



**MIDDLEFIELD TOWNSHIP  
GEAUGA COUNTY  
Agreed-Upon Procedures  
For the Years Ended December 31, 2019 and 2018**

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Marietta, OH 45750  
740 373 0056

1907 Grand Central Ave.  
Vienna, WV 26105  
304 422 2203

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St. Clairsville, OH 43950  
740 695 1569

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Wheeling, WV 26003  
304 232 1358

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE  
KEITH FABER



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Columbus, Ohio 43215  
IPAReport@ohioauditor.gov  
(800) 282-0370

Board of Trustees  
Middlefield Township  
15228 Madison Road  
Middlefield, Ohio 44062

We have reviewed the *Independent Accountants' Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures* of Middlefield Township, Geauga County, prepared by Perry & Associates, Certified Public Accountants, A.C., for the period January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2019. Based upon this review, we have accepted this report in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code.

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. Middlefield Township is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Keith Faber".

Keith Faber  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

September 30, 2020

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MIDDLEFIELD TOWNSHIP  
GEAUGA COUNTY

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## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

August 7, 2020

Middlefield Township  
Geauga County  
15228 Madison Road  
Middlefield, Ohio 44062

We have performed the procedures enumerated below, which were agreed to by the Board of Trustees and the management of **Middlefield Township**, Geauga County (the Township) and the Auditor of State, on the receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the Townships 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

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 Cash Summary by Fund Report to the December 31, 2017 balances in the prior year audited statements. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the January 1, 2019 beginning fund balances recorded in the Cash Summary by Fund Report to the December 31, 2018 balances in the Cash Summary by Fund 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. We found no exceptions.

Tax - Accounting - Audit - Review - Compilation - Agreed Upon Procedure - Consultation - Bookkeeping - Payroll - Litigation Support - Financial Investigations  
Members: American Institute of Certified Public Accountants  
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### **Cash (Continued)**

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. We noted one bank account on the bank reconciliation was understated by \$91 due to an interest payment credited on December 31, 2019 that was not posted to the UAN system. This amount was listed as an Other Adjusting Factor on the bank reconciliation and was posted to the UAN system in January of 2020. We found no other exceptions.
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.
6. We selected all reconciling credits (such as deposits in transit) from the December 31, 2019 bank reconciliation:
  - a. We traced each credit to the subsequent January bank statement. We noted all reconciling credits were OPWC pass-through receipts that were incorrectly listed as deposits in transit when they should have been cleared. We noted that one of these receipts was offset by a reconciling debit of the same amount, however, the other reconciling debit was voided. As a result, the fund balance in the Public Works Commission Project Fund was overstated by \$244,330. The Township corrected this issue in March of 2020 through a fund balance adjustment.
  - b. We agreed the credit amounts to the Revenue Ledger. One credit was recorded as a December 2018 receipt for the same amount recorded in the reconciliation and one credit was recorded as a February 2019 receipt for the same amount recorded in the reconciliation.

### **Property Taxes, Intergovernmental and Other Confirmable 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 Accounts Payable by G/L Distribution 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 Revenue Ledger. The amounts agreed.
  - b. We inspected the Revenue Ledger to determine these receipts were allocated to the proper funds as required by Ohio Rev. Code Sections 5705.05-.06 and 5705.10. We found one gasoline excise tax receipt in 2019 that was incorrectly recorded to the Road and Bridge Fund. We also found one manufactured homes rollback receipt in 2018 that was not properly allocated to the General, Road and Bridge, and Ambulance Fund. We performed additional testing to verify receipts from the Geauga County Auditor in 2019 and 2018 were recorded to the proper funds and found five additional errors in 2019 and four additional errors in 2018. The Township has posted adjustments to their accounting system to correct these errors.
  - c. We inspected the Revenue Ledger 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 Revenue Ledger to determine whether it included two real estate tax receipts plus five advances for 2019 and two real estate tax receipts plus four advances for 2018. The Revenue Ledger included the proper number of tax receipts for each year.



### **Property Taxes, Intergovernmental and Other Confirmable Cash Receipts (Continued)**

3. We confirmed the total amount paid from the Ohio Public Works Commission to the Township during 2019 and 2018 with the Commission. We found no exceptions.
  - a. We inspected the Revenue Ledger to determine whether these receipts were allocated to the proper fund. We found no exceptions.
  - b. We inspected the Revenue Ledger to determine whether the receipts were recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.

### **Debt**

1. The prior audit documentation disclosed no debt outstanding as of December 31, 2017.
2. We inquired of management, and inspected the Revenue Ledger and Payment Export Report for evidence of debt issued during 2019 or 2018 or debt payment activity during 2019 or 2018. All debt agreed to the summary we used in procedure 3.
3. We obtained a summary of summary of loan debt activity for 2019 and 2018 and agreed principal and interest payments from the related debt amortization schedule to Road and Bridge Fund payments reported in the Payment Export Report. We also compared the date the debt service payments were due to the date the Township made the payments. We noted the debt payment made in 2019 was recorded as a public works disbursement rather than a principal payment. We found no other exceptions.
4. We agreed the amount of debt proceeds from the debt documents to amounts recorded in the Public Works Commission Project Fund per the Revenue Ledger. The amounts agreed. However, we noted the Township posted these amounts as Intergovernmental instead of Debt Proceeds.
5. For new debt issued during 2019 and 2018, we inspected the debt legislation, which stated the Township must use the proceeds to complete the Newcomb Road Reconstruction Project. We inspected the OPWC Disbursements History Report and observed OPWC paid a vendor who is completing the Newcomb Road Reconstruction Project in January of 2019 and December of 2018. As noted in Step 6a of the Cash Section, the pass-through disbursement for the payment made in January of 2019 was improperly voided.

