

OTTAWA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
OTTAWA COUNTY, OHIO

Regular Audit

For the Years Ended November 30, 2019 and 2018





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Columbus, Ohio 43215
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(800) 282-0370

Board Members
Ottawa County Agricultural Society
7870 West State Route 163
Oak Harbor, Ohio 43449

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Ottawa County Agricultural Society, Ottawa County, prepared by Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc., for the audit period December 1, 2017 through November 30, 2019. 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 Ottawa County Agricultural Society 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

September 3, 2020

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**Ottawa County Agricultural Society
Ottawa County**

For the Years Ended November 30, 2019 and 2018

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE	PAGE
Independent Auditor’s Report.....	1
Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis) - For the Year Ended November 30, 2019	4
Notes to the Financial Statements – For the Year Ended November 30, 2019.....	5
Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis) - For the Year Ended November 30, 2018	9
Notes to the Financial Statements – For the Year Ended November 30, 2018.....	10
Independent Auditor’s Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Required by <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>	14

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Ottawa County Agricultural Society
Ottawa County
7870 West State Route 163
Oak Harbor, OH 43449-0028

To the Members of the Board:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the cash balances, receipts and disbursements, and related notes of the Ottawa County Agricultural Society, Ottawa County, Ohio (the Society), as of and for the years ended November 30, 2019 and 2018.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit; this includes 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.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with 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. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Society's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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 Society's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as our evaluation of the overall presentation of the financial statements.

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 Society prepared these financial statements using the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D), which is an accounting basis other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP), to satisfy these requirements.

Although the effects on the financial statements of the variances between the regulatory accounting basis and GAAP are not reasonably determinable, we presume they are material.

Though the Society does not intend these statements to conform to GAAP, auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America require us to include an adverse opinion on GAAP. However, the adverse opinion does not imply the amounts reported are materially misstated under the accounting basis Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit. Our opinion on this accounting basis is in the *Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting* paragraph below.

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* paragraph, the financial statements referred to above do not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Society as of November 30, 2019 and 2018, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the years then ended.

Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting

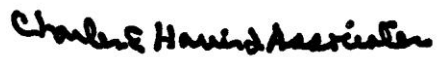
In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the cash balances, receipts and disbursements, and related notes of the Ottawa County Agricultural Society, Ottawa County as of November 30, 2019 and 2018, for the years the ended in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit, described in Note 2.

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note 8 to the 2019 financial statements, the financial impact of COVID-19 and the ensuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Society. We did not modify our opinions regarding this matter.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated July 15, 2020, on our consideration of the Society's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is 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 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 Society's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc.
July 15, 2020

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Ottawa County Agricultural Society
Ottawa County
Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and
Changes in Fund Balance - (Regulatory Cash Basis)
For the Year Ended November 30, 2019

	2019
Operating Receipts:	
Taxes	\$ 387
Admissions	71,652
Privilege Fees	17,040
Rentals	107,790
Sustaining and Entry Fees	85,199
Pari-mutuel Wagering Commission	1,361
Other Operating Receipts	28,512
<i>Total Operating Receipts</i>	311,941
Operating Disbursements:	
Utilities	42,443
Professional Services	155,386
Equipment and Grounds Maintenance	19,281
Property and Rent Services	31,690
Race Purse	84,754
Senior Fair	3,630
Junior Fair	12,075
Capital Outlay	43,572
Other Operating Disbursements	31,876
<i>Total Operating Disbursements</i>	424,707
<i>Excess (Deficiency) of Operating Receipts</i> <i>Over (Under) Operating Disbursements</i>	(112,766)
Non-Operating Receipts (Disbursements):	
State Support	14,101
Local Support	3,346
Donations/Contributions	98,918
Investment Income	1
<i>Net Non-Operating Receipts (Disbursements)</i>	116,366
<i>Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>	3,600
Cash Balance, Beginning of Year	112,122
Cash Balance, End of Year	\$ 115,722

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

Ottawa County Agricultural Society
Ottawa County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended November 30, 2019

Note 1 – Reporting Entity

The Ottawa County Agricultural Society (the Society), Henry County, Ohio, is a body politic and corporate established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The Society is a county agricultural society corporation formed under Chapter 1711 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Society was founded in 1964 to operate an annual agricultural fair. The Society sponsors the week-long Ottawa County Fair during July. During the fair, harness races are held culminating in the running of the Signature Series. Ottawa County is not financially accountable for the Society. The Board of Directors manages the Society. The Board is made up of twenty-four directors serving staggered three-year terms. Society members elect Board members from its membership. Members of the Society must be residents of Ottawa County and pay an annual membership fee to the Society.

