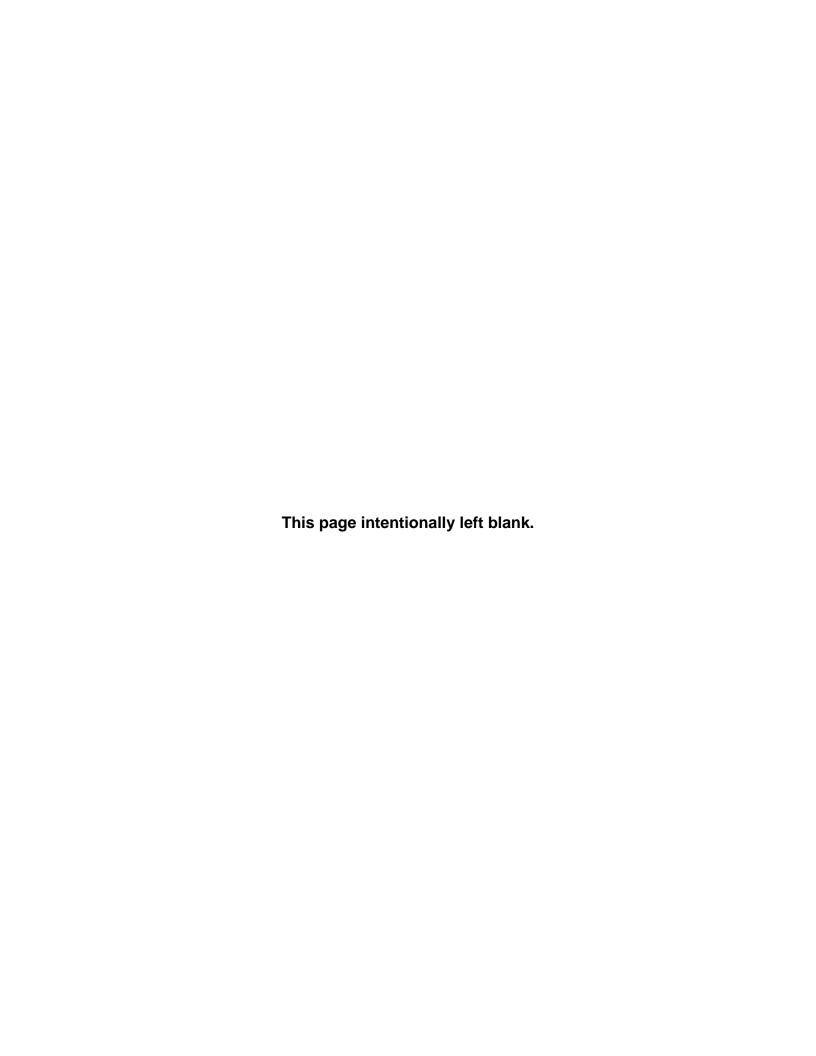
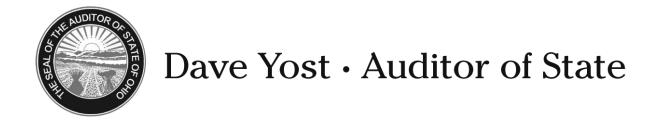




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Belpre Township Washington County 2041 State Route 555 Little Hocking, Ohio 45742

#### To the Board of Trustees:

As you are aware, the Auditor of State's Office (AOS) must modify the *Independent Accountants' Report* we provide on your financial statements due to an interpretation from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). While AOS does not legally require your government to prepare financial statements pursuant to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), the AICPA interpretation requires auditors to formally acknowledge that you did not prepare your financial statements in accordance with GAAP. Our Report includes an adverse opinion relating to GAAP presentation and measurement requirements, but does not imply the amounts the statements present are misstated under the non-GAAP basis you follow. The AOS report also includes an opinion on the financial statements you prepared using the cash basis and financial statement format the AOS permits.

**Dave Yost** Auditor of State

November 5, 2012

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Belpre Township Washington County 2041 State Route 555 Little Hocking, Ohio 45742

#### To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Belpre Township, Washington County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Township's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion 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 the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. The Township processes its financial transactions with the Auditor of State's Uniform Accounting Network (UAN). *Government Auditing Standards* considers this service to impair the independence of the Auditor of State to audit the Township because the Auditor of State designed, developed, implemented, and as requested, operates UAN. However, *Government Auditing Standards* permits the Auditor of State to audit and opine on this entity, because Ohio Revised Code § 117.101 requires the Auditor of State to provide UAN services, and Ohio Revised Code § 117.11(A) mandates the Auditor of State to audit Ohio governments. We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described more fully in Note 1, the Township has prepared these financial statements using accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. These practices differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Although we cannot reasonably determine the effects on the financial statements of the variances between these regulatory accounting practices and GAAP, we presume they are material.

