

Certified Public Accountants, A.C.

# SOUTH WEBSTER - BLOOM TOWNSHIP JOINT FIRE DISTRICT SCIOTO COUNTY REGULAR AUDIT FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019 - 2018



88 East Broad Street Columbus, Ohio 43215 IPAReport@ohioauditor.gov (800) 282-0370

Board of Trustees South Webster-Bloom Joint Fire District P.O. Box 631 South Webster, Ohio 45682

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of South Webster-Bloom Joint Fire District, Scioto County, prepared by Perry & Associates, Certified Public Accountants, A.C., for the audit period January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2019. 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. South Webster-Bloom Joint Fire District is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

Keith Faber Auditor of State Columbus, Ohio

August 11, 2021



### SOUTH WEBSTER- BLOOM TOWNSHIP JOINT FIRE DISTRICT SCIOTO COUNTY

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#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

June 16, 2021

South Webster – Bloom Township Joint Fire District Scioto County PO Box 631 South Webster, Ohio 45682

To the Board of Trustees:

#### Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying cash basis financial statements of the governmental activities and major fund of the **South Webster-Bloom Township Joint Fire District, Scioto** County, Ohio, (the District) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

#### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for preparing and fairly presenting these financial statements in accordance with the cash accounting basis Note 2 describes. This responsibility includes determining that the cash accounting basis is acceptable for the circumstances. Management is also responsible for designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to preparing and fairly presenting financial statements that are 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 District'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 District's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such 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.

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South Webster – Bloom Township Joint Fire District Scioto County Independent Auditor's Report Page 2

#### **Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective cash financial position of the governmental activities and the major fund of the South Webster-Bloom Township Joint Fire District, Scioto County, Ohio, as of December 31 2019 and 2018, and the respective changes in cash financial position and the budgetary comparison for the General Fund thereof for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting basis described in Note 2.

#### **Accounting Basis**

We draw attention to Note 2 of the financial statements, which describes the accounting basis. The financial statements are prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which differs from generally accepted accounting principles. We did not modify our opinion regarding this matter.

#### **Emphasis of Matters**

As discussed in Note 15 to the financial statements, the financial impact of COVID-19 and the ensuing emergency measures may impact subsequent periods of the District. We did not modify our opinion regarding this matter.

#### Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 16, 2021, on our consideration of the District'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 District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Perry & Associates

Certified Public Accountants, A.C.

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Marietta, Ohio

### South Webster-Bloom Township Joint Fire District Statement of Net Position - Cash Basis

December 31, 2019

	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	ernmental ctivities
Assets Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	290,142
Total Assets		290,142
Net Position Unrestricted		290,142
Total Net Position	\$	290,142

South Webster-Bloom Township Joint Fire District Statement of Activities - Cash Basis For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

			Prog	gram Cash	Receipt	isbursements) is and Changes let Position
		ash sements	for	Charges Services nd Sales		vernmental Activities
Governmental Activities Current Disbursements: Security of Persons and Property:						
Salaries Fringe Benefits Materials and Supplies Other Capital Outlay	\$	3,844 16,536 30,617 98,518 266,072	\$	893 3,843 7,116 22,897 61,838	\$	(2,951) (12,693) (23,501) (75,621) (204,234)
Debt Service: Principal Retirement Interest and Fiscal Charges		84,691 6,702		19,683 1,558		(65,008) (5,144)
Total Governmental Activities	\$	506,980	\$	117,828	\$	(389,152)
	Grants/ Programs	ty Taxes Levi /Entitlements gs on Investm	not Restr	neral Purposes icted to Specific	\$	225,090 43,919 214 4,022
	Total Gen	neral Receipts	S:			273,245
	Change ir	n Net Position	1			(115,907)
Net Position Beginning of Year				406,049		
	Net Positi	ion End of Ye	ar		\$	290,142

### **South Webster-Bloom Township Joint Fire District**

Statement of Assets and Fund Balances- Cash Basis Governmental Fund December 31, 2019

	 General		
<b>Assets</b> Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 290,142		
Total Assets	 290,142		
Fund Balances Unassigned (Deficit)	 290,142		
Total Fund Balances	\$ 290,142		

South Webster-Bloom Township Joint Fire District
Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balances -Cash Basis
Governmental Fund
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

	 Seneral
Receipts Property Taxes Charges for Services Intergovernmental	\$ 225,090 117,828
Grants Other Earnings on Investments	20,000 23,919 214
Miscellaneous	 4,022
Total Receipts	 391,073
Disbursements Current Disbursements: Security of Persons and Property: Salaries Fringe Benefits Materials and Supplies Other Capital Outlay Debt Service: Principal Retirement Interest and Fiscal Charges	3,844 16,536 30,617 98,518 266,072 84,691 6,702
Total Disbursements	 506,980
Net Change in Fund Balances	(115,907)
Fund Balances Beginning of Year	 406,049
Fund Balances End of Year	\$ 290,142

South Webster-Bloom Township Joint Fire District Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Change In Fund Balance - Budget and Actual - Budget Basis General Fund For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

	Budgeted	d Amounts		(Optional) Variance with Final Budget	
	Original Final		Actual	Positive (Negative)	
Receipts Property Taxes Charges for Services Intergovernmental	\$ 226,000 71,189	\$ 226,000 71,189	\$ 225,090 117,828	\$ (910) 46,639	
Grants Other Earnings on Investments	12,084 16,877 130	12,084 16,877 130	20,000 23,919 214	7,916 7,042 84	
Total Receipts	326,280	326,280	391,073	64,793	
Disbursements Current:					
Security of Persons and Property: Salaries Fringe Benefits Materials and Supplies Equipment	4,800 14,700 40,000 150,000	4,800 14,700 40,000 150,000	3,844 16,536 30,617	956 (1,836) 9,383 150,000	
Other Capital Outlay Debt Service:	87,000 42,000	87,000 42,000	98,518 266,072	(11,518) (224,072)	
Principal Retirement Interest and Fiscal Charges			84,691 6,702	(84,691) (6,702)	
Total Disbursements	338,500	338,500	506,980	(168,480)	
Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements	(12,220)	(12,220)	(115,907)	(103,687)	
Net Change in Fund Balance	(12,220)	(12,220)	(115,907)	(103,687)	
Unencumbered Fund Balance Beginning of Year	406,049	406,049	406,049		
Unencumbered Fund Balance End of Year	\$ 393,829	\$ 393,829	\$ 290,142	\$ (103,687)	

#### Note 1 – Reporting Entity

South-Webster-Bloom Township Joint Fire District, Scioto County, Ohio (the District), is a body politic and corporate established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The District is directed by a publicly elected four-member Board of Trustees. The District also has an appointed District Fiscal Officer.

The reporting entity is comprised of the primary government, component units and other organizations that were included to ensure that the financial statements are not misleading.

#### **Primary Government**

The primary government consists of all funds, departments, boards and agencies that are not legally separate from the District. The primary government of the District provides the following services to its citizens: general government services, fire protection, and emergency medical services protection. The District also assists other fire and emergency medical service districts when the need arises

#### Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

As discussed further in the Basis of Accounting section of this Note, these financial statements are presented on a cash basis of accounting. This cash basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Generally accepted accounting principles include all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements, which have been applied to the extent they are applicable to the cash basis of accounting. Following are the more significant of the Township's accounting policies.

#### Basis of Presentation

The District's basic financial statements consist of government-wide financial statements, including a statement of net position and a statement of activities, and fund financial statements which provide a more detailed level of financial information.

Government-Wide Financial Statements The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds. The activity of the internal service fund is eliminated to avoid "doubling up" receipts and disbursements. The statements distinguish between those activities of the District that are governmental and those that are considered business-type. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental receipts or other nonexchange transactions. Business-type activities are financed in whole or in part by fees charged to external parties for goods or services.

The statement of net position presents the cash and investment balances and debt of the governmental and business-type activities of the District at year end. The statement of activities compares disbursements with program receipts for each of the District's governmental and business-type activities. Disbursements are reported by function. A function is a group of related activities designed to accomplish a major service or regulatory program for which the District is responsible. Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the program's goods or services, grants and contributions restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program and receipts of interest earned on grants that are required to be ued to support a particular program. General receipts are all receipts not classified as program receipts, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct disbursements with program receipts identifies the extent to which each governmental function or business-type activity is self-financing on a cash basis or draws from the District's general receipts.

#### Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

#### **Fund Accounting**

The District uses fund accounting 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 District only has one governmental fund.

**Governmental Funds** Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions of the District are financed. The following is the District's major governmental fund:

**General** 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 District for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

#### Basis of Accounting

The District's financial statements are prepared using the cash basis of accounting. Except for modifications having substantial support, receipts are recorded in the District's financial records and reported in the financial statements when cash is received rather than when earned and disbursements are recorded when cash is paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Any such modifications made by the District are described in the appropriate section in this note.

As a result of the use of this cash basis of accounting, certain assets and their related revenues (such as accounts receivable and revenue for billed or provided services not yet collected) and certain liabilities and their related expenses (such as accounts payable and expenses for goods or services received but not yet paid, and accrued liabilities and the related expenses) are not recorded in these financial statements.

#### **Budgetary Process**

All funds, except custodial funds, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the tax budget, the certificate of estimated resources, and the appropriations resolution, all of which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The tax budget demonstrates a need for existing or increased tax rates. The certificate of estimated resources establishes a limit on the amount the District may appropriate.

The appropriations resolution is the District's authorization to spend resources and sets limits on disbursements plus encumbrances at the level of control selected by the District. The legal level of control has been established at the fund, department, and object level for all funds.

The certificate of estimated resources may be amended during the year if projected increases or decreases in receipts are identified by the District Fiscal Officer. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts on the budgetary statements reflect the amounts on the certificate of estimated resources when the original appropriations were adopted. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts on the budgetary statements reflect the amounts on the amended certificate of estimated resources in effect at the time final appropriations were passed by the District.

The appropriations resolution is subject to amendment throughout the year with the restriction that appropriations cannot exceed estimated resources. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts reflect the first appropriation resolution for that fund that covered the entire year, including amounts automatically carried forward from prior years. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts represent the final appropriation amounts passed by the District during the year.

#### Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

#### Cash

To improve cash management, cash received by the District is pooled and invested. Individual fund integrity is maintained through District records. Interest in the pool is presented as "Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents".

#### Restricted Assets

Assets are reported as restricted when limitations on their use change the nature or normal understanding of the availability of the asset. Such constraints are either imposed by creditors, contributors, grantors, or laws of other governments, or are imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

#### Inventory and Prepaid Items

The District reports disbursements for inventories and prepaid items when paid. These items are not reflected as assets in the accompanying financial statements.

#### Capital Assets

Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets in the accompanying financial statements.

#### **Employer Contributions to Cost-Sharing Pension Plans**

The District recognizes the disbursement for employer contributions to cost-sharing pension plans when they are paid. As described in Notes 8 and 9, the employer contributions include portions for pension benefits and for postretirement healthcare benefits.

#### Long-Term Obligations

The District's cash basis financial statements do not report liabilities for bonds or other long-term obligations. Proceeds of debt are reported when the cash is received and principal and interest payments are reported when paid. Since recording a capital asset when entering into a capital lease is not the result of a cash transaction, neither an other financing source nor a capital outlay expenditure is reported at inception.

#### **Net Position**

Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through enabling legislation or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws or regulations of other governments.

The District's policy is to first apply restricted resources when an obligation is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position are available.

#### Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

#### Fund Balance

Fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the District is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources in the governmental funds. The classifications are as follows:

**Nonspendable** The nonspendable fund balance category includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form, or are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The "not in spendable form" criterion includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash.

**Restricted** Fund balance is reported as 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** The committed fund balance classification includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes imposed by formal action (resolution) of District Trustees. Those committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the District Trustees remove or change the specified use by taking the same type of action (resolution) it employed to previously commit those amounts. In contrast to fund balance that is restricted by enabling legislation, the committed fund balance classification may be redeployed for other purposes with appropriate due process. Constraints imposed on the use of committed amounts are imposed by District Trustees, separate from the authorization to raise the underlying revenue; therefore, compliance with these constraints is not considered to be legally enforceable. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed for use in satisfying those contractual requirements.

**Assigned** Amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the District for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. In governmental funds other than the general fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. In the general fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by District Trustees or a District official delegated that authority by resolution, or by State Statute. State Statute authorizes the District Fiscal Officer to assign fund balance for purchases on order provided such amounts have been lawfully appropriated.

**Unassigned** Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund and includes amounts not contained in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is used only to report a deficit balance.

The District 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 - Compliance

#### Compliance

Contrary to Ohio law (Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41D), the District did not properly certify that funds were lawfully appropriated and available prior to expenditure.

Contrary to Ohio law (Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41B), budgetary expenditures exceeded appropriation authority.

#### Note 4 - Budgetary Basis of Accounting

The budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on the basis of cash receipts, disbursements, and encumbrances. The Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual – Budgetary Basis presented for the general fund is prepared on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. The differences between the budgetary basis and the cash basis are as follows:

1. Outstanding year end encumbrances are treated as cash disbursements (budgetary basis) rather than as restricted, committed or assigned fund balance (cash basis).

However, since the District did not properly encumber funds, as noted above in Note 3, there were no adjustments made to the budgetary basis statements.

#### Note 5 - Deposits and Investments

Monies held by the District are classified by State statute into three categories.

Active monies are public monies determined to be necessary to meet current demands upon the District treasury. Active monies must be maintained either as cash in the District treasury, in commercial accounts payable or withdrawable on demand, including negotiable order of withdrawal (NOW) accounts, or in money market deposit accounts.

Inactive deposits are public deposits that the Trustees have identified as not required for use within the current five year period of designation of depositories. Inactive deposits must either be evidenced by certificates of deposit maturing not later than the end of the current period of designation of depositories, or by savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts.

Interim deposits are deposits of interim monies. Interim monies are those monies which are not needed for immediate use but which will be needed before the end of the current period of designation of depositories. Interim deposits must be evidenced by time certificates of deposit maturing not more than one year from the date of deposit or by savings or deposit accounts, including passbook accounts.

Interim monies held by the District can be deposited or invested in the following securities:

- United States Treasury bills, bonds notes, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury, or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
- Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligations or securities issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality, including, but not limited to, Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, and Government National Mortgage Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;

#### Note 5 - Deposits and Investments (Continued)

- 3. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in (1) or (2) and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided thainvestments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions;
- 4. Time certificates of deposit or savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts;
- 5. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio, and with certain limitations bonds and other obligations of political subdivisions of the State of Ohio;
- 6. The State Treasurer's investment pool (STAR Ohio);
- 7. Certain bankers' acceptances and commercial paper notes for a period not to exceed one hundred eighty days in an amount not to exceed 40 percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time if training requirements have been met; and
- 8. Written repurchase agreements in the securities described in (1) or (2) provided the market value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least two percent and be marked to market daily, and the term of the agreement must not exceed thirty days.

Investments in stripped principal or interest obligations, reverse repurchase agreements, and derivatives are prohibited. The issuance of taxable notes for the purpose of arbitrage, the use of leverage, and short selling are also prohibited

Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions. Payment for investments may be made only upon delivery of the securities representing the investments to the clerk/treasurer or, if the securities are not represented by a certificate, upon receipt of confirmation of transfer from the custodian.

#### **Deposits**

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the District will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. At year end, none of the District's bank balance of \$290,142 was exposed to custodial credit risk because those deposits collateralized by the specific securities held by the financial institution.

The District has no deposit policy for custodial risk beyond the requirements of State statute. Ohio law requires that deposits be either insured or be protected by:

Eligible securities pledged to the District and deposited with a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment whose market value at all times shall be at least one hundred five percent of the deposits being secured; or

Participation in the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution. OPCS requires the total market value of the securities pledged to be 102 percent of the deposits being secured or a rate set by the Treasurer of State.

#### Note 5 - Deposits and Investments (Continued)

#### Deposits (Continued)

The financial institution maintained its own collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution whose market value at all times shall be at least 105 percent of the deposits being secured.

#### Note 6 - Taxes

#### **Property Taxes**

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real and public utility property located in the District. Property tax revenue received during 2019 for real and public utility property taxes represents collections of 2018 taxes.

2019 real property taxes are levied after October 1, 2019, on the assessed value as of January 1, 2020, the lien date. Assessed values are established by State law at 35 percent of appraised market value. 2019 real property taxes are collected in and intended to finance 2020.

