

BENNINGTON TOWNSHIP

LICKING COUNTY

**JANUARY 1, 2017 TO DECEMBER 31, 2018
AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES**

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



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

Board of Trustees
Bennington Township
6600 Bennington Chapel Road
Centerburg, Ohio 43011

We have reviewed the *Independent Accountants' Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures* of Bennington Township, Licking County, prepared by Julian & Grube, Inc., for the period January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2018. Based upon this review, we have accepted this report in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code.

Our review was made in reference to the applicable sections of legislative criteria, as reflected by the Ohio Constitution, and the Revised Code, policies, procedures and guidelines of the Auditor of State, regulations and grant requirements. Bennington Township is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

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

Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

July 31, 2019

This page intentionally left blank.



Julian & Grube, Inc.
Serving Ohio Local Governments

333 County Line Rd. West, Westerville, OH 43082 Phone: 614.846.1899 Fax: 614.846.2799

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

Bennington Township
Licking County
6600 Bennington Chapel Road
Centerburg, Ohio 43011

We have performed the procedures enumerated below, which were agreed to by the Board of Trustees and the management of Bennington Township (the Township) and the Auditor of State, on the receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the Township's cash basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017 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, 2018 and 2017 and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances included in the information provided to us by the Township. The sufficiency of the procedures is solely the responsibility of the parties specified in this report. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

This report only describes exceptions exceeding \$10.

Cash and Investments

1. We recalculated the December 31, 2018 and December 31, 2017 bank reconciliations. We found no exceptions.
2. We agreed the January 1, 2017 beginning fund balances recorded in the Cash Summary by Fund Report to the December 31, 2016 balances in the prior year audited statements. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the January 1, 2018 beginning fund balances recorded in the Cash Summary by Fund Report to the December 31, 2017 balances in the Cash Summary by Fund Report. We found no exceptions.
3. We agreed the totals per the bank reconciliations to the total of the December 31, 2018 and 2017 fund cash balances reported in the Cash Summary by Fund Report. The amounts agreed.
4. We confirmed the December 31, 2018 bank account balances with the Township's financial institution. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the confirmed balances to the amounts appearing in the December 31, 2018 bank reconciliation without exception.
5. We selected a sample (agreed upon) of five reconciling debits (such as outstanding checks) from the December 31, 2018 bank reconciliation:
 - a. We traced each debit to the subsequent January bank statement. We found no exceptions.
 - b. We traced the amounts and dates to the check register, to determine the debits were dated prior to December 31. There were no exceptions.
6. We traced interbank account transfers occurring in December of 2018 and 2017 to the accounting records and bank statements to determine if they were properly recorded. We found no exceptions.

7. We inspected investments held at December 31, 2018 and December 31, 2017 to determine that they:
 - a. Were of a type authorized by Ohio Rev. Code Sections 135.13, 135.14 or 135.144. We found no exceptions
 - b. Mature within the prescribed time limits noted in Ohio Rev. Code Section 135.13 or 135.14. We noted no exceptions.

Property Taxes and Intergovernmental Cash Receipts

1. We selected a property tax receipt from one *Statement of Semiannual Apportionment of Taxes* (the Statement) for 2018 and one from 2017:
 - a. We traced the gross receipts from the *Statement* to the amount recorded in the Receipt Export Report. The amounts agreed.
 - b. We inspected the Receipt Export Report to confirm the receipt was allocated to the proper funds as required by Ohio Rev. Code Sections 5705.05-.06 and 5705.10. We found no exceptions.
 - c. We inspected the Receipt Export Report to confirm whether the receipt was recorded in the proper year. The receipt was recorded in the proper year.
2. We inspected the Receipt Export Report to determine whether it included two real estate tax receipts for 2018 and 2017. The Receipt Export Report included the proper number of tax receipts for each year.
3. We selected all five receipts from the State Distribution Transaction Lists (DTL) from 2018 and all four from 2017. We also selected a sample (agreed upon) of five receipts from the County Auditor's Monthly Allocation Sheets from 2018 and five from 2017.
 - a. We compared the amount from the above reports to the amount recorded in the Receipt Export Report. The amounts agreed.
 - b. We inspected the Receipt Export Report to determine that these receipts were allocated to the proper fund(s). We found no exceptions.
 - c. We inspected the Receipt Export Report to determine whether the receipts were recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.

Debt

1. From the prior audit documentation, we observed the following loans and leases were outstanding as of December 31, 2016. These amounts agreed to the Townships January 1, 2017 balances on the summary we used in procedure 3.

