



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



**FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP
WASHINGTON COUNTY
DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND 2018**

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

Fairfield Township
Washington County
334 Union Cemetery Road
Cutler, Ohio 45724

We have performed the procedures enumerated below, which were agreed to by the Board of Trustees and the management of Fairfield Township, Washington County, Ohio (the Township), on the receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the Township's cash basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 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, 2019 and 2018 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, 2019 and December 31, 2018 bank reconciliations. We found no exceptions.
2. We agreed the January 1, 2018 beginning fund balances recorded in the Fund Ledger Report to the December 31, 2017 balances in the prior year documentation in the prior year Agreed-Upon Procedures working papers. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the January 1, 2019 beginning fund balances recorded in the Fund Ledger Report to the December 31, 2018 balances in the Fund Ledger Report. We found no exceptions.
3. We agreed the totals per the bank reconciliations to the total of the December 31, 2019 and 2018 fund cash balances reported in the Fund Status Report and the financial statements filed by the Township in the Hinkle System. The amounts agreed.
4. We confirmed the December 31, 2019 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, 2019 bank reconciliation without exception.
5. We selected five reconciling debits (such as outstanding checks) from the December 31, 2019 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 inspected the Fund Balance Adjustment Listing to determine whether the Finding for Adjustment identified in the prior agreed-upon procedures report, due from the Gasoline Tax Fund, payable to the Road and Bridge Fund, was properly posted to the report. We found no exceptions.
7. We inspected investments held at December 31, 2019 and December 31, 2018 to determine that they:
 - a. Were of a type authorized by Ohio Rev. Code §§ 135.13, 135.14 or 135.144. We found no exceptions
 - b. Mature within the prescribed time limits noted in Ohio Rev. Code § 135.13 or 135.14. We noted no exceptions.

Property Taxes and Intergovernmental Cash Receipts

1. We selected a total of five receipts from the *Statement of Semiannual Apportionment of Taxes*, State Distribution Transaction Lists (DTL), and the Washington County Auditor Expense Audit Trail Report for 2019 and a total of five from 2018:
 - a. We compared the amount from the above named reports to the amount recorded in the Receipt Detail Report. The amounts agreed.
 - b. We inspected the Receipt Detail Report to determine these receipts were allocated to the proper funds as required by Ohio Rev. Code §§ 5705.05-.06 and 5705.10. We found no exceptions.
 - c. We inspected the Receipt Detail Report to determine whether the receipt was recorded in the proper year. The receipt was recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.
2. We inspected the Receipt Export Report to determine whether it included two real estate tax receipts for 2019 and 2018. The Receipt Export Report included the proper number of tax receipts for each year.

Debt

1. The prior agreed-upon procedures documentation disclosed no debt outstanding as of December 31, 2017.
2. We inquired of management, and inspected the Receipt Register Report and Payment Register Detail Report for evidence of debt issued during 2019 or 2018 or debt payment activity during 2019 or 2018. There were no new debt issuances, nor any debt payment activity during 2019 or 2018.

Payroll Cash Disbursements

1. We selected one payroll check for five employees from 2019 and one payroll check for five employees from 2018 from the Wage Detail Report and:
 - a. We compared the hours and pay rate, or salary recorded in the Wage Detail Report to supporting documentation (timecard, legislatively or statutorily-approved rate or salary). We found no exceptions.
 - b. We inspected the fund and account code(s) to which the check was posted to determine the posting was reasonable based on the employees' duties as documented in the employees' personnel files, minute record or as required by statute. We also confirmed the payment was posted to the proper year. We found no exceptions.
 - c. For any new employees selected we inspected the employees' personnel files and minute record for the following information and compared it with the information used to compute gross and net pay related to this check:

Payroll Cash Disbursements (Continued)

- i. Name
- ii. Authorized salary or pay rate and department(s) and fund(s) to which the check should be charged
- iii. Retirement system, Federal, State & Local income tax withholding authorization and withholding.

We found no exceptions related to procedures i. – iii. above, except the retirement system enrollment form was not maintained for one employee as he and one other employee were improperly paying into Social Security instead of the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). Ohio Rev. Code § 145.03 provides that membership in OPERS is compulsory upon being employed as public employees of the state or of the several local authorities mentioned in § 145.01 of the Revised Code. Further, membership shall continue as long as public employment continues. Failure to enroll employees into OPERS as required can lead to unexpected liabilities and penalties. The Fiscal Officer should ensure all required employees are enrolled and contribute to OPERS unless exempt by law. This matter will be referred to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System.

- 2. We inspected the last remittance of tax and retirement withholdings for the year ended December 31, 2019 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 2019. We observed the following:

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)	01/31/2020	12/26/2019	\$1,839	\$1,839
State income taxes	01/15/2020	12/26/2019	\$336	\$336
OPERS retirement	01/30/2020	01/11/2020	\$655	\$655

- 3. For the pay periods ended March 12, 2019 and July 9, 2018 , we
 - a. Recomputed the allocation of the Boards' salaries to the General, Gasoline Tax, and Road and Bridge Fund per the Wage Detail Report.
 - b. Traced the Boards' salary for time or services performed to supporting certifications the Revised Code requires.

We found no exceptions.

