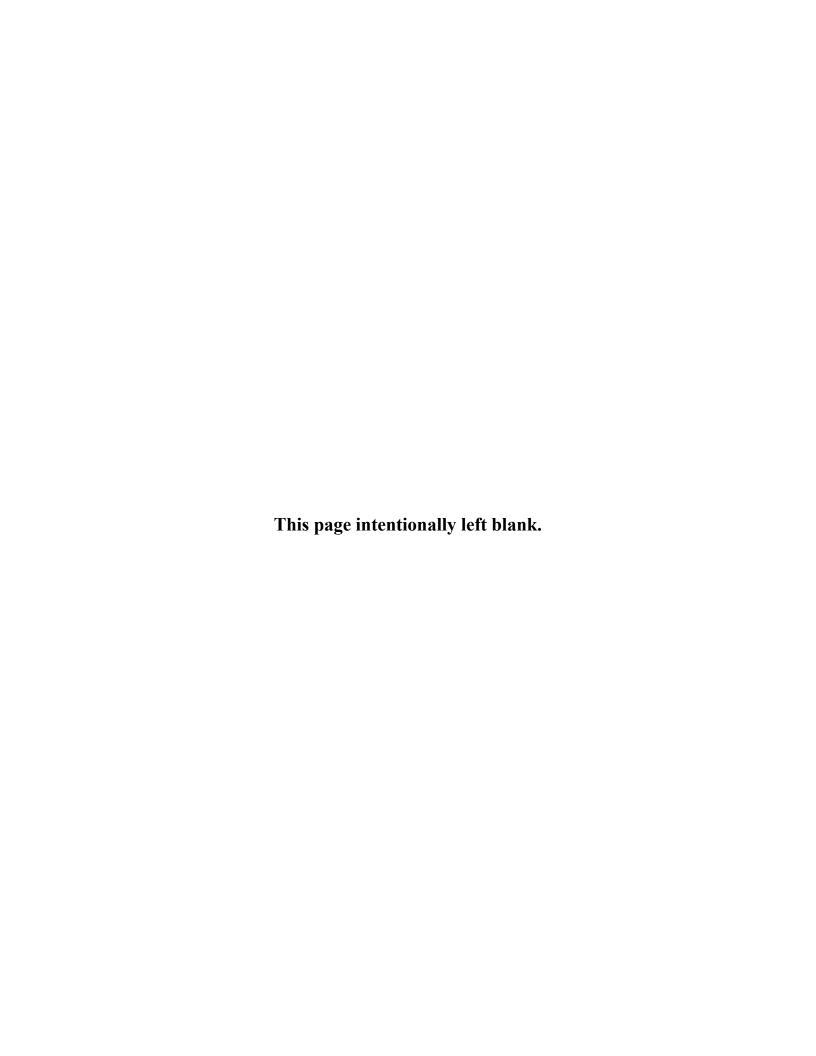




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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Middleton Township Wood County 114 Sugar Street, P.O. Box 206 Haskins, Ohio 43525-0206

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Middleton Township, Wood County, (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 §117.101 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 our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

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Middleton Township Wood County Independent Accountants' Report Page 2

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 and reserves for encumbrances 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 27, 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 of Trustees, 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 Montgomery Auditor of State