Issue	Principal outstanding as of December 31, 2016:
Building Addition Loan	\$18,396
OPWC Loan – Dutch Cross Road	575
OPWC Loan – Drury Road South	10,634
OPWC Loan – Drury Road North	22,834
Tractor/Loader Loan	33,043
2017 International 7300 Dump Truck Lease	112,670

2. We inquired of management and inspected the Receipt Export Report and Payment Export Report for evidence of debt issued during 2018 or 2017 or debt payment activity during 2018 or 2017. All debt agreed to the summary we used in procedure 3.

3. We obtained a summary of loans and leases debt activity for 2018 and 2017 and agreed principal and interest payments from the related debt amortization schedules to General fund, Gasoline Tax fund and Road and Bridge fund payments reported in the Payment Export. 3 of 14 payments were properly recorded in total; however, the amounts applied to principal and interest did not agree to the amortization schedules. We also compared the date the debt service payments were due to the date the Township made the payments, noting 1 of 14 payments were paid after the date due per the amortization schedules.

Payroll Cash Disbursements

1. We selected one payroll check for five employees from 2018 and one payroll check for five employees from 2017 from the Wage and Overtime Detail Report and:
 - a. We compared the hours and pay rate, or salary recorded in the Wage and Overtime Detail Report to supporting documentation (timecard, legislatively or statutorily-approved rate or salary). We found no exceptions.
 - b. We inspected the fund and account codes to which the check was posted to determine the posting was reasonable based on the employees' duties as documented in the minute record or as required by statute. We also confirmed the payment was posted to the proper year. We found no exceptions.
2. For any new employees selected in procedure 1 we inspected the employees' personnel files and minute record for the following information and compared it with the information used to compute gross and net pay related to this check:
 - a. Name
 - b. Authorized salary or pay rate
 - c. Department and fund to which the check should be charged
 - d. Retirement system participation and payroll withholding
 - e. Federal, State & Local income tax withholding authorization and withholding
 - f. Any other deduction authorizations (deferred compensation, etc.)

We found no exceptions related to procedures a. – f. above.

3. We inspected the last remittance of tax and retirement withholdings for the year ended December 31, 2018 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 2018. We observed the following:

Withholding (plus employer share, where applicable)	Date Due	Date Paid	Amount Due	Amount Paid
Federal income taxes & Medicare	January 31, 2019	December 31, 2018	\$701.19	\$701.19
State income taxes	January 31, 2019	January 21, 2019	\$1,522.91	\$1,522.91
Centerburg local school income tax	January 31, 2019	January 21, 2019	\$5.20	\$5.20
OPERS retirement	January 30, 2019	December 31, 2018	\$2,138.08	\$2,138.08

4. For the pay periods ended September 30, 2018 and March 31, 2017, we recomputed the allocation of the Boards' salaries to the General, Road and Bridge and Cemetery Fund per the Wage Detail Report. We found no exceptions.
5. For the pay periods described in the preceding procedure, we traced the Boards' salary for time or services performed to supporting certifications the Revised Code requires. We found no exceptions.

6. We inquired of management and inspected the Payment Export Report for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017 to determine if township employees and/or trustees were reimbursed for out-of-pocket insurance premiums. Insurance reimbursements made were in compliance with ORC 505.60 and 505.601 and federal regulations.

Non-Payroll Cash Disbursements

We selected a sample (agreed upon) of ten disbursements from the Payment Export Report for the year ended December 31, 2018 and ten from the year ended 2017 and determined whether:

- a. The disbursements were for a proper public purpose. We found no exceptions.
- b. The check number, date, payee name and amount recorded on the returned, canceled check agreed to the check number, date, payee name and amount recorded in the Payment Export Report and to the names and amounts on the supporting invoices. We found no exceptions.
- c. The payment was posted to a fund consistent with the restricted purpose for which the fund's cash can be used. We found no exceptions.
- d. The fiscal officer certified disbursements requiring certification or issued a *Then and Now Certificate*, as required by Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D). We found no exceptions.

