintain accountability for the related assets, document compliance with finance-related legal and contractual requirements and prepare financial statements.

The Ohio Township Handbook provides suggested account classifications. These accounts classify receipts by fund and source (taxes or charges for services, for example) and classify disbursements by fund, program (general government, for example) or object (personal services, for example). Using these classifications will provide the Township with information required to monitor compliance with the budget, and prepare annual reports in the format required by the Auditor of State.

During 2016 and 2015, the Township's receipts were not always posted into accurate classifications. The following misclassifications were noted:

- In 2016, homestead and rollback receipts in the amount of \$4,379, \$6,745 and \$2,817 were posted to Property and Other Local taxes within the General Fund, Road & Bridge Fund and Fire & Ambulance Fund instead of intergovernmental receipts.
- In 2015, homestead and rollback receipts in the amount of \$7,239 and \$7,339 were posted to Property and Other Local taxes within the General Fund and Road & Bridge Fund instead of intergovernmental receipts.
- In 2015, the 1st half Real Estate Tax was recorded at net and needed to be grossed up to the proper value.

Reclassifications are reflected within the accompanying financial statements.

Client Response: We received no response from client.



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

AUBURN TOWNSHIP

TUSCARAWAS 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 1, 2017**