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Mary Ann Township Licking County 11950 Wilkins Run Road NE Newark, Ohio 43055

#### To the Board of Trustees:

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 an interpretation from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). While AOS does not legally require your Township 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 adverse 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.

Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

Mary Taylor

July 1, 2009

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#### INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Mary Ann Township Licking County 11950 Wilkins Run Road NE Newark, Ohio 43055

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Mary Ann Township, Licking County, Ohio, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007. 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 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. The Township processes its financial transactions with 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 audit 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.

As described more fully in Note 1, the Township 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.

Instead of the combined funds the accompanying financial statements present, GAAP require presenting entity wide statements and also presenting the Township's larger (i.e. major) funds separately. While the Township does not follow GAAP, generally accepted auditing standards requires us to include the following paragraph if the statements do not substantially conform to GAAP presentation requirements. The Auditor of State permits, but does not require townships to reformat their statements. The Township has elected not to follow GAAP statement formatting requirements. 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.

88 E. Broad St. / Tenth Floor / Columbus, OH 43215-3506 Telephone: (614) 466-3402 (800) 443-9275 Fax: (614) 728-7199 www.auditor.state.oh.us Mary Ann Township Licking County Independent Accountants' Report Page 2

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 December 31, 2008 and 2007 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, 2008 and 2007, 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 combined fund cash balances and reserves for encumbrances of Mary Ann Township, Licking County, Ohio, as of December 31, 2008 and 2007, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the accounting basis Note 1 describes.

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 July 1, 2009, 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 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

Mary Taylor

July 1, 2009

## COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES - ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

	<b>Governmental Fund Types</b>		Totals
		Special	(Memorandum
	General	Revenue	Only)
Cash Receipts:		_	_
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$55,126.11	\$167,790.40	\$222,916.51
Charges for Services	0.00	69,500.00	\$69,500.00
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	18,028.98	0.00	\$18,028.98
Intergovernmental	35,648.67	154,037.81	\$189,686.48
Earnings on Investments	1,881.57	998.55	\$2,880.12
Miscellaneous	2,742.87	30,114.14	\$32,857.01
Total Cash Receipts	113,428.20	422,440.90	\$535,869.10
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	79,888.01	4,446.55	84,334.56
Public Safety	95.52	122,237.87	122,333.39
Public Works	23,508.31	183,123.20	206,631.51
Health	10,982.63	2,103.37	13,086.00
Capital Outlay	9,987.43	40,849.41	50,836.84
Debt Service:			
Redemption of Principal	7,331.27	43,514.43	50,845.70
Interest and Other Fiscal Charges	5,832.28	6,690.44	12,522.72
Total Cash Disbursements	137,625.45	402,965.27	540,590.72
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(24,197.25)	19,475.63	(4,721.62)
Fund Cash Balance, January 1	51,158.17	150,816.56	201,974.73
Fund Cash Balance, December 31	\$26,960.92	\$170,292.19	\$197,253.11
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	\$0.00	\$55,494.00	\$55,494.00

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, 2007

	Governmental Fund Types		Totals
		Special	(Memorandum
	General	Revenue	Only)
Cash Receipts:			
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$57,152.98	\$155,020.29	\$212,173.27
Charges for Services	0.00	64,750.00	\$64,750.00
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	31,879.82	0.00	\$31,879.82
Intergovernmental	36,447.37	127,195.86	\$163,643.23
Earnings on Investments	5,070.19	2,552.42	\$7,622.61
Miscellaneous	1,559.91	4,550.00	\$6,109.91
Total Cash Receipts	132,110.27	354,068.57	\$486,178.84
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	78,299.01	2,424.40	80,723.41
Public Safety	179.93	122,477.86	122,657.79
Public Works	250.00	201,049.64	201,299.64
Health	13,329.50	7,040.47	20,369.97
Other	76.00	0.00	76.00
Capital Outlay	107,144.98	15,889.84	123,034.82
Debt Service:			
Redemption of Principal	2,920.00	41,757.00	44,677.00
Interest and Other Fiscal Charges	712.00	8,716.00	9,428.00
Total Cash Disbursements	202,911.42	399,355.21	602,266.63
Total Receipts Under Disbursements	(70,801.15)	(45,286.64)	(116,087.79)
Other Financing Receipts:			
Sale of Bonds	99,094.50	0.00	99,094.50
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing			
Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	28,293.35	(45,286.64)	(16,993.29)
Fund Cash Balance, January 1	22,864.82	196,103.20	218,968.02
Fund Cash Balance, December 31	\$51,158.17	\$150,816.56	\$201,974.73

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

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007

#### 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 Mary Ann Township, Licking County, Ohio, (the Township) as a body corporate and politic. A publicly-elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance, fire protection and emergency medical services

The Township participates in the Ohio Government Risk Management Plan public entity risk pool. Note 7 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity.

