



Dave Yost • Auditor of State



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

Hartsgrove Township
Ashtabula County
5321 State Route 534 South
Rome, Ohio 44085

We have performed the procedures enumerated below, which were agreed to by the Board of Trustees and the management of Hartsgrove Township (the Township), on the receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the Township's cash basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015 and certain compliance requirements related to those transactions and balances, included in the information provided to us by the management of the Township. The Township is responsible for the receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the cash basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015 and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances included in the information provided to us by the Township. The sufficiency of the procedures is solely the responsibility of the parties specified in this report.

Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

This report only describes exceptions exceeding \$10.

Cash and Investments

1. We recalculated the December 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015 bank reconciliations. We found no exceptions.
2. We agreed the January 1, 2015 beginning fund balances recorded in the Fund Ledger Report to the December 31, 2014 balances in the prior year audited statements. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the January 1, 2016 beginning fund balances recorded in the Fund Ledger Report to the December 31, 2015 balances in the Fund Status Report. We found no exceptions.
3. We agreed the totals per the bank reconciliations to the total of the December 31, 2016 and 2015 fund cash balances reported in the Fund Status Reports. The amounts agreed.
4. We confirmed the December 31, 2016 bank account balances with the Township's financial institution. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the confirmed balances to the amounts appearing in the December 31, 2016 bank reconciliation without exception.
5. We selected five reconciling debits (such as outstanding checks) haphazardly from the December 31, 2016 bank reconciliation:
 - a. We traced each debit to the subsequent January bank statement. We found no exceptions.
 - b. We traced the amounts and dates to the check register, to determine the debits were dated prior to December 31. There were no exceptions.

Cash and Investments (Continued)

6. We selected all reconciling credits (such as deposits in transit) from the December 31, 2016 bank reconciliation:
 - a. We traced each credit to the subsequent January bank statement. We found no exceptions.
 - b. We agreed the credit amounts to the Receipts Register. Each credit was recorded as a December receipt for the same amount recorded in the reconciliation.
7. We inspected investments held at December 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015 to determine that they:
 - a. Were of a type authorized by Ohio Rev. Code Sections 135.13, 135.14 or 135.144. We found no exceptions
 - b. Mature within the prescribed time limits noted in Ohio Rev. Code Section 135.13 or 135.14. We noted no exceptions.

Property Taxes, Intergovernmental and Other Confirmable Cash Receipts

1. We haphazardly selected a property tax receipt from one *Statement of Semiannual Apportionment of Taxes* (the Statement) for 2016 and one from 2015:
 - a. We traced the gross receipts from the *Statement* to the amount recorded in the Revenue Ledger. The amounts agreed.
 - b. We inspected the Revenue Ledger to confirm the receipt was allocated to the proper funds as required by Ohio Rev. Code Sections 5705.05-.06 and 5705.10. We found no exceptions.
 - c. We inspected the Revenue Ledger to confirm whether the receipt was recorded in the proper year. The receipt was recorded in the proper year.
2. We inspected the Revenue Ledger to determine whether it included two real estate tax receipts for 2016 and 2015. The Revenue Ledger included the proper number of tax receipts for each year.
3. We haphazardly selected five receipts from the State Distribution Transaction Lists (DTL) from 2016 and five from 2015. We also haphazardly selected five receipts from the County Auditor's Payment Register from 2016 and five from 2015.
 - a. We compared the amount from the above reports to the amount recorded in the Revenue Ledger. The amounts agreed.
 - b. We inspected the Revenue Ledger to determine that these receipts were allocated to the proper funds. We found one exception a local government receipt for \$540 due to the General Fund that was posted to Road & Bridge fund. The fiscal officer has corrected the posting error.
 - c. We inspected the Revenue Ledger to determine whether the receipts were recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.

Debt

1. From the prior audit documentation, we observed the following notes and loans were outstanding as of December 31, 2014. These amounts agreed to the Townships January 1, 2015 balances on the summary we used in step 3.

Debt (Continued)

Issue	Principal outstanding as of December 31, 2014:
OPWC Cap Project Loan	49,680
Paving Note	212,023
Fire Truck Note	186,558

2. We inquired of management, and inspected the Receipt Register Report and Payment Register Detail Report for evidence of debt issued during 2016 or 2015 or debt payment activity during 2016 or 2015. We noted no new debt issuances during 2016 or 2015.
3. We obtained a summary of note and loan debt activity for 2016 and 2015 and agreed principal and interest payments from the related debt amortization schedules to the Road & Bridge and Fire Funds payments reported in the Payment Register Detail Report. We also compared the date the debt service payments were due to the date the Township made the payments. We noted two exceptions. An extra payment was made for each debt issuance in 2015 and the May and June 2017 principal and interest payments were paid in May and June of 2016.