Real property taxes are payable annually or semi-annually. If paid annually, payment is due December 31; if paid semi-annually, the first payment is due December 31, with the remainder payable by June 20. Under certain circumstances, State statute permits later payment dates to be established.

Public utility personal property currently is assessed at varying percentages of true value; public utility real property is assessed at 35 percent of true value. 2019 public utility property taxes which became a lien December 31, 2018, are levied after October 1, 2019, and are collected in 2020 with real property taxes.

The full tax rate for all District operations for the year ended December 31, 2019, was \$6.5 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The assessed values of real property and public utility tangible property upon which 2019 property tax receipts were based are as follows:

Real Property	\$34,358,560
Public Utility Personal Property	16,967,880
Total	\$51,326,440

The County Treasurer collects property taxes on behalf of all taxing districts in the county, including the District. The County Auditor periodically remits to the District its portion of the taxes collected.

#### Note 7 - Risk Management

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. During 2019, the District contracted with several companies for various types of insurance coverage as follows:

Type of Coverage	Coverage
VFIS Insurance Company	
Each Medical Incident	\$1,000,000
Personal & Advertising Injury	1,000,000
Fire Damage Legal Liability	1,000,000
Medical Expense	5,000
General Aggregate	3,000,000
Products/Completed Operations Aggregate	3,000,000
Cyber Liability	1,000,000
Privacy Crisis Management	50,000

Settled claims have not exceeded coverage in any of the last three years and there was no significant reduction in coverage from the prior year.

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

#### Note 8 - Defined Benefit Pension Plan

#### Plan Description – Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS)

Plan Description – District employees, other than full-time police and firefighters, participate in the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS administers three separate pension plans. The traditional pension plan is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan. The member-directed plan is a defined contribution plan and the combined plan is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan with defined contribution features. While members (e.g. District employees) may elect the member-directed plan and the combined plan, substantially all employee members are in OPERS' traditional plan; therefore, the following disclosure focuses on the traditional pension plan.

OPERS provides retirement, disability, survivor and death benefits, and annual cost of living adjustments to members of the traditional plan. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by Chapter 145 of the Ohio Revised Code. OPERS issues a stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements, required supplementary information and detailed information about OPERS' fiduciary net position that may be obtained by visiting <a href="https://www.opers.org/financial/reports.shtml">https://www.opers.org/financial/reports.shtml</a>, by writing to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System, 277 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-4642, or by calling 800-222-7377.

Senate Bill (SB) 343 was enacted into law with an effective date of January 7, 2013. In the legislation, members were categorized into three groups with varying provisions of the law applicable to each group. The following table provides age and service requirements for retirement and the retirement formula applied to final average salary (FAS) for the three member groups under the traditional plan as per the reduced benefits adopted by SB 343 (see OPERS CAFR referenced above for additional information, including requirements for reduced and unreduced benefits):

#### Note 8 - Defined Benefit Pension Plan (Continued)

#### Plan Description - Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) (Continued)

Group A	Group B	Group C	
Eligible to retire prior to	20 years of service credit prior to	Members not in other Groups	
January 7, 2013 or five years	January 7, 2013 or eligible to retire	and members hired on or after	
after January 7, 2013	ten years after January 7, 2013	January 7, 2013	
State and Local	State and Local	State and Local	
Age and Service Requirements:	Age and Service Requirements:	Age and Service Requirements:	
Age 60 with 60 months of service credit	Age 60 with 60 months of service credit	Age 57 with 25 years of service credit	
or Age 55 with 25 years of service credit	or Age 55 with 25 years of service credit	or Age 62 with 5 years of service credit	
Formula:	Formula:	Formula:	
2.2% of FAS multiplied by years of	2.2% of FAS multiplied by years of	2.2% of FAS multiplied by years of	
service for the first 30 years and 2.5%	service for the first 30 years and 2.5%	service for the first 35 years and 2.5%	
for service years in excess of 30	for service years in excess of 30	for service years in excess of 35	
Public Safety	Public Safety	Public Safety	
Age and Service Requirements:	Age and Service Requirements:	Age and Service Requirements:	
Age and Service Requirements:  Age 48 with 25 years of service credit	Age and Service Requirements:  Age 48 with 25 years of service credit	Age and Service Requirements:  Age 52 with 25 years of service credit	
		-	
Age 48 with 25 years of service credit	Age 48 with 25 years of service credit	Age 52 with 25 years of service credit	
Age 48 with 25 years of service credit or Age 52 with 15 years of service credit	Age 48 with 25 years of service credit or Age 52 with 15 years of service credit	Age 52 with 25 years of service credit or Age 56 with 15 years of service credit  Law Enforcement	
Age 48 with 25 years of service credit or Age 52 with 15 years of service credit  Law Enforcement	Age 48 with 25 years of service credit or Age 52 with 15 years of service credit  Law Enforcement	Age 52 with 25 years of service credit or Age 56 with 15 years of service credit	
Age 48 with 25 years of service credit or Age 52 with 15 years of service credit  Law Enforcement  Age and Service Requirements:	Age 48 with 25 years of service credit or Age 52 with 15 years of service credit  Law Enforcement  Age and Service Requirements:	Age 52 with 25 years of service credit or Age 56 with 15 years of service credit  Law Enforcement  Age and Service Requirements:	
Age 48 with 25 years of service credit or Age 52 with 15 years of service credit  Law Enforcement  Age and Service Requirements:	Age 48 with 25 years of service credit or Age 52 with 15 years of service credit  Law Enforcement  Age and Service Requirements: Age 48 with 25 years of service credit	Age 52 with 25 years of service credit or Age 56 with 15 years of service credit  Law Enforcement  Age and Service Requirements: Age 48 with 25 years of service credit	
Age 48 with 25 years of service credit or Age 52 with 15 years of service credit  Law Enforcement  Age and Service Requirements: Age 52 with 15 years of service credit	Age 48 with 25 years of service credit or Age 52 with 15 years of service credit  Law Enforcement  Age and Service Requirements:  Age 48 with 25 years of service credit or Age 52 with 15 years of service credit	Age 52 with 25 years of service credit or Age 56 with 15 years of service credit  Law Enforcement  Age and Service Requirements:  Age 48 with 25 years of service credit or Age 56 with 15 years of service credit	
Age 48 with 25 years of service credit or Age 52 with 15 years of service credit  Law Enforcement  Age and Service Requirements: Age 52 with 15 years of service credit  Public Safety and Law Enforcement	Age 48 with 25 years of service credit or Age 52 with 15 years of service credit  Law Enforcement  Age and Service Requirements: Age 48 with 25 years of service credit or Age 52 with 15 years of service credit  Public Safety and Law Enforcement	Age 52 with 25 years of service credit or Age 56 with 15 years of service credit  Law Enforcement  Age and Service Requirements: Age 48 with 25 years of service credit or Age 56 with 15 years of service credit  Public Safety and Law Enforcement	
Age 48 with 25 years of service credit or Age 52 with 15 years of service credit  Law Enforcement  Age and Service Requirements: Age 52 with 15 years of service credit  Public Safety and Law Enforcement  Formula:	Age 48 with 25 years of service credit or Age 52 with 15 years of service credit  Law Enforcement  Age and Service Requirements: Age 48 with 25 years of service credit or Age 52 with 15 years of service credit  Public Safety and Law Enforcement  Formula:	Age 52 with 25 years of service credit or Age 56 with 15 years of service credit  Law Enforcement  Age and Service Requirements: Age 48 with 25 years of service credit or Age 56 with 15 years of service credit  Public Safety and Law Enforcement  Formula:	
Age 48 with 25 years of service credit or Age 52 with 15 years of service credit  Law Enforcement  Age and Service Requirements: Age 52 with 15 years of service credit  Public Safety and Law Enforcement  Formula: 2.5% of FAS multiplied by years of	Age 48 with 25 years of service credit or Age 52 with 15 years of service credit  Law Enforcement  Age and Service Requirements: Age 48 with 25 years of service credit or Age 52 with 15 years of service credit  Public Safety and Law Enforcement  Formula: 2.5% of FAS multiplied by years of	Age 52 with 25 years of service credit or Age 56 with 15 years of service credit  Law Enforcement  Age and Service Requirements: Age 48 with 25 years of service credit or Age 56 with 15 years of service credit  Public Safety and Law Enforcement  Formula: 2.5% of FAS multiplied by years of	

Final average Salary (FAS) represents the average of the three highest years of earnings over a member's career for Groups A and B. Group C is based on the average of the five highest years of earnings over a member's career.