Betty Montgomeny

August 27, 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

	Governmental Fund Types						m . 1	
		General		Special Revenue		Capital Projects	(Me	Totals morandum Only)
Cash Receipts: Local Taxes Intergovernmental Special Assessments Charges for Services	\$	81,735 61,782	\$	382,520 134,424 20,596 53,659	\$	54,626 7,256	\$	518,881 203,462 20,596 53,659
Licenses, Permits, and Fees Earnings on Investments Other Revenue		27,635 10,848 147		1,000 1,094 10,415		713 1,185		28,635 12,655 11,747
Total Cash Receipts		182,147		603,708		63,780		849,635
Cash Disbursements: Current: General Government		150,332						150,332
Public Safety Public Works Health		1,750 6,503		335,158 163,186				336,908 163,186 6,503
Capital Outlay				4,354		4,312		8,666
Total Cash Disbursements		158,585		502,698		4,312		665,595
Total Receipts Over Disbursements		23,562		101,010		59,468		184,040
Other Financing Receipts and (Disbursements): Advances-In Advances-Out Other Uses		(1,000) (10,662)		1,000				1,000 (1,000) (10,662)
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)		(11,662)		1,000		_		(10,662)
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements		11,900		102,010		59,468		173,378
Fund Cash Balances, January 1		131,891		233,160		65,901		430,952
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$	143,791	\$	335,170	\$	125,369	\$	604,330
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	\$	8,631	\$	11,686	\$	29	\$	20,346

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

	Gov			
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:				
Local Taxes	\$ 75,186	\$ 362,888	\$ 50,993	\$ 489,067
Intergovernmental	129,958	136,777	658,853	925,588
Special Assessments		12,895		12,895
Charges for Services		48,803		48,803
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	15,675	100		15,775
Earnings on Investments	12,416	5,987		18,403
Other Revenue	2,255	324		2,579
Total Cash Receipts	235,490	567,774	709,846	1,513,110
Cash Disbursements: Current:				
General Government	166,911			166,911
Public Safety	6,809	304,337		311,146
Public Works	1,500	536,587		538,087
Health	12,617			12,617
Capital Outlay		101,197	796,952	898,149
Total Cash Disbursements	187,837	942,121	796,952	1,926,910
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	47,653	(374,347)	(87,106)	(413,800)
Other Financing Receipts: Sale of Fixed Assets		13,000		13,000
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	47,653	(361,347)	(87,106)	(400,800)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	84,238	594,507	153,007	831,752
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$ 131,891	\$ 233,160	\$ 65,901	\$ 430,952
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31		\$ 261		\$ 261

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

Middleton Township, Wood 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, fire protection and emergency medical services.

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. Cash and Investments

Investments are reported as assets. Accordingly, purchases of investments are not recorded as disbursements, and sales of investments are not recorded as receipts. Gains or losses at the time of sale are recorded as receipts or disbursements, respectively.

Certificates of deposit are valued at cost

D. 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:

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

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:

<u>EMS Special Levy Fund</u> - This fund receives property tax money for providing EMS services for the Township.

<u>Road Special Levy Fund</u> - This fund receives property tax money for constructing and maintaining Township roads and bridges.

<u>Fire Levy Fund</u> - This fund receives property tax money for providing fire protection services to the residences of the Township.

3. Capital Project Funds

These funds are used to account for receipts that are restricted for the acquisition or construction of major capital projects (except those financed through enterprise or trust funds). The Township had the following significant capital project funds:

<u>Issue II Fund</u> - The Township received a grant from the State of Ohio for road enhancement.

<u>Fire Equipment Fund</u> - This fund receives property tax money for purchasing fire equipment and providing fire protection services to the residences of the Township.

E. Budgetary Process

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

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

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. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end.

2. Estimated Resources

Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus unencumbered 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 carried over, and need not be reappropriated.

A summary of 2003 and 2002 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

F. 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.

G. 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:

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

	2003	2002		
Demand deposits	\$ 415,007	\$	245,329	
Certificates of Deposit			182,392	
Savings	189,323		3,231	
Total deposits	\$ 604,330	\$	430,952	

Deposits are either (1) insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation, (2) collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool.

