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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Union Township Knox County P.O. Box 731 Danville, Ohio 43014

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Union Township, Knox County, Ohio, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2003, and December 31, 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 that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

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 accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

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 December 31, 2002, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

35 N. Fourth St. / Second Floor / Columbus, OH 43215 Telephone: (614) 466-3402 (800) 443-9275 Fax: (614) 728-7199 www.auditor.state.oh.us Union Township Knox County Independent Accountants' Report Page 2

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated April 8, 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 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 Montgomeny

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

April 8, 2004

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

	Governmental Fund Types		Fiduciary Fund Type Non-	Totals	
	General	Special Revenue	Expendable Trust Fund	(Memorandum Only)	
Cash Receipts:					
Local Taxes	\$32,794	\$15,021	\$0	\$47,815	
Intergovernmental	38,494	75,625	0	114,119	
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	0	400	0	400	
Earnings on Investments	461	157	2	620	
Other Revenue	1,527	595	0	2,122	
Total Cash Receipts	73,276	91,798	2	165,076	
Cash Disbursements:					
Current:	50.400	0	0	50.400	
General Government	58,120 0	0 17,062	0 0	58,120	
Public Safety Public Works	0 1,270	94,452	0	17,062 95,722	
Health	2,354	5,344	0	7,698	
Conservation - Recreation	1,021	0,544	0	1,021	
Debt Service:	1,021	Ū	0	1,021	
Redemption of Principal	9,134	0	0	9,134	
Interest and Fiscal Charges	1,084	0	0	1,084	
Capital Outlay	23,700	500	0	24,200	
Total Cash Disbursements	96,683	117,358	0	214,041	
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(23,407)	(25,560)	2	(48,965)	
Other Financing Receipts:					
Proceeds from Sale of Public Debt: Sale of Notes	20,000	0	0	20,000	
		<u> </u>		20,000	
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	(3,407)	(25,560)	2	(28,965)	
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	32,807	53,452	541	86,800	
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$29,400	\$27,892	\$543	\$57,835	

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 AND FIDUCIARY FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002

	Governmenta	I Fund Types	Fiduciary <u>Fund Type</u> Non-	Totals	
	General	Special Revenue	Expendable Trust Fund	(Memorandum Only)	
Cash Receipts:					
Local Taxes	\$28,913	\$30,290	\$0	\$59,203	
Intergovernmental	42,733	74,975	0	117,708	
Earnings on Investments	1,415	481	5	1,901	
Other Revenue	975	373	0	1,348	
Total Cash Receipts	74,036	106,119	5	180,160	
Cash Disbursements:					
Current:					
General Government	63,466	0	0	63,466	
Public Safety	0	14,778	0	14,778	
Public Works	7,517	100,926	0	108,443	
Health	3,263	0	0	3,263	
Conservation - Recreation Debt Service:	11,000	0	0	11,000	
Redemption of Principal	8,636	0	0	8,636	
Interest and Fiscal Charges	1,582	0	<u>0</u>	1,582	
Total Cash Disbursements	95,464	115,704	0	211,168	
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(21,428)	(9,585)	5	(31,008)	
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	54,235	63,037	536	117,808	
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$32.807	\$53.452	\$541	\$86.800	

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

Union Township, Knox County, Ohio, (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 general governmental services, including road and bridge maintenance, and cemetery maintenance. The Township contracts with the Eastern Knox County Joint Fire District to provide fire protection 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. 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:

Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund and Gasoline Tax Fund - These funds receive motor vehicle license tax and gasoline tax money to pay for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads.

3. Fiduciary Funds (Trust Fund)

This fund is used to account for resources restricted by a legally binding trust agreement. The Township had the following significant Fiduciary Fund:

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

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

C. Fund Accounting (Continued)

3. Fiduciary Funds (Trust Fund) (Continued)

Non-Expendable Trust Fund - The Township accounts for the Mullet Cemetery Bequest with this fund.

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

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.

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS

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

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	2003	2002
Demand deposits	\$57,835	\$86,800

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

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS (Continued)

Deposits: Deposits are either (1) insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation, or (2) 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 December 31, 2002 follows:

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$81,218	\$93,276	\$12,058
Special Revenue	115,160	91,798	(23,362)
Fiduciary	0	2	2
Total	\$196,378	\$185,076	(\$11,302)

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$110,300	\$96,683	\$13,617
Special Revenue	166,362	117,358	49,004
Fiduciary	0	0	0
Total	\$276,662	\$214,041	\$62,621

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$71,160	\$74,036	\$2,876
Special Revenue	111,174	106,119	(5,055)
Fiduciary	0	5	5
Total	\$182,334	\$180,160	(\$2,174)

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$126,800	\$95,464	\$31,336
Special Revenue	170,925	115,704	55,221
Fiduciary	0	0	0
Total	\$297,725	\$211,168	\$86,557

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 the 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.