Members who retire before meeting the age and years of service credit requirement for unreduced benefits receive a percentage reduction in the benefit amount.

When a benefit recipient has received benefits for 12 months, an annual cost of living adjustment (COLA) is provided. This COLA is calculated on the base retirement benefit at the date of retirement and is not compounded. For those retiring prior to January 7, 2013, the COLA will continue to be a 3 percent simple annual COLA. For those retiring subsequent to January 7, 2013, beginning in calendar year 2019, the COLA will be based on the average percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index, capped at 3 percent.

#### Note 8 - Defined Benefit Pension Plan (Continued)

#### Plan Description - Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) (Continued)

Funding Policy – The Ohio Revised Code (ORC) provides statutory authority for member and employer contributions as follows:

	State and Loc		Public Safety		Law Enforcen	nent
2019 Statutory Maximum Contribution Rates						
Employer	14.0	%	18.1	%	18.1	%
Employee	10.0	%	*		**	
2019 Actual Contribution Rates						
Employer:						
Pension	14.0	%	18.1	%	18.1	%
Post-employment Health Care Benefits	1.0		1.0		1.0	
Total Employer	14.0	%	18.1	%	18.1	%
Employee	10.0	%	12.0	%	13.0	%

- \* This rate is determined by OPERS' Board and has no maximum rate established by OR
- \*\* This rate is also determined by OPERS' Board, but is limited by ORC to not more than 2 percent greater than the Public Safety rate.

Employer contribution rates are actuarially determined and are expressed as a percentage of covered payroll.

The District's contractually required contribution was \$1,152 for year 2019.

### Note 9 - Postemployment Benefits

#### Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Plan Description – The Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) administers three separate pension plans: the traditional pension plan, a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan; the member-directed plan, a defined contribution plan; and the combined plan, a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan that has elements of both a defined benefit and defined contribution plan.

#### Note 9 – Postemployment Benefits (Continued)

#### Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (Continued)

In March 2016, OPERS received two favorable rulings from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) allowing OPERS to consolidate all health care assets into the OPERS 115 Health Care Trust. Transition to the new health care trust structure was completed July 1, 2016. OPERS maintains a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit post-employment health care trust, which funds multiple health care plans including medical coverage, prescription drug coverage and deposits to a Health Reimbursement Arrangement to qualifying benefit recipients of both the Traditional Pension and the Combined plans. Members of the Member-Directed Plan do not qualify for ancillary benefits, including OPERS sponsored health care coverage. OPERS funds a Retiree Medical Account (RMA) for participants in the Member-Directed Plan. At retirement or refund, participants can be reimbursed for qualified medical expenses from their vested RMA balance.

In order to qualify for postemployment health care coverage, age and service retirees under the traditional pension and combined plans must have twenty or more years of qualifying Ohio service credit. Health care coverage for disability benefit recipients and qualified survivor benefit recipients is available. The health care coverage provided by OPERS meets the definition of an Other Post Employment Benefit (OPEB) as described in GASB Statement 45. See OPERS' CAFR referenced below for additional information.

The Ohio Revised Code permits, but does not require OPERS to provide health care to its eligible benefit recipients. Authority to establish and amend health care coverage is provided to the Board in Chapter 145 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Disclosures for the health care plan are presented separately in the OPERS financial report. Interested parties may obtain a copy by visiting <a href="https://www.opers.org/financial/reports.shtml">https://www.opers.org/financial/reports.shtml</a>, by writing to OPERS, 277 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-4642, or by calling (614) 222-5601 or 800-222-7377.

Funding Policy – The Ohio Revised Code provides the statutory authority requiring public employers to fund postemployment health care through their contributions to OPERS. A portion of each employer's contribution to OPERS is set aside to fund OPERS health care plans.

Employer contribution rates are expressed as a percentage of the earnable salary of active members. In 2019, state and local employers contributed at a rate of 14.0 percent of earnable salary and public safety and law enforcement employers contributed at 18.1 percent. These are the maximum employer contribution rates permitted by the Ohio Revised Code. Active member contributions do not fund health care.

Each year, the OPERS Board determines the portion of the employer contribution rate that will be set aside to fund health care plans. For 2019, OPERS did not allocate any employer contribution to health care for members in the Traditional Pension Plan and Combined Plan. The OPERS Board is also authorized to establish rules for the retiree or their surviving beneficiaries to pay a portion of the health care provided. Payment amounts vary depending on the number of covered dependents and the coverage selected. The employer contribution as a percentage of covered payroll deposited into the RMA for participants in the Member-Directed Plan for 2019 was 4.0 percent.

Employer contribution rates are actuarially determined and are expressed as a percentage of covered payroll. The Township's contractually required contribution was \$0 for the year 2019.

#### Note 10 - Debt

#### Long Term Debt

During 2015, the District entered into a loan agreement with Milton Banking Company for a loan of \$635,000 to build a new fire department building. The loan was issued at a 2.77% interest rate. The loan will be paid from the General Fund.

The District's long-term debt activity for the year ended December 31, 2019, was as follows:

	Amount Outstanding 12/31/18	Issued	Retired	Amount Outstanding 12/31/19	Amount Due In One Year
Governmental Activities 2.77% Various Purpose New Building	\$ 261,650	\$ -	\$ 84,691	\$ 176,959	\$ 26,335
Total Governmental Activities	\$ 261,650	\$ -	\$ 84,691	\$ 176,959	\$ 26,335

This loan is supported by the full faith and credit of the District and is payable from unvoted property tax receipts to the extent that other resources are not available to meet annual principal and interest payments.

Principal and Interest requirements to retire the debt outstanding at December 31, 2019 are as follows:

Year	F	Principal	Interest			
2020	\$	26,335	\$	15,058		
2021		27,116		14,277		
2022		27,877 13,5				
2023		28,659		12,734		
2024		29,429		11,964		
2025-2026		37,543		12,907		
Total:	\$	176,959	\$	80,456		

#### Leases

In October 2016, the District entered into a lease agreement to lease the old fire house (81 Market Street) to the local school. The School agreed to pay \$2,000 per year for the lease and pay the property taxes, utilities, and maintenance on the old fire house located at 81 Market Street.

#### The Note 11 - Related Party Transaction

A Fire Chief is the owner of a company from which the District acquired hardware supplies during the year. The District paid \$630 for this acquisition.

Clerk, Bonnie Hardin, has joined the Ladies Auxiliary which does fundraising for the firefighters. The Ladies Auxiliary purchased two doplers for the District's two ambulances in 2019.

#### Note 12 - Fund Balances

Fund balance is classified as nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned and/or unassigned based primarily on the extent to which the District is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources in the government funds. The constraint placed on the general fund is presented below:

Fund Balances	General			
Unassigned (Deficit)		290,142		
Total Fund Balances	\$	290,142		

#### Note 13 - Capital Assets

The District had 9 vehicles used for emergencies. They were insured at a total of \$1,263,254 by VFIS.

The Old Fire House located at 81 Market Street is insured for \$378,560. The New Fire House is insured for \$1,141,088.

#### Note 14 – Contingent Liabilities

Amounts grantor agencies pay to the District are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor, principally the federal government. Grantors may require refunding any disallowed costs. Management cannot presently determine amounts grantors may disallow. However, based on prior experience, management believes any refunds would be immaterial.

#### Note 15 - COVID-19

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the District. The District's investment portfolio fluctuates with market conditions, and due to market volatility, the amount of gains or losses that will be realized in subsequent periods, if any, cannot be determined. In addition, the impact on the District's future operating costs, revenues, and additional recovery from emergency funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.

