



**RIPLEY TOWNSHIP
HURON COUNTY**

AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022-2021



INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

Ripley Township
Huron County
3720 Edwards Road
Greenwich, Ohio 44837

We have performed the procedures enumerated below on Ripley Township, Huron County, Ohio's (the Township) receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the cash-basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021 and certain compliance requirements related to those transactions and balances, included in the information provided to us by the management of the Township. The Township is responsible for the receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the cash-basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021 and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances included in the information provided to us by the Township.

The Board of Trustees and the management of the Township have agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of providing assistance in the evaluation of the Township's receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in its cash-basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances. No other party acknowledged the appropriateness of the procedures. This report may not be suitable for any other purpose. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of the report and may not meet the needs of all users of the report and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes. The sufficiency of the procedures is solely the responsibility of the parties specified in the report. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

For the purposes of performing these procedures, this report only describes exceptions exceeding \$10.

The procedures and the associated findings are as follows:

Cash and Investments

1. We recalculated the December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021 bank reconciliations. We found no exceptions.
2. We agreed the January 1, 2021 beginning fund balances for each fund recorded in the Fund Ledger Report to the December 31, 2020 balance in the prior year documentation in the prior year basic audit working papers. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the January 1, 2022 beginning fund balances for each fund recorded in the Fund Ledger Report to the December 31, 2021 balances in the Fund Ledger Report. We found no exceptions.
3. We agreed the 2022 and 2021 Bank Reconciliation adjusted UAN Balances and Adjusted Bank Balances as of December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021 to the total fund cash balances reported in the Fund Status Report and the financial statements filed by the Township in the Hinkle System. The amounts agreed.

4. We confirmed the December 31, 2022 bank account balance with the Township's financial institution. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the confirmed balance to the amount appearing in the December 31, 2022 bank reconciliation without exception.
5. We selected five reconciling debits (such as outstanding checks) from the December 31, 2022 bank reconciliation:
 - a. We traced each debit to the subsequent January bank statement. We found reconciling adjustments totaling \$250 that are being carried from month-to-month in the accounting system. Accordingly, these reconciling adjustments could not be traced to subsequent redemption. Because we did not inspect all reconciling debits, our report provides no assurance whether or not additional similar errors occurred.
 - b. Where applicable, we traced the amounts and dates to the check register, and determined the debits were dated prior to December 31. We found no exceptions.
6. We inspected investments held at December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021 to determine that they:
 - a. Were of a type authorized by Ohio Rev. Code §§ 135.13, 135.14, 135.144 or 135.145. We found no exceptions.
 - b. Mature within the prescribed time limits noted in Ohio Rev. Code §§ 135.13 or 135.14. We found no exceptions.

Property Taxes and Intergovernmental Cash Receipts

1. We selected a total of five receipts from the *Statement of Semiannual Apportionment of Taxes*, State Distribution Transaction Lists (DTL), and the County Auditor DTLs, and the Huron County Local Government Confirmations for 2022 and a total of five from 2021:
 - a. We compared the amount from the above-named reports to the amount recorded in the Receipt Detail Report. The amounts agreed.
 - b. We inspected the Receipt Detail Report to determine these receipts were allocated to the proper fund as required by Ohio Rev. Code §§ 5705.05-.06 and 5705.10. We found no exceptions.
 - c. We inspected the Receipt Detail Report to determine whether the receipt was recorded in the proper year. The receipt was recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.
2. We inspected the Revenue Ledger Report to determine whether it included two real estate tax receipts for 2022 and 2021. The Revenue Ledger Report included the proper number of tax receipts for each year. We found no exceptions.

Other Receipts

We selected ten other receipts from the year ended December 31, 2021 and:

- a. Agreed the receipt amount recorded in the Receipt Detail Report to supporting documentation. The amounts agreed.
- b. Confirmed the amounts charged complied with rates in force during the period, where applicable. We found no exceptions.
- c. Inspected the Receipt Detail Report to determine the receipt was posted to the proper funds and was recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.