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:

	Principal	Interest Rate
1999 General Obligation Notes	\$9,673	5.75%
2003 General Obligation Notes	20,000	4.25%
Total	\$29,673	

The 1999 general obligation notes were issued to finance the purchase of a new tractor and mower. The 2003 general obligation notes were issued to finance the purchase of a new backhoe.

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

	General Obligation Notes
Year ending December 31:	
2004	\$14,743
2005	4,525
2006	4,525
2007	4,525
2008	4,525
Total	\$32,843

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

6. RETIREMENT SYSTEM

The Township's employees belong to the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) of Ohio. PERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. The plan provide 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, PERS members contributed 8.5% of their gross salaries; the Township contributed an amount equal to 13.55% of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2003.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk Pool Membership

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 insurance 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. Claims exceeding \$250,000 are reinsured with APEEP up to \$1,750,000 per claim and \$5,000,000 in the aggregate 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 \$700,000 for 2001 and \$1,250,000 for 2002. The Travelers Indemnity Company reinsures losses exceeding \$10,000 if the annual aggregate is reached and all specific losses exceeding \$100,000. APEEP's Operating Fund and Guarantee Fund pay for losses and loss adjustment expenses should they exceed 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 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:

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

7. RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)

Risk Pool Membership (Continued)

Casualty Coverage	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
Assets	\$23,757,036	\$23,703,776
Liabilities	<u>(9,197,512)</u>	<u>(9,379,003)</u>
Retained earnings	<u>\$14,559,524</u>	<u>\$14,324,773</u>

Property Coverage	2002	<u>2001</u>
Assets	\$6,596,996	\$5,011,131
Liabilities	<u>(1,204,326)</u>	<u>(647,667)</u>
Retained earnings	<u>\$5,392,670</u>	<u>\$4,363,464</u>

(Audited financial statements for 2003 are not yet available.)

8. JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATION

The Eastern Knox County Joint Fire District (The District) is a jointly governed organization pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 505.3371. The District was formed in 2001 and consists of Brown, Butler, Harrison, Howard, Jefferson, and Union Townships and the Villages of Brinkhaven and Danville. The Board consists of a trustee from each township and village and an at large member appointed by the vote of the District Board. Revenues are generated from a five mil operating levy. In 2003, Jefferson Township transferred the remaining balance in the Special Fire Levy Fund to the District.



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

Union Township Knox County P.O. Box 731 Danville, Ohio 43014

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Union Township, Knox County, Ohio, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2003, and December 31, 2002, and have issued our report thereon dated April 8, 2004, wherein we noted that the Townships' financial transactions were processed using the Auditor of States' 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 an instance of noncompliance that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2003-001. We also noted a certain immaterial instance of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated April 8, 2004.

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 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 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 April 8, 2004.

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This report is intended solely for the information and use of 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

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

April 8, 2004

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002

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

FINDING NUMBER 2003-001

Certification of Funds

Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D)(1) prohibits a subdivision or taxing entity 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.

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 <u>main</u> 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.

1. "Then and Now" certificate – If the fiscal officer can certify that both at the time that 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 previous encumbrance, the Township can authorize the drawing of a warrant for the payment of the amount due. The Township has thirty days from the receipt of the "then and now" certificate to approve payment by ordinance or resolution.

Amounts of less than \$3,000 (\$1,000 prior to March 31, 2003) may be paid by the fiscal officer without a resolution or ordinance 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.

2. 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. (Prior to September 26, 2003, blanket certificates were limited to \$5,000 and three months.) 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.

3. 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.

The Township did not properly utilize the "then and now" certificates for 100% of the expenditures tested. Expenditures greater than \$3,000 applied to "Then and Now" certificates were not approved by resolution. "Then and now" certificates were used for all Township expenditures. The amount of such expenditures tested was \$141,615.

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002 (Continued)

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

FINDING NUMBER 2003-001 (Continued)

To improve controls over disbursements and to help reduce the possibility of the Township's funds exceeding budgetary spending limitations, we recommend that the Clerk certify that the funds are or will be available prior to obligation by the Township. When prior certification is not possible by issuance of a standard purchase order, blanket certificate or super blanket, "then and now" certification should be used. "Then and now" certification should not be used for all Township transactions on a normal basis. If "then and now" certificates are utilized and the expenditure exceeds \$3,000, then the Clerk should seek approval by Board resolution within 30 days.



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UNION TOWNSHIP

KNOX 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 JUNE 1, 2004