



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

**PLEASANT TOWNSHIP
BROWN COUNTY**

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Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

Pleasant Township
Brown County
4090 Drake Marshall Road
Georgetown, Ohio 45121

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 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 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.

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Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

August 14, 2009

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Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Pleasant Township
Brown County
4090 Drake Marshall Road
Georgetown, Ohio 45121

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Pleasant Township, Brown 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. We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described more fully in Note 1, the Township prepared its financial statement 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.

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 of the Pleasant Township, Brown County, 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 August 14, 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.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Taylor". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

August 14, 2009

**PLEASANT TOWNSHIP
BROWN COUNTY**

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

	General	Special Revenue	Permanent	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:				
Property and Local Taxes	\$44,742	\$33,080		\$77,822
Intergovernmental	47,376	107,593		154,969
Fines, Licenses and Permits	50,585			50,585
Earnings on Investments	1,372	423	\$5	1,800
Other	4,301			4,301
	<u>148,376</u>	<u>141,096</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>289,477</u>
Cash Disbursements:				
Current:				
General Government	74,619			74,619
Public Safety		35,993		35,993
Public Works	126,004	138,129		264,133
Health	30			30
Other	68			68
Capital Outlay	95,312			95,312
	<u>296,033</u>	<u>174,122</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>470,155</u>
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	<u>(147,657)</u>	<u>(33,026)</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>(180,678)</u>
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>335,098</u>	<u>81,125</u>	<u>1,981</u>	<u>418,204</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$187,441</u>	<u>\$48,099</u>	<u>\$1,986</u>	<u>\$237,526</u>

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

**PLEASANT TOWNSHIP
BROWN COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007**

	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Permanent</u>	<u>Totals (Memorandum Only)</u>
Cash Receipts:				
Property and Local Taxes	\$46,013	\$34,111		\$80,124
Intergovernmental	159,878	113,131		273,009
Fines, Licenses and Permits	45,552			45,552
Earnings on Investments	1,463	427	\$5	1,895
Miscellaneous	6,465	6,442		12,907
	<u>259,371</u>	<u>154,111</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>413,487</u>
Cash Disbursements:				
Current:				
General Government	70,521			70,521
Public Safety		34,910		34,910
Public Works	63,529	89,003		152,532
Health	1,840			1,840
Other	358			358
Capital Outlay	1,000			1,000
	<u>137,248</u>	<u>123,913</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>261,161</u>
Total Receipts Over Disbursements	<u>122,123</u>	<u>30,198</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>152,326</u>
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>212,975</u>	<u>50,927</u>	<u>1,976</u>	<u>265,878</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u><u>\$335,098</u></u>	<u><u>\$81,125</u></u>	<u><u>\$1,981</u></u>	<u><u>\$418,204</u></u>

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

**PLEASANT TOWNSHIP
BROWN COUNTY**

**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 Pleasant Township, Brown County, Ohio (the Township), as a body corporate and politic. A publicly-elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides general governmental services road maintenance, fire and ambulances services and cemetery maintenance. The Township contracts with the Village of Georgetown to provide fire protection services.

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. Cash and Deposits

The Township deposits all available funds in an interest earning checking account and savings accounts at local commercial banks.

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.

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:

**PLEASANT TOWNSHIP
BROWN COUNTY**

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

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund - This fund receives motor vehicle license tax money for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads.

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

Fire Levy Fund – This fund receives proceeds from the property tax levy for providing fire protection services to Township residents

3. Permanent Fund

These funds account for assets held under a trust agreement that are legally restricted to the extent that only earnings, not principal, are available for expenditure. The Township had the following permanent fund:

Cemetery Endowment Fund – This fund receives interest earned on the Gordon Trust and Ellis Trust for use in the general maintenance and upkeep of the cemetery.

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 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

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.

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

**PLEASANT TOWNSHIP
BROWN COUNTY**

**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 Cash

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

	2008	2007
Demand deposits	\$235,540	\$416,223
Savings Accounts	1,986	1,981
Total Deposits	\$237,526	\$418,204

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

3. Budgetary Activity

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

2008 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$74,401	\$148,376	\$73,975
Special Revenue	114,833	141,096	26,263
Permanent	0	5	5
Total	\$189,234	\$289,477	\$100,243

2008 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$409,525	\$296,033	\$113,492
Special Revenue	195,932	174,122	21,810
Permanent	0	0	0
Total	\$605,457	\$470,155	\$135,302

**PLEASANT TOWNSHIP
BROWN COUNTY**

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

3. Budgetary Activity (Continued)

2007 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$74,401	\$259,371	\$184,970
Special Revenue	114,833	154,111	39,278
Permanent	0	5	5
Total	\$189,234	\$413,487	\$224,253

2007 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$287,402	\$137,248	\$150,154
Special Revenue	168,234	123,913	44,321
Permanent	0	0	0
Total	\$455,636	\$261,161	\$194,475

4. Property Tax

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Board of 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.

