



**AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY  
HURON COUNTY**

**REGULAR AUDIT**

**FOR THE YEARS ENDED NOVEMBER 30, 2005 & 2006**



**Mary Taylor, CPA**  
Auditor of State



**AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY  
HURON COUNTY**

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# Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

Agricultural Society  
Huron County  
940 Fair Road  
Norwalk, Ohio 44857-2041

To the Board of Directors:

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 a February 2, 2005, 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 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.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Taylor".

**Mary Taylor, CPA**  
Auditor of State

May 3, 2007

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# Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Agricultural Society  
Huron County  
940 Fair Road  
Norwalk, Ohio 44857-2041

To the Board of Directors:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Agricultural Society, Huron County, (the Society) as of and for the years ended November 30, 2006 and 2005. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Society's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audits 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. We believe our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described more fully in Note 1, the Society 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.

Revisions to GAAP would require the Society to reformat its financial statement presentation and make other changes for the years ended November 30, 2006 and 2005. While the Society does not follow GAAP, generally accepted auditing standards requires us to include the following paragraph if the statements do not substantially conform to the new GAAP presentation requirements. The Auditor of State permits, but does not require governments to reformat their statements. The Society has elected not to reformat its statements. Since the Society does not use GAAP to measure financial statement amounts, 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.

One Government Center / Room 1420 / Toledo, OH 43604-2246  
Telephone: (419) 245-2811 (800) 443-9276 Fax: (419) 245-2484  
[www.auditor.state.oh.us](http://www.auditor.state.oh.us)

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 November 30, 2006 and 2005, do not present fairly, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Society as of November 30, 2006 and 2005, 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 cash balances of the Agricultural Society, Huron County, as of November 30, 2006 and 2005, and its cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the accounting basis Note 1 describes.

The aforementioned revision to generally accepted accounting principles also requires the Society to include Management's Discussion and Analysis for the years ended November 30, 2006 and 2005. The Society has not presented Management's Discussion and Analysis, which accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America has determined is necessary to supplement, although not required to be part of, the financial statements.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated May 3, 2007, on our consideration of the Society'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.



**Mary Taylor, CPA**  
Auditor of State

May 3, 2007



**AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY  
HURON COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND  
CHANGE IN CASH BALANCE  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED NOVEMBER 30, 2006 AND 2005**

	<b>2006</b>	<b>2005</b>
<b>Operating Receipts:</b>		
Admissions	\$192,663	\$193,476
Privilege Fees	93,168	93,238
Rentals	61,477	50,553
Sustaining and Entry Fees	55,500	59,655
Pari-mutuel Wagering Commission	3,619	5,392
Other Operating Receipts	26,432	23,511
Total Operating Receipts	432,859	425,825
<b>Operating Disbursements:</b>		
Wages and Benefits	42,743	36,164
Utilities	47,941	39,051
Professional Services	119,889	114,221
Equipment and Grounds Maintenance	76,713	91,174
Race Purse	77,197	83,962
Senior Fair	26,066	27,643
Junior Fair	25,648	25,836
Capital Outlay	31,357	1,000
Other Operating Disbursements	85,105	86,929
Total Operating Disbursements	532,659	505,980
Deficiency of Operating Receipts Under Operating Disbursements	(99,800)	(80,155)
<b>Non-Operating Receipts:</b>		
State Support	29,154	32,044
County Support	10,000	26,552
Donations/Contributions	32,383	49,579
Investment Income	1,750	1,135
Net Non-Operating Receipts	73,287	109,310
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements	(26,513)	29,155
Cash Balance, Beginning of Year	61,592	32,437
<b>Cash Balance, End of Year</b>	<b>\$35,079</b>	<b>\$61,592</b>

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

**AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY  
HURON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
NOVEMBER 30, 2006 AND 2005**

**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 the Agricultural Society, Huron County, (the Society) as a body corporate and politic. The Society is a county agricultural society corporation formed under Chapter 1711 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Society was founded in 1921 to operate an annual agricultural fair. The Society sponsors the week-long Huron County Fair during August. During the fair, harness races are held, culminating in the running of the Buckeye Super Stakes Circuit. Huron County is not financially accountable for the Society. The Board of Directors manages the Society. The Board is made up of 31 directors serving staggered three-year terms. Society members elect Board members from its membership. Members of the Society must be residents of Huron County and pay an annual membership fee to the Society.

