



bhm cpa group, inc.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

MERCER COUNTY GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT
MERCER COUNTY

REGULAR AUDIT

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024 AND 2023



65 East State Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
ContactUs@ohioauditor.gov
800-282-0370

Members of the Board
Mercer County Health District
220 W Livingston Room B152
Celina, OH 45822

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Mercer County Health District, Mercer County, prepared by BHM CPA Group, Inc., for the audit period January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2024. 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. The Mercer County Health District is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

KEITH FABER
Ohio Auditor of State

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tiffany L Ridenbaugh".

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

February 04, 2026

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MERCER COUNTY GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT

MERCER COUNTY

For the Years Ended December 31, 2024 and 2023

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Mercer County General Health District
Mercer County
220 West Livingston Room B152
Celina, Ohio 45822

To the Board of Health:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Unmodified and Adverse Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of the Mercer County General Health District, Mercer County, Ohio (the District), which comprises the cash balances, receipts and disbursements for each governmental fund type as of and for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Unmodified Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the cash balances, receipts and disbursements for each governmental fund type as of and for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, in accordance with the financial reporting provisions which Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(C) permit, described in Note 2.

Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the *Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles* section of our report, the accompanying financial statements do not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the District, as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, or the changes in financial position thereof for the years then ended.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are required to be independent of the District, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

As described in Note 2 of the financial statements, the financial statements are prepared by District on the basis of the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(C), which is an accounting basis other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP), to satisfy these requirements. The effects on the financial statements of the variances between the regulatory basis of accounting described in Note 1 and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, although not reasonably determinable, are presumed to be material and pervasive.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(C) permit. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.

- conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated August 22, 2025, 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. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's 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.

BHM CPA Group

BHM CPA Group, Inc.
Portsmouth, Ohio
August 22, 2025

**MERCER COUNTY GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT
MERCER COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (REGULATORY CASH BASIS)
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Combined Totals</u>
Cash Receipts:			
Charges for Services	\$ 892,250	\$ 64,532	\$ 956,782
Fines, Licenses and Permits	-	121,932	121,932
Intergovernmental:			
Apportionments	295,500	-	295,500
Grants	18,506	159,062	177,568
Rewards, Vaccine Rebates & Reimbursements	594	-	594
Miscellaneous	1,663	-	1,663
Total Cash Receipts	<u>1,208,513</u>	<u>345,526</u>	<u>1,554,039</u>
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
Health:			
Salaries	425,138	275,999	701,137
Fringe Benefits	233,498	134,494	367,992
Purchased/Contracted Services	56,027	23,297	79,324
Supplies/Materials	547,086	13,787	560,873
Other	21,700	13,180	34,880
Remittance to State	37,673	16,271	53,944
Dept of Ag Share	-	2,422	2,422
Total Cash Disbursements	<u>1,321,122</u>	<u>479,450</u>	<u>1,800,572</u>
Excess of Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	<u>(112,609)</u>	<u>(133,924)</u>	<u>(246,533)</u>
Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements):			
Transfer In	-	126,302	126,302
Transfers Out	<u>(126,302)</u>	-	<u>(126,302)</u>
Total Other Financing Receipts(Disbursements)	<u>(126,302)</u>	<u>126,302</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Change in Fund Cash Balances	<u>(238,911)</u>	<u>(7,622)</u>	<u>(246,533)</u>
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>349,912</u>	<u>323,473</u>	<u>673,385</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$ 111,001</u>	<u>\$ 315,851</u>	<u>\$ 426,852</u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

Mercer County General Health District

Mercer County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Note 1 – Reporting Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of the Mercer County General Health District, Mercer County, (The District) as a body corporate and politic. A seven-member Board and a Health Commissioner govern the District. The District's services include communicable disease investigations, immunization clinics, inspections, public health nursing services and issues health-related licenses and permits.

Public Entity Risk Pool

The District participates in a public entity risk pool. Note 6 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity. The District's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the District is financially accountable.

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

The District's financial statements consist of a combined statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balances (regulatory cash basis) for all governmental fund types organized on a fund type basis.

Fund Accounting

The District uses funds 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 funds of the District are presented below:

General Fund 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.