- 4. We compared total gross pay for the fiscal officer and each board member for 2019 and 2018 to the compensation permitted by Ohio Revised Code §§ 507.09 and 505.24, respectively. We found no exceptions.
- 5. We inquired of management and inspected the Payment Register Detail Report for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 to determine if township employees and/or trustees were reimbursed for out-of-pocket insurance premiums. Insurance reimbursements made were in compliance with ORC 505.60 and 505.601 and federal regulations with exception. The Township did have an approved resolution to handle such reimbursements to render them allowable. However, Ohio Rev. Code § 505.601 provides that such a resolution should provide for a uniform maximum monthly or yearly payment amount for each officer or employee to cover themselves and their immediate dependents, beyond which the Township will not reimburse the officer or employee. The resolution approved by the Board did not state a maximum payment amount. The Board should update its Insurance Reimbursement Resolution to include such maximums.

Non-Payroll Cash Disbursements

We selected 10 disbursements from the Payment Export Report for the year ended December 31, 2019 and 10 from the year ended 2018 and determined whether:

- a. The disbursements were for a proper public purpose. We found no exceptions.
- b. The EFT date, payee name and amount or check number, date, payee name and amount recorded on the bank statement agreed to the Payment Export 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 § 5705.41(D). We found no exceptions.

Compliance – Budgetary

1. Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(B) prohibits expenditures (disbursements plus certified commitments) from exceeding appropriations. We compared total expenditures to total approved appropriations (Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.38 and 5705.40) plus any carryover appropriations for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 for the General, Motor Vehicle License Tax, and Gasoline Tax Funds. There were no funds for which expenditures exceeded appropriations.
2. We inspected the Appropriation Ledger Report for the Centenary Cemetery Bequest and Layman Cemetery Bequest Funds. Not more than 5% of non-spendable monies were released, spent, or otherwise modified during the engagement period. No exceptions were noted.
3. We inspected the 2019 and 2018 Interfund Transfer Listing Report for evidence of interfund transfers which Ohio Rev. Code §§ 5705.14 - .16 restrict. We found no evidence of transfers these Sections prohibit, or for which § 5705.16 would require approval by the Tax Commissioner (effective after June 30, 2017) or Court of Common Pleas (effective through June 30, 2017).
4. We inspected the Fund Ledger Report for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 for negative cash fund balances. Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.10(l) 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 balances.

Sunshine Law Compliance

1. We obtained and inspected the Township's Public Records Policy to determine the policy did not limit the number of responses that may be made to a particular person, limit the number of responses during a specified period of time, or establish a fixed period of time before it will respond unless that period is less than eight hours. We found no exceptions.
2. We identified no public records requests from the engagement period.
3. We inquired whether the Township has a records retention policy, and if it is readily available to the public. We found no exceptions.
4. We inspected written evidence that the Public Records Policy was provided to the records custodian/manager. We found no exceptions.
5. We inspected the Township's policy manual and determined the public records policy was included. We found no exceptions.

Sunshine Law Compliance (Continued)

6. We inquired whether the Township's poster describing their Public Records Policy was displayed conspicuously in all branches of the Township. We found no exceptions.
7. We selected the only application submitted to the Records Commission for one-time disposal of obsolete records, and management's review of the schedules of records retention and dispositions for the engagement period. We inspected the approval by the Records Commission and the review of the schedules. We found no exceptions.
8. We inspected individual training certificates and determined whether each elected official (or his/her designee) successfully attended a certified three-hour Public Records Training for each term of office. We found no exceptions.
9. We inspected the public notices for the public meetings held during the engagement period and determined the Township notified the general public and news media of when and where meetings during the engagement period are to be held. We found no exceptions.
10. We inspected the minutes of public meetings during the engagement period and determined whether they were:
 - a. Prepared – a file is created following the date of the meeting
 - b. Filed – placed with similar documents in an organized manner
 - c. Maintained - retained, at a minimum, for the engagement period
 - d. Open to public inspection – available for public viewing or request.We found no exceptions.
11. We inspected the minutes from the engagement period and determined the following:
 - a. Executive sessions were only held at regular or special meetings.
 - b. The purpose for the meetings and going into an executive session (when applicable) correlated with one of the matters listed in Ohio Rev. Code § 121.22(G).
 - c. Formal governing board actions were adopted in open meetings.We found no exceptions.

Other Compliance

1. Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 requires townships to file their financial information in the HINKLE system within 60 days after the close of the fiscal year. This statute also permits the Auditor of State to extend the deadline for filing a financial report and establish terms and conditions for any such extension. Auditor of State established policies regarding the filing of complete financial statements, as defined in AOS Bulletin 2015-007 in the Hinkle System. We confirmed the Township filed their complete financial statements, as defined by AOS Bulletin 2015-007 and Auditor of State established policy, within the allotted timeframe for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 in the Hinkle system. There were no exceptions.
2. For all credit card accounts we obtained:
 - copies of existing internal control policies,
 - a list of authorized users, and
 - a list of all credit card account transactions.
 - a. We inspected the established policy obtained above and determined it is:
 - i. in compliance with the HB 312 statutory requirements, and
 - ii. implemented by the Township.We found that the approved policy was not in accordance with HB 312.

- b. We selected 1 credit card transaction from the credit card account for testing. For the selected transaction, we inspected documentation to determine that:
 - i. Use was by an authorized user within the guidelines established in the policy, and
 - ii. Each transaction was supported with original invoices and for a proper public purpose.

We found no supporting documentation showing the identity of the user to show use was by an authorized user.

- c. We selected 3 credit card statements from the credit card account for testing. For selected statements we inspected documentation to determine that:
 - i. No unpaid beginning balance was carried forward to the current billing cycle,
 - ii. Ending statement balance was paid in full, and
 - iii. Statement contained no interest or late fees.

We found no exceptions.

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 to provide assistance in the evaluation of the Township's receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in their cash-basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances and is not suitable for any other purpose.



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

April 16, 2020

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP

WASHINGTON 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
MAY 12, 2020**