



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
HANCOCK COUNTY

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Dave Yost • Auditor of State

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Van Buren Township
Hancock County
7141 Township Road 29
Jenera, Ohio 45841-8919

To the Board of Trustees

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the cash balances, receipts, and disbursement by fund type, and related notes of Van Buren Township, Hancock County, Ohio, (the Township) 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 opinions.

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 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, 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 Van Buren Township, Hancock County, Ohio 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 our report dated August 14, 2017, 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

August 14, 2017

**VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
HANCOCK COUNTY**

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

	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$74,565	\$34,541		\$109,106
Licenses, Permits and Fees	400			400
Intergovernmental	41,390	106,341	\$28,430	176,161
Earnings on Investments	281	296		577
Miscellaneous	550	625		1,175
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>117,186</u>	<u>141,803</u>	<u>28,430</u>	<u>287,419</u>
Cash Disbursements				
Current:				
General Government	45,730	7,718		53,448
Public Safety	14,120			14,120
Public Works	2,573	125,038		127,611
Health	9,426	344		9,770
Capital Outlay	1,505		28,430	29,935
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>73,354</u>	<u>133,100</u>	<u>28,430</u>	<u>234,884</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	43,832	8,703		52,535
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>106,998</u>	<u>98,430</u>	<u>202</u>	<u>205,630</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31				
Restricted		107,133	202	107,335
Assigned	150,830			150,830
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u>\$150,830</u>	<u>\$107,133</u>	<u>\$202</u>	<u>\$258,165</u>

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

**VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
HANCOCK COUNTY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016**

Note 1 – Reporting Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of Van Buren Township, Hancock 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 and cemetery maintenance. The Township contracts with the Village of Jenera to provide fire services.

Public Entity Risk Pool

The Township participates in the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a public entity risk pool. OTARMA provides property and casualty coverage for its members. Note 6 to the financial statements provide additional information for this entity.

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

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.

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:

Road and Bridge Fund The road and bridge fund accounts for real estate tax receipts received for the maintenance and repair of roads within the township.

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

Capital Project Funds These funds account for and report 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:

Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) – The Township received on behalf payments for the maintenance and repair of roads within the Township.

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 Section 117-2-03 (D). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Board recognizes receipts when

**VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
HANCOCK COUNTY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016**

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.

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

Estimated Resources Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus 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 canceled, and reappropriated in the subsequent year.

A summary of 2016 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

Deposits

The Township values certificates of deposit at cost.

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.

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.

**VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
HANCOCK COUNTY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016**

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.

Note 3 - Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2016 follows:

2016 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$127,217	\$117,186	(\$10,031)
Special Revenue	138,268	141,803	3,535
Capital Projects		28,430	28,430
Total	\$265,485	\$287,419	\$21,934

2016 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$219,590	\$73,354	\$146,236
Special Revenue	200,654	133,100	67,554
Capital Projects	28,631	28,430	201
Total	\$448,875	\$234,884	\$213,991

Note 4 – Deposits

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

Deposits

Demand deposits	2016 \$225,736
Certificates of deposit	32,429
Total Demand Deposits	258,165

Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation.

**VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
HANCOCK COUNTY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016**

Note 5 – Property Taxes

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.

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

Note 6 - Risk Management

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, 2016, 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 retained earnings at December 31, 2016.

	2016
Assets	\$38,473,283
Liabilities	8,244,140
Net Position	\$30,229,143

**VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
HANCOCK COUNTY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016**

At December 31, 2016 the liabilities above include approximately \$7.4 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets above also include approximately \$6.9 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 1,010 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2016. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. As of December 31, 2016, the Township's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$2,000.

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, 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.

2016 Contributions to OTARMA

\$4,676

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.

Note 7 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Six 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. 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, 2016.

Note 8 – Postemployment Benefits

OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plan, 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.

**VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
HANCOCK COUNTY**

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

	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$70,185	\$33,600		\$103,785
Licenses, Permits and Fees	175			175
Intergovernmental	45,956	105,266	\$32,811	184,033
Earnings on Investments	42	105		147
Miscellaneous	2,804	2,734		5,538
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>119,162</u>	<u>141,705</u>	<u>32,811</u>	<u>293,678</u>
Cash Disbursements				
Current:				
General Government	43,858	8,757		52,615
Public Safety	13,640			13,640
Public Works	2,647	112,293		114,940
Health	10,283	252		10,535
Capital Outlay			32,811	32,811
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>70,428</u>	<u>121,302</u>	<u>32,811</u>	<u>224,541</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	48,734	20,403		69,137
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>58,264</u>	<u>78,027</u>	<u>202</u>	<u>136,493</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31				
Restricted		98,430	202	98,632
Assigned	92,373			92,373
Unassigned	14,625			14,625
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u>\$106,998</u>	<u>\$98,430</u>	<u>\$202</u>	<u>\$205,630</u>

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

**VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
HANCOCK COUNTY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015**

Note 1 – Reporting Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of Van Buren Township, Hancock County, (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 and cemetery maintenance. The Township contracts with the Village of Jenera to provide fire services.