Special Revenue Funds These funds account for and report the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditure for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects. The District had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

Swimming Pool Fund The swimming pool fund accounts for the sale of public pool and spa licenses.

Parks and Camps Fund The parks and camps fund accounts for the sale of campground and trailer park licenses.

Food Service Fund The food service fund accounts for the sale of food service licenses.

Water System Fund The water system fund receives money for permits and fees of well and water testing.

Solid Waste Fund The solid waste fund receives money for sewage permit fees within Mercer County.

Mercer County General Health District

Mercer County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Construction and Demo Debris (C&DD) Fund The C&DD fund accounts for tipping fees and licenses.

Environmental Miscellaneous Fund This fund receives money for licenses of sewage vector control, and body art in Mercer County. This has been combined into the General Fund.

NACCHO Grant Fund This fund receives Federal grant money to provide for the development of the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC).

Get Vaccinated Grant (GV) This fund receives Federal grant money on a subgrantee basis to provide for the purpose of increasing immunization rates for children.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Grant Fund This fund receives Federal grant money to provide for the development of public health infrastructure.

Enhanced Operations Grant This fund receives Federal grant money to provide for the monitoring and management of COVID-19 activities.

Work Force Development Grant This fund receives Federal grant money to support additional workforce capacity. This includes hiring/contracting additional staff and can also include professional development of existing staff.

COVID-19 Vaccination Grant This fund receives Federal grant money to maintain and improve COVID-19 vaccination efforts.

Enhanced Operations Grant This fund receives Federal grant money to provide for the monitoring and management of COVID-19 activities.

Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (C). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Board recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (C) permit.

Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires the District to budget each fund annually

Appropriations Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function, or object level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The District Board must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end.

Mercer County General Health District

Mercer County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Estimated Resources Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus unencumbered cash as of January 1. The County Budget Commission must approve estimated resources.

Encumbrances The Ohio Revised Code requires the District to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over, and need not be re-appropriated.

A summary of 2024 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

Accumulated Leave

District employees earn sick and vacation time that can be used for time off. In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. The financial statements do not include a liability for unpaid leave.

Fund Balance

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

Nonspendable The District classifies assets as *non-spendable* when legally or contractually required to maintain the amounts intact. For regulatory purposes, nonspendable fund balance includes unclaimed monies that are required to be held for five years before they may be utilized by the District and the nonspendable portion of the corpus in permanent funds.

Restricted Fund balance is *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 Board can *commit* amounts via formal action (resolution). The District must adhere to these commitments unless the Board amends the resolution. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed to satisfy contractual requirements.

Assigned Assigned fund balances are intended for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as *restricted* or *committed*. For regulatory purposes, assigned fund balance in the general fund is limited to encumbrances outstanding at year end.

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

For regulatory purposes, limited disclosure related to fund balance is included in Note 10.

Mercer County General Health District

Mercer County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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 – Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2024, follows:

2024 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General Revenue	\$1,373,400	\$1,208,513	(\$164,887)
Special Revenue	1,369,751	471,828	(897,923)
Total	<u>\$2,743,151</u>	<u>\$1,680,341</u>	<u>(\$1,062,810)</u>

2024 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General Expenses	\$1,603,684	\$1,452,553	\$151,131
Special Revenue	692,544	482,566	209,978
Total	<u>\$2,296,228</u>	<u>\$1,935,119</u>	<u>\$361,109</u>

Note 4 – Deposits and Investments

As required by the Ohio Revised Code, the Mercer County Treasurer is custodian for the District's deposits. The County's deposit and investment pool holds the District's assets, valued at the Treasurer's reported carrying amount.

Note 5 – Intergovernmental Funding and Property Taxes

Intergovernmental Funding

The County apportions the excess of the District's appropriations over other estimated receipts among the townships and municipalities composing the District, based on their taxable property valuations. The County withholds the apportioned excess from property tax settlements and distributes it to the District. The financial statements present these amounts as intergovernmental receipts.

Note 6 – Risk Management

The District is exposed to various risks of property and casualty losses, and injuries to employees.

The District insures against injuries to employees through the Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation.