Instead of the combined funds the accompanying financial statements present, GAAP require presenting entity-wide statements and also presenting the Township's larger (i.e., major) funds separately. While the Township does not follow GAAP, generally accepted auditing standards requires us to include the following paragraph if the statements do not substantially conform to GAAP presentation requirements. The Auditor of State permits, but does not require townships to reformat their statements. The Township has elected not to follow GAAP statement formatting requirements. The following paragraph does not imply the amounts reported are materially misstated under the accounting basis the Auditor of State permits. Our opinion on the fair presentation of the amounts reported pursuant to its non-GAAP basis is in the second following paragraph.

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Belpre Township Washington County Independent Accountants' Report Page 2

In our opinion, because of the effects of the matter discussed in the preceding two paragraphs, the financial statements referred to above for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 do not present fairly, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Township as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, or its changes in financial position for the years then ended.

Also, in our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances of Belpre Township, Washington County, Ohio, as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the accounting basis Note 1 describes.

As described in Note 2, during 2011 Belpre Township adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54, Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated November 5, 2012, on our consideration of the Township'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. While we did not opine on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance, that report describes the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. You should read it in conjunction with this report in assessing the results of our audit.

**Dave Yost** Auditor of State

November 5, 2012

# COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (CASH BASIS) ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011

	General	Special Revenue	Permanent	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts Property and Other Local Taxes Charges for Services	\$80,266	\$163,743 164,283		\$244,009 164,283
Licenses, Permits and Fees Intergovernmental	138,584	23,614 372,057		23,614 510,641
Earnings on Investments Miscellaneous	1,330 2,694	706 17,900	\$13	2,049 20,594
Total Cash Receipts	222,874	742,303	13_	965,190
Cash Disbursements Current:				
General Government Public Safety	195,260	72,275		195,260 72,275
Public Works Health	10,450 36,552	407,454 3,296		417,904 39,848
Conservation-Recreation Capital Outlay	2,925	39,525		2,925 39,525
Debt Service: Principal Retirement		58,600		58,600
Interest and Fiscal Charges		3,148		3,148
Total Cash Disbursements	245,187	584,298	0	829,485
Net Change in Fund Cash Balances	(22,313)	158,005	13	135,705
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	185,845	783,441	6,286	975,572
Fund Cash Balances, December 31 Nonspendable			6,286	6,286
Restricted Unassigned (Deficit)	163,532	941,446	13	941,459 163,532
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$163,532	\$941,446	\$6,299	\$1,111,277

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

# COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

	General	Special Revenue	Permanent	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts Property and Other Local Taxes	\$77,183	\$157,140		\$234,323
Charges for Services	Ψ11,105	149,823		149,823
Licenses, Permits and Fees		16,400		16,400
Intergovernmental	250,770	393,364		644,134
Earnings on Investments	2,778	1,196	\$27	4,001
Miscellaneous	500	7,250		7,750
Total Cash Receipts	331,231	725,173	27	1,056,431
Cash Disbursements				
Current:				
General Government	204,665			204,665
Public Safety		70,935		70,935
Public Works		470,817		470,817
Health	45,609	3,417		49,026
Conservation-Recreation	3,554	400.054		3,554
Capital Outlay Debt Service:	30,000	160,851		190,851
Principal Retirement		27,462		27,462
Interest and Fiscal Charges		3,448		3,448
Total Cash Disbursements	283,828	736,930	0	1,020,758
Excess Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	47,403	(11,757)	27	35,673
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	138,442	795,198	6,259	939,899
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$185,845	\$783,441	\$6,286	\$975,572

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

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2011 AND 2010

#### 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### A. Description of the Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of Belpre Township, Washington County (the Township), as a body corporate and politic. A publicly elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance, and fire protection.

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

#### **B.** Accounting Basis

These financial statements follow the accounting basis the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Township 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 Auditor of State prescribes or permits.

#### C. Deposits

The Township had one primary, interest bearing checking account during the audit period.

#### D. Fund Accounting

The Township uses fund accounting to segregate cash that is restricted as to use. The Township classifies its funds into the following types:

#### 1. General Fund

The General Fund reports all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

#### 2. Special Revenue Funds

These funds account for proceeds from specific sources (other than from private-purpose trusts or for capital projects) that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Township had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

<u>Road and Bridge Fund</u> - This fund receives tax money for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads and bridges.