The County is responsible for assessing property, and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on behalf of the Township.

5. Retirement Systems

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

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2008 and 2007, the OPERS member contributed 10% and 9.5%, respectively, of his gross salary and the Township contributed an amount equaling 14% and 13.85%, respectively, of the participant's gross salary. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2008.

**PLEASANT TOWNSHIP
BROWN COUNTY**

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

6. 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 townships pay annual contributions to fund OTARMA. OTARMA pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

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. Townships 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 on or after January 1, 2006) as noted above..

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. This amount increased to \$300,000 in 2007. For 2007, APEEP reinsures members for specific losses exceeding \$100,000 up to \$300,000 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 in 2006, or \$100,000 and \$300,000 in 2007, Travelers will reinsure specific losses exceeding \$100,000 up to their \$600 million per occurrence limit. The aggregate stop-loss limit for 2007 was \$2,014,548.

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

**PLEASANT TOWNSHIP
BROWN COUNTY**

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

6. Risk Management (Continued)

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

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, 2007 and 2006 (the latest information available).

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Assets	\$43,210,703	\$42,042,275
Liabilities	<u>(13,357,837)</u>	<u>(12,120,661)</u>
Net Assets	<u>\$29,852,866</u>	<u>\$29,921,614</u>

At December 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively, liabilities above include approximately \$12.5 million and \$11.3 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets and retained earnings above also include approximately \$11.6 million and \$10.8 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 950 member townships in the future, as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. The Township's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$3,506. This payable includes the subsequent year' 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 detailed below. By contract, the annual liability of each member is limited to the amount of financial contributions required to be made to OTARMA for each year of membership.

<u>Township Contributions to OTARMA</u>	
2006	\$4,304
2007	3,956
2008	3,730

After completing one year of membership, members may withdraw on each anniversary of the date they joined OTARMA. They must provide 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 contributions, 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 was incurred or reported prior to the withdrawal.



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*

Pleasant Township
Brown County
4090 Drake Marshall Road
Georgetown, Ohio 45121

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of Pleasant Township, Brown County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2008 and 2007, and have issued our report thereon dated August 14, 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 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.

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 the 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. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider material weaknesses, as defined above.

We noted certain matters that we reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated August 14, 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 an instance of noncompliance that we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2008-01.

We did note certain noncompliance or other matters that we reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated August 14, 2009.

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



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

August 14, 2009

**PLEASANT TOWNSHIP
BROWN COUNTY**

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

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS
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FINDING NUMBER 2007-001

Noncompliance Citation

Ohio Rev. Code, Section 5705.41(D)(1), prohibits a subdivision or taxing unit from making any contract or giving any order involving the expenditure of money unless there is attached thereto a certificate of the fiscal officer of the subdivision that the amount required to meet the obligation has been lawfully appropriated for such purpose and is in the treasury or in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrances. This certificate need be signed only by the subdivision's fiscal officer. Every contract made without such a certificate shall be void, and no warrant shall be issued in payment of any amount due thereon.

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" 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 resolution.

Amounts of less than \$3,000 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. 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 expenses. 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.

Contrary to the above requirement, prior certification for expenditures was not obtained during 2007 or 2008. The Fiscal Officer signed the certification preprinted on the voucher at the time of payment. Failure to certify the availability of funds and encumber appropriations could result in overspending and negative cash balances.

**FINDING NUMBER 2007-001
(Continued)**

Unless the Township uses the exceptions noted above, prior certification is not only required by statute but also is a key control in the disbursement process to assure that purchase commitments received 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 funds are or will be available prior to obligation by the Township. When prior certification is not possible "then and now" certification should be used, however, "then and now" certifications should only be used in limited circumstances when prior certificate is not possible, and should not be used to avoid prior certification.

We recommend the Township personnel obtain the Fiscal Officer's certification of the availability of funds prior to incurring the commitment. 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.

**PLEASANT TOWNSHIP
BROWN COUNTY**

**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>
2006-001	Section 5705.41(D) prior certification not obtained for purchases	No	Not corrected Reissued as 2008-001



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

PLEASANT TOWNSHIP

BROWN 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
SEPTEMBER 3, 2009**