The reporting entity includes all activity occurring on the fairgrounds. This includes the annual fair and harness racing during fair week. Other year-round activities at the fairgrounds include facility rental and community events including Farm Fest, Fall Fest and the Midway Extravaganza. The reporting entity does not include any other activities or entities of Ottawa County, Ohio.

Note 7 summarizes the Livestock Sale Committee's financial activity.

Public Entity Risk Pool

The Society participates in a public entity risk pool (PEP Ohio). Note 5 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity.

The Society's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Society is financially accountable.

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

The Society's financial statements consist of a statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balances (regulatory cash basis).

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(D). 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.

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(D) permit.

Ottawa County Agricultural Society
Ottawa County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended November 30, 2019

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies – (continued)

Deposits and Investments

The Society's accounting basis includes investments as assets. This basis does not record disbursements for investment purchases or receipts for investment sales. This basis records gains or losses at the time of sale as receipts or disbursements, respectively.

Budgetary Process

The Board of Directors prepares an operating budget, including estimated receipts and disbursements. The Board approves the budget in its final form in November for each fiscal year. The Board review the budget throughout the year and compares it with actual results.

Capital Assets

The Society records disbursements for acquisitions of property, plant, and equipment when paid. The accompanying financial statements do not report these items as assets.

Income Tax Status

The Society is a not-for-profit organization, exempt from income taxes under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Society is not a private foundation within the meaning of Section 509 (a). Contributions to the Society are deductible per Section 170(b) (1) (A) (v1). Management is unaware of any actions or events that would jeopardize the Society's tax status.

Race Purse

Harness races are held during the Henry County Fair. The Society pays all Sustaining and Entry fees and the required portion of the cash received from the Ohio Fairs Fund as Race Purse to winning horses.

Sustaining and Entry Fees Horse owners and the Ohio Harness Horseman's Association pay fees to the Society to qualify horses for entry into stake races. They must make payment before a horse can participate in a stake race. The accompanying financial statement reports these fees as part of the total racing receipts.

Ohio Fairs Fund The State of Ohio contributes money to the Society from the Ohio Fairs Fund to supplement the race purse. See Note 4 for additional information.

Pari-mutuel Wagering

A wagering system totals the amounts wagered and adjusts the payoff to reflect the relative amount bet on different horses and various odds. The total amount bet (also known as the "handle"), less commission, is paid to bettors in accordance with the payoffs, as the pari-mutuel wagering system determines. The Society contracts with a totalizer service to collect bets and provide the pari-mutuel wagering system.

Ottawa County Agricultural Society
Ottawa County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended November 30, 2019

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies – (continued)

Pari-mutuel wagering commission (the commission) is the Society’s share of total pari-mutuel wagers after payment of amounts to winning bettors. The commission is determined by applying a statutory percentage to the total amount bet and is reflected in the accompanying financial statement as Pari-mutuel Wagering Commission. See Note 4 for additional information.

Note 3 – Deposits and Investments

The Society maintains a deposit and investment pool all funds use. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of deposits and investments at November 30 was as follows:

	2019
Demand deposits	\$115,722

Deposits

Deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Note 4 – Horse Racing

State Support Portion of Purse

The financial statements report Ohio Fairs Fund money, received to supplement purse for the year ended November 30, 2019 as State Support.

Pari-mutuel Wagering

The Society does not record the Total Amount Bet or the Payoff to Bettors in the accompany financial statement, rather, it records the Pari-mutuel Wagering Commission (commission) which is the Society’s share of total pari-mutuel wagers after paying winning bettors. The expenses of providing the pari-mutuel wagering system are called Tote Services, and these expenses are included in Professional Service Disbursements. State taxes, which are also paid from Pari-mutuel Wagering Commission, are reflected in Other Operating Disbursements, and the amount remaining is the Society’s net portion.

	2019
Total Amount Bet (Handle)	\$ 6,878
Less: Payoff to Bettors	(5,517)
Parimutuel Wagering Commission	1,361
Tote Service Set Up Fee	(800)
Tote Service Commission	(258)
State Tax	(164)
Society Portion	\$ 139

Ottawa County Agricultural Society
Ottawa County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended November 30, 2019

Note 5 – Risk Management

The Ottawa County Commissioners provide general insurance coverage for all the buildings on the Ottawa County Fairgrounds pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 1711.24.