### **South Webster-Bloom Township Joint Fire District**

Statement of Net Position - Cash Basis December 31, 2018

	Governmental Activities			
Assets Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	406,049		
Total Assets		406,049		
Net Position Unrestricted		406,049		
Total Net Position	\$	406,049		

South Webster-Bloom Township Joint Fire District Statement of Activities - Cash Basis For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

			Pro	Program Cash Charges for Services and Sales		Net (Disbursements) Receipts and Changes in Net Position		
		Cash rsements	for			vernmental Activities		
Governmental Activities Current Disbursements: Security of Persons and Property:								
Salaries Fringe Benefits Materials and Supplies Equipment Other Debt Service:	\$	3,819 26,352 40,953 57,007 84,506	\$	1,165 8,040 12,495 17,394 25,785	\$	(2,654) (18,312) (28,458) (39,613) (58,721)		
Principal Retirement Interest and Fiscal Charges		82,384 9,009		25,137 2,749		(57,247) (6,260)		
Total Governmental Activities	\$	304,030	\$	92,765	\$	(211,265)		
	General Receipts: Property Taxes Levied for General Purposes Grants/Entitlements not Restricted to Specific Programs					214,486 31,388		
		igs on Investme llaneous		306 9,408				
	Total Ge	neral Receipts:		255,588				
	Change in Net Position  Net Position Beginning of Year					44,323		
						361,726		
	Net Posi	tion End of Yea	r		\$	406,049		

### **South Webster-Bloom Township Joint Fire District**

Statement of Assets and Fund Balances- Cash Basis Governmental Fund December 31, 2018

	General		
<b>Assets</b> Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	406,049	
Total Assets		406,049	
Fund Balances Assigned Unassigned		12,220 393,829	
Total Fund Balances	\$	406,049	

South Webster-Bloom Township Joint Fire District
Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balances -Cash Basis
Governmental Fund
For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

	 General
Receipts Property Taxes Charges for Services Intergovernmental	\$ 214,486 92,765
Grants Other	7,122 24,266
Earnings on Investments Miscellaneous	 306 9,408
Total Receipts	 348,353
Disbursements Current Disbursements: Security of Persons and Property:	
Salaries Fringe Benefits Materials and Supplies	3,819 26,352 40,953
Equipment Other Debt Service:	57,007 84,506
Principal Retirement Interest and Fiscal Charges	 82,384 9,009
Total Disbursements	 304,030
Net Change in Fund Balances	44,323
Fund Balances Beginning of Year	 361,726
Fund Balances End of Year	\$ 406,049

South Webster-Bloom Township Joint Fire District Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Change In Fund Balance - Budget and Actual - Budget Basis General Fund For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

	Budgeted Amounts						Vàr Fin	(Optional) Variance with Final Budget Positive	
	Original Final				Actual		(Negative)		
Receipts		200 000		000 000		044.400		(7.544)	
Property Taxes Charges for Services	\$ 2	222,000 74,617	\$	222,000 74,617	\$	214,486 92,765	\$	(7,514) 18,148	
Intergovernmental		74,017		74,017		92,703		10,140	
Grants		-		-		7,122		7,122	
Other		18,127		18,127		24,266		6,139	
Earnings on Investments		228		228		306		78	
Miscellaneous		7,028		7,028		9,408		2,380	
Total Receipts	3	322,000		322,000		348,353		26,353	
Disbursements Current:									
Security of Persons and Property:									
Salaries		4,800		4,800		3,819		981	
Fringe Benefits		15,648 38.268		15,648 38,268		26,352 40,953		(10,704) (2,685)	
Materials and Supplies Equipment		48,846		48,846		57,007		(8,161)	
Other	1	112,501		112,501		84,506		27,995	
Debt Service:									
Principal Retirement		-		-		82,384		(82,384)	
Interest and Fiscal Charges						9,009		(9,009)	
Total Disbursements	2	220,063		220,063		304,030		(83,967)	
Net Change in Fund Balance	1	101,937		101,937		44,323		(57,614)	
Unencumbered Fund Balance Beginning of Year	3	361,726		361,726		361,726			
Unencumbered Fund Balance End of Year	\$ 4	163,663	\$	463,663	\$	406,049	\$	(57,614)	

#### Note 1 - Reporting Entity

South-Webster-Bloom Township Joint Fire District, Scioto County, Ohio (the District), is a body politic and corporate established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The District is directed by a publicly elected four-member Board of Trustees. The District also has an appointed District Fiscal Officer.

The reporting entity is comprised of the primary government, component units and other organizations that were included to ensure that the financial statements are not misleading.

#### **Primary Government**

The primary government consists of all funds, departments, boards and agencies that are not legally separate from the District. The primary government of the District provides the following services to its citizens: general government services, fire protection, and emergency medical services protection. The District also assists other fire and emergency medical service districts when the need arises

#### Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

As discussed further in the Basis of Accounting section of this Note, these financial statements are presented on a cash basis of accounting. This cash basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Generally accepted accounting principles include all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements, which have been applied to the extent they are applicable to the cash basis of accounting. Following are the more significant of the Township's accounting policies.

#### Basis of Presentation

The District's basic financial statements consist of government-wide financial statements, including a statement of net position and a statement of activities, and fund financial statements which provide a more detailed level of financial information.

Government-Wide Financial Statements The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds. The activity of the internal service fund is eliminated to avoid "doubling up" receipts and disbursements. The statements distinguish between those activities of the District that are governmental and those that are considered business-type. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental receipts or other nonexchange transactions. Business-type activities are financed in whole or in part by fees charged to external parties for goods or services.

The statement of net position presents the cash and investment balances and debt of the governmental and business-type activities of the District at year end. The statement of activities compares disbursements with program receipts for each of the District's governmental and business-type activities. Disbursements are reported by function. A function is a group of related activities designed to accomplish a major service or regulatory program for which the District is responsible. Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the program's goods or services, grants and contributions restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program and receipts of interest earned on grants that are required to be used to support a particular program. General receipts are all receipts not classified as program receipts, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct disbursements with program receipts identifies the extent to which each governmental function or business-type activity is self-financing on a cash basis or draws from the District's general receipts.

#### Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

#### **Fund Accounting**

The District uses fund accounting 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 District only has one governmental fund.

**Governmental Funds** Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions of the District are financed. The following is the District's major governmental fund:

**General** 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 District for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

#### Basis of Accounting

The District's financial statements are prepared using the cash basis of accounting. Except for modifications having substantial support, receipts are recorded in the District's financial records and reported in the financial statements when cash is received rather than when earned and disbursements are recorded when cash is paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Any such modifications made by the District are described in the appropriate section in this note.

As a result of the use of this cash basis of accounting, certain assets and their related revenues (such as accounts receivable and revenue for billed or provided services not yet collected) and certain liabilities and their related expenses (such as accounts payable and expenses for goods or services received but not yet paid, and accrued liabilities and the related expenses) are not recorded in these financial statements.

#### **Budgetary Process**

All funds, except custodial funds, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the tax budget, the certificate of estimated resources, and the appropriations resolution, all of which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The tax budget demonstrates a need for existing or increased tax rates. The certificate of estimated resources establishes a limit on the amount the District may appropriate.

The appropriations resolution is the District's authorization to spend resources and sets limits on disbursements plus encumbrances at the level of control selected by the District. The legal level of control has been established at the fund, department, and object level for all funds.

The certificate of estimated resources may be amended during the year if projected increases or decreases in receipts are identified by the District Fiscal Officer. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts on the budgetary statements reflect the amounts on the certificate of estimated resources when the original appropriations were adopted. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts on the budgetary statements reflect the amounts on the amended certificate of estimated resources in effect at the time final appropriations were passed by the District.

The appropriations resolution is subject to amendment throughout the year with the restriction that appropriations cannot exceed estimated resources. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts reflect the first appropriation resolution for that fund that covered the entire year, including amounts automatically carried forward from prior years. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts represent the final appropriation amounts passed by the District during the year.

#### Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

#### Cash

To improve cash management, cash received by the District is pooled and invested. Individual fund integrity is maintained through District records. Interest in the pool is presented as "Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents".

#### Restricted Assets

Assets are reported as restricted when limitations on their use change the nature or normal understanding of the availability of the asset. Such constraints are either imposed by creditors, contributors, grantors, or laws of other governments, or are imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

#### Inventory and Prepaid Items

The District reports disbursements for inventories and prepaid items when paid. These items are not reflected as assets in the accompanying financial statements.

#### Capital Assets

Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets in the accompanying financial statements.

#### **Employer Contributions to Cost-Sharing Pension Plans**

The District recognizes the disbursement for employer contributions to cost-sharing pension plans when they are paid. As described in Notes 8 and 9, the employer contributions include portions for pension benefits and for postretirement healthcare benefits.

#### Long-Term Obligations

The District's cash basis financial statements do not report liabilities for bonds or other long-term obligations. Proceeds of debt are reported when the cash is received and principal and interest payments are reported when paid. Since recording a capital asset when entering into a capital lease is not the result of a cash transaction, neither an other financing source nor a capital outlay expenditure is reported at inception.

