

**RIPLEY TOWNSHIP
HOLMES COUNTY**

REGULAR AUDIT

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2006 - 2005



Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

Board of Trustees
Ripley Township
11860 Private Road 531
Shreve, Ohio 44676

We have reviewed the *Independent Accountants' Report* of Ripley Township, Holmes County, prepared by Knox & Knox, for the audit period January 1, 2005 through December 31, 2006. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

The financial statements in the attached report are presented in accordance with a regulatory basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State. Due to a February 2, 2005 interpretation from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), modifications were required to the *Independent Accountants' Report* on your financial statements. While the Auditor of State 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. The attached report includes an opinion relating to GAAP presentation and measurement requirements, but does not imply the statements are misstated under the non-GAAP regulatory basis. The *Independent Accountants' Report* also includes an opinion on the financial statements using the regulatory format the Auditor of State permits.

Our review was made in reference to the applicable sections of legislative criteria, as reflected by the Ohio Constitution, and the Revised Code, policies, procedures and guidelines of the Auditor of State, regulations and grant requirements. Ripley Township is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

Mary Taylor

Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

October 31, 2007

This page intentionally left blank

RIPLEY TOWNSHIP
HOLMES COUNTY

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
Independent Accountants' Report	1
Combined Statement of Cash Fund Balances - All Fund Types for years ended 2006 and 2005	3
Combine Statement of Cash Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Cash Basis Fund Balances - All Governmental Fund Types for the Year Ended December 31, 2006	4
Combine Statement of Cash Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Cash Basis Fund Balances - All Governmental Fund Types for the Year Ended December 31, 2005	5
Notes to Financial Statements	6
Independent Accountants' Report on Compliance and Internal Control Required by <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>	14

This page intentionally left blank.

KNOX & KNOX

Accountants and Consultants

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Ripley Township
Holmes County
11860 Private Road 531
Shreve, Ohio 44676

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Ripley Township, Holmes County, Ohio (the Township, as of and for the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Township's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

As described more fully in Note 1, the Township has prepared its 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 variances between these regulatory accounting practices and GAAP, we presume they are material.

Revisions to GAAP would require Ripley Township to reformat its financial statement presentation and make other changes effective for the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005. While the Township does not follow GAAP, auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America require 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 Township has elected not to reformat its statements. Since Ripley Township does not use GAAP to measure the 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.

In our opinion, because of the effects of the matter discussed in the preceding paragraph, the financial statements referred to above for the years ended December 31, 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 Township as of December 31, 2006 and 2005, and their changes in financial position and cash flows.

Also, in our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances of the Ripley Township, Holmes County, as of December 31, 2006 and 2005, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

The aforementioned revision to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America also requires the Township to include Management's Discussion and Analysis for the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005. The Township 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 June 18, 2007, on our consideration of Ripley Township's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting on compliance. 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.

KNOX & KNOX

Orrville, Ohio
June 18, 2007

RIPLEY TOWNSHIP
HOLMES COUNTY

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH FUND BALANCES
ALL FUND TYPES
FOR YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents	<u>\$141,405</u>	<u>\$94,678</u>
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	<u>\$141,405</u>	<u>\$94,678</u>
GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES:		
General Fund	\$90,937	\$64,643
Special Revenue Funds	<u>50,468</u>	<u>30,035</u>
Total Governmental Fund Types	<u>141,405</u>	<u>94,678</u>
TOTAL CASH FUND BALANCES	<u>\$141,405</u>	<u>\$94,678</u>

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

RIPLEY TOWNSHIP
HOLMES COUNTY

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN
FUND CASH BALANCES - ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2006