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

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

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	В	Budgeted		Actual			
Fund Type	F	Receipts		Receipts		Variance	
General	\$	140,660	\$	182,147	\$	41,487	
Special Revenue		516,923		603,708		86,785	
Capital Projects		160,248		63,780		(96,468)	
Total	\$	817,831	\$	849,635	\$	31,804	

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation		В	Budgetary			
Fund Type	Authority		$\mathbf{E}\mathbf{x}$	Expenditures		Variance	
General	\$	-	\$	177,878	\$	(177,878)	
Special Revenue		261		514,384		(514,123)	
Capital Projects		-		4,341		(4,341)	
Total	\$	261	\$	696,603	\$	(696,342)	

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

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted		Actual			
Fund Type	Receipts		Receipts		Variance	
General	\$	320,607	\$	235,490	\$	(85,117)
Special Revenue		1,115,814		580,774		(535,040)
Capital Projects		211,571		709,846		498,275
Total	\$	1,647,992	\$	1,526,110	\$	(121,882)

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 320,607	\$ 187,837	\$ 132,770
Special Revenue	1,115,815	942,382	173,433
Capital Projects	211,571	796,952	(585,381)
Total	\$ 1,647,993	\$ 1,927,171	\$ (279,178)

In 2002 the Township was the beneficiary of \$652,250 of an Ohio Public Works Commission grant sent directly to the vendor by the OPWC. This activity was not recorded on the ledgers of the Township. These funds were not appropriated causing expenditures to exceed appropriations in the Issue II Capital Projects Fund by \$652,250.

The Township did not approve permanent appropriations for 2003. As a result, virtually all 2003 expenditures exceeded appropriations.

The Clerk was unable to certify transactions in 2003, since there was no appropriation authority.

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

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

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. 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 members 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.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk Pool Membership

The Township belongs to the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio local governments. OTARMA provides property and casualty coverage for its members. OTARMA is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP). Member governments pay annual contributions to fund OTARMA. OTARMA pays judgments, settlements, and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

Casualty Coverage

OTARMA retains casualty risks up to \$250,000 per claim, including loss adjustment expenses. OTARMA pays a percentage of its contributions to APEEP. APEEP reinsures claims exceeding \$250,000, up to \$1,750,000 per claim and \$5,000,000 in the aggregate

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

per year. Governments can elect additional coverage, from \$2,000,000 to \$10,000,000 from the General Reinsurance Corporation.

If losses exhaust OTARMA's retained earnings, APEEP covers OTARMA losses up to \$5,000,000 per year, subject to a per-claim limit of \$2,000,000.

Property Coverage

OTARMA retains property risks, including automobile physical damage, up to \$10,000 on any specific loss with an annual aggregate of \$1,250,000 for 2002. There is no aggregate for 2003 and future accident years. Beginning in 2003, OTARMA retains property risks, including automobile physical damage, up to \$100,000 on any specific loss in any one occurrence. The Travelers Indemnity Company reinsures losses exceeding \$100,000. APEEP's Guarantee Fund pays losses and loss adjustment expenses exceeding operating contributions.

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

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:

Casualty Coverage	2003	2002
Assets	\$ 27,792,223	\$ 23,757,036
Liabilities	(11,791,300)	(9,197,512)
Retained Earnings	\$ 16,000,923	\$ 14,559,524
Property Coverage	2003	2002
Assets	\$ 6,791,060	\$ 6,596,996
Liabilities	(750,956)	(1,204,326)
Retained Earnings	\$ 6,040,104	\$ 5,392,670

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

Middleton Township Wood County 114 Sugar Street, P.O. Box 206 Haskins, Ohio 43525-0206

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Middleton Township, Wood County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2003 and 2002, and have issued our report thereon dated August 27, 2004 wherein we noted 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. 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 tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants, 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 such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed instances of noncompliance we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which are described in the accompanying schedule of findings as items 2003-001 through 2003-003. We also noted certain immaterial instances of noncompliance that we have reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated August 27, 2004.

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Wood County
Independent Accountants' Report on Compliance and on Internal
Control Required by *Government Auditing Standards*Page 2

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Township's internal control over financial reporting 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 the Township's management in a separate letter dated August 27, 2004.