**Reporting Entity**

The reporting entity includes all activity occurring on the fairgrounds. This includes the annual fair and harness racing during fair week. Other year round activities at the fairgrounds include facility rental, track and stall rental, and community events including antique fairs, Firelands Antique Restored Machines (FARM) shows, flea markets, and motorcycle races. The reporting entity does not include any other activities or entities of Huron County, Ohio.

Notes 7 and 8, respectively, summarize the Junior Fair Board's and Junior Livestock Sale Committee's financial activity.

The Society's management believes this financial statement presents all activities for which the Society is financially accountable.

**B. Basis of Accounting**

This financial statement follows the accounting basis the Auditor of State prescribes or permits, which is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. This basis recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred.

This statement includes adequate disclosure of material matters, as the Auditor of State prescribes or permits.

**C. Property, Plant, and Equipment**

The Society's accounting basis records acquisitions of property, plant, and equipment as capital outlay disbursements when paid. The accompanying financial statements do not include these items as assets.

**D. Income Tax Status**

The Society is a not-for-profit organization, exempt from income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Society is not a private foundation within the meaning of Section 509(a). Contributions to the Society are deductible per Section 170(b)(1)(A)(v1). Management is unaware of any actions or events that would jeopardize the Society's tax status.

**AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY  
HURON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
NOVEMBER 30, 2006 AND 2005  
(Continued)**

**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – (Continued)**

**E. Race Purse**

Part of the Buckeye Super Stakes Circuit stake races are held during the Huron County Fair. The Society pays all sustaining and entry fees and the required portion of the cash received from the Ohio Fairs Fund as Race Purse to winning horses.

Sustaining and Entry Fees

Horse owners and the Buckeye Super Stakes Circuit pay fees to the Society to qualify horses for entry into stake races. They must make payment before a horse can participate in a stake race. The accompanying financial statement report these fees as sustaining and entry fees.

Ohio Fairs Fund

The State of Ohio contributes money to the Society from the Ohio Fairs Fund to supplement the race purse. See Note 3 for additional information.

**F. Pari-mutuel Wagering**

A wagering system totals the amounts wagered and adjusts the payoff to reflect the relative amount bet on different horses and various odds. The total amount bet (also known as the "handle"), less commission, is paid to bettors in accordance with the payoffs, as the pari-mutuel wagering system determines. The Society contracts with a totalizer service to collect bets and provide the pari-mutuel wagering system.

Pari-mutuel wagering commission (the commission) is the Society's share of total pari-mutuel wagers after payment of amounts to winning bettors. The commission is determined by applying a statutory percentage to the total amount bet and is reflected in the accompanying financial statement as Pari-mutuel Wagering Commission. See Note 3 for additional information.

**2. CASH**

The carrying amount of cash at November 30, 2006 and 2005 follows:

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>
Demand deposits	<u>\$35,079</u>	<u>\$61,592</u>

The Federal Depository Insurance Corporation insures up to \$100,000 of the Society's bank balance.

**AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY  
HURON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
NOVEMBER 30, 2006 AND 2005  
(Continued)**

**3. HORSE RACING**

State Support Portion of Purse

The financial statements report Ohio Fairs Fund money, received to supplement purse for the years ended November 30, 2006 and 2005 was \$17,704 for 2006 and \$20,304 for 2005, as State Support.