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>			Totals (Memorandum Only)
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Capital Projects</u>	
CASH RECEIPTS:				
Local Taxes	\$41,482	\$117,082		\$158,564
Intergovernmental	81,716	210,509	\$47,621	339,846
Earnings on Investments	906	167		1,073
Other	166	2,148		2,314
	<u>124,270</u>	<u>329,906</u>	<u>47,621</u>	<u>501,797</u>
CASH DISBURSEMENTS:				
Current:				
General Government	54,623	171		54,794
Public Works	1,263	240,118		241,381
Health	10,655			10,655
Other		2,303		2,303
Debt Service:				
Redemption of Principal		6,652		6,652
Interest and Fiscal Charges		762		762
Capital Outlay	1,185	89,717	47,621	138,523
	<u>67,726</u>	<u>339,723</u>	<u>47,621</u>	<u>455,070</u>
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	<u>56,544</u>	<u>(9,817)</u>		<u>46,727</u>
OTHER FINANCING RECEIPTS/(DISBURSEMENTS):				
Transfers-In		30,250		30,250
Transfers-Out	(30,250)			(30,250)
	<u>(30,250)</u>	<u>30,250</u>		
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements				
	26,294	20,433		46,727
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>64,643</u>	<u>30,035</u>		<u>94,678</u>
FUND CASH BALANCES DECEMBER 31	<u><u>\$90,937</u></u>	<u><u>\$50,468</u></u>		<u><u>\$141,405</u></u>

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

RIPLEY TOWNSHIP
HOLMES COUNTY

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN
FUND CASH BALANCES - ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005

	Governmental Fund Types		Totals (Memorandum Only)
	General	Special Revenue	
CASH RECEIPTS:			
Local Taxes	\$40,449	\$69,796	110,245
Intergovernmental	44,106	129,194	173,300
Earnings on Investments	696	137	833
Other	2,889	9,984	12,873
Total Cash Receipts	88,140	209,111	297,251
CASH DISBURSEMENTS:			
Current:			
General Government	59,850	470	60,320
Public Works	1,198	211,066	212,264
Health	10,705		10,705
Other			
Debt Service:			
Redemption of Principal		6,393	6,393
Interest and Fiscal Charges		1,021	1,021
Capital Outlay	652	21,154	21,806
Total Cash Disbursements	72,405	240,104	312,509
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	15,735	(30,993)	(15,258)
OTHER FINANCING RECEIPTS/(DISBURSEMENTS):			
Sale of Fixed Assets	100		100
Transfers-In		11,000	11,000
Transfers-Out	(11,000)		(11,000)
Total Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)	(10,900)	11,000	100
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements	4,835	(19,993)	(15,158)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	59,808	50,028	109,836
FUND CASH BALANCES DECEMBER 31	\$64,643	\$30,035	94,678
RESERVE FOR ENCUMBRANCES, DECEMBER 31	\$75	\$37,040	\$37,115

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

RIPLEY TOWNSHIP
HOLMES COUNTY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Ripley Township, Holmes 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 general governmental services, which includes road maintenance.

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

The Township deposits money into a checking account with a financial institution eligible to maintain the Township's monies. The financial institution provides securities sufficient to cover the monies deposited with it.

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:

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:

Road and Bridge Fund – This fund receives property tax money for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads and bridges.

Gasoline Tax Fund – This fund receives gasoline tax money to pay for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads.

RIPLEY TOWNSHIP
HOLMES COUNTY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

D. Fund Accounting (continued)

3. Capital Project Fund

This fund is 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 only one capital project fund:

Issue II Funds - The Township received a grant from the State of Ohio to widen and reconstruct a road..

E. 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 object level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Board of Trustees must annually approve the appropriation measure 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 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 commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over and need not be reappropriated in the subsequent year.

A summary of 2006 and 2005 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.

RIPLEY TOWNSHIP
HOLMES COUNTY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH

The Township maintains a cash and investment 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:

	2006	2005
Demand depositis	\$141,405	\$94,678

Deposits: Deposits are either (1) insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation, or (2) collateralized by securities pledged by the financial institution to the Township.

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005 follows:

Fund Type	2006 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts		
	Budgeted	Actual	Variance
	Receipts	Receipts	
General	\$116,514	\$124,270	\$7,756
Special Revenue	346,367	360,156	13,789
Capital Project	47,621	47,621	
Total	\$510,502	\$532,047	\$21,545

Fund Type	2006 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenses		
	Appropriation	Budgetary	Variance
	Authority	Expenditures	
General	\$108,825	\$97,976	\$10,849
Special Revenue	360,132	339,723	20,409
Capital Project	47,621	47,621	
Total	\$516,578	\$485,320	\$31,258

Fund Type	2005 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts		
	Budgeted	Actual	Variance
	Receipts	Receipts	
General	\$69,863	\$88,240	\$18,377
Special Revenue	247,035	220,111	(26,924)
Total	\$316,898	\$308,351	(\$8,547)

RIPLEY TOWNSHIP
HOLMES COUNTY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY (continued)

Fund Type	2005 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenses		
	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$91,069	\$83,480	\$7,589
Special Revenue	283,578	277,144	6,434
Total	\$374,647	\$360,624	\$14,023

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 financial accompanying 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, 2006 was as follows:

	Principle	Interest Rate
Backhoe Loan	\$14,106	4%

The loan was issued to finance the purchase of a backhoe to be used for Township road maintenance.