### **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 codes to which the check was posted to determine the posting was reasonable based on the employees' duties as documented in the employees' personnel files or as required by state statute. We also confirmed the payment was posted to the proper year. We found no exceptions.

**Payroll Cash Disbursements (Continued)**

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)	January 31, 2020	January 14, 2020	\$ 995.16	\$ 995.16
State income taxes	January 15, 2020	January 15, 2020	\$ 111.71	\$ 111.71
OPERS retirement	January 30, 2020	January 15, 2020	\$ 2,055.34	\$ 2,055.34

We noted that the Township paid withholdings timely, however, the Township did not file IRS Form 941 for the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter of 2019. The Township subsequently filed the 941 on August 4, 2020.

3. 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 Sections 507.09 and 505.24, respectively. We found all three Trustees were over compensated by \$45 each in 2018.
4. We inquired of management and inspected the Payment Export 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. No such reimbursements occurred.

**Non-Payroll Cash Disbursements**

1. 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 check number, date, payee name and amount recorded on the returned, canceled check agreed to the check number, date, payee name and amount recorded in the Payment 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 Section 5705.41(D). We found four instances in 2019 and one instance in 2018 where the certification date was after the vendor invoice date, and there was also no evidence that a *Then and Now Certificate* was issued. Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D) requires certifying at the time of a commitment, which should be on or before the invoice date, unless a *Then and Now Certificate* is used. Because we did not test all disbursements requiring certification, our report provides no assurance whether or not additional similar errors occurred.

### **Compliance – Budgetary**

1. Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(B) prohibits expenditures (disbursements plus certified commitments) from exceeding appropriations. We compared total expenditures to total approved appropriations (Ohio Rev. Code Section 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 Fund. There were no funds for which expenditures exceeded appropriations.
2. We inspected the 2019 and 2018 Revenue Ledger and Payment Export Report for evidence of interfund transfers exceeding \$1,000 which Ohio Rev. Code Sections 5705.14 - .16 restrict. We found no evidence of transfers these Sections prohibit, or for which Section 5705.16 would require approval by the Tax Commissioner.
3. We inspected the Cash Summary by Fund Report for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 for negative cash fund balances. Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.10 (I) provides that money paid into a fund must be used for the purposes for which such fund is established. As a result, a negative fund cash balance indicates that money from one fund was used to cover the expenses of another. No funds had a negative cash fund balance.

### **Sunshine Law Compliance**

1. We obtained and inspected the Township's Public Records Policy to determine the policy was in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2) and 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 selected all public records requests from the engagement period and inspected each request to determine the Township was compliant and responded to the request in accordance with their adopted policy as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(B)(1). We found no exceptions.
3. We inquired with Township management and determined that the Township did not have any denied public records requests during the engagement period.
4. We inquired with Township management and determined that the Township did not have any public records requests with redactions during the engagement period.
5. We inquired with Township management and determined that the Township did not have a records retention schedule during the engagement period and therefore could not make it readily available to the public as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(B)(2).
6. We inspected written evidence that the Public Records Policy was provided to the records custodian/manager as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2). We found no exceptions.
7. We inspected the Township's policy manual and determined the public records policy was included as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2). We found no exceptions.
8. We observed that the Township's poster describing their Public Records Policy was displayed conspicuously in all branches of the Township as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2). We found no exceptions.
9. We inquired with Township management and determined that the Township did not have any applications for record disposal submitted to the Records Commission during the engagement period.

### Sunshine Law Compliance (Continued)

10. We inspected individual training certificates and determined whether each elected official in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(1) (or his/her designee) successfully attended a certified three-hour Public Records Training for each term of office as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 109.43(B). We found no exceptions.
11. 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 were to be held as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 121.22(F). We found no exceptions.
12. We inspected the minutes of public meetings during the engagement period in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code § 121.22(C) 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.
13. We inspected the minutes from the engagement period in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code § 121.22(G) 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 Section 121.22(G).
  - c. Formal governing board actions were adopted in open meetings.We found no exceptions.

### Other Compliance

1. Ohio Rev. Code Section 117.38 requires townships to file their financial information in the HINKLE System within 60 days after the close of the fiscal year. 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. We inquired of the Fiscal Officer and inspected the Fiscal Integrity Act Portal (<http://www.ohioauditor.gov/fiscalintegrity/default.html>) to determine whether the Fiscal Officer obtained the training required by Ohio Rev. Code Section 507.12 and 733.81. The Fiscal Officer obtained the required training.

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.

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**Perry and Associates**  
Certified Public Accountants, A.C.  
Marietta, Ohio

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# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



**MIDDLEFIELD TOWNSHIP**

**GEAUGA COUNTY**

**AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION**

This is a true and correct copy of the report, which is required to be filed pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in the Office of the Ohio Auditor of State in Columbus, Ohio.



**Certified for Release 10/13/2020**

88 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215  
Phone: 614-466-4514 or 800-282-0370

This report is a matter of public record and is available online at  
[www.ohioauditor.gov](http://www.ohioauditor.gov)