<u>Fire and Rescue, Ambulance and EMS Services Fund</u> - This fund receives levy tax money for fire and rescue equipment and services.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2011 AND 2010 (Continued)

#### 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

#### D. Fund Accounting (Continued)

#### 2. Special Revenue Funds (Continued)

<u>Gasoline Tax Fund</u> – This fund receives property tax money for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads.

#### 3. Permanent Funds

These funds account for assets held under a trust agreement that are legally restricted to the extent that only earnings, not principal, are available to support the Township's programs. The Township had the following significant Permanent Funds:

<u>Parker Permanent Fund</u> – This fund receives interest earned on the nonexpendable corpus from a trust agreement. These earnings are used for the general maintenance and upkeep of the Township's cemetery.

<u>Lewis Permanent Fund</u> – This fund receives interest earned on the nonexpendable corpus from a trust agreement. These earnings are used for the general maintenance and upkeep of the Township's cemetery.

<u>Botte Permanent Fund</u> – This fund receives interest earned on the nonexpendable corpus from a trust agreement. These earnings are used for the general maintenance and upkeep of the Township's cemetery.

<u>Williams Permanent Fund</u> – This fund receives interest earned on the nonexpendable corpus from a trust agreement. These earnings are used for the general maintenance and upkeep of the Township's cemetery.

<u>Lockwood Permanent Fund</u> – This fund receives interest earned on the nonexpendable corpus from a trust agreement. These earnings are used for the general maintenance and upkeep of the Township's cemetery.

#### E. Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund be budgeted annually.

#### 1. 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 Board of Trustees must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. The County Budget Commission must also approve the annual appropriation measure. Appropriations lapse at year end.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2011 AND 2010 (Continued)

#### 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

#### E. Budgetary Process (Continued)

#### 2. Estimated Resources

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

#### 3. Encumbrances

The Ohio Revised Code requires the Township to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are canceled and reappropriated in the subsequent year.

A summary of 2011 and 2010 budgetary activity appears in Note 4.

#### F. Fund Balance

For December 31, 2011, fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the Township must observe constraints imposed upon the use of its governmental-fund resources. The classifications are as follows:

#### 1. Nonspendable

The Township classifies assets as *nonspendable* when legally or contractually required to maintain the amounts intact.

#### 2. 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.

#### 3. Committed

Trustees can *commit* amounts via formal action (resolution). The Township must adhere to these commitments unless the Trustees amend 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.

#### 4. Assigned

Assigned fund balances are intended for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as *restricted* or *committed*. Governmental funds other than the general fund report all fund balances as *assigned* unless they are restricted or committed. In the general fund, *assigned* amounts represent intended uses established by Township Trustees or a Township official delegated that authority by resolution, or by State Statute.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2011 AND 2010 (Continued)

#### 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

#### F. Fund Balance (Continued)

#### 5. 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.

The Township 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.

#### G. Property, Plant, and Equipment

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

#### H. Accumulated Leave

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.

#### 2. Change in Accounting Principle

For fiscal year 2011, the Township implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 54. Implementing GASB Statement No. 54 had no effect on fund balances previously reported.

#### 3. Equity in Pooled Deposits

The Township maintains a deposit pool all funds use. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of deposits at December 31 was as follows:

	2011	2010
Demand deposits	\$1,111,277	\$975,572

**Deposits:** Deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2011 AND 2010 (Continued)

#### 4. Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2011 and 2010 follows:

	Budgeted	Actual	_
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$227,644	\$222,874	(\$4,770)
Special Revenue	682,589	742,303	59,714
Permanent	27	13	(14)
Total	\$910,260	\$965,190	\$54,930

2011 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	9 7		
	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$326,000	\$245,187	\$80,813
Special Revenue	1,113,608	584,298	529,310
Permanent	0	0	0
Total	\$1,439,608	\$829,485	\$610,123

2010 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	0		
	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$345,143	\$331,231	(\$13,912)
Special Revenue	695,922	725,173	29,251
Permanent	50	27	(23)
Total	\$1,041,115	\$1,056,431	\$15,316

2010 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$350,000	\$283,828	\$66,172
Special Revenue	1,191,330	736,930	454,400
Permanent	0	0	0
Total	\$1,541,330	\$1,020,758	\$520,572

#### 5. Property Tax

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Trustees adopted tax rates. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. The financial statements include homestead and rollback amounts the State pays as Intergovernmental Receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to pay semiannually, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2011 AND 2010 (Continued)

Public utilities are also taxed on personal and real property located within the Township.

#### 5. Property Tax (Continued)

Tangible personal property tax is assessed by the property owners, who must file a list of such property to the County by each April 30.