This report is intended 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 Montgomery Auditor of State

Betty Montgomeny

August 27, 2004

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002

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

FINDING NUMBER 2003-001

Noncompliance Citation

Ohio Revised Code § 5705.42 states when the United States government or the state or any department division, agency, authority or unit thereof makes a grant or loan of money to any political subdivision of this state to aid in paying the cost of any program, activity or function of such subdivision, or enters into an agreement with the subdivision for the making of any such grant or loan of money, the amount thereof is deemed appropriated for such purposes by the taxing authority of the subdivision, and is deemed in the process of collection within the meaning of § 5705.41, of the Ohio Revised Code.

In 2002 the Township was the beneficiary of \$652,250 of an Ohio Public Works Commission grant sent directly to the vendor by the OPWC. This activity was not recorded on the ledgers of the Township. Since OPWC paid the invoices, the Township did not receive this cash. However, Auditor of State Bulletins 2000-008 and 2002-004 prescribe recording these transactions as receipts and disbursements when the Township applies for a project and has administrative responsibilities. The accompanying financial statements were adjusted to reflect the amount in a Capital Project Fund. These funds were not appropriated causing expenditures to exceed appropriations in the Issue II Capital Projects Fund by \$652,250, contrary to Ohio Revised Code \$5705.41(B) which requires all expenditures to be appropriated.

We recommend the Township record all benefits received from state or federal grants as a memo receipt and expenditure on the Township's records, request an amended certificate of estimated resources for these funds and the Trustees approve a corresponding appropriation for the expenditure. In addition, Township management should review Auditor of State Bulletins 2000-008 and 2002-004.

FINDING NUMBER 2003-002

Noncompliance Citation

Ohio Revised Code § 5705.38 states on or about the first day of each fiscal year, an appropriation measure is to be passed. If the taxing authority wants to postpone the passage of the annual appropriation measure until an amended certificate is received from the county budget commission based upon the actual year end balances, it may pass a temporary appropriation measure for meeting the ordinary expenses until April 1 of the current year.

Middleton Township Wood County Schedule of Findings Page 2

FINDING NUMBER 2003-002 (Continued)

The Township did not approve appropriations for 2003. As a result, virtually all 2003 expenditures exceeded appropriations contrary to Ohio Revised Code § 5705.41(B) which prohibits a subdivision from making an expenditure unless it has been lawfully appropriated. The Clerk should not certify the availability of funds and should deny payment requests exceeding appropriations. The Clerk may request the Trustees to approve increased expenditure levels by increasing appropriations and amending estimated resources, if necessary.

FINDING NUMBER 2003-003

Noncompliance Citation

Ohio Revised Code § 5705.41(D) states that no subdivision or taxing unit shall make any contract or order any expenditure of money unless the certificate of the fiscal officer is attached. The fiscal officer must certify that the amount required to meet such a commitment has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury or 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 should be considered null and void.

This section also provides two exceptions to the above requirements:

- A. Then and Now Certificate if no certificate is furnished as required, upon receipt of the fiscal officer's certificate that a sufficient sum was, both at the time of the purchase order or contract and at the time of the certificate, appropriated and free of any previous encumbrance, the Trustees may authorize the issuance of a check in payment of the amount due upon such contract or order by resolution within 30 days from the receipt of such certificate, if such expenditure is otherwise valid.
- B. If the amount involved is less than \$1000 (\$3,000 effective April 2003), the fiscal officer may authorize it to be paid without the affirmation of the Trustees, if such expenditure is otherwise valid.

The Clerk was unable to certify transactions in 2003, since there was no appropriation authority (See finding 2003-002). Certification is not only required by Ohio law but is also a key control in the disbursement process to assure purchase commitments receive prior approval, and to help reduce the possibility of Township funds being over expended or exceeding budgetary spending limitations as set by the Trustees. To improve controls over disbursements we recommend all Village disbursement receive prior certification of the Clerk and the Trustees periodically review the expenditures made to ensure they are certified by the Clerk and recorded against appropriations.



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MIDDLETON TOWNSHIP

WOOD 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 SEPTEMBER 14, 2004