The Township's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Township is financially accountable.

#### **B.** Accounting Basis

These financial statements follow the accounting basis the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Township recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements 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 the Auditor of State prescribes or permits.

#### C. Deposits and Investments

The Township's accounting basis includes investments as assets. This basis does not record disbursements for investment purchases or receipts for investment sales. This basis records gains or losses at the time of sale as receipts or disbursements, respectively.

The Township values money market sweep account investments 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:

#### 1. General Fund

The General Fund reports all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007 (Continued)

#### 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

#### D. Fund Accounting (Continued)

#### 2. Special Revenue Funds

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

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

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

<u>General Fire Fund</u> – This fund receives property tax money levied for the funding of the fire department.

#### E. Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund.

#### 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. The Township did not encumber all commitments required by Ohio law. Management has included audit adjustments in the accompanying budgetary presentations for material items that should have been encumbered.

A summary of 2008 and 2007 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007 (Continued)

#### 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

#### F. Property, Plant, and Equipment

The Township records disbursements for acquisitions of property, plant, and equipment when paid. The accompanying financial statements do not report these items as assets.

#### 2. Equity in Pooled Deposits and Investments

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

	2008	2007
Demand deposits	\$50,000	\$50,853
Total deposits	50,000	50,853
Sweep Account	147,253	151,122
Total investments	147,253	151,122
Total deposits and investments	\$197,253	\$201,975

**Deposits:** Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation; or collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool.

**Investments:** The Township's financial institution maintains collateral over sweep account activity. The Township's financial institution transfers securities to the Township's agent to collateralize the repurchase (sweep) agreements. The securities are not in the Township's name.

#### 3. Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2008 and 2007 follows:

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$116,390	\$113,428	\$2,962
Special Revenue	370,961	422,441	(\$51,480)
Total	\$487,351	\$535,869	(\$48,518)

2008 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$168,548	\$137,626	\$30,922
Special Revenue	520,082	458,459	\$61,623
Total	\$688,630	\$596,085	\$92,545

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007 (Continued)

#### 3. Budgetary Activity (Continued)

2007 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$214,320	\$231,205	(\$16,885)
Special Revenue	367,109	354,069	\$13,040
Total	\$581,429	\$585,274	(\$3,845)

2007 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

-	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$138,091	\$202,911	(\$64,820)
Special Revenue	563,211	399,355	\$163,856
Total	\$701,302	\$602,266	\$99,036

Contrary to Ohio law, budgetary expenditures exceeded appropriation authority in the General Fund and FEMA Fund by \$64,820 and \$3,317, respectively.

#### 4. Property Tax

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Trustees adopted tax rates. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. The financial statements include homestead and rollback amounts the State pays as Intergovernmental Receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to pay semiannually, 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.

Licking 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, 2008 was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
Fire House Addition Note	\$14,600	6.10%
Mini Pumper Note	\$16,323	4.04%
Ambulance Note	\$24,852	5.22%
Mary Ann School Bond	\$94,684	5.16%
Tractor Note	\$39,701	5.20%
Total	\$175,560	

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007 (Continued)

#### 5. Debt (Continued)

The Township issued a general obligation bond to finance the purchase of a school building to serve as the Township Hall in 2007. The Township in previous years also issued notes for the purchase of a tractor, ambulance, mini pumper and a building addition to the fire house for the fire department. The Township's taxing authority collateralized all debt.