Mercer County General Health District

Mercer County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Risk Pool Membership

The District is a member of the Public Entities Pool of Ohio (The Pool). The Pool assumes the risk of loss up to the limits of the District's policy. The Pool covers the following risks:

- General liability and casualty
- Public official's liability
- Cyber
- Law enforcement liability
- Automobile liability
- Vehicles
- Property
- Equipment breakdown

The Pool reported the following summary of assets and actuarially-measured liabilities available to pay those liabilities as of December 31:

	<u>2024</u>
Cash and investments	\$48,150,572
Actuarial liabilities	\$22,652,556

Note 7 – Defined Benefit Pension Plans

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Several of the District's employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes this plan's benefits, which include postretirement healthcare and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. OPERS members contributed 10 percent of their gross salaries and the District contributed an amount equaling 14 percent of participants' gross salaries. The District has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2024.

Social Security

Several of the District's employees contributed to Social Security. This plan provides retirement benefits, including survivor and disability benefits to participants.

Employees contributed 6.2 percent of their gross salaries. The District contributed an amount equal to 6.2 percent of participants' gross salaries. The District has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2024.

Mercer County General Health District

Mercer County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Note 8 – Postemployment Benefits

OPERS offers a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plan. OPERS offers a health reimbursement arrangement (HRA) allowance to benefit recipients meeting certain age and service credit requirements. The HRA is an account funded by OPERS that provides tax-free reimbursement for qualified medical expenses such as monthly post-tax insurance premiums, deductibles, co-insurance, and co-pays incurred by eligible benefit recipients and their dependents. For calendar year 2024, the portion of OPERS employer contributions allocated to health care was 0 percent for members in the traditional pension plan and 2 percent for members in the combined plan. For 2024, the portion of employer contributions OPERS allocated to health care for members in the member-directed plan was 4.0 percent; however, a portion of the health care rate was funded with reserves.

Note 9 – Contingent Liabilities

Amounts grantor agencies pay to the District are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor. The grantor 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 10 – Fund Balances

Encumbrances are commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods or services. Encumbrance accounting is utilized to the extent necessary to assure effective budgetary control and accountability and to facilitate effective cash planning and control. At year end the balances of these amounts were as follows:

Fund Balances	General	Special Revenue	Total
Outstanding Encumbrances	\$5,129	\$3,116	\$8,245
Total	<u>\$5,129</u>	<u>\$3,116</u>	<u>\$8,245</u>

The fund balance of special revenue funds is either restricted or committed. These restricted and committed amounts in the special revenue funds would include the outstanding encumbrances. In the general fund, outstanding encumbrances are considered assigned.

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**MERCER COUNTY GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT
MERCER COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (REGULATORY CASH BASIS)
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Combined Totals</u>
Cash Receipts:			
Charges for Services	\$ 1,022,137	\$ 62,875	\$ 1,085,012
Fines, Licenses and Permits	- -	128,610	128,610
Intergovernmental:			
Apportionments	295,500	- -	295,500
Grants	31,546	192,946	224,492
BWC Refund	1,128	503	1,631
Rewards, Vaccine Rebates & Reimbursements	13,522	- -	13,522
Miscellaneous	863	- -	863
 Total Cash Receipts	 1,364,696	 384,934	 1,749,630
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
Health:			
Salaries	466,206	298,015	764,221
Fringe Benefits	257,972	151,500	409,472
Purchased/Contracted Services	60,885	25,669	86,554
Supplies/Materials	588,411	9,182	597,593
Other	39,007	9,999	49,006
Remittance to State	40,112	16,971	57,083
Dept of Ag Share	- -	2,394	2,394
 Total Cash Disbursements	 1,452,593	 513,730	 1,966,323
 Excess of Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	 (87,897)	 (128,796)	 (216,693)
Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements):			
Transfer In	- -	90,000	90,000
Transfers Out	(90,000)	- -	(90,000)
 Total Other Financing Receipts(Disbursements)	 (90,000)	 90,000	 - -
 Net Change in Fund Cash Balances	 (177,897)	 (38,796)	 (216,693)
 Fund Cash Balances, January 1	 527,809	 362,269	 890,078
 Fund Cash Balances, December 31	 \$ 349,912	 \$ 323,473	 \$ 673,385

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

Mercer County General Health District

Mercer County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Note 1 – Reporting Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of the Mercer County General Health District, Mercer County, (The District) as a body corporate and politic. A seven-member Board and a Health Commissioner govern the District. The District's services include communicable disease investigations, immunization clinics, inspections, public health nursing services and issues health-related licenses and permits.

