

**MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND COUNTY**

AUDIT REPORT

JANUARY 1, 2015 - DECEMBER 31, 2016



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

Board of Trustees
Montgomery Township
1302 North Davis Road
Ashland, Ohio 44805

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditors' Report* of Montgomery Township, Ashland 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. Montgomery 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

September 25, 2017

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**MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND 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

Montgomery Township
Ashland County
1302 N. Davis Road
Ashland, Ohio 44805

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 Montgomery Township, Ashland 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 2 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 Montgomery Township, Ashland 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 Montgomery Township, Ashland 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 2.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued a report dated June 7, 2017, on our consideration of Montgomery 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
June 7, 2017

**MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND 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	\$ 185,367	\$ 248,013	\$ 433,380
Licenses, Permits and Fees	4,150	-	4,150
Intergovernmental	29,848	155,699	185,547
Earnings on Investments	768	28	796
Miscellaneous	1,368	6,100	7,468
Total Cash Receipts	<u>221,501</u>	<u>409,840</u>	<u>631,341</u>
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	114,610	-	114,610
Public Safety	-	162,008	162,008
Public Works	2,307	221,398	223,705
Health	4,327	-	4,327
Capital Outlay	-	212	212
Total Cash Disbursements	<u>121,244</u>	<u>383,618</u>	<u>504,862</u>
Net Change in Fund Cash Balance	100,257	26,222	126,479
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>511,227</u>	<u>205,590</u>	<u>716,817</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31			
Restricted	-	231,394	231,394
Assigned	491	418	909
Unassigned (Deficit)	610,993	-	610,993
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$ 611,484</u>	<u>\$ 231,812</u>	<u>\$ 843,296</u>

See notes to financial statements.

**MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND 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	\$ 128,056	\$ 278,322	\$ 406,378
Licenses, Permits and Fees	6,480	-	6,480
Intergovernmental	30,502	117,571	148,073
Earnings on Investments	760	8	768
Miscellaneous	25,312	748	26,060
Total Cash Receipts	<u>191,110</u>	<u>396,649</u>	<u>587,759</u>
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	139,802	-	139,802
Public Safety	-	158,057	158,057
Public Works	50,022	238,218	288,240
Health	1,810	-	1,810
Capital Outlay	22,425	750	23,175
Total Cash Disbursements	<u>214,059</u>	<u>397,025</u>	<u>611,084</u>
Net Change in Fund Cash Balance	(22,949)	(376)	(23,325)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>534,176</u>	<u>205,966</u>	<u>740,142</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31			
Restricted	-	205,590	205,590
Unassigned (Deficit)	511,227	-	511,227
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$ 511,227</u>	<u>\$ 205,590</u>	<u>\$ 716,817</u>

See notes to financial statements.

**MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND 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 Montgomery Township, Ashland 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 and fire protection. The Township contracts with the City of Ashland for fire protection and emergency medical services. Police protection is provided by the Ashland County Sheriff.

The Township participates in a public entity risk pool. Notes 6 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 & Bridge Fund – This fund receives property tax monies to pay for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads.

Fire District Fund – This fund receives property tax monies to pay for fire protection and emergency medical services provided by the City of Ashland.

**MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND COUNTY**

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

C. 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.

D. 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.

E. 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.

F. 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.

**MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND COUNTY**

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

G. 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.

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.

**MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND COUNTY**

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ended December 31, 2016 follows:

2016 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 139,568	\$ 221,501	\$ 81,933
Special Revenue	370,364	409,840	39,476
Total	\$ 509,932	\$ 631,341	\$ 121,409

2016 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 641,000	\$ 121,735	\$ 519,265
Special Revenue	463,781	384,036	79,745
Total	\$ 1,104,781	\$ 505,771	\$ 599,010

2015 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 119,821	\$ 191,110	\$ 71,289
Special Revenue	394,691	396,649	1,958
Total	\$ 514,512	\$ 587,759	\$ 73,247

2015 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 636,545	\$ 214,059	\$ 422,486
Special Revenue	483,305	397,025	86,280
Total	\$ 1,119,850	\$ 611,084	\$ 508,766

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

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:

	2016	2015
Demand deposits	\$ 843,296	\$ 716,817
Total Deposits	\$ 843,296	\$ 716,817

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

**MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND COUNTY**

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

The Township is exposed to various risks of property and casualty losses, and injuries to employees.

The Township pays the State Workers' Compensation System a premium based on a rate of per \$100 of salaries. This rate is calculated based on accident history and administrative costs. The System administers and pays all claims.

The Government belongs to the Ohio Plan Risk Management, Inc. (OPRM) – formerly known as the Ohio Government Risk Management Plan, (the “Plan”), a non-assessable, unincorporated non-profit association providing a formalized, jointly administered self-insurance risk management program and other administrative services to Ohio governments (“Members”). The Plan is legally separate from its member governments.

