



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE  
**KEITH FABER**





# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



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## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

Colebrook Township  
Ashtabula County  
7569 SR 46 N  
Orwell, Ohio 44076

We have performed the procedures enumerated below, which were agreed to by the Board of Trustees and the management of Colebrook Township (the Township), 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

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 Fund Ledger 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 Fund Ledger Report to the December 31, 2017 balances in the Fund Ledger 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 Fund Status Report. The amounts agreed.
4. We confirmed the December 31, 2018 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, 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.

**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 Revenue Ledger. The amounts agreed.
  - b. We inspected the Revenue Ledger 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 Revenue Ledger to confirm whether the receipt was recorded in the proper year. The receipt was recorded in the proper year.
2. We inspected the Revenue Ledger to determine whether it included two real estate tax receipts for 2018 and 2017. The Revenue Ledger included the proper number of tax receipts for each year.
3. We selected all receipts from the State Distribution Transaction Lists (DTL) from 2018 and all from 2017. We also selected a sample (agreed upon) of five receipts from the County Auditor's DTLs from 2018 and five from 2017.
  - a. We compared the amount from the above reports to the amount recorded in the Revenue Ledger. The amounts agreed.
  - b. We inspected the Revenue Ledger to determine that these receipts were allocated to the proper funds. We found no exceptions.
  - c. We inspected the Revenue Ledger to determine whether the receipts were recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.

**Over-The-Counter Cash Receipts**

We selected a sample (agreed upon) of 10 over-the-counter cash receipts from the year ended December 31, 2017 recorded in the duplicate cash receipts book and:

- a. Agreed the receipt amount to the amount recorded in the Revenue Ledger. The amounts agreed.
- b. Confirmed the amounts charged complied with rates in force during the period. We found no exceptions.
- c. Inspected the Revenue Ledger 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 audit documentation, we observed the following note was outstanding as of December 31, 2016. This amount agreed to the Township's January 1, 2017 balances on the summary we used in procedure 3.

Issue	Principal outstanding as of December 31, 2016:
2015 Dump Truck Loan	\$35,900

2. We inquired of management, and inspected the Revenue Ledger and Payment Register Detail 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 and there were no new debt issuances during 2018 or 2017.
3. We obtained a summary of loan debt activity for 2018 and 2017 and agreed principal and interest payments from the related debt amortization schedule to the Gas Tax and Road & Bridge Funds

payments reported in the Payment Register Detail Report. We also compared the date the debt 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 2018 and one payroll check for five employees from 2017 from the Wage Base Detail Report and:
  - a. We compared the hours and pay rate, or salary recorded in the Wage Base Detail Report to supporting documentation (fiscal officer prepared spreadsheet, legislatively or statutorily-approved rate or salary). We found one instance in 2017 where an employee was paid for thirty-five hours more than the hours recorded on the pay stub which resulted in an overpayment of \$385. We brought this to management's attention, and this amount was repaid to the Township on June 27, 2019. Because we did not compare all timecards, our report provides no assurance whether or not other similar errors occurred.
  - 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. 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:

<b>Withholding (plus employer share, where applicable)</b>	<b>Date Due</b>	<b>Date Paid</b>	<b>Amount Due</b>	<b>Amount Paid</b>
Federal income taxes & Medicare (and social security, for employees not enrolled in pension system)	January 31, 2019	December 31, 2018	\$343.64	\$343.64
State income taxes	January 15, 2019	December 19, 2018	\$107.80	\$107.80
OPERS retirement	January 30, 2019	December 19, 2018	\$989.98	\$989.98

3. For the pay periods ended March 26, 2018 and October 22, 2017, we recomputed the allocation of the Fiscal Officer's and Boards' salaries to the General, Gas Tax, Cemetery and Park Levy Funds per the Wage Earnings Report. We found no exceptions.
  
4. For the pay periods described in the preceding procedure, we traced the Fiscal Officer's and Boards' salary for time or services performed to supporting certifications the Revised Code requires. We found no exceptions.
  
5. We inquired of management and inspected the Payment Register Detail 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. No such reimbursements occurred.

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

We selected a sample (agreed upon) of 10 disbursements from the Payment Register Detail Report for the year ended December 31, 2018 and 10 from the year ended December 31, 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 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 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, Gas Tax and Road & Bridge Funds for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017. The amounts agreed.
2. We inspected the appropriation measures adopted for 2018 and 2017 to determine whether, for the General, Gas Tax and Road & Bridge 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, Gas Tax, and Road & Bridge Funds. 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, Gas Tax and Road & Bridge Funds for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017. There were no funds for which appropriations exceeded certified resources.
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, Gas Tax and Road & Bridge 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 Revenue Ledger 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. The Township established the Capital Projects Fund during 2014 to segregate Moore Road Ohio

Public Works Commission (OPWC) receipts and disbursements; however the Township no longer has OPWC receipts and disbursements.

8. We inspected the 2018 and 2017 Revenue Ledger and Appropriation Ledger for evidence of interfund transfers exceeding \$2,500 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).
9. 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.
10. 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 Register Detail 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. We did, however, identify payments to a contractor for road paving projects in 2017 and 2018 that exceeded the \$45,000 limit without those projects being competitively bid as required by Ohio Rev. Code Section 5575.01

#### **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. We inquired of the fiscal officer and inspected the Fiscal Integrity Act Portal (<http://www.ohioauditor.gov/fiscalintegrity/default.html>) to determine whether the fiscal officer obtained the training required by Ohio Rev. Code Section 507.12 and 733.81. The fiscal officer did not obtain the two hours of ethics training.
3. Ohio Rev. Code § 109.60(A)(1) requires Law Enforcement of Townships to report specific information to the Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation (BCI) for certain offenses. Township Law Enforcement shall immediately upon arrest of any person (or taking into custody for any child under 18) take and forward the person's or child's fingerprints. We inspected the NICS process form to determine if there is an established method of fingerprint submission to BCI. The Township does not have law enforcement and is not subject to this requirement.

4. For all credit card accounts we obtained:
- copies of existing internal control policies,
  - a list of authorized users, and
  - a list of all credit card account transactions.
- a. We inspected the established policy obtained above and determined it is:
- i. in compliance with the HB 312 statutory requirements, and
  - ii. implemented by the entity.

We found the following exceptions:

- the policy named the Fiscal officer as compliance officer,
  - the policy did not name specific allowable expenses (policy indicates use is for public entity and miscellaneous Township expenses), and
  - the policy should indicate that each trustee maintains a credit card in the name of the Township and an attestation should be signed by each indicating same.
- b. We selected 3 credit card transactions for testing. For selected transactions we inspected documentation to determine that:
- i. Use was by an authorized user within the guidelines established in the policy, and
  - ii. Each transaction was supported with original invoices and for a proper public purpose.

All credit card transactions were made by authorized users; however, there were no supporting invoices/receipts for transactions totaling \$1,210. The Township should retain supporting receipts for all disbursements to demonstrate they are for a proper public purpose and were recorded in the appropriate fund and account. Because we did not test all credit card transactions, our report provides no assurance whether or not other similar errors occurred.

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.



Keith Faber  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

July 30, 2019



# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



**COLEBROOK TOWNSHIP**

**ASHTABULA 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**