The County is responsible for assessing property, and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on behalf of the Township.

#### 6. Retirement System

The Township's employees and officials 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. For 2011 and 2010, OPERS members contributed 10% of their gross salaries and the Township contributed an amount equaling 14% of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2011.

#### 7. Risk Management

#### **Commercial Insurance**

The Township has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

- Comprehensive property and general liability;
- Vehicles; and
- Errors and omissions.

## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Belpre Township Washington County 2041 State Route 555 Little Hocking, Ohio 45742

#### To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of Belpre Township, Washington County Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, and have issued our report thereon dated November 5, 2012, wherein we noted the Township prepared its financial statements using accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits rather than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and has adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54. We also noted the Township processes its financial transactions with the Auditor of State's Uniform Accounting Network (UAN). Government Auditing Standards considers this service to impair the independence of the Auditor of State to audit the Government because the Auditor of State designed, developed, implemented, and as requested, operates UAN. However, Government Auditing Standards permits the Auditor of State to audit and opine on this entity, because Ohio Revised Code § 117.101 requires the Auditor of State to provide UAN services, and Ohio Revised Code § 117.11(A) mandates the Auditor of State to audit Ohio governments. 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 the Comptroller General of the United States' Government Auditing Standards.

#### **Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Township's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our audit procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of opining on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we have not opined on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control over financial reporting.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. Therefore, we cannot assure that we have identified all deficiencies, significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. However, as described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings we identified a certain deficiency in internal control over financial reporting, that we consider a material weakness.

Belpre Township Washington County Independent Accountants' Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by *Government Auditing Standards* Page 2

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, when performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and timely correct misstatements. 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 entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and timely corrected. We consider Finding 2011-01 described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings to be a material weakness.

#### **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of reasonably assuring whether the Township's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect 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 an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards*.

We also noted certain matters not requiring inclusion in this report that we reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated November 5, 2012.

The Township's response to the finding identified in our audit is described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings. We did not audit the Township's response and, accordingly we express no opinion on it.

We intend this report solely for the information and use of management, the Board of Trustees and others within the Township. We intend it for no one other than these specified parties.

Dave Yost Auditor of State

November 5, 2012

#### SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2011 AND 2010

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

#### **FINDING NUMBER 2011-01**

#### Material Weakness - Financial Statement Adjustments and Reclassifications

All local public offices should maintain an accounting system and accounting records sufficient to enable the public office to identify, assemble, analyze, classify, record and report its transactions, maintain accountability for the related assets, document compliance with finance-related legal and contractual requirements and prepare financial statements.

The Fiscal Officer posted certain revenue and expenditures transactions incorrectly. The following items were noted:

#### 2010:

- Cemetery Fees of \$16,400 were posted as Licenses, Permits and Fees in the General Fund rather than the Cemetery Fund.
- EMS receipts of \$146,823 were improperly classified as Licenses, Permits and Fees in the Fire and Rescue Fund rather than as Charges for Services.
- Principle payments of \$27,462 and Interest payments of \$3,448 were improperly classified as Public Works expenditures in the Fire and Rescue Fund.

#### 2011:

- Cemetery Fees of \$23,614 were posted as Licenses, Permits and Fees in the General Fund rather than the Cemetery Fund.
- The Township did not post Intergovernmental Receipts of \$37,315 and the related Public Works expenditures of \$37,315 to the Permissive Sales Tax Fund.
- Principle payments of \$14,181 and Interest payments of \$1,274 were improperly classified as Public Works expenditures in the Fire and Rescue Fund.
- Grant receipts of \$5,032 were improperly posted as Charges for Services rather than as Intergovernmental receipts in the Fire and Rescue Fund.
- Under GASB 54, the Cemetery Fund balance of \$98,557 and the Miscellaneous Special Revenue
   Mary Brown fund balance of \$7,846 were improperly classified as non-spendable rather than as restricted.
- Also under GASB 54, the balances of the Permanent Funds were improperly classified as nonspendable rather than restricted.

As a result, significant adjustments and reclassifications, with which the Township's management agrees, were made to the financial statements and ledgers, and are reflected in the accompanying financial statements.

We recommend the Fiscal Officer refer to the Township Handbook for proper classification and take additional care in posting transactions to the Township's ledgers in order to ensure the financial statements reflect the appropriate sources of the receipts and expenditures.

**Officials' Response:** The Township Fiscal Officer agreed to and posted the net effect of the adjustments.





#### **BELPRE TOWNSHIP**

#### **WASHINGTON 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.

**CLERK OF THE BUREAU** 

Susan Babbitt

CERTIFIED NOVEMBER 20, 2012