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

Year Ending December 31:	Backhoe Loan
2007	\$7,414
2008	7,414
Total	\$14,828

RIPLEY TOWNSHIP
HOLMES COUNTY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005

6. RETIREMENT SYSTEM

The Township's employees belong to the Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. The plan provides retirement benefits, including post-retirement 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 2006 and 2005, members contributed 9.0% and 8.5% of their gross salaries, respectively. The Township contributed an amount equal to 13.7% (2006) and 13.55% (2005) of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2006.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

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

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

The Township belongs to the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio townships. OTARMA provides property and casualty coverage for its members. 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.

A. Casualty Coverage

For an occurrence prior to January 1, 2006 OTARMA retains casualty risks up to \$250,000 per occurrence, including claim 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 \$10,000,000 in the aggregate per year. For an occurrence on or subsequent to January 1, 2006, the Pool retains casualty risk up to \$350,000 per occurrence, including loss adjustment expenses. Claims exceeding \$350,000 are reinsured with APEEP in an amount not to exceed \$2,650,000 for each claim and \$10,000,000 in the aggregate per year. Governments can elect up to \$10,000,000 in additional coverage with the General Reinsurance Corporation, through contracts with OTARMA.

If losses exhaust OTARMA'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 (for claims prior to January 1, 2006) or \$3,000,000 (for claims after January 1, 2006) as noted above.

RIPLEY TOWNSHIP
HOLMES COUNTY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005

7. RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)

B. Property Coverage

Through 2004, OTARMA 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.

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 values. 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 2006 was \$1,901,127.

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.

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

C. 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, 2006 and 2005.

<u>Casualty Coverage</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>
Assets	\$32,031,312	\$30,485,638
Liabilities	(11,443,952)	(12,344,576)
Retained Earnings	<u>\$20,587,360</u>	<u>\$18,141,062</u>

<u>Property Coverage</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>
Assets	\$10,010,963	\$9,177,796
Liabilities	(676,709)	(1,406,031)
Retained Earnings	<u>\$9,334,254</u>	<u>\$7,771,765</u>

At December 31, 2006 and 2005, respectively, casualty coverage liabilities noted above include approximately \$10.8 million and \$11.6 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The Casualty Coverage assets and retained earnings above also include

RIPLEY TOWNSHIP
HOLMES COUNTY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005

7. RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)

C. Financial Position (continued)

approximately \$10.8 million and \$11.6million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 958 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2006 and 2005, respectively. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. This payable includes the subsequent year's contribution due if the Township terminates participation, as described in the last paragraph below.

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

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

This page intentionally left blank.

KNOX & KNOX

Accountants and Consultants

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

Ripley Township
Holmes County
11860 Private Road 531
Shreve, Ohio 44676

To the Board of Trustees

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Ripley Township, Holmes County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005, and have issued our report thereon dated June 18, 2007, wherein we noted the Township followed accounting practices the Auditor of State permits rather than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. 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.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audits, we considered the Township's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our audit procedures for expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not to opine on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we have not opined on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control over financial reporting.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the Township's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with its applicable accounting basis, such that there is more than a remote likelihood that the Township's internal control will not prevent or detect a more-than-inconsequential financial statement misstatement.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies resulting in more than a remote likelihood that the Township's internal control will not prevent or detect a material financial statement misstatement.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all internal control deficiencies that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider material weaknesses, as defined above. We did note other matters that we reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated June 18, 2007.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance whether the Township's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

We intend this report solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management, and the Board of Trustees. We intend it for no one other than these specified parties.

KNOX & KNOX

Orrville, Ohio
June 18, 2007



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

RIPLEY TOWNSHIP

HOLMES 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
NOVEMBER 13, 2007**