Public Entity Risk Pool

The Township participates in the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a public entity risk pool. OTARMA provides property and casualty coverage for its members. Note 6 to the financial statements provide additional information for this entity.

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

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.

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:

Road and Bridge Fund The road and bridge fund accounts for real estate tax receipts received for the maintenance and repair of roads within the township.

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

Capital Project Funds These funds account for and report 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:

Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) The Township received on behalf payments for the maintenance and repair of roads within the Township.

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 Section 117-2-03 (D). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Board recognizes receipts when

**VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
HANCOCK COUNTY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015**

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.

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

Estimated Resources Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus 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 canceled, and reappropriated in the subsequent year.

A summary of 2015 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

Deposits

The Township values certificates of deposit at cost.

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.

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.

**VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
HANCOCK COUNTY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015**

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.

Note 3 - Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2015 follows:

2015 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$103,622	\$119,162	\$15,540
Special Revenue	137,017	141,705	4,688
Capital Projects		32,811	32,811
Total	\$240,639	\$293,678	\$53,039

2015 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$136,290	\$70,428	\$65,862
Special Revenue	174,439	121,302	53,137
Capital Projects	32,813	32,811	2
Total	\$343,542	\$224,541	\$119,001

Note 4 – Deposits

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

Demand deposits	2015 \$173,200
Certificates of deposit	32,430
Total Demand Deposits	\$205,630

Deposits

Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation.

**VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
HANCOCK COUNTY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015**

Note 5 – Property Taxes

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.

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

Note 6 - Risk Management

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, 2015, 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 retained earnings at December 31, 2015 and 2014.

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Assets	\$37,313,311	\$35,970,263
Liabilities	8,418,518	8,912,432
Net Position	\$28,894,793	\$27,057,831

**VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
HANCOCK COUNTY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015**

At December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively, the liabilities above include approximately \$7.8 and \$8.2 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets above also include approximately \$7.7 and \$7.2 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 989 members and 957 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2015 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, 2015, the Township's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$2,000.00

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, 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>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
\$4,631	\$4,572

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.

Note 7 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Seven 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. 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, 2015.

Note 8 – Postemployment Benefits

OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plan, 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.



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

Van Buren Township
Hancock County
7141 Township Road 29
Jenera, Ohio 45841-8919

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 disbursement by fund type of Van Buren Township, Hancock County, Ohio, (the Township) 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 August 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 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 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.

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 to be a material weakness. We consider finding 2016-001 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 that 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

August 14, 2017

**VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
HANCOCK COUNTY
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND 2015**

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS
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FINDING NUMBER 2016-001

Material Weakness

Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 54, Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions

GASB 54 introduces five 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 nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned and unassigned.

Assigned fund balance classification includes amounts that are constrained by the government's intent to be used for specific purposes, but are neither restricted nor committed. When the appropriation measure is adopted for the subsequent year, if a portion of existing fund balance is included as a budgetary resource, then that portion of fund balance should be classified as assigned. This would be applicable to the general fund as it is the only fund with a positive unassigned fund balance.

The 2016 permanent appropriation measures for the General Fund exceeded estimated receipts as follows:

	<u>2016</u>
Estimated Receipts	<u>\$127,217</u>
Appropriations	<u>219,590</u>
Deficit	<u><u>\$92,373</u></u>

Due to an insufficiency of monitoring by management \$106,998 was posted as assigned. Therefore, \$14,625 was adjusted to unassigned.

Adjustments were recorded to the 2015 financial statements to change the above differences in fund balance classification.

In order to help ensure the Township's fund balances are reported in accordance with GASB 54, we recommend the Officials review and follow Auditor of State Bulletin 2011-004.

Officials' Response:

We did not receive a response from Officials to the finding reported above.

**VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
HANCOCK COUNTY**

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

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Status	Additional Information
2014-001	Finding For Recovery Repaid Under Audit <i>State ex rel McClure v. Hagerman (1951), 155 Ohio St. 320 Purchase of Alcohol</i>	Fully corrected and repaid under prior audit.	
2014-002	Finding For Recovery Repaid Under Audit Ohio Rev. Code § 505.601	Fully corrected and repaid under prior audit.	
2014-003	Material Weakness - Monitoring Financial Statements	Partially corrected and repeated in this audit as Finding 2016-001.	Trustees do not properly review year-end financial statements. The Trustees have been asked to review the year-end financial statements for accuracy.



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP

HANCOCK 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
AUGUST 29, 2017**