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Summit Township Monroe County 35467 State Route 78 Lewisville, Ohio 43754

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

May 7, 2012

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Summit Township Monroe County 35467 State Route 78 Lewisville, Ohio 43754

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Summit Township, Monroe 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.

Summit Township Monroe 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 as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, of Summit Township, Monroe County, Ohio, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the accounting basis Note 1 describes.

As described in Note 1E, during 2011 Summit 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 May 7, 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

May 7, 2012

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

	Governmental Fund Types				
	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts: Property and Other Local Taxes Intergovernmental Earnings on Investments Miscellaneous	\$17,736 19,123 85 11,625	\$16,254 118,342 69 3,736	\$9,001	\$8,000	\$33,990 146,466 154 23,361
Total Cash Receipts	48,569	138,401	9,001	8,000	203,971
Cash Disbursements: Current: General Government Public Safety Public Works Conservation - Recreation Capital Outlay Debt Service: Redemption of Principal	23,351 1,320 6,172	602 94,975	8,876	3,336	23,953 1,320 94,975 6,172 3,336
Total Cash Disbursements	30,843	95,577	8,876	3,336	138,632
Total Cash Receipts Over Cash Disbursements	17,726	42,824	125	4,664	65,339
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	22,492	39,836	5,109	10,000	77,437
Fund Cash Balances, December 31 Restricted Committed Unassigned (Deficit)	10,000 30,218	73,863 8,797	5,234	14,664	103,761 8,797 30,218
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$40,218	\$82,660	\$5,234	\$14,664	\$142,776

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

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

	Governmental Fund Types			_	
	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts: Property and Other Local Taxes Intergovernmental Earnings on Investments Miscellaneous	\$17,249 9,002 88 473	\$15,790 158,309 46 5,618	\$6,516	\$10,000	\$33,039 173,827 134 16,091
Total Cash Receipts	26,812	179,763	6,516	10,000	223,091
Cash Disbursements: Current: General Government Public Safety Public Works Conservation - Recreation Capital Outlay Debt Service:	28,663 1,320 5,824 23,360	2,192 113,511 99,379			30,855 1,320 113,511 5,824 122,739
Redemption of Principal			1,407		1,407
Total Cash Disbursements	59,167	215,082	1,407	0	275,656
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	(32,355)	(35,319)	5,109	10,000	(52,565)
Other Financing Receipts: Sale of Notes Other Debt Proceeds		25,000 12,398			25,000 12,398
Total Other Financing Receipts	0	37,398	0	0	37,398
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over / (Under) Cash Disbursements	(32,355)	2,079	5,109	10,000	(15,167)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	54,847	37,757	0	0	92,604
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$22.492	\$39.836	\$5.109	\$10.000	\$77.437

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 Summit Township, Monroe County, Ohio (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, fire protection and emergency medical services. The Township contracts with the Lewisville and Community Volunteer Fire Department to provide fire and emergency medical services.

The Township participates in the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a public entity risk pool. Note 7 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity.

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

<u>United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Fund</u> – This fund receives money from the United States Department of Agriculture to purchase equipment, such as a backhoe.

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

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

C. Fund Accounting (Continued)

3. Debt Service Funds

These funds account for resources the Township accumulates to pay bond and note debt. The Township had the following significant Debt Service Fund:

General Bond Retirement Fund – This fund receives gasoline tax money to pay principal and interest on a promissory note issued by the Township for the purchase of a dump truck, and to pay principal and interest on notes issued by the Township for the purchase of a backhoe.

4. Capital Project Funds

These funds account for receipts restricted to acquiring or constructing major capital projects (except those financed through enterprise or trust funds). The Township had the following significant Capital Projects Fund:

<u>Permanent Improvement Building Fund</u> – This fund receives donations to pay for the construction of a storage building.

D. 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.

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. The Township did not encumber all commitments required by Ohio law.

A summary of 2011 and 2010 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

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

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

E. 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.

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.