Risk Pool Membership

The Society 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 Society'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>2019</u>
Cash and investments	\$ 38,432,610
Actuarial liabilities	14,705,917

Note 6 – Contingent Liabilities

The Society may be a defendant in lawsuits. Although management cannot presently determine the outcome of these suits, management believes that the resolution of these matters will not materially adversely affect the Society's financial condition.

Note 7 – Junior Livestock Sale Committee

The Junior Livestock Sale Committee is a separate committee charged with running the Junior Livestock Auction. This auction is held during fair week. Children may sell their animals directly to market or through Ottawa County's Auction. A commission on auction sales covers auction costs. The Junior Livestock Committee retains this money. The accompanying financial statement does not include the Junior Livestock Sale Committee's activities. The Junior Livestock Sale Committee did not prepare annual financial statements to present to the Board of Directors for the year ended November 30, 2019.

Note 8 – Subsequent Events

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the ensuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Society. The impact on the Society's future operating costs, revenues, and any recovery from emergency funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.

Ottawa County Agricultural Society
Ottawa County
Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and
Changes in Fund Balance - (Regulatory Cash Basis)
For the Year Ended November 30, 2018

	2018
Operating Receipts:	
Taxes	\$ 179
Admissions	87,385
Privilege Fees	16,517
Rentals	101,104
Sustaining and Entry Fees	84,995
Pari-mutuel Wagering Commission	2,065
Other Operating Receipts	32,704
<i>Total Operating Receipts</i>	324,949
Operating Disbursements:	
Utilities	36,552
Professional Services	159,583
Equipment and Grounds Maintenance	44,708
Race Purse	39,687
Other Racing Expenses	83,940
Senior Fair	1,411
Junior Fair	11,118
Other Operating Disbursements	35,905
<i>Total Operating Disbursements</i>	412,904
<i>Excess (Deficiency) of Operating Receipts</i> <i>Over (Under) Operating Disbursements</i>	(87,955)
Non-Operating Receipts (Disbursements):	
State Support	13,431
County Support	3,095
Donations/Contributions	89,049
<i>Net Non-Operating Receipts (Disbursements)</i>	105,575
<i>Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>	17,620
Cash Balance, Beginning of Year	94,502
Cash Balance, End of Year	\$ 112,122

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

Ottawa County Agricultural Society
Ottawa County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended November 30, 2018

Note 1 – Reporting Entity

The Ottawa County Agricultural Society (the Society), Henry County, Ohio, is a body politic and corporate established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The Society is a county agricultural society corporation formed under Chapter 1711 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Society was founded in 1964 to operate an annual agricultural fair. The Society sponsors the week-long Ottawa County Fair during July. During the fair, harness races are held culminating in the running of the Signature Series. Ottawa County is not financially accountable for the Society. The Board of Directors manages the Society. The Board is made up of twenty-four directors serving staggered three-year terms. Society members elect Board members from its membership. Members of the Society must be residents of Ottawa County and pay an annual membership fee to the Society.

The reporting entity includes all activity occurring on the fairgrounds. This includes the annual fair and harness racing during fair week. Other year-round activities at the fairgrounds include facility rental and community events including Farm Fest, Fall Fest and the Midway Extravaganza. The reporting entity does not include any other activities or entities of Ottawa County, Ohio.

Note 7 summarizes the Livestock Sale Committee's financial activity.

Public Entity Risk Pool

The Society participates in a public entity risk pool (PEP Ohio). Note 5 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity.

The Society's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Society is financially accountable.

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

The Society's financial statements consist of a statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balances (regulatory cash basis).

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(D). 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.

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(D) permit.

Ottawa County Agricultural Society
Ottawa County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended November 30, 2018

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies – (continued)

Deposits and Investments

The Society's accounting basis includes investments as assets. This basis does not record disbursements for investment purchases or receipts for investment sales. This basis records gains or losses at the time of sale as receipts or disbursements, respectively.

Budgetary Process

The Board of Directors prepares an operating budget, including estimated receipts and disbursements. The Board approves the budget in its final form in November for each fiscal year. The Board review the budget throughout the year and compares it with actual results.

Capital Assets

The Society records disbursements for acquisitions of property, plant, and equipment when paid. The accompanying financial statements do not report these items as assets.

Income Tax Status

The Society is a not-for-profit organization, exempt from income taxes under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Society is not a private foundation within the meaning of Section 509 (a). Contributions to the Society are deductible per Section 170(b) (1) (A) (v1). Management is unaware of any actions or events that would jeopardize the Society's tax status.