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

	Fire House	Mini Pumper	Ambulance	Mary Ann	<b>-</b> . N .
Year ending December 31:	Addition Note	Note	Note	School Bond	Tractor Note
2009	\$8,191	\$16,983	\$13,407	\$9,709	\$14,634
2010	7,745	0	13,407	9,709	14,634
2011	0	0	0	9,709	14,633
2012	0	0	0	9,709	0
2013	0	0	0	9,709	0
2014-2018	0	0	0	48,546	0
2019-2022	0	0	0	38,836	
Total	\$15,936	\$16,983	\$26,814	\$135,927	\$43,901

#### 6. Retirement Systems

The Township's employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes this plans' benefits, which include postretirement healthcare and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2007 and 2008, OPERS members contributed 9.5% and 10%, respectively, of their gross salaries and the Township contributed an amount equaling 13.85% and 14.00%, respectively, of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2008.

#### 7. Risk Management

#### **Risk Pool Membership**

The Township belongs to the Ohio Government Risk Management Plan (the "Plan"), a non-assessable, unincorporated non-profit association providing a formalized, jointly administered self-insurance risk management program and other administrative services to over 550 Ohio governments ("Members").

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

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007 (Continued)

#### 7. Risk Management (Continued)

#### **Risk Pool Membership (Continued)**

The Plan issues its own policies and reinsures the Plan with A- VII or better rated carriers, except the Plan retains the lesser of 15% or \$37,500 of casualty losses and the lesser of 10% or \$100,000 of property losses. Individual Members are only responsible for their self-retention (deductible) amounts, which vary from member to member.

Plan members are responsible to notify the Plan of their intent to renew coverage by their renewal date. If a member chooses not to renew with the Plan, they have no other financial obligation to the Plan, but still need to promptly notify the Plan of any potential claims occurring during their membership period. The former member's covered claims, which occurred during their membership period, remain the responsibility of the Plan.

Settlement amounts did not exceed insurance coverage for the past three fiscal years.

The Pool's audited financial statements conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and retained earnings at December 31: 2007 and 2006 (the latest information available):

	2007	2006
Assets	\$11,136,455	\$9,620,148
Liabilities	(4,273,553)	(3,329,620)
Members' Equity	\$6,862,902	<u>\$6,290,528</u>

You can read the complete audited financial statements for The Ohio Government Risk Management Plan at the Plan's website, www.ohioplan.org.

#### 8. Contractual Commitments

The Township entered into an agreement with Small's Asphalt in October 2008 to begin a payment plan for services performed for the Township's road project. The Township owed \$55,494 at December 31, 2008. Final payment on the contract was made in March 2009.



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

Mary Ann Township Licking County 11950 Wilkins Run Road NE Newark, Ohio 43055

To the Board of Trustees

We have audited the financial statements of Mary Ann Township, Licking County, Ohio, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007, and have issued our report thereon dated July 1, 2009, wherein we noted the Township prepared its financial statements using accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits rather than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We also noted the Township uses the Auditor of State's Uniform Accounting Network (UAN) to process its financial transactions. *Government Auditing Standards* considers this service to impair the Auditor of State's independence to audit the Township. 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 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*.

#### **Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit, 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.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. However, as discussed below, we identified a certain deficiency in internal control over financial reporting that we consider a significant deficiency.

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.

88 E. Broad St. / Tenth Floor / Columbus, OH 43215-3506 Telephone: (614) 466-3402 (800) 443-9275 Fax: (614) 728-7199 www.auditor.state.oh.us Mary Ann Township Licking County Independent Accountants' Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by *Government Auditing Standards* Page 2

We consider finding 2008-002 described in the accompanying schedule of findings to be significant deficiency in internal control over financial reporting.

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 the internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in the internal control that might be significant deficiencies and accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all significant deficiencies that are also material weaknesses. We believe finding number 2008-002 is also a material weakness.

We also noted certain matters that we reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated July 1, 2009.

#### **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of reasonably assuring 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 instances of noncompliance or other matters that we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which are described in the accompanying schedule of findings as items 2008-001 and 2008-002.

We also noted a certain noncompliance or other matter not requiring inclusion in this report that we reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated July 1, 2009.

The Township's responses to the findings identified in our audit are described in the accompanying schedule of findings. We did not audit the Township's responses and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

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

Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

Mary Taylor

July 1, 2009

#### SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007

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

#### **FINDING NUMBER 2008-001**

#### **Noncompliance Citation - Expenditures Exceeding Appropriations**

Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.40 states, in part, that any appropriation ordinance or measure may be amended or supplemented, provided that such amendment or supplement shall comply with all provisions of law governing the taxing authority in making an original appropriation. In addition, Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(B) prohibits a subdivision or taxing unit from expending money unless it has been appropriated. The legal level of budgetary control for the Township is the level at which the Board adopts the original appropriation measure.

