



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE  
**KEITH FABER**





# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER

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## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

Grove Cemetery Association  
Hardin County  
15443 St. Rt. 309  
Kenton, OH 43326

We have performed the procedures enumerated below on the Grove Cemetery Association's (the Cemetery) receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the cash basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023 and certain compliance requirements related to those transactions and balances, included in the information provided to us by the management of the Cemetery. The Cemetery is responsible for the receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the cash basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023 and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances included in the information provided to us by the Cemetery.

The Board of Trustees and the management of the Cemetery have agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of providing assistance in the evaluation of the Cemetery's receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in their cash-basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, 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, 2024 and December 31, 2023 bank reconciliations. We found no exceptions.
2. We agreed the January 1, 2023 beginning fund balances for each fund recorded in the Fund Status Report to the December 31, 2022 balances in the prior year audited statements. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the January 1, 2024 beginning fund balances for each fund recorded in the Fund Status Report to the December 31, 2023 balances in the Fund Status Report. We found no exceptions.
3. We agreed the 2024 and 2023 bank reconciliation as of December 31, 2024 and 2023 to the total fund cash balances reported in the Fund Status Report and the financial statements filed by the Cemetery in the Hinkle System. The amounts agreed.

### **Cash and Investments (Continued)**

4. We confirmed the December 31, 2024 bank account balances with the Cemetery's financial institutions and Ohio Pooled Collateral System. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the confirmed balances to the amounts appearing in the December 31, 2024 bank reconciliation without exception
5. We selected 5 reconciling debits (such as outstanding checks) from the December 31, 2024 bank reconciliation:
  - a. We traced each debit to the subsequent January bank statement. We found no exceptions.
  - b. We traced the amounts and dates to the Payment Register Detail and determined the debits were dated prior to December 31. We found no exceptions.
6. We traced interbank account transfers occurring in December of 2024 to the accounting records and bank statements determine if they were properly recorded. We found no exceptions.
7. We inspected investments held at December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023 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.

### **Intergovernmental Cash Receipts**

1. We selected a total of 5 receipts (property taxes and related reimbursements levied to support the Cemetery) from each of the following: City of Kenton, Pleasant Township, Goshen Township, and Buck Township from 2024 and a total of 5 from 2023:
  - a. We compared the amount from the above named reports to the amount recorded in the Revenue Receipt Register Report. The amounts agreed.
  - b. We inspected the Revenue Receipt Register Report to determine these receipts were allocated to the proper funds as required by Ohio Rev. Code §§ 5705.05 and 5705.10. We found no exceptions.
  - c. We inspected the Revenue Receipt Register 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 Receipt Register Report to determine whether it included at least 2 intergovernmental receipts (property taxes and related reimbursements) from the City of Kenton, Buck Township, Goshen Township and Pleasant Township for 2024 and 2023. The Revenue Receipt Register Report included the proper number of receipts for each year. We found no exceptions.

### **Charges for Services**

We selected 10 cash receipts for charges for services from the year ended December 31, 2024 and 10 cash receipts for charges for services from the year ended 2023 recorded in the duplicate cash receipts book and:

- a. Agreed the receipt amount to the amount recorded in the Revenue Receipt Register Report. The amounts agreed.
- b. Agreed the amount charged complied with rates in force during the period. We found no exceptions.
- c. Inspected the Revenue Receipt Register Report to determine the receipt was posted to the proper account code, and was recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.

## Other Receipts

We selected 10 other receipts from the year ended December 31, 2024 and 10 other receipts from the year ended 2023 and:

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

## Debt

1. The prior audit report disclosed no debt outstanding as of December 31, 2022.
2. We inquired of management and inspected the Revenue Receipt Register Report and Payment Register Detail Report for evidence of debt issued during 2024 or 2023 or debt payment activity during 2024 or 2023. There were no new debt issuances, nor any debt payment activity during 2024 or 2023.