Pari-mutuel Wagering

The Society does not record the Total Amount Bet or the Payoff to Bettors in the accompany financial statement, rather, it records the Pari-mutuel Wagering Commission (commission) which is the Society's share of total pari-mutuel wagers after paying winning bettors. The expenses of providing the pari-mutuel wagering system are called Tote Services, and these expenses are included in Professional Service Disbursements. State taxes, which are also paid from Pari-mutuel Wagering Commission, are reflected in Other Operating Disbursements, and the amount remaining is the Society's net portion.

	2006	2005
Total Amount Bet (Handle)	\$ 18,828	\$ 27,181
Less: Payoff to Bettors	(15,209)	(21,789)
Parimutuel Wagering Commission	3,619	5,392
Tote Service Set Up Fee	(300)	(450)
Tote Service Commission	(1,457)	(2,413)
State Tax	(541)	(633)
Society Portion	\$ 1,321	\$ 1,896

**4. DEBT**

Debt outstanding at November 30, 2006, was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
Expo Loan	\$26,500	8.00%

The Huron County Commissioners took out a loan on behalf of the Agricultural Society in the Amount of \$150,000 with an interest rate of 8 percent in July 1999 for the completion of the Expo Building. The Society must repay the loan at a rate of thirteen thousand dollars (\$13,000) per year. The Agricultural Society has paid additional principal payments during 2005 and 2006.

**AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY  
HURON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
NOVEMBER 30, 2006 AND 2005  
(Continued)**

**4. DEBT – (Continued)**

Amortization of the above debt is scheduled as follows:

Year Ending November 30:	Expo Loan	Interest	Total
2007	\$10,868	\$2,132	\$13,000
2008	11,729	1,271	13,000
2009	3,903	317	4,220
Total	<u>\$26,500</u>	<u>\$3,720</u>	<u>\$30,220</u>

**5. RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Huron County Commissioners provide general insurance coverage for all the buildings on the Huron County Fairgrounds pursuant to Ohio Revised Code § 1711.24.

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

The Society insures against injuries to employees through the Ohio Bureau of Worker’s Compensation.

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

Casualty Coverage

PEP retains casualty risks up to \$250,000 per occurrence, including claim adjustment expenses. PEP pays a percentage of its contributions to APEEP. APEEP reinsures claims exceeding \$250,000, up to \$1,750,000 per claim and \$10,000,000 in the aggregate per year. Governments can elect additional coverage, from \$2,000,000 to \$12,000,000 with the General Reinsurance Corporation, through contracts with PEP.

If losses exhaust PEP’s retained earnings, APEEP provides *excess of funds available* coverage up to \$5,000,000 per year, subject to a per-claim limit of \$2,000,000.

Property Coverage

Through 2004, PEP retained property risks, including automobile physical damage, up to \$100,000 on any specific loss in any one occurrence. The Travelers Indemnity Company reinsured losses exceeding \$100,000 up to \$500 million per occurrence.

**AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY  
HURON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
NOVEMBER 30, 2006 AND 2005  
(Continued)**

**5. RISK MANAGEMENT – (Continued)**

Beginning in 2005, Travelers reinsures specific losses exceeding \$250,000 up to \$600 million per occurrence. APEEP reinsures members for specific losses exceeding \$100,000 up to \$250,000 per occurrence, subject to an annual aggregate loss payment. Travelers provides aggregate stop-loss coverage based upon the combined members' total insurable value. If the stop loss is reached by payment of losses between \$100,000 and \$250,000, Travelers will reinsure specific losses exceeding \$100,000 up to their \$600 million per occurrence limit. The aggregate stop-loss limit for 2005 was \$1,682,589.

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

Property and casualty settlements did not exceed insurance coverage for the past three fiscal years.

Financial Position

PEP'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, 2005 and 2004 (the latest information available).