The Board did not approve, nor did they submit to the County Auditor, appropriation amendments. This allowed budgetary expenditures to exceed appropriations filed with the County Auditor for the year ended December 31, 2007 in the General Fund as follows:

		Appropriation	Total	
Fund #	Fund Name	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
1000-760-720	General	\$138,091	\$202,911	(\$64,820)

It also allowed budgetary expenditures to exceed appropriations filed with the County Auditor for the year ended December 31, 2008 in the FEMA Fund as follows:

		Appropriation	Total	
Fund #	Fund Name	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
2901-330-599	FEMA	\$0	\$3,317	(\$3,317)

Failure to have adequate appropriation authority in place at the time of expenditure resulted in expenditures exceeding available resources or deficit spending.

The Board should not certify the availability of funds and should deny payment requests exceeding appropriations until an amendment is approved and filed with the County Auditor.

**Officials' Response:** In the future, we will make sure that the board approves any changes in the appropriations then advise the Licking County Auditor's office.

#### FINDING NUMBER 2008-002

#### Noncompliance/Significant Deficiency/Material Weakness - Prior Certification of Funds

Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D) 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.

#### SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007 (Continued)

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

#### FINDING NUMBER 2008-002 (Continued)

## Noncompliance/Significant Deficiency/Material Weakness - Prior Certification of Funds (Continued)

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 main 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" certificates 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 resolution.
  - Amounts less than \$3,000 may be paid by the fiscal officer without a resolution 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 the expenditures by the Township.
- 2. Blanket certificates 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. 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 operation expense. This certification is not to extend beyond the current year. More than one so-called "super blanket" certificate may be outstanding at a particular time for any line item appropriation.

The Township did not certify the availability of funds prior to the purchase commitment for 45 percent of expenditures tested during 2008 and 2007.

Also contrary to Ohio Law, the Township did not encumber all obligations for work performed for the Township at December 31, 2008. The Township entered into an agreement with Small's Asphalt in October 2008 to begin a payment plan for services performed for the Township's road project. The Township owed \$55,494 at December 31, 2008. Final payment on the contract was made in March 2009.

The Townships accounting records and financial statements have been adjusted to reflect the adjustment noted above.

#### SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007 (Continued)

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

#### FINDING NUMBER 2008-002 (Continued)

## Noncompliance/Significant Deficiency/Material Weakness - Prior Certification of Funds (Continued)

Unless the exceptions noted above are used, prior certification is not only required by statute but is a key control in the disbursement process to assure that purchase commitments receive prior approval. To improve controls over disbursements and to help reduce the possibility of the Township's funds exceeding budgetary spending limitations, we recommend the Fiscal Officer certify that the funds are or will be available prior to obligation by the Fiscal Officer. When prior certification is not possible, "then and now" certification should be used.

We recommend the Township certify purchases to which section 5705.41(D) applies and to encumber all obligations for work performed for the Township at the end of the fiscal year. The most convenient certification method is to use purchase orders that include the certification language 5705.41(D) requires to authorize disbursements. The Fiscal Officer should sign the certification at the time the Township incurs a commitment, and only when the requirements of 5705.41(D) are satisfied. The Fiscal Officer should post approved purchase commitments to the proper appropriation code, to reduce the available appropriation. We also recommend the Township Fiscal Officer amend the Certificate of Estimated Resources for fiscal year 2009 to reflect all encumbered balances at the fiscal year December 31, 2008.

**Officials' Response:** The Township will try to issue Purchase Orders as soon as we are aware of an expense not covered by a Blanket Certificate, otherwise a "Then & Now" Purchase Order will be used.

#### SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <i>Explain</i>
2006-MaryAnn-01	OAC 117-2-02(A) and ORC 5705.40	Partially	OAC 117-2-02(A) – Corrected ORC 5705.40 – Reissued, Finding 2008-001



#### **MARY ANN TOWNSHIP**

#### LICKING 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 AUGUST 4, 2009