Payroll Cash Disbursements

1. We haphazardly selected one payroll check for five employees from 2016 and one payroll check for five employees from 2015 from the Employee Wage Base Detail Report and:
 - a. We compared the hours and pay rate, or salary recorded in the Employee Wage Base Detail Report to supporting documentation (timecard, legislatively or statutorily-approved rate or salary). We found no exceptions.
 - b. We inspected the fund and account codes to which the check was posted to determine the posting was reasonable based on the employees' duties as documented in the minute record or as required by statute. We also confirmed the payment was posted to the proper year. We found no exceptions.
2. For any new employees selected in step 1 we inspected the employees' personnel files for the following information and compared it with the information used to compute gross and net pay related to this check:
 - a. Name
 - b. Authorized salary or pay rate
 - c. Department and funds to which the check should be charged
 - d. Retirement system participation and payroll withholding
 - e. Federal, State & Local income tax withholding authorization and withholding
 - f. Any other deduction authorizations (deferred compensation, etc.)

We found no exceptions related to steps a. – f. above.

3. We inspected the last remittance of tax and retirement withholdings for the year ended December 31, 2016 to confirm remittances were timely paid, and if the amounts paid agreed to the amounts withheld, plus the employer's share where applicable, during the final withholding period of 2016. We noted the following:

Payroll Cash Disbursements (Continued)

Withholding (plus employer share, where applicable)	Date Due	Date Paid	Amount Due	Amount Paid
Federal income taxes & Medicare (and social security, for employees not enrolled in pension system)	January 31, 2017	December 31, 2016	\$1,589.41	\$1,589.41
State income taxes	January 15, 2017	December 31, 2016	\$436.73	\$436.73
OPERS retirement	January 30, 2017	December 31, 2016	\$1,993.97	\$1,993.97

4. We inquired of management and inspected the Payment Register Detail Report for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015 to determine if township employees and/or trustees were reimbursed for out-of-pocket insurance premiums. We found Insurance reimbursements paid were not in compliance with ORC 505.601 as the required resolution was not adopted for the period January 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015 and for the period July 1, 2015 through December 31, 2016 the Township did not comply with IRS issued Notice 2015-17 in which it is indicated that an employer payment plan which involves the employer's reimbursement to employees for some or all of their health insurance premiums incident to a policy secured other than through the employer constitutes a group health plan which is subject to regulation under the Patient Protection and ACA. On that basis, the IRS indicates that any such reimbursement plan, since it limits the amount of payments, is in violation of the ACA, and may subject the employers to fines and penalties.

Non-Payroll Cash Disbursements

1. We haphazardly selected ten disbursements from the Payment Register Detail Report for the year ended December 31, 2016 and ten from the year ended 2015 and determined whether:
 - a. The disbursements were for a proper public purpose. We found no exceptions.
 - b. The check number, date, payee name and amount recorded on the returned, canceled check agreed to the check number, date, payee name and amount recorded in the Payment Register Detail Report and to the names and amounts on the supporting invoices. We found no exceptions.
 - c. The payment was posted to a fund consistent with the restricted purpose for which the fund's cash can be used. We found no exceptions.
 - d. The fiscal officer certified disbursements requiring certification or issued a *Then and Now Certificate*, as required by Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D). We found no exceptions.

Compliance – Budgetary

1. We compared the total estimated receipts from the Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources, required by Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.36(A)(1), to the amounts recorded in the Revenue Status Report for the General, Road & Bridge and Fire Funds for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015. The amounts on the *Certificate* agreed to the amount recorded in the accounting system, except for the General, Road & Bridge and Fire Funds in 2015. The Revenue Status Report recorded budgeted (i.e. certified) resources for the General Fund of \$103,075, the Road & Bridge Fund of \$149,000, and the Fire Fund of \$88,000. However, the final Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources reflected \$103,597 for General, \$149,453 for Road & Bridge, and \$86,078 for Fire. The fiscal officer should periodically compare amounts recorded in the Revenue Status Report to amounts recorded on the *Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources* to assure they agree. If the amounts do not agree, the Trustees may be using inaccurate information for budgeting and monitoring purposes.