#### **Net Position**

Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through enabling legislation or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws or regulations of other governments.

The District's policy is to first apply restricted resources when an obligation is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position are available.

#### Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

#### **Fund Balance**

Fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the District is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources in the governmental funds. The classifications are as follows:

**Nonspendable** The nonspendable fund balance category includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form, or are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The "not in spendable form" criterion includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash.

**Restricted** Fund balance is reported as 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** The committed fund balance classification includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes imposed by formal action (resolution) of District Trustees. Those committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the District Trustees remove or change the specified use by taking the same type of action (resolution) it employed to previously commit those amounts. In contrast to fund balance that is restricted by enabling legislation, the committed fund balance classification may be redeployed for other purposes with appropriate due process. Constraints imposed on the use of committed amounts are imposed by District Trustees, separate from the authorization to raise the underlying revenue; therefore, compliance with these constraints is not considered to be legally enforceable. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed for use in satisfying those contractual requirements.

**Assigned** Amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the District for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. In governmental funds other than the general fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. In the general fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by District Trustees or a District official delegated that authority by resolution, or by State Statute. State Statute authorizes the District Fiscal Officer to assign fund balance for purchases on order provided such amounts have been lawfully appropriated.

**Unassigned** Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund and includes amounts not contained in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is used only to report a deficit balance.

The District 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 - Compliance

#### Compliance

Contrary to Ohio law (Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41D), the District did not properly certify that funds were lawfully appropriated and available prior to expenditure.

Contrary to Ohio law (Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41B), budgetary expenditures exceeded appropriation authority.

#### Note 4 - Budgetary Basis of Accounting

The budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on the basis of cash receipts, disbursements, and encumbrances. The Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual – Budgetary Basis presented for the general fund is prepared on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. The differences between the budgetary basis and the cash basis are as follows:

1. Outstanding year end encumbrances are treated as cash disbursements (budgetary basis) rather than as restricted, committed or assigned fund balance (cash basis).

However, since the District did not properly encumber funds, as noted above in Note 3, there were no adjustments made to the budgetary basis statements.

#### Note 5 - Deposits and Investments

Monies held by the District are classified by State statute into three categories.

Active monies are public monies determined to be necessary to meet current demands upon the District treasury. Active monies must be maintained either as cash in the District treasury, in commercial accounts payable or withdrawable on demand, including negotiable order of withdrawal (NOW) accounts, or in money market deposit accounts.

Inactive deposits are public deposits that the Trustees have identified as not required for use within the current five year period of designation of depositories. Inactive deposits must either be evidenced by certificates of deposit maturing not later than the end of the current period of designation of depositories, or by savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts.

Interim deposits are deposits of interim monies. Interim monies are those monies which are not needed for immediate use but which will be needed before the end of the current period of designation of depositories. Interim deposits must be evidenced by time certificates of deposit maturing not more than one year from the date of deposit or by savings or deposit accounts, including passbook accounts.

Interim monies held by the District can be deposited or invested in the following securities:

- United States Treasury bills, bonds notes, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury, or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
- 2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligations or securities issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality, including, but not limited to, Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, and Government National Mortgage Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;

#### Note 5 - Deposits and Investments (Continued)

- 3. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in (1) or (2) and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided thainvestments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions;
- 4. Time certificates of deposit or savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts;
- 5. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio, and with certain limitations bonds and other obligations of political subdivisions of the State of Ohio;
- 6. The State Treasurer's investment pool (STAR Ohio);
- 7. Certain bankers' acceptances and commercial paper notes for a period not to exceed one hundred eighty days in an amount not to exceed 40 percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time if training requirements have been met; and
- 8. Written repurchase agreements in the securities described in (1) or (2) provided the market value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least two percent and be marked to market daily, and the term of the agreement must not exceed thirty days.

Investments in stripped principal or interest obligations, reverse repurchase agreements, and derivatives are prohibited. The issuance of taxable notes for the purpose of arbitrage, the use of leverage, and short selling are also prohibited

Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions. Payment for investments may be made only upon delivery of the securities representing the investments to the clerk/treasurer or, if the securities are not represented by a certificate, upon receipt of confirmation of transfer from the custodian.

#### **Deposits**

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the District will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. At year end, none of the District's bank balance of \$406,049 was exposed to custodial credit risk because those deposits collateralized by the specific securities held by the financial institution.

The District has no deposit policy for custodial risk beyond the requirements of State statute. Ohio law requires that deposits be either insured or be protected by:

Eligible securities pledged to the District and deposited with a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment whose market value at all times shall be at least one hundred five percent of the deposits being secured; or

Participation in the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution. OPCS requires the total market value of the securities pledged to be 102 percent of the deposits being secured or a rate set by the Treasurer of State.

#### Note 5 - Deposits and Investments (Continued)

#### **Deposits (Continued)**

The financial institution maintained its own collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution whose market value at all times shall be at least 105 percent of the deposits being secured.

#### Note 6 - Taxes

#### **Property Taxes**

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real and public utility property located in the District. Property tax revenue received during 2018 for real and public utility property taxes represents collections of 2017 taxes.

2018 real property taxes are levied after October 1, 2018, on the assessed value as of January 1, 2019, the lien date. Assessed values are established by State law at 35 percent of appraised market value. 2018 real property taxes are collected in and intended to finance 2019.

Real property taxes are payable annually or semi-annually. If paid annually, payment is due December 31; if paid semi-annually, the first payment is due December 31, with the remainder payable by June 20. Under certain circumstances, State statute permits later payment dates to be established.

Public utility personal property currently is assessed at varying percentages of true value; public utility real property is assessed at 35 percent of true value. 2018 public utility property taxes which became a lien December 31, 2017, are levied after October 1, 2018, and are collected in 2019 with real property taxes.

The full tax rate for all District operations for the year ended December 31, 2018, was \$6.5 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The assessed values of real property and public utility tangible property upon which 2018 property tax receipts were based are as follows:

Real Property	\$34,124,440
Public Utility Personal Property	15,161,430
Total	\$49,285,870

The County Treasurer collects property taxes on behalf of all taxing districts in the county, including the District. The County Auditor periodically remits to the District its portion of the taxes collected.

#### Note 7 - Risk Management

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. During 2018, the District contracted with several companies for various types of insurance coverage as follows:

Type of Coverage	Coverage
VFIS Insurance Company	
Each Medical Incident	\$1,000,000
Personal & Advertising Injury	1,000,000
Fire Damage Legal Liability	1,000,000
Medical Expense	5,000
General Aggregate	2,000,000
Products/Completed Operations Aggregate	2,000,000
Cyber Liability	1,000,000
Privacy Crisis Management	50,000

Settled claims have not exceeded coverage in any of the last three years and there was no significant reduction in coverage from the prior year.

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

#### Note 8 - Defined Benefit Pension Plan

#### Plan Description – Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS)

Plan Description – District employees, other than full-time police and firefighters, participate in the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS administers three separate pension plans. The traditional pension plan is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan. The member-directed plan is a defined contribution plan and the combined plan is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan with defined contribution features. While members (e.g. District employees) may elect the member-directed plan and the combined plan, substantially all employee members are in OPERS' traditional plan; therefore, the following disclosure focuses on the traditional pension plan.

OPERS provides retirement, disability, survivor and death benefits, and annual cost of living adjustments to members of the traditional plan. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by Chapter 145 of the Ohio Revised Code. OPERS issues a stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements, required supplementary information and detailed information about OPERS' fiduciary net position that may be obtained by visiting <a href="https://www.opers.org/financial/reports.shtml">https://www.opers.org/financial/reports.shtml</a>, by writing to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System, 277 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-4642, or by calling 800-222-7377.