<u>Casualty Coverage</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>
Assets	\$29,719,675	\$27,437,169
Liabilities	<u>(15,994,168)</u>	<u>(13,880,038)</u>
Retained earnings	<u>\$13,725,507</u>	<u>\$13,557,131</u>
<u>Property Coverage</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>
Assets	\$4,443,332	\$3,648,272
Liabilities	<u>(1,068,245)</u>	<u>(540,073)</u>
Retained earnings	<u>\$3,375,087</u>	<u>\$3,108,199</u>

At December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively, casualty coverage liabilities noted above include approximately \$14.3 million and \$12 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The Casualty Coverage assets and retained earnings above also include approximately \$14.3 million and \$12 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 430 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. The Society's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$14,822. This payable includes the subsequent year's contribution due if the Government terminates participation, as described in the last paragraph below.

**AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY  
HURON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
NOVEMBER 30, 2006 AND 2005  
(Continued)**

**5. RISK MANAGEMENT – (Continued)**

Based on discussions with PEP the expected rates PEP 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 PEP for each year of membership.

**Contributions to PEP**

2003	\$6,559
2004	\$7,102
2005	\$7,411

After completing one year of membership, members may withdraw on each anniversary of the date they joined PEP. They must provide written notice to PEP 60 days in advance of 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 was incurred or reported prior to the withdrawal.

**6. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES**

Amounts received from grantor agencies are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor. Any disallowed costs may require refunding to the grantor. Amounts which may be disallowed, if any, are not presently determinable. However, based on prior experience, management believes such refunds, if any, would not be material.

**7. JUNIOR FAIR BOARD**

The Junior Fair Board, which is comprised of 4-H, FFA, Boy Scout, Girl Scout, and Farm Bureau Youth organization representatives, is responsible for the Junior Fair Division activities of the Huron County Fair. The Society disbursed \$25,648 in 2006 and \$25,836 in 2005 directly to vendors to support Junior Fair activities. These expenses are reflected as a disbursement in the accompanying financial statement as Junior Fair Disbursement.

**AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY  
HURON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
NOVEMBER 30, 2006 AND 2005  
(Continued)**

**8. JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SALE COMMITTEE**

The Junior Livestock Committee is a separate committee charged with running the Junior Livestock Auction. This auction is held during fair week. Children may sell their animals directly to market or through the Huron County's auction. Monies to cover the cost of the auction are generated through a 4 percent commission on Grand Reserve animals and a 2 percent commission on all other animals and are retained by the Junior Livestock Committee. The accompanying financial statement does not include the Junior Livestock Committee's activities. The Junior Livestock Committee's financial activity for the year ended November 30, 2006 and 2005 follows:

Beginning Cash Balance	\$	11,382	\$	8,181
Receipts		307,175		275,096
Disbursements		<u>(308,907)</u>		<u>(271,895)</u>
Ending Cash Balance	\$	<u>9,650</u>	\$	<u>11,382</u>





# Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

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

Agricultural Society  
Huron County  
940 Fair Road  
Norwalk, Ohio 44857-2041

To the Board of Directors:

We have audited the financial statements of the Agricultural Society, Huron County (the Society) as of and for the years ended November 30, 2006 and 2005, and have issued our report thereon dated May 3, 2007, wherein we noted the Society follows accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes rather than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We conducted our audits 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 audits, we considered the Society's internal control over financial reporting to determine our auditing procedures to express our opinion on the financial statements and not to opine on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a reportable 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 caused by error or fraud in amounts material to the financial statements we audited may occur and not be timely detected by employees when performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider material weaknesses. In a separate letter to the Society's management dated May 3, 2007, we reported other matters involving internal control over financial reporting we did not deem reportable conditions.

### **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of reasonably assuring whether the Society'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 audits and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards*. In a separate letter to the Society's management dated May 3, 2007, we reported a matter related to noncompliance we deemed immaterial.

We intend this report solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management, and the Board of Directors. It is not intended for anyone other than these specified parties.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Taylor".

**Mary Taylor, CPA**  
Auditor of State

May 3, 2007



**Mary Taylor, CPA**  
Auditor of State

**AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY**

**HURON 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 Babbitt*

**CLERK OF THE BUREAU**

**CERTIFIED  
MAY 29, 2007**