Public Entity Risk Pool

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Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

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Water System Fund The water system fund receives money for permits and fees of well and water testing.

Mercer County General Health District

Mercer County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Solid Waste Fund The solid waste fund receives money for sewage permit fees within Mercer County.

Environmental Miscellaneous Fund This fund receives money for licenses of sewage vector control, and body art in Mercer County. This has been combined into the General Fund.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Grant Fund This fund receives Federal grant money to provide for the development of public health infrastructure.

NACCHO Grant Fund This fund receives Federal grant money to provide for the development of the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC).

Get Vaccinated Grant (GV) Fund This fund receives Federal grant money on a subgrantee basis to provide for the purpose of increasing immunization rates for children.

Enhanced Operations Grant This fund receives Federal grant money to provide for the monitoring and management of COVID-19 activities.

Work Force Development Grant This fund receives Federal grant money to support additional workforce capacity. This includes hiring/contracting additional staff and can also include professional development of existing staff.

Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (C). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Board recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (C) permit.

Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires the District to budget each fund annually

Appropriations Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function, or object level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The District Board must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end.

Estimated Resources Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus unencumbered cash as of January 1. The County Budget Commission must approve estimated resources.

Mercer County General Health District

Mercer County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Encumbrances The Ohio Revised Code requires the District to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over, and need not be re-appropriated.

A summary of 2023 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

Accumulated Leave

District employees earn sick and vacation time that can be used for time off. In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. The financial statements do not include a liability for unpaid leave.

Fund Balance

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

Nonspendable The District classifies assets as *nonspendable* when legally or contractually required to maintain the amounts intact. For regulatory purposes, nonspendable fund balance includes unclaimed monies that are required to be held for five years before they may be utilized by the District and the nonspendable portion of the corpus in permanent funds.

Restricted Fund balance is *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 Board can *commit* amounts via formal action (resolution). The District must adhere to these commitments unless the Board amends the resolution. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed to satisfy contractual requirements.

Assigned Assigned fund balances are intended for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as *restricted* or *committed*. For regulatory purposes, assigned fund balance in the general fund is limited to encumbrances outstanding at year end.

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

For regulatory purposes, limited disclosure related to fund balance is included in Note 10.

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.

Mercer County General Health District

Mercer County

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Note 3 – Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2023, follows:

2023 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General Revenue	\$1,377,220	\$1,364,696	(\$12,524)
Special Revenue	491,415	474,934	(16,481)
Total	<u>\$1,868,635</u>	<u>\$1,839,630</u>	<u>(\$29,005)</u>

2023 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$1,676,189	\$1,543,495	\$132,694
Special Revenue	625,083	517,369	107,714
Total	<u>\$2,301,272</u>	<u>\$2,060,864</u>	<u>\$240,408</u>

Note 4 – Deposits and Investments

As required by the Ohio Revised Code, the Mercer County Treasurer is custodian for the District's deposits. The County's deposit and investment pool holds the District's assets, valued at the Treasurer's reported carrying amount.

Note 5 – Intergovernmental Funding and Property Taxes

Intergovernmental Funding

The County apportions the excess of the District's appropriations over other estimated receipts among the townships and municipalities composing the District, based on their taxable property valuations. The County withholds the apportioned excess from property tax settlements and distributes it to the District. The financial statements present these amounts as intergovernmental receipts.

Note 6 – Risk Management

The District is exposed to various risks of property and casualty losses, and injuries to employees.

The District insures against injuries to employees through the Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation.

Mercer County General Health District

Mercer County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Risk Pool Membership

The District is a member of the Public Entities Pool of Ohio (The Pool). The Pool assumes the risk of loss up to the limits of the District's policy. The Pool covers the following risks:

- General liability and casualty
- Public official's liability
- Cyber
- Law enforcement liability
- Automobile liability
- Vehicles
- Property
- Equipment breakdown

The Pool reported the following summary of assets and actuarially-measured liabilities available to pay those liabilities as of December 31:

	<u>2023</u>
Cash and investments	\$43,996,442
Actuarial liabilities	\$19,743,401

Note 7 – Defined Benefit Pension Plans

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Several of the District's employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes this plan's benefits, which include postretirement healthcare and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. OPERS members contributed 10 percent of their gross salaries and the District contributed an amount equaling 14 percent of participants' gross salaries. The District has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2023.