Senate Bill (SB) 343 was enacted into law with an effective date of January 7, 2013. In the legislation, members were categorized into three groups with varying provisions of the law applicable to each group. The following table provides age and service requirements for retirement and the retirement formula applied to final average salary (FAS) for the three member groups under the traditional plan as per the reduced benefits adopted by SB 343 (see OPERS CAFR referenced above for additional information, including requirements for reduced and unreduced benefits):

#### Note 8 - Defined Benefit Pension Plan (Continued)

#### Plan Description - Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) (Continued)

Group A	Group B	Group C
Eligible to retire prior to	20 years of service credit prior to	Members not in other Groups
January 7, 2013 or five years	January 7, 2013 or eligible to retire	and members hired on or after
after January 7, 2013	ten years after January 7, 2013	January 7, 2013
State and Local	State and Local	State and Local
Age and Service Requirements:	Age and Service Requirements:	Age and Service Requirements:
Age 60 with 60 months of service credit	Age 60 with 60 months of service credit	Age 57 with 25 years of service credit
or Age 55 with 25 years of service credit	or Age 55 with 25 years of service credit	or Age 62 with 5 years of service credit
Formula:	Formula:	Formula:
2.2% of FAS multiplied by years of	2.2% of FAS multiplied by years of	2.2% of FAS multiplied by years of
service for the first 30 years and 2.5%	service for the first 30 years and 2.5%	service for the first 35 years and 2.5%
for service years in excess of 30	for service years in excess of 30	for service years in excess of 35
Public Safety	Public Safety	Public Safety
Age and Service Requirements:	Age and Service Requirements:	Age and Service Requirements:
Age 48 with 25 years of service credit	Age 48 with 25 years of service credit	Age 52 with 25 years of service credit
or Age 52 with 15 years of service credit	or Age 52 with 15 years of service credit	or Age 56 with 15 years of service credit
Law Enforcement	Law Enforcement	Law Enforcement
Age and Service Requirements:	Age and Service Requirements:	Age and Service Requirements:
Age 52 with 15 years of service credit	Age 48 with 25 years of service credit	Age 48 with 25 years of service credit
·	or Age 52 with 15 years of service credit	or Age 56 with 15 years of service credit
Public Safety and Law Enforcement	Public Safety and Law Enforcement	Public Safety and Law Enforcement
Formula:	Formula:	Formula:
2.5% of FAS multiplied by years of	2.5% of FAS multiplied by years of	2.5% of FAS multiplied by years of
service for the first 25 years and 2.1%	service for the first 25 years and 2.1%	service for the first 25 years and 2.1%
for service years in excess of 25	for service years in excess of 25	for service years in excess of 25

Final average Salary (FAS) represents the average of the three highest years of earnings over a member's career for Groups A and B. Group C is based on the average of the five highest years of earnings over a member's career.

Members who retire before meeting the age and years of service credit requirement for unreduced benefits receive a percentage reduction in the benefit amount.

When a benefit recipient has received benefits for 12 months, an annual cost of living adjustment (COLA) is provided. This COLA is calculated on the base retirement benefit at the date of retirement and is not compounded. For those retiring prior to January 7, 2013, the COLA will continue to be a 3 percent simple annual COLA. For those retiring subsequent to January 7, 2013, beginning in calendar year 2019, the COLA will be based on the average percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index, capped at 3 percent.

#### Note 8 - Defined Benefit Pension Plan (Continued)

#### Plan Description - Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) (Continued)

Funding Policy – The Ohio Revised Code (ORC) provides statutory authority for member and employer contributions as follows:

		State		Public			Law			
		and Local		Safety		Enforcement				
20	18 Statutory Maximum Contribution Rates									
Er	nployer		14.0	%		18.1	%		18.1	%
Er	nployee		10.0	%		*			**	
20	18 Actual Contribution Rates									
Er	nployer:									
	Pension		14.0	%		18.1	%		18.1	%
	Post-employment Health Care Benefits		1.0			1.0	Ш		1.0	
To	tal Employer		14.0	%		18.1	%		18.1	%
En	nployee		10.0	%		12.0	%	_	13.0	%
*	This rate is determined by OPERS' Board and									OR
**	This rate is also determined by OPERS' Board			mited	d by	ORC	to r	ot m	nore	
	than 2 percent greater than the Public Safety	rate	Э.							

Employer contribution rates are actuarially determined and are expressed as a percentage of covered

The District's contractually required contribution was \$1,152 for year 2018.

#### Note 9 – Postemployment Benefits

payroll.

#### Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Plan Description – The Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) administers three separate pension plans: the traditional pension plan, a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan; the member-directed plan, a defined contribution plan; and the combined plan, a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan that has elements of both a defined benefit and defined contribution plan.

In March 2016, OPERS received two favorable rulings from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) allowing OPERS to consolidate all health care assets into the OPERS 115 Health Care Trust. Transition to the new health care trust structure was completed July 1, 2016. OPERS maintains a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit post-employment health care trust, which funds multiple health care plans including medical coverage, prescription drug coverage and deposits to a Health Reimbursement Arrangement to qualifying benefit recipients of both the Traditional Pension and the Combined plans. Members of the Member-Directed Plan do not qualify for ancillary benefits, including OPERS sponsored health care coverage. OPERS funds a Retiree Medical Account (RMA) for participants in the Member-Directed Plan. At retirement or refund, participants can be reimbursed for qualified medical expenses from their vested RMA balance.

#### Note 9 - Postemployment Benefits (Continued)

#### Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (Continued)

In order to qualify for postemployment health care coverage, age and service retirees under the traditional pension and combined plans must have twenty or more years of qualifying Ohio service credit. Health care coverage for disability benefit recipients and qualified survivor benefit recipients is available. The health care coverage provided by OPERS meets the definition of an Other Post Employment Benefit (OPEB) as described in GASB Statement 45. See OPERS' CAFR referenced below for additional information.

The Ohio Revised Code permits, but does not require OPERS to provide health care to its eligible benefit recipients. Authority to establish and amend health care coverage is provided to the Board in Chapter 145 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Disclosures for the health care plan are presented separately in the OPERS financial report. Interested parties may obtain a copy by visiting <a href="https://www.opers.org/financial/reports.shtml">https://www.opers.org/financial/reports.shtml</a>, by writing to OPERS, 277 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-4642, or by calling (614) 222-5601 or 800-222-7377.

Funding Policy – The Ohio Revised Code provides the statutory authority requiring public employers to fund postemployment health care through their contributions to OPERS. A portion of each employer's contribution to OPERS is set aside to fund OPERS health care plans.

Employer contribution rates are expressed as a percentage of the earnable salary of active members. In 2018, state and local employers contributed at a rate of 14.0 percent of earnable salary and public safety and law enforcement employers contributed at 18.1 percent. These are the maximum employer contribution rates permitted by the Ohio Revised Code. Active member contributions do not fund health care.

Each year, the OPERS Board determines the portion of the employer contribution rate that will be set aside to fund health care plans. For 2018, OPERS did not allocate any employer contribution to health care for members in the Traditional Pension Plan and Combined Plan. The OPERS Board is also authorized to establish rules for the retiree or their surviving beneficiaries to pay a portion of the health care provided. Payment amounts vary depending on the number of covered dependents and the coverage selected. The employer contribution as a percentage of covered payroll deposited into the RMA for participants in the Member-Directed Plan for 2018 was 4.0 percent.

Employer contribution rates are actuarially determined and are expressed as a percentage of covered payroll. The Township's contractually required contribution was \$0 for the year 2018.

#### Note 10 - Debt

#### Long Term Debt

During 2015, the District entered into a loan agreement with Milton Banking Company for a loan of \$635,000 to build a new fire department building. The loan was issued at a 2.77% interest rate. The loan will be paid from the General Fund.

The District's long-term debt activity for the year ended December 31, 2018, was as follows:

	Amount Outstanding 12/31/17	Issued	Retired	Amount Outstanding 12/31/18	Amount Due In One Year
Governmental Activities 2.77% Various Purpose New Building	\$ 344,034	\$ -	\$ 82,384	\$ 261,650	\$ 25,658
Total Governmental Activities	\$ 344,034	\$ -	\$ 82,384	\$ 261,650	\$ 25,658

This loan is supported by the full faith and credit of the District and is payable from unvoted property tax receipts to the extent that other resources are not available to meet annual principal and interest payments.

Principal and Interest requirements to retire the debt outstanding at December 31, 2018 are as follows:

Year	Principal			Interest
2019	\$	25,658	\$	15,735
2020		26,335		15,058
2021		27,116	14,277	
2022		27,877		13,516
2023		28,659		12,734
2024-2028		126,005		42,704
Total:	\$	261,650	\$	114,024

#### Leases

In October 2016, the District entered into a lease agreement to lease the old fire house (81Market Street) to the local school. The School agreed to pay \$2,000 per year for the lease and pay the property taxes, utilities, and maintenance on the old fire house located at 81 Market Street.

#### Note 11 - Related Party Transaction

A Fire Chief is the owner of a company from which the District acquired hardware supplies during the year. The District paid \$772 for this acquisition.