Compliance – Budgetary (Continued)

2. We inspected the appropriation measures adopted for 2016 and 2015 to determine whether, for the General, Road & Bridge and Fire Funds, the Trustees appropriated separately for “each office, department, and division, and within each, the amount appropriated for personal services,” as is required by Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.38(C). We found no exceptions.
3. We compared total appropriations required by Ohio Rev. Code Sections 5705.38 and 5705.40, to the amounts recorded in the Appropriation Status Report for 2016 and 2015 for the following funds: General, Road & Bridge and Fire. The amounts on the appropriation resolutions agreed to the amounts recorded in the Appropriation Status report.
4. Ohio Rev. Code Sections 5705.36(A)(5) and 5705.39 prohibits appropriations from exceeding the certified resources. We compared total appropriations to total certified resources for the General, Road & Bridge and Fire Funds for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015. We noted no funds for which appropriations exceeded certified resources.
5. Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(B) prohibits expenditures (disbursements plus certified commitments) from exceeding appropriations. We compared total expenditures to total appropriations for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015 for the General, Road & Bridge and Fire Funds, as recorded in the Comparison of Disbursements and Encumbrances with Expenditure Authority Report. We noted no funds for which expenditures exceeded appropriations.
6. Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.09 requires establishing separate funds to segregate externally-restricted resources. We inspected the Receipt Register Report for evidence of new restricted receipts requiring a new fund during December 31, 2016 and 2015. We also inquired of management regarding whether the Township received new restricted receipts. We observed no evidence of new restricted receipts for which Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.09 would require the Township to establish a new fund.
7. For funds existing in prior years, inspect the fund activity to determine whether the fund is still being used for the statutorily approved purpose and that all the required funds were established. We noted all the required funds were established and no funds for which the statutorily approved purpose was no longer valid were included in the accounting records.
8. We inspected the 2016 and 2015 Reconciliation of Interfund Transactions Report for evidence of interfund transfers exceeding \$1,000 which Ohio Rev. Code Sections 5705.14 - .16 restrict. We found no evidence of transfers these Sections prohibit, or for which Section 5705.16 would require approval by the Tax Commissioner and Court of Common Pleas.
9. We inquired of management and inspected the Budgetary Comparison Reports to determine whether the Township elected to establish reserve accounts permitted by Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.13. We noted the Township did not establish these reserves.
10. We inspected the Cash Summary by Fund Report for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015 for negative cash fund balances. Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.10 (I) provides that money paid into a fund must be used for the purposes for which such fund is established. As a result, a negative fund cash balance indicates that money from one fund was used to cover the expenses of another. No funds had a negative cash fund balance.

Compliance – Contracts & Expenditures

1. We inquired of management and inspected the Payment Register Detail Report for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015 to determine if the township proceeded by force account (i.e. used its own employees) to maintain or repair roads (cost of project \$15,000-\$45,000) or to construct or reconstruct township roads (cost of project \$5,000-\$15,000/per mile) for which Ohio Rev. Code Section 5575.01 requires the county engineer to complete a force account project assessment form (i.e., cost estimate). We identified no projects requiring the county engineer to complete a force account cost estimate.

Other Compliance

1. Ohio Rev. Code Section 117.38 requires townships to file their financial information in the HINKLE system within 60 days after the close of the fiscal year. We confirmed the Township filed their complete financial statements, as defined by AOS Bulletin 2016-007, within the allotted timeframe for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015 in the Hinkle system. The financial statements did not include the notes to the financial statements as required for 2015.
2. We inquired of the fiscal officer and/or inspected the Fiscal Integrity Act Portal (<http://www.ohioauditor.gov/fiscalintegrity/default.html>) to determine whether the fiscal officer obtained the training required by Ohio Rev. Code Section 507.12 and 733.81. Fiscal Officer obtained 2 of the required 12 hours of training required for her term which began April 1, 2016.

This agreed-upon procedures engagement was conducted in accordance with the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants attestation standards and applicable attestation engagement standards included in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. We were not engaged to, and did not conduct an examination or review, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on the Township's receipts, disbursements, balances and compliance with certain laws and regulations. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

This report is for the use of the Township to assist in evaluating its receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in their cash-basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances and is not suitable for any other purpose.



Dave Yost
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

June 14, 2017



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

HARTSGROVE TOWNSHIP

ASHTABULA 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 29, 2017**