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

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

F. 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.

2. 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 and investments at December 31 was as follows:

	2011	2010
Demand deposits	\$142,776	\$77,437

Deposits: Deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

3. Budgetary Activity

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

2011 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$36,548	\$48,569	\$12,021
Special Revenue	100,603	138,401	37,798
Debt Service	9,001	9,001	0
Capital Projects		8,000	8,000
Total	\$146,152	\$203,971	\$57,819

2011 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

-	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$57,099	\$30,843	\$26,256
Special Revenue	146,231	95,577	50,654
Debt Service	14,110	8,876	5,234
Capital Projects	10,000	3,336	6,664
Total	\$227,440	\$138,632	\$88,808

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

3. Budgetary Activity (Continued)

2010 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$24,338	\$26,812	\$2,474
Special Revenue	207,425	217,161	9,736
Debt Service	6,516	6,516	0
Capital Projects		10,000	10,000
Total	\$238,279	\$260,489	\$22,210

2010 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	_
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$79,185	\$59,167	\$20,018
Special Revenue	204,740	215,082	(10,342)
Debt Service	5,202	1,407	3,795
Total	\$289,127	\$275,656	\$13,471

Contrary to Ohio law, budgetary expenditures exceeded appropriation authority in the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Fund by \$22,354 for the year ended December 31, 2010.

4. 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.

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.

5. Debt

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2011, was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
Promissory Note	\$8,979	4.75%
USDA Equipment Note	19,939	4%
Total	\$28,918	

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

5. Debt (Continued)

The Township issued a promissory note to finance the purchase of a new dump truck and plowing equipment for Township road maintenance. The Township also issued the USDA equipment note to finance the purchase of a new backhoe. The Township's taxing authority collateralized the notes.

Amortization of the above debt, including interest, is scheduled as follows:

		USDA
	Promissory	Equipment
Year ending December 31:	Note	Note
2012	\$2,815	\$3,083
2013	2,815	3,083
2014	2,815	3,083
2015	1,408	3,083
2016		3,083
2017-2019		8,129
Total	\$9,853	\$23,544

6. Retirement Systems

The Township's officials and employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes this plan's benefits, which includes 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

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

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

The Township belongs to the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio townships. OTARMA provides property and casualty coverage for its members. American Risk Pooling Consultants, Inc. (ARPCO), a division of York Insurance Services Group, Inc. (York), functions as the administrator of OTARMA and provides underwriting, claims, loss control, risk management, and reinsurance services for OTARMA. OTARMA is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP), which is also administered by ARPCO. Member governments pay annual contributions to fund OTARMA. OTARMA pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

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

7. Risk Management (Continued)

Casualty and Property Coverage

APEEP provides OTARMA with an excess risk-sharing program. Under this arrangement, OTARMA retains insured risks up to an amount specified in the contracts. At December 31, 2010, OTARMA retained \$350,000 for casualty claims and \$150,000 for property claims.

The aforementioned casualty and property reinsurance agreement does not discharge OTARMA's primary liability for claims payments on covered losses. Claims exceeding coverage limits are the obligation of the respective government.

Financial Position

OTARMA's financial statements (audited by other accountants) conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and retained earnings at December 31, 2010 and 2009 (the latest information available):

	2010	<u>2009</u>
Assets	\$35,855,252	\$38,982,088
Liabilities	(10,664,724)	(12,880,766)
Net Assets	<u>\$25,190,528</u>	<u>\$26,101,322</u>

At December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively, the liabilities above include approximately \$9.9 and \$12.0 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets above also include approximately \$9.5 and \$11.5 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 940 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. As of December 31, 2010, the Township's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$4,000.

Based on discussions with OTARMA, the expected rates OTARMA charges to compute member contributions, which are used to pay claims as they become due, are not expected to change significantly from those used to determine the historical contributions detailed below. By contract, the annual liability of each member is limited to the amount of financial contributions required to be made to OTARMA for each year of membership.

Contributions to OTARMA		
<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	
\$5,259	\$4,264	

After one year of membership, a member may withdraw on the anniversary of the date of joining OTARMA, if the member notifies OTARMA in writing 60 days prior to the anniversary date. Upon withdrawal, members are eligible for a full or partial refund of their capital contributions, minus the subsequent year's contribution. Withdrawing members have no other future obligation to the pool. Also upon withdrawal, payments for all casualty claims and claim expenses become the sole responsibility of the withdrawing member, regardless of whether a claim occurred or was reported prior to the withdrawal.

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

8. Contingent Liabilities

Amounts grantor agencies pay to the Township are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor, principally the federal government. The grantor may require refunding any disallowed costs. Management cannot presently determine amounts grantors may disallow. However, based on prior experience, management believes any refunds would be immaterial.