Debt

1. From the prior basic audit documentation we observed the following loan and lease were outstanding as of December 31, 2020.
 - a. These amounts agreed to the Township's January 1, 2021 balances on the summary we used in Procedure 3.
 - b. We inspected the debt's final offering documents for all outstanding debt, and we confirmed the Township was in compliance with the debt covenants listed below.

| Issue | Principal outstanding as of December 31, 2020: | Debt Covenant |
|---|---|--|
| OPWC Loan # CT59U | \$73,881 | OPWC Promissory Note requirement to make payments in a timely manner and the minimum payment. |
| AGCO - Massy Furguson MF6713 Tractor Lease-Purchase | 41,210 | <p>Section 4.01 requires payment of funds on the dates and amount as set forth in the Agreement;</p> <p>Section 7.02 requires the Township to maintain insurance over the equipment; and</p> <p>Section 7.04 requires the Township to provide the Lessor annually with current financial statements as may be requested.</p> |

2. We inquired of management and inspected the Revenue Receipt Register Report and Payment Register Detail Report for evidence of debt issued during 2022 or 2021 or debt payment activity during 2022 or 2021. All debt agreed to the summary we used in Procedure 3.
3. We obtained a summary of loan and lease debt activity for 2022 and 2021 and agreed principal and interest payments from the related debt amortization schedules to Gasoline Tax Fund and Permissive Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund payments reported in the Payment Register Detail Report. We also compared the date the debt service payments were due to the date the Township made the payments. We found no exceptions.

Payroll Cash Disbursements

1. We selected one payroll check for five employees from 2022 and one payroll check for five employees from 2021 from the Wage Detail Report and:
 - a. We compared the hours and pay rate, or salary recorded in the Wage Detail Report to supporting documentation (timecard, legislatively or statutorily-approved rate or salary). We found no exceptions.
 - b. We inspected the fund and account code to which the check was posted to determine the posting was allowable based on the employee's duties as documented in the employee's personnel files, minute record, and/or as required by statute. We found no exceptions.
 - c. We confirmed the payment was posted to the proper year. We found no exceptions.

2. We selected the one new member of the Board of Trustees from 2021 and:
 - a. We inspected personnel files and/or minute record for the retirement system, federal, state, and local income tax withholding authorization.
 - b. We agreed the items in a. above to the Employee General Information Report.

We found no exceptions.

3. We inspected the last remittance of tax and retirement withholdings for the year ended December 31, 2022 to confirm remittances were timely paid, and if the amounts paid agreed to the amounts withheld, plus the employer's share where applicable, during the final withholding period of 2022. We observed the following:

| Withholding (plus employer share, where applicable) | Date Due | Date Paid | Amount Due | Amount Paid |
|--|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Federal income taxes and Medicare | January 31, 2023 | January 31, 2023 | \$123 | \$123 |
| State income taxes | January 15, 2023 | January 2, 2023 | 123 | 123 |
| Local income tax | January 31, 2023 | January 2, 2023 | 159 | 159 |
| OPERS retirement | January 30, 2023 | January 30, 2023 | 1,015 | 1,015 |

We found no exceptions.

4. We compared total gross pay for the Fiscal Officer and each Board member for 2022 and 2021 to the compensation permitted by Ohio Revised Code §§ 507.09 and 505.24, respectively. Their pay did not exceed the Ohio Revised Code §§ 507.09 and 505.24 permitted amounts.

5. We inquired of management and inspected the Payment Register Detail Report for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021 to determine if Township employees and/or Board members were reimbursed for out-of-pocket insurance premiums. No such reimbursements occurred.

Non-Payroll Cash Disbursements

We selected ten disbursements from the Payment Register Detail Report for the year ended December 31, 2022 and ten from the year ended December 31, 2021 and determined whether:

- a. The disbursements were for a proper public purpose. We found no exceptions.
- b. The check number, date, payee name and amount recorded on the returned, canceled check and/or the bank statement agreed to the check number, date, payee name and amount recorded in the Payment Register Detail Report and to the names and amounts on the supporting invoices. We found no exceptions.
- c. The payment was posted to a fund consistent with the restricted purpose for which the fund's cash can be used. We found no exceptions.
- d. The Fiscal Officer certified disbursements requiring certification or issued a *Then and Now Certificate*, as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(D). We found one instance where the certification date was after the vendor invoice date and there was also no evidence that a *Then and Now Certificate* was issued. Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(D) requires certifying at the time of a commitment, which should be on or before the invoice date, unless a *Then and Now Certificate* is used. Because we did not inspect all disbursements requiring certification, our report provides no assurance whether or not additional similar errors occurred.

