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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Florence Township Williams County 5389 County Road M50 P.O. Box 107 Edon, Ohio 43518-0107

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Florence Township (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2003 and 2002. 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 *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 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's financial transactions were processed using 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 conduct the audit of 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 § 117.01 requires the Auditor of State to provide UAN Services, and Ohio Revised Code §§ 117.11(B) and 115.56 mandate the Auditor of State to audit Ohio Governments.

We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

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As discussed in Note 1, the Township prepares its financial statements on the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances of the Township as of December 31, 2003 and 2002, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated August 16, 2004 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 grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management, the Board, and other officials authorized to receive this report under § 117.26, Ohio Revised Code, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Betty Montgomeny

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

August 16, 2004

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES - ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003

	Gov	T 1		
	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts: Local Taxes Intergovernmental Charges for Services Earnings on Investments Other Revenue	\$ 29,724 58,374 18,934 6,647 2,734	\$ 60,133 77,412 1,478		\$ 89,857 135,786 18,934 8,125 2,734
Total Cash Receipts	116,413	139,023		255,436
Cash Disbursements: Current: General Government Public Safety Public Works Health Debt Service: Redemption of Principal Interest and Fiscal Charges	87,476 14,625 8,526	12,655 74,081	\$	87,476 27,280 74,081 8,526 9,800 4,410
Total Cash Disbursements	110,627	86,736	14,210	211,573
Total Cash Receipts Over/ (Under) Cash Disbursements Fund Cash Balances, January 1	5,786 160,483	52,287 129,567	(14,210) 29,663	43,863
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$ 166,269	\$ 181,854	\$ 15,453	\$ 363,576

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, 2002

	Governmental Fund Types							
	(Special General Revenue			Debt Service		Totals (Memorandur Only)	
Cash Receipts: Local Taxes Intergovernmental	\$	33,027 30,754	\$	58,447 72,746			\$	91,474 103,500
Charges for Services Earnings on Investments Other Revenue		17,240 6,592 6,601		1,243				17,240 7,835 6,601
Total Cash Receipts		94,214		132,436				226,650
Cash Disbursements: Current:								
General Government Public Safety Public Works		89,733 14,621		6,739 78,975				89,733 21,360 78,975
Health Debt Service:		7,687		18,913				7,687
Redemption of Principal Interest and Fiscal Charges Capital Outlay		9,998		98,000	\$	9,800 3,239		9,800 3,239 107,998
Total Cash Disbursements		122,039		183,714		13,039		318,792
Total Cash Disbursements Over Cash Receipts		(27,825)		(51,278)		(13,039)		(92,142)
Other Financing Receipts: Proceeds from Sale of Public Debt:								
Sale of Bonds				98,000				98,000
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/ (Under) Cash Disbursements		(27,825)		46,722		(13,039)		5,858
Fund Cash Balances, January 1		188,308		82,845		42,702		313,855
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$	160,483	\$	129,567	\$	29,663	\$	319,713

THE NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS STATEMENT.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Florence Township, Williams County, (the Township) is a body corporate and politic established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The Township is directed by a publicly-elected three-member Board of Trustees. 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. Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. Receipts are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned, and disbursements are recognized 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 prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State.

C. Fund Accounting

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

1. General Fund

The General Fund is the general operating fund. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

2. Special Revenue Funds

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002 (Continued)

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

<u>Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund</u> - This fund receives motor vehicle license tax money for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads and bridges.

3. Debt Service Funds

The debt service fund is used to accumulate resources for the payment of bonds and note indebtedness. The Township had the following significant Debt Service Fund:

<u>General Debt Retirement Fund</u> – This fund receives general operating monies for the repayment of any debt issued by the Township. It is currently being used to make payments on a Vehicle Acquisition Bond issued in 2002 for a new fire rescue truck.

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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002 (Continued)

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 2003 and 2002 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

E. Property, Plant, and Equipment

Acquisitions of property, plant, and equipment are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements.

F. Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. Unpaid leave is not reflected as a liability under the Township's basis of accounting.

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH

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

	2003		2002		
Demand deposits	\$	363,576	\$	319,713	

Deposits are either insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation, or collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the Township.