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

Summit Township Monroe County 35467 State Route 78 Lewisville, Ohio 43754

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of Summit Township, Monroe County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 2011 and 2010, and have issued our report thereon dated May 7, 2012, wherein we noted the Township followed accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes rather than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and wherein we also noted, for December 31, 2011, the Township 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 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 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.

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 combination of deficiencies in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that material financial statement misstatements will not be prevented, or detected and timely corrected.

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

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be deficiencies, significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider material weaknesses, as defined above. However, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting, described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings that we consider significant deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting. We consider findings 2011-03 and 2011-04 to be significant deficiencies. 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.

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 instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which are described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings as items 2011-01 and 2011-02.

We also noted certain matters not requiring inclusion in this report that we reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated May 7, 2012.

We intend this report solely for the information and use of management, the audit committee, 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

May 7, 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

Noncompliance Citation

Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D)(1) prohibits a subdivision or taxing authority from making any contract or ordering any expenditure of money unless a certificate signed by the fiscal officer is attached thereto. The fiscal officer must certify that the amount required to meet any such contract or expenditure has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury, or is in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrance. Further, contracts and orders for expenditures lacking prior certification shall be null and void.

There are several exceptions to the standard requirement stated above that a fiscal officer's certificate must be obtained prior to a subdivision or taxing authority entering into a contract or order involving the expenditure of money. The main exceptions are "then and now" certificates, blanket certificates, and super blanket certificates, which are provided for in Sections 5705.41(D)(1) and 5705.41(D)(3), respectively, of the Ohio Revised Code:

Then and Now Certificate - If the fiscal officer can certify that both at the time the contract or order was made "then" and at the time that the fiscal officer is completing the certification "now", that sufficient funds were available or in the process of collection, to the credit of a proper fund, properly appropriated and free from any encumbrance, the Township can authorize the drawing of a warrant for the payment of the amount due. The Township has 30 days from the receipt of the "then and now" certificate to approve payment by resolution or ordinance.

Amounts of less than \$3,000, may be paid by the fiscal officer without a resolution or ordinance of the Township upon completion of the "then and now" certificate, provided that the expenditure is otherwise lawful. This does not eliminate any otherwise applicable requirement for approval of expenditures by the Township.

Blanket Certificate – Fiscal officers may prepare "blanket" certificates for a certain sum of money not in excess of an amount established by resolution or ordinance adopted by a majority of the members of the legislative authority against any specific line item account over a period not running beyond the end of the current fiscal year. The blanket certificates may, but need not, be limited to a specific vendor. Only one blanket certificate may be outstanding at one particular time for any one particular line item appropriation.

Super Blanket Certificate – The Township may also make expenditures and contracts for any amount from a specific line-item appropriation account in a specified fund upon certification of the fiscal officer for most professional services, fuel, oil, food items, and any other specific recurring and reasonably predictable operating expense. This certification is not to extend beyond the current year. More than one super blanket certificate may be outstanding at a particular time for any line-item appropriation.

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2011 AND 2010 (Continued)

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (Continued)

FINDING NUMBER 2011-01(Continued)

Noncompliance Citation - Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D)(1) (Continued)

Although the obligations paid by the Township had a statement indicating the purchase was lawfully appropriated or in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund, and free from any previous encumbrance, this certification of available funds was not obtained prior to incurring the obligation for 16% of transactions tested, and there was no evidence of a "Then and Now" certificate being utilized.

Failure to properly certify the availability of funds can result in overspending of funds and negative cash fund balances.

Unless the exceptions noted above are used, prior certification is not only required by statute, but is a key control in the disbursement process to assure that purchase commitments receive prior approval. To improve controls over disbursements and to help reduce the possibility of the Township's funds exceeding budgetary spending limitations, we recommend the Township Fiscal Officer certify that funds are or will be available prior to obligations being incurred by the Township. When prior certification is not possible, "then and now" certificates should be used.

We recommend the Township certify purchases to which Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D) applies. The most convenient certification method is to use purchase orders that include the certification language Section 5705.41(D) requires to authorize disbursements. The Township Fiscal Officer should sign the certification prior to the Township incurring a commitment, and only when the requirements of Section 5705.41(D) are satisfied. The Township Fiscal Officer should post approved purchase commitments to the proper appropriation code to reduce the available appropriation.

FINDING NUMBER 2011-02

Noncompliance Citation

Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(B) prohibits a subdivision or taxing authority from expending money unless it has been appropriated.