Clerk, Bonnie Hardin, has joined the Ladies Auxiliary which does fundraising for the firefighters. The Ladies Auxiliary has committed to buying two doplers for the District's two ambulances in 2019.

#### Note 12 - Fund Balances

Fund balance is classified as nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned and/or unassigned based primarily on the extent to which the District is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources in the government funds. The constraint placed on the general fund is presented below:

Fund Balances	General		
Unassigned (Deficit) Assigned for Subsequent Appropriations	\$	393,829 12,220	
Total Fund Balances	\$	406,049	

#### Note 13 - Capital Assets

The District had 9 vehicles used for emergencies. They were insured at a total of \$1,263,254 by VFIS.

The Old Fire House located at 81 Market Street is insured for \$684,284. The New Fire House is insured for \$1,055,000.

#### Note 14 - Contingent Liabilities

Amounts grantor agencies pay to the District are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor, principally the federal government. Grantors may require refunding any disallowed costs. Management cannot presently determine amounts grantors may disallow. However, based on prior experience, management believes any refunds would be immaterial.

#### **Note 15 - COVID-19**

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the District. The District's investment portfolio fluctuates with market conditions, and due to market volatility, the amount of gains or losses that will be realized in subsequent periods, if any, cannot be determined. In addition, the impact on the District's future operating costs, revenues, and additional recovery from emergency funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.



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

150 West Main St. St. Clairsville, 0H 43950 740.695.1569

1310 Market Street, Suite 300 Wheeling, WV 26003 304 232 1358

749 Wheeling Ave., Suite 300 Cambridge, OH 43725 740,435,3417

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

June 16, 2021

South Webster – Bloom Township Joint Fire District Scioto County PO Box 631 South Webster, Ohio 45682

#### 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 governmental activities and the major fund of the South Webster-Bloom Township Joint Fire District, Scioto County, (the District) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated June 16, 2021, wherein we noted the District followed financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit and we noted the financial impact of COVID-19 and the ensuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the District.

#### **Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

As part of our financial statement audit, we considered the District'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 District'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 District'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.

Tax - Accounting - Audit - Review - Compilation - Agreed Upon Procedure - Consultation - Bookkeeping - Payroll - Litigation Support - Financial Investigations

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South Webster – Bloom Township Joint Fire District Scioto County Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by *Government Auditing Standards* Page 2

#### **Internal Control Over Financial Reporting (Continued)**

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 a material weakness. We consider finding 2019-002 to be a material weakness.

#### **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of reasonably assuring whether the District'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 instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under Government Auditing Standards which are described in the accompanying schedule of findings as items 2019-001 and 2019-003.

#### 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 District's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed under Government Auditing Standards in considering the District's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

**Perry and Associates** 

Certified Public Accountants, A.C.

Very Marcules CAS A. C.

Marietta, Ohio

# SOUTH WEBSTER-BLOOM TOWNSHIP JOINT FIRE DISTRICT SCIOTO COUNTY SCHEDULE OF AUDIT FINDINGS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND 2018

### FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS

#### FINDING NUMBER 2019-001

#### **Noncompliance**

Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(D)(1) prohibits a subdivision or taxing entity 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. Further, contracts and orders for expenditures lacking prior certification shall be null and void.

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.

- 1. "Then and Now" Certificate 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 District can authorize the drawing of a warrant for the payment of the amount due. The District has thirty days from the receipt of the "then and now" certificate to approve payment by ordinance or resolution. Amounts of 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 expenditures by the District.
- 2. Blanket Certificate Fiscal officers may prepare "blanket" certificates for a certain sum of money not in excess of an amount established by resolution or ordinance adopted by a majority of the members of the legislative authority against any specific line item account over a period not running beyond the end of the current fiscal year. The blanket certificates may, but need not, be limited to a specific vendor. Only one blanket certificate may be outstanding at one particular time for any one particular line item appropriation.
- 3. Super Blanket Certificate The District 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 reasonably predictable operating expense. This certification is not to extend beyond the current year. More than one super blanket certificate may be outstanding at a particular time for any line item appropriation.

The Fiscal Officer's certification of the availability of funds was not completed for any of the disbursements during the audit period and there was no evidence that the District followed the aforementioned exceptions. Further, funds were not encumbered during the audit period. Failure to certify the availability of funds properly can result in overspending funds and negative cash fund balances.

# SOUTH WEBSTER-BLOOM TOWNSHIP JOINT FIRE DISTRICT SCIOTO COUNTY SCHEDULE OF AUDIT FINDINGS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND 2018

### FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (Continued)

#### FINDING NUMBER 2019-001 (Continued)

Unless the District uses the exceptions noted above, prior certification is not only required by statute but also is a key control in the disbursement process to assure that purchase commitments receive prior approval. To improve controls over disbursements and to help reduce the possibility of the District's funds exceeding budgetary spending limitations, we recommend the Fiscal Officer certify that funds are or will be available prior to obligation by the District. When prior certification is not possible, 'then and now' certification should be utilized.

We recommend the District officials and employees obtain the Fiscal Officer's certification of the availability of funds prior to the commitment being incurred. The most convenient certification method is to use purchase orders that include the certification language Section 5705.41(D) requires to authorize disbursements. The Fiscal Officer should sign the certification at the time the District incurs a commitment, and only when the requirements of Section 5705.41(D) are satisfied. The Fiscal Officer should post approved purchase orders to the proper appropriation code to reduce the available appropriation.

Management's Response – We did not receive a response from officials to this finding.

#### **FINDING NUMBER 2019-002**

#### **Material Weakness**

#### **Financial Reporting**

Accurate financial reporting is the responsibility of the Fiscal Officer and is essential to ensure information provided to the readers of the financial statements is accurate. Fund balances should be properly classified based on Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 54: Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions.

During 2019 and 2018, receipts and fund balances were not always posted or classified correctly. The following errors were noted:

- Subsequent year appropriations were misclassified as Unassigned in 2018;
- Debt payments were improperly classified as New Building payments instead of Principal and Interest in 2019 and 2018:
- State Homestead and Rollback receipts were recorded as Charges for Services and Property Tax revenue instead of Intergovernmental in 2018 and Grants in 2019;
- Grant revenue was recorded as Charges for Services in 2018;
- Outstanding checks were recorded as encumbrances in 2019 and 2018.

Not posting receipts or classifying fund balances accurately resulted in the financial statements requiring adjustments and reclassifications. The financial statements reflect all adjustments and reclassifications.

To help ensure accuracy and reliability in the financial reporting process, we recommend that management perform a detailed review of its draft financial statements. Such review should include procedures to ensure that all sources of revenues are properly identified and classified on the financial statements.

We also recommend the Fiscal Officer determine the proper establishment of receipt and disbursement accounts and posting of receipts and disbursements. The Fiscal Officer should refer to Auditor of State Technical Bulletin 2011-004 for assistance in properly classifying fund balances.

Management's Response – We did not receive a response from officials to this finding.

# SOUTH WEBSTER-BLOOM TOWNSHIP JOINT FIRE DISTRICT SCIOTO COUNTY SCHEDULE OF AUDIT FINDINGS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND 2018

### FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (Continued)

#### **FINDING NUMBER 2019-003**

#### **Noncompliance**

Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(B) prohibits a subdivision or taxing unit from expending money unless it has been appropriated.

Due to inadequacies in budgetary policies and procedures, budgetary expenditures exceeded appropriations for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018. Failure to have adequate appropriation authority in place at the time of expenditure may result in expenditures exceeding available resources or transfers from other funds to cover cash shortages.

The Fiscal Officer should not certify the availability of funds and should deny payment requests exceeding appropriations. The Fiscal Officer may request the Board of Trustees to approve increased expenditure levels by increasing appropriations and amending estimated resources, if necessary.

Management's Response - We did not receive a response from officials to this finding.

### SOUTH WEBSTER – BLOOM TOWNSHIP JOINT FIRE DISTRICT SCIOTO COUNTY

#### SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND 2018

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Status	Additional Information
2017-001	Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D) – Properly Encumbering	Not corrected	Repeated as Finding 2019-001
2017-002	Financial Reporting	Not corrected	Repeated as Finding 2019-002



### SOUTH WEBSTER-BLOOM TOWNSHIP JOINT FIRE DISTRICT SCIOTO 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 8/24/2021

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