Pursuant to Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code, the plan provides property, liability, errors and omissions, law enforcement, automobile, excess liability, crime, surety and bond, inland marine and other coverages to its members sold through fourteen appointed independent agents in the State of Ohio.

OPRM coverage programs are developed specific to each member's risk management needs and the related premiums for coverage are determined through the application of uniform underwriting criteria addressing the member's exposure to loss. Effective November 1, 2012 (and through October 2014) the plan increased its retention to 50% of the first \$250,000 casualty treaty. Effective November 1, 2014, the OPRM retained 47% of the premium and losses on the first \$250,000 casualty treaty and 10% of the first \$1,000,000 property treaty. Members are only responsible for their self-retention (deductible) amounts, which vary from member to member. OPRM had 772 and 783 members as of December 31, 2015 and 2014 respectively.

Plan members are responsible to notify the Plan of their intent to renew coverage by their renewal date. If a member chooses not to renew with the Plan, they have no other financial obligation to the Plan, but still need to promptly notify the Plan of any potential claims occurring during their membership period. The former member's covered claims, which occurred during their membership period, remain the responsibility of the Plan.

**MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND COUNTY**

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

6. RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)

Settlement amounts did not exceed insurance coverage for the past three fiscal years.

The Pool's audited financial statements conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and equity at December 31, 2016 and 2015 (the latest information available).

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Assets	\$14,643,667	\$14,830,185
Liabilities	<u>(9,112,030)</u>	<u>(8,942,504)</u>
Retained Earnings	<u>\$ 5,531,637</u>	<u>\$ 5,887,681</u>

You can read the complete audited financial statements for OPRM at the Plan's website, www.ohioplan.org.

7. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

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, OPERS members contributed 10.0% of their gross wages and the Township contributed an amount equal to 14.0% of participant's gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2016.

8. POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

OPERS 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.

9. PUBLIC ENTITY RISK POOL

The Township belongs to the Ohio Government Risk Management Plan (the Plan) an unincorporated non-profit association providing a formalized, jointly administered self-insurance risk management plan. Member governments pay annual premiums to fund the Plan. The Plan pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims exceeding the member's deductible.

**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.**

Montgomery Township
Ashland County
1302 N. Davis Road
Ashland, Ohio 44805

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 Montgomery Township, Ashland 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 June 7, 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 Montgomery 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. We consider Finding 2016-002 described in the accompanying schedule of findings to be a material weakness.

A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of internal control deficiencies less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance. We consider Finding 2016-003 described in the accompanying schedule of findings to be a significant deficiency.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Montgomery 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* 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

June 7, 2017

**MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND 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 "Then and Now" Certificates. 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.

**MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND 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 49% 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 have not received a response from the 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 \$6,878, \$24,074 and \$26,367 were posted to Property and Other Local Taxes within the General Fund, Road & Bridge Fund and Fire District Fund instead of Intergovernmental Receipts.
- In 2016, a real estate tax receipt in the amount of \$47,772 was posted to Miscellaneous within the General Fund instead of Property and Other Local taxes.
- In 2015, homestead and rollback receipts in the amount of \$2,777, \$7,970 and \$8,730 were posted to Property and Other Local Taxes within the General Fund, Road & Bridge Fund and Fire District Fund instead of Intergovernmental Receipts.

**MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND 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 2016-002 (Continued)

Reclassifications are reflected within the accompanying financial statements.

Client Response: We have not received a response from the client.

FINDING NUMBER 2016-003

Significant Deficiency – Financial Reporting

All local public offices shall 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 (revised March 2015) provides suggested fund balance classifications and clarifies the existing governmental fund type definitions. The fund balance classifications relate to constraints placed upon the use of resources reported in governmental funds. The five classifications are non-spendable, restricted, committed, assigned and unassigned.

The Township did not properly reflect its December 31, 2015 and 2016 cash balances in accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement Number 54 – *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*, effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2010.

Financial statement errors identified for the year ended December 31, 2016 were as follows:

- Unassigned (Deficit) Fund Balance was overstated and the Assigned Fund Balance understated by \$491 for the General Fund.
- Restricted Fund Balance was overstated and the Assigned Fund Balance understated by \$418 for the Gasoline Tax Fund.

Material adjustments, with which the Township officials' agree, are reflected within the accompanying financial statements.

The Township should develop internal control internal control procedures to ensure the financial statements of the Township accurately reflect the fund cash balance in accordance with GASB Statement No. 54 reporting requirements. The Township Fiscal Officer may refer to Auditor of State Bulletin 2011-004 for additional guidance.

Client Response: We have not received a response from the client.

**MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND 2015**

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; Explain:
2014-001	Noncompliance 5705.41(D)	No	Not corrected, reissued as Finding 2016-001.
2014-002	Significant Deficiency: Reclassifications	No	Not corrected, reissued as Finding 2016-002.



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP

ASHLAND 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
OCTOBER 5, 2017**