Race Purse

Harness races are held during the Henry County Fair. The Society pays all Sustaining and Entry fees and the required portion of the cash received from the Ohio Fairs Fund as Race Purse to winning horses.

Sustaining and Entry Fees Horse owners and the Ohio Harness Horseman's Association pay fees to the Society to qualify horses for entry into stake races. They must make payment before a horse can participate in a stake race. The accompanying financial statement reports these fees as part of the total racing receipts.

Ohio Fairs Fund The State of Ohio contributes money to the Society from the Ohio Fairs Fund to supplement the race purse. See Note 4 for additional information.

Pari-mutuel Wagering

A wagering system totals the amounts wagered and adjusts the payoff to reflect the relative amount bet on different horses and various odds. The total amount bet (also known as the "handle"), less commission, is paid to bettors in accordance with the payoffs, as the pari-mutuel wagering system determines. The Society contracts with a totalizer service to collect bets and provide the pari-mutuel wagering system.

Ottawa County Agricultural Society
Ottawa County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended November 30, 2018

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies – (continued)

Pari-mutuel wagering commission (the commission) is the Society’s share of total pari-mutuel wagers after payment of amounts to winning bettors. The commission is determined by applying a statutory percentage to the total amount bet and is reflected in the accompanying financial statement as Pari-mutuel Wagering Commission. See Note 4 for additional information.

Note 3 – Deposits and Investments

The Society maintains a deposit and investment pool all funds use. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of deposits and investments at November 30 was as follows:

	2018
Demand deposits	\$112,122

Deposits

Deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Note 4 – Horse Racing

State Support Portion of Purse

The financial statements report Ohio Fairs Fund money, received to supplement purse for the year ended November 30, 2018 as State Support.

Pari-mutuel Wagering

The Society does not record the Total Amount Bet or the Payoff to Bettors in the accompany financial statement, rather, it records the Pari-mutuel Wagering Commission (commission) which is the Society’s share of total pari-mutuel wagers after paying winning bettors. The expenses of providing the pari-mutuel wagering system are called Tote Services, and these expenses are included in Professional Service Disbursements. State taxes, which are also paid from Pari-mutuel Wagering Commission, are reflected in Other Operating Disbursements, and the amount remaining is the Society’s net portion.

	2018
Total Amount Bet (Handle)	\$ 10,129
Less: Payoff to Bettors	(8,064)
Parimutuel Wagering Commission	2,065
Tote Service Set Up Fee	(800)
Tote Service Commission	(634)
State Tax	(289)
Society Portion	\$ 342

Ottawa County Agricultural Society
Ottawa County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended November 30, 2018

Note 5 – Risk Management

The Ottawa County Commissioners provide general insurance coverage for all the buildings on the Ottawa County Fairgrounds pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 1711.24.

Risk Pool Membership

The Society 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 Society'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>2018</u>
Cash and investments	\$ 35,381,789
Actuarial liabilities	12,965,015

Note 6 – Contingent Liabilities

The Society may be a defendant in lawsuits. Although management cannot presently determine the outcome of these suits, management believes that the resolution of these matters will not materially adversely affect the Society's financial condition.

Note 7 – Junior Livestock Sale Committee

The Junior Livestock Sale Committee is a separate committee charged with running the Junior Livestock Auction. This auction is held during fair week. Children may sell their animals directly to market or through Ottawa County's Auction. A commission on auction sales covers auction costs. The Junior Livestock Committee retains this money. The accompanying financial statement does not include the Junior Livestock Sale Committee's activities. The Junior Livestock Sale Committee did not prepare annual financial statements to present to the Board of Directors for the year ended November 30, 2018.

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

Ottawa County Agricultural Society
Ottawa County
7870 West State Route 163
Oak Harbor, Ohio 43449-0028

To the Members of the Board:

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, the financial statements of the cash balances, receipts and disbursements of the Ottawa County Agricultural Society, Ottawa County, Ohio (the Society) as of and for the years ended November 30, 2019 and 2018, and the related notes to the financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated July 15, 2020, wherein we noted the Society followed financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit. We also noted the financial impact of COVID-19 and the ensuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Society.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Society's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the 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 Society's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Society'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 combination of deficiencies in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Society'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. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Society'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 determination of financial statement amounts. 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*.

We noted certain matters not requiring inclusion in this report that we reported to the Society's management in a separate letter dated July 15, 2020.

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 Society'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 Society's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc.
July 15, 2020

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



OTTAWA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

OTTAWA 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 9/17/2020

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

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