## Payroll Cash Disbursements

1. We selected 1 payroll check for 5 employees from 2024 and 1 payroll check for 5 employees from 2023 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 or legislatively-approved rate or salary). We found no exceptions.
  - b. We inspected the fund and account codes to which the check was posted to determine the posting was allowable based on the employees' duties as documented in the employees' personnel files. We found no exceptions.
  - c. We confirmed the payment was posted to the proper year. We found no exceptions.
2. We selected 3 new employees from 2024 and all new employee from 2023 and:
  - a. We inspected the employees' personnel files for the Retirement system, Federal, State & Local income tax withholding authorization.
  - b. We agreed the items in a above to the Wage Detail Report
We found no exceptions.
3. We inspected the last remittance of tax and retirement withholdings for the year ended December 31, 2024 to determine whether remittances were timely paid, and if the amounts paid agreed to the amounts withheld, plus the employer's share where applicable, during the final<sup>1</sup> withholding period of 2024. We observed the following:

Withholding (plus employer share, where applicable)	Date Due	Date Paid	Amount Due	Amount Paid
Federal income taxes & Medicare	January 31, 2025	December 27, 2024	\$1,500.71	\$1,500.71
State income taxes	January 15, 2025	December 27, 2024	\$351.44	\$351.44
School Income Taxes	January 31, 2025	December 27, 2024	\$187.71	\$187.71
OPERS retirement	January 30, 2025	December 27, 2024	\$2,879.38	\$2,879.38

We found no exceptions.

### **Non-Payroll Cash Disbursements**

1. We selected 10 disbursements from the Payment Register Detail Report for the year ended December 31, 2024 and 10 from the year ended 2023 and determined whether:
  - a. The disbursements were for a proper public purpose. We found no exceptions.
  - b. The check number, date, payee name and amount recorded on the returned, canceled check agreed to the check number, date, payee name and amount recorded in the Payment Register Detail Report and to the names and amounts on the supporting invoices. We found no exceptions.
  - c. The payment was posted to a proper account code. We found no exceptions.
  - d. The fiscal officer certified disbursements requiring certification or issued a Then and Now Certificate, as required by Ohio Rev. Code §5705.41(D). We found no exceptions.

### **Compliance – Budgetary**

1. Ohio Rev. Code §5705.41(B) prohibit expenditures (disbursements plus contract commitments including outstanding encumbrances) 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, 2024 and 2023 for the General, Capital Projects - Building, and Endowment funds. Expenditures did not exceed appropriations.
2. We inspected all interfund transfers from 2024 and all from 2023 Interfund Transfer Listing Report 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 Fund Status Report for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023 for negative cash fund balance. 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 found no funds having negative cash fund balances.

### **Sunshine Law Compliance**

1. We obtained and inspected the Cemetery's Public Records Policy to determine the policy was in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code §§ 149.43(E)(2) and 149.43(B)(7)(c) and did not limit the number of responses that may be made to a particular person, limit the number of responses during a specified period of time, or establish a fixed period of time before it will respond unless that period is less than eight hours. We found no exceptions.
2. We selected 5 public records requests from the engagement period and inspected each request to determine the following:
  - a. The Cemetery was compliant and responded to the request in accordance with their adopted policy as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(B)(1). We found no exceptions.
  - b. The Cemetery did not have any denied public records requests during the engagement period.
  - c. The Cemetery did not have any public records requests with redactions during the engagement period.
3. We inquired whether the Cemetery had a records retention schedule and observed that it was readily available to the public as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(B)(2). We found no exceptions.

### **Sunshine Law Compliance (Continued)**

4. We inspected written evidence that the Public Records Policy was provided to the records custodian/manager as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2). We found no exceptions.
5. We inspected the Cemetery's policy manual and determined the public records policy was included as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2). We found no exceptions.
6. We observed that the Cemetery's poster describing their Public Records Policy was displayed conspicuously in all branches of the Cemetery as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2). We found no exceptions.
7. We inquired with Cemetery management and determined that the Cemetery did not have any applications for record disposal submitted to the Records Commission during the engagement period.
8. We inquired with Cemetery management and determined that the Cemetery did not have any elected officials subject to the Public Records Training requirements during the engagement period as required by Ohio Rev. Code §§ 149.43(E)(1) and 109.43(B).
9. We inspected the public notices for the public meetings held during the engagement period and determined the Cemetery 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 governing board actions were adopted in open meetings.We found no exceptions.

### **Other Compliance**

1. Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 requires cemeteries 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 Cemetery filed their complete financial statements, as defined by AOS Bulletin 2015-007 and Auditor of State established policy within the allotted timeframe for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023 in the Hinkle system. We found no exceptions.

We were engaged by the Cemetery 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 Cemetery'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 Cemetery 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  
Ohio Auditor of State



Tiffany L. Ridenbaugh, CPA, CFE, CGFM  
Chief Deputy Auditor

September 15, 2025

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# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



**GROVE CEMETERY ASSOCIATION**

**HARDIN 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 9/30/2025**

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