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2003 and 2002 follows:

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002 (Continued)

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts										
	В	udgeted								
Fund Type	Receipts		Receipts		Receipts		ceipts Receipts		V	ariance
General	\$	88,000	\$	116,413	\$	28,413				
Special Revenue		130,000		139,023		9,023				
Total	\$	218,000	\$	255,436	\$	37,436				

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures							
	App	Appropriation Budgetary					
Fund Type	Authority Expenditures		Authority		/	/ariance	
General	\$	248,483	\$	110,627	\$	137,856	
Special Revenue		259,567		86,736		172,831	
Debt Service		29,663		14,210		15,453	
Total	\$	537,713	\$	211,573	\$	326,140	

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts						
	В					
Fund Type	Receipts		ts Receipts		V	Variance
General	\$	110,000	\$	94,214	\$	(15,786)
Special Revenue		221,000		230,436		9,436
Total	\$	331,000	\$	324,650	\$	(6,350)

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures							
	App	Appropriation Budgetary					
Fund Type	Authority Expenditures		Authority			/ariance	
General	\$	298,308	\$	122,039	\$	176,269	
Special Revenue		303,845		183,714		120,131	
Debt Service		42,702		13,039		29,663	
Total	\$	644,855	\$	318,792	\$	326,063	

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002 (Continued)

4. **PROPERTY TAX**

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

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

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, 2003 was as follows:

	P	rincipal	Interest Rate
Vehicle Acquisition Bond	\$	78,400	5%

The Vehicle Acquisition Bond was issued to finance the purchase of a new fire rescue truck to be used for Township fire protection services. The bond is collateralized solely by the Township's taxing authority.

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002 (Continued)

	Vehicle	
	Ac	quisition
Year ending December 31:		Bond
2004	\$	13,720
2005		13,230
2006		12,740
2007		12,250
2008		11,760
2009 - 2011		32,340
Total	\$	96,040

6. **RETIREMENT SYSTEMS**

The Township's employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. This plan provides retirement benefits, including postretirement healthcare, and survivor and disability benefits to participants as prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code.

Contribution rates are also prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code. For 2003 and 2002, members of OPERS contributed 8.5 percent of their gross salaries. The Township contributed an amount equal to 13.55 percent of participants' gross salaries for 2003 and 2002. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2003.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Township belongs to the Ohio Government Risk Management Plan (the Plan), an unincorporated non-profit association with approximately 600 governmental entity members providing a formalized, jointly administered self-insurance risk management program and other administrative services.

Pursuant to § 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Plan is deemed a separate legal entity. The Plan provides property, liability, errors and omissions, law enforcement, automobile, excess liability, crime, surety and bond, inland marine and other coverage, modified for each member's needs. The Plan pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the member's deductible.

The Plan uses conventional insurance coverages and reinsures these coverages. Effective September 1, 2002, the Plan retains 5 percent of the premium and losses on the first

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002 (Continued)

\$500,000 casualty treaty (up to \$25,000 of a loss) and 5 percent of the first \$1,000,000 property treaty (up to \$50,000 of a loss). The Plan also participates in a loss corridor in its first \$500,000 casualty reinsurance. The corridor includes losses paid between 55 percent and 65 percent or premiums earned under this treaty. (Reinsurance coverage would resume after a paid loss ratio of 65 percent is exceeded.) The individual members are only responsible for their self-retention (deductible) amounts, which vary from member to member.

Health Insurance

The Township provides health insurance to its full-time employee through a private carrier.

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL REQUIRED BY *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

Florence Township Williams County 5389 County Road M50 P.O. Box 107 Edon, Ohio 43518-0107

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Florence Township (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2003 and 2002, and have issued our report thereon dated August 16, 2004 wherein we noted that the Township's financial transactions were processed on 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 conduct the audit of the Township because the Auditor of State designed, developed, implemented, and, as requested, operates UAN. 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.

Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Township's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, 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 that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*. However, we noted a certain immaterial instance of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated August 16, 2004.

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Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Township's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, we noted other matters involving the internal control over financial reporting that do not require inclusion in this report, that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated August 16, 2004.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management, and the Board of Trustees, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Betty Montgomeny

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

August 16, 2004



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FLORENCE TOWNSHIP

WILLIAMS COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

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

Susan Babbett

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

CERTIFIED SEPTEMBER 9, 2004