Compliance – Budgetary

1. We compared the total estimated receipts from the *Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources*, required by Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.36(A)(1), to the amounts recorded in the Revenue Status Report for the General, Road and Bridge and Fire funds for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017. The amounts on the *Certificate* did not agree to the amounts recorded in the accounting system for the General, Road and Bridge and Fire funds. The Revenue Status Report recorded budgeted (i.e. certified) resources for the General fund of \$138,859 for 2018 and \$122,867 for 2017, the Road and Bridge fund of \$204,174 for 2018 and \$213,289 for 2017, and the Fire fund of \$137,156 for 2018 and \$133,170 for 2017. However, the final *Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources* reflected \$123,462 for 2018 and \$131,282 for 2017 in the General Fund, \$195,138 for 2018 and \$217,241 for 2017 in the Road and Bridge fund, and \$141,600 for 2018 and \$125,415 for 2017 in the Fire fund. The fiscal officer should periodically compare amounts recorded in the Revenue Status Report to amounts recorded on the *Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources* to assure they agree. If the amounts do not agree, the Trustees may be using inaccurate information for budgeting and monitoring purposes.
2. We inspected the appropriation measures adopted for 2018 and 2017 to determine whether, for the General, Road and Bridge and Fire funds, the Trustees appropriated separately for “each office, department, and division, and within each, the amount appropriated for personal services,” as is required by Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.38(C). We found no exceptions.
3. We compared total appropriations required by Ohio Rev. Code Sections 5705.38 and 5705.40, to the amounts recorded in the Appropriation Status Report for 2018 and 2017 for the following funds: General, Road and Bridge and Fire. The amounts on the appropriation resolutions agreed to the amounts recorded in the Appropriation Status Report.
4. Ohio Rev. Code Sections 5705.36(A)(5) and 5705.39 prohibits appropriations from exceeding the certified resources. We compared total appropriations to total certified resources for the General, Road and Bridge and Fire funds for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017. We noted no exceptions, except the Fire fund appropriations for 2017 exceeded certified resources by \$7,755 and the Road and Bridge fund appropriations for 2018 exceeded certified resources by \$6,549, contrary to Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.39. The Trustees should not pass appropriations exceeding certified resources. Allowing this to occur could cause the Township to incur fund balance deficits.

5. Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(B) prohibits expenditures (disbursements plus certified commitments) from exceeding appropriations. We compared total expenditures to total appropriations for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017 for the General, Road and Bridge and Fire funds, as recorded in the Appropriation Status Report. There were no funds for which expenditures exceeded appropriations.
6. Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.09 requires establishing separate funds to segregate externally-restricted resources. We inspected the Receipt Export Report for evidence of new restricted receipts requiring a new fund during December 31, 2018 and 2017. We also inquired of management regarding whether the Township received new restricted receipts. We observed no evidence of new restricted receipts for which Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.09 would require the Township to establish a new fund.
7. For funds existing in prior years, we inspected the fund activity to determine whether the fund is still being used for the statutorily approved purpose and that all the required funds were established. All the required funds were established and no funds for which the statutorily approved purpose was no longer valid were included on the accounting records.
8. We inspected the Appropriation Status Report for the Smith Bequest Fund. Not more than 5% of non-spendable monies were released, spent, or otherwise modified during the engagement period.
9. We inspected the 2018 and 2017 Revenue Status Reports and Appropriation Status Reports for evidence of interfund transfers which Ohio Rev. Code Sections 5705.14 - .16 restrict. We found no evidence of transfers these Sections prohibit, or for which Section 5705.16 would require approval by the Tax Commissioner (effective after June 30, 2017) or Court of Common Pleas (effective through June 30, 2017).
10. We inquired of management and inspected the Appropriation Status Reports to determine whether the Township elected to establish reserve accounts permitted by Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.13. The Township did not establish these reserves.
11. We inspected the Cash Summary by Fund Report for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017 for negative cash fund balances. Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.10 (I) provides that money paid into a fund must be used for the purposes for which such fund is established. As a result, a negative fund cash balance indicates that money from one fund was used to cover the expenses of another. No funds had a negative cash fund balances.

Compliance – Contracts & Expenditures

We inquired of management and inspected the Payment Export Report for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017 to determine if the township proceeded by force account (i.e. used its own employees) to maintain or repair roads (cost of project \$15,000-\$45,000) or to construct or reconstruct township roads (cost of project \$5,000-\$15,000/per mile) for which Ohio Rev. Code Section 5575.01 requires the county engineer to complete a force account project assessment form (i.e., cost estimate). We identified no projects requiring the county engineer to complete a force account cost estimate.

Other Compliance

1. Ohio Rev. Code Section 117.38 requires townships to file their financial information in the Hinkle system within 60 days after the close of the fiscal year. This statute also permits the Auditor of State to extend the deadline for filing a financial report and establish terms and conditions for any such extension. Auditor of State established policies regarding the filing of complete financial statements, as defined in AOS Bulletin 2015-007 in the Hinkle System. We confirmed the Township filed their complete financial statements, as defined by AOS Bulletin 2015-007 and Auditor of State established policy, within the allotted timeframe for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017 in the Hinkle system. There were no exceptions.

2. For all credit card accounts we obtained:
 - copies of existing internal control policies and
 - a list of all credit card account transactions
- a. We selected 3 credit card transactions for testing. For selected transactions we inspected documentation to determine that:
 - i. Each transaction was supported with original invoices and for a proper public purpose. We found no exceptions.

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

This report is to provide assistance in the evaluation of the Township's receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in their cash-basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017, and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances and is not suitable for any other purpose.



Julian & Grube, Inc.
May 16, 2019

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



BENNINGTON TOWNSHIP

LICKING COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

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

Susan Babbitt

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

**CERTIFIED
AUGUST 13, 2019**