As of December 31, 2010, the Community Development Block Grant Fund reflected expenditures which exceeded appropriations of \$0 at the fund level in the amount of \$22,354.

The Township's failure to limit expenditures to the amounts appropriated could result in deficit spending.

We recommend the Township Trustees and Township Fiscal Officer compare expenditures to appropriations on a monthly basis. If appropriations in addition to those already adopted will be needed, the Township Trustees should take the necessary steps to adopt additional appropriations, if possible, to prevent expenditures from exceeding appropriations or reduce spending. The Township Fiscal Officer should deny requests for payment when appropriations are not available.

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2011 AND 2010 (Continued)

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (Continued)

FINDING NUMBER 2011-03

Significant Deficiency

All local public offices shall 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 Ohio Township Handbook (revised March 2012) provides suggested account classifications. These accounts classify receipts by fund and source (taxes or charges for services, for example) and classify disbursements by fund, program (general government, for example) or object (personal services, for example). Using these classifications will provide the Township with information required to monitor compliance with the budget, and prepare annual reports in the format required by the Auditor of State.

The Township's receipts and disbursements were not always posted into accurate classifications, based upon the source of the receipt or purpose of disbursement.

The following misclassifications were noted:

- In 2011 and 2010, public utility deregulation reimbursement and personal property replacement revenues distributed to the General and Road and Bridge Funds in the aggregate amount of \$759 and \$1,620, respectively, were classified as "Property Taxes" instead of "Intergovernmental" receipts.
- In 2010, \$12,398 in a debt issuance was classified as "Miscellaneous" receipts instead of "Other Debt Proceeds" in the Gasoline Tax Fund.
- In 2010, \$25,000 in a debt issuance was classified as "Intergovernmental" receipts instead of "Sale of Notes" in the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Fund.
- In 2011 and 2010, interest expenditures were classified as "Redemption of Principal" instead of "Interest Payments" in the amount of \$1,509 and \$297, respectively, in the Debt Service Fund.

Material adjustments with which the Township officials' agree are reflected within the accompanying financial statements.

We recommend the Township Fiscal Officer utilize the available authoritative resources to appropriately classify receipt and disbursement transactions.

FINDING NUMBER 2011-04

Significant Deficiency

The Township should have internal controls in place to reasonably assure that budgetary accounts are integrated into the financial accounting system. This means designing an accounting system to provide ongoing and timely information on unrealized budgetary receipts and remaining uncommitted appropriation balances.

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2011 AND 2010 (Continued)

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (Continued)

FINDING NUMBER 2011-04 (Continued)

Significant Deficiency (Continued)

The Township Fiscal Officer did not always accurately post budgeted receipts, and any amendments made to them, to the accounting system. Variances existed between the certificate of estimated resources and the amounts posted to the accounting system. The following table details these variances:

2010

<u>Fund</u>	Amount per Last Amended Certificate	Amount Posted to the Accounting System	<u>Variance</u>
General Motor Vehicle License Tax	\$24,338 11.547	\$25,470 11,495	(\$1,132) 52
Gasoline Tax	95,039	94,231	808
Road and Bridge	16,485	16,651	(166)

The Township Fiscal Officer did not always accurately post appropriations, and any amendments made to them, to the accounting system. Variances existed between the appropriation resolution and the amounts posted to the accounting system. The following table details these variances:

2011

	Amount per Last	Amount Posted to	
<u>Fund</u>	Appropriation Resolution	the Accounting System	<u>Variance</u>
Gasoline Tax	\$107,672	\$102,473	\$5,199
Debt Service	14,110	9,368	4,742
2010			
Motor Vehicle License Tax	\$22,538	\$19,385	\$3,153
Gasoline Tax	95,559	111,799	(16,240)
CDBG Grant	0	22,354	(22,354)
Debt Service	5,202	6,516	(1,314)

Because the information entered into the accounting system was not always accurate, Township management was unable to effectively monitor budgetary activity throughout the year. Adjustments were made to the budgetary activity reported in Note 3 to the financial statements in order to accurately present budgeted receipts as certified by the County Auditor and appropriations as passed by the Board of Trustees.

We recommend the Township Fiscal Officer record only estimated receipts and appropriations from the Certificate of Estimated Resources and Original Appropriation Resolution and any amendments thereto.

Officials' Response: We did not receive a response from Officials to the findings reported above.



SUMMIT TOWNSHIP

MONROE 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 MAY 24, 2012