Compliance - Budgetary

1. Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(B) prohibits expenditures (disbursements plus certified commitments) from exceeding appropriations. We compared total expenditures to total approved appropriations (Ohio Rev. Code §§ 5705.38 and 5705.40) plus any carryover appropriations for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021 for the General, Gasoline, Tax and Road and Bridge funds as recorded in the Appropriation Status Report. Expenditures did not exceed appropriations.
2. We inspected interfund transfers from the 2022 and 2021 Revenue Status Reports and Appropriation Status Reports for compliance with Ohio Rev. Code §§ 5705.14 - .16. We found no evidence of transfers these sections prohibit, or for which Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.16 would require approval by the Tax Commissioner.
3. We inspected the Cash Summary by Fund Report for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021 for negative cash fund balances. Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.10 (I) provides that money paid into a fund must be used for the purposes for which such fund is established. As a result, a negative fund cash balance indicates that money from one fund was used to cover the expenses of another. We noted no funds having a negative cash fund balance.

Sunshine Law Compliance

1. We inquired with Township management and determined that the Township did not have a Public Records Policy during the engagement period as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(e)(2).
2. We selected the one public records request from the engagement period and inspected it to determine the following:
 - a. The Township was compliant and responded to the request pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(B)(1).
 - b. The Township did not have any denied public records requests during the engagement period.
 - c. The Township did not have any public records requests with redactions during the engagement period.

3. We inquired with Township management and determined that the Township did not have a records retention schedule during the engagement period and therefore could not make it readily available to the public as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(B)(2).
4. We inquired with Township management and determined that the Township did not have a Public Records Policy during the engagement period therefore could not provide it to the records custodian/manager as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2).
5. We inquired with Township management and determined that the Township did not have a Public Records Policy during the engagement period therefore it could not be included in a policy manual as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2).
6. We inquired with Township management and determined that the Township did not have a Public Records Policy during the engagement period therefore it could not be displayed in all the branches of the Township as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2).
7. We inquired with Township management and determined that the Township did not have any applications for record disposal submitted to the Records Commission during the engagement period.
8. We inspected individual proof of attendance and determined whether each elected official in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(1) (or his/her designee) successfully attended a certified three-hour public records training for each term of office as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 109.43(B). We found no exceptions.
9. We inspected the public notices for the public meetings held during the engagement period and determined the Township notified the general public and news media of when and where meetings during the engagement period were to be held as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 121.22(F). We found no exceptions.
10. We inspected the minutes of public meetings during the engagement period in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code § 121.22(C) and determined whether they were:
 - a. Prepared - a file is created following the date of the meeting.
 - b. Filed - placed with similar documents in an organized manner.
 - c. Maintained - retained, at a minimum, for the engagement period.
 - d. Open to public inspection - available for public viewing or request.We found no exceptions.
11. We inspected the minutes from the engagement period in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code § 121.22(G) and determined the following:
 - a. Executive sessions were only held at regular or special meetings.
 - b. The purpose for the meetings and going into an executive session (when applicable) correlated with one of the matters listed in Ohio Rev. Code § 121.22(G).
 - c. Formal Board actions were adopted in open meetings.We found no exceptions.

Other Compliance

Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 requires townships to file their financial information in the Hinkle System within 60 days after the close of the fiscal year. This statute also permits the Auditor of State to extend the deadline for filing a financial report and establish terms and conditions for any such extension. Auditor of State established policies regarding the filing of complete financial statements, as defined in AOS Bulletin 2015-007 in the Hinkle System. We confirmed the Township filed its complete financial statements, as defined by AOS Bulletin 2015-007 and Auditor of State established policy, within the allotted timeframe for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021 in the Hinkle System. We found no exceptions.

We were engaged by the Township to perform this agreed-upon procedures engagement and conducted our engagement in accordance with the attestation standards established by the AICPA and the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. We were not engaged to, and did not conduct an examination or review engagement, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on the Township's receipts, disbursements, balances and compliance with certain laws and regulations. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

We are required to be independent of the Township and to meet our ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the ethical requirements established by the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards* related to our agreed upon procedures engagement.



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

September 6, 2023

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



RIPLEY TOWNSHIP

HURON 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 9/21/2023

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

This report is a matter of public record and is available online at
www.ohioauditor.gov