Social Security

Several of the District's employees contributed to Social Security. This plan provides retirement benefits, including survivor and disability benefits to participants.

Employees contributed 6.2 percent of their gross salaries. The District contributed an amount equal to 6.2 percent of participants' gross salaries. The District has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2023.

Mercer County General Health District

Mercer County

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Note 8 – Postemployment Benefits

OPERS offers a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plan. OPERS offers a health reimbursement arrangement (HRA) allowance to benefit recipients meeting certain age and service credit requirements. The HRA is an account funded by OPERS that provides tax-free reimbursement for qualified medical expenses such as monthly post-tax insurance premiums, deductibles, co-insurance, and co-pays incurred by eligible benefit recipients and their dependents. For calendar year 2023, the portion of OPERS employer contributions allocated to health care was 0 percent for members in the traditional pension plan and 2 percent for members in the combined plan. For 2023, the portion of employer contributions OPERS allocated to health care for members in the member-directed plan was 4.0 percent; however, a portion of the health care rate was funded with reserves.

Note 9 – Contingent Liabilities

Amounts grantor agencies pay to the District are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor. The grantor 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 10 – Fund Balances

Encumbrances are commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods or services. Encumbrance accounting is utilized to the extent necessary to assure effective budgetary control and accountability and to facilitate effective cash planning and control. At year end the balances of these amounts were as follows:

Fund Balances		Special Revenue	
	General		Total
Outstanding Encumbrances	\$902	\$3,639	\$4,541
Total	<u>\$902</u>	<u>\$3,639</u>	<u>\$4,541</u>

The fund balance of special revenue funds is either restricted or committed. These restricted and committed amounts in the special revenue funds would include the outstanding encumbrances. In the general fund, outstanding encumbrances are considered assigned.



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

Mercer County General Health District
Mercer County
220 West Livingston Room B152
Celina, Ohio 45822

To the Board of Health:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*), the financial statements of the cash balances, receipts, and disbursements for each governmental fund type as of and for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements of the Mercer County General Health District, Mercer County, Ohio (the District) and have issued our report thereon dated August 22, 2025, wherein we noted the District followed financial reporting provisions Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 and Ohio Admin. Code 117-2-03(C) permit.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the District's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. 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.

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 deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We identified a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2024-001 that we consider to be a material weakness.

Mercer County General Health District
Mercer County
Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over
Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters
Required by *Governmental Auditing Standards*
Page 2

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the District's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of This Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

BHM CPA Group

BHM CPA Group, Inc.
Portsmouth, Ohio
August 22, 2025

MERCER COUNTY GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT
MERCER COUNTY

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2024 AND 2023

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

FINDING NUMBER 2024-001

Material Weakness- *Internal Controls related to financial reporting*

In our audit engagement letter, as required by AU-C Section 210, Terms of Engagement, paragraph .06, management acknowledged its responsibility for the preparation and fair presentation of their financial statements; this responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to preparing and fairly presenting financial statements free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error as discussed in AU-C Section 210 paragraphs .A14 & .A16. Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Cod. 1100 paragraph .101 states a governmental accounting system must make it possible both: (a) to present fairly and with full disclosure the funds and activities of the governmental unit in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles, and (b) to determine and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal and contractual provisions.

The District's financial statements included misstatements related to charges for services receipts, intergovernmental grant receipts, rewards, vaccine rebates & reimbursements receipts, miscellaneous receipts, purchased/contracted services disbursements, other disbursements, and fund balances. Errors were noted when agreeing the financial statements filed in the Hinkle System to the District's fiscal agent's system.

To ensure the District's financial statements and notes to the financial statements are complete and accurate, we recommend that management review financial statements for accuracy and compare balances reported to the balances reported in the fiscal agent's system. Additionally, management should use the footnote shell published on the Auditor of State's website for guidance on the correct information to be disclosed in the footnotes.

Officials' Response: We received no response to this finding from officials.

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



MERCER COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT

MERCER 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 2/17/2026

65 East State 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