

**JACKSON TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND COUNTY**

AUDIT REPORT

JANUARY 1, 2016 - DECEMBER 31, 2017

**Wilson, Phillips & Agin, CPA's, Inc.
1100 Brandywine Blvd. Building G
Zanesville, Ohio 43701**



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

Board of Trustees
Jackson Township
464 Township Road 700
Polk, Ohio 44866

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Jackson Township, Ashland County, prepared by Wilson, Phillips & Agin, CPA's, Inc., for the audit period January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2017. 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.

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. The Jackson Township is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Yost".

Dave Yost
Auditor of State

April 27, 2018

This page intentionally left blank.

**JACKSON TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND COUNTY
JANUARY 1, 2016 - DECEMBER 31, 2017**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Table of Contents	(i)
Independent Auditors' Report	1-2
Financial Statements	
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Cash Balances - All Governmental Fund Types For the Year Ended December 31, 2017	3
2017 Notes to the Financial Statements	4
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Cash Balances - All Governmental Fund Types For the Year Ended December 31, 2016	10
2016 Notes to the Financial Statements	11
Independent Auditors' Report on Compliance and on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting Based on an Audit of Financial Statement Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards.	17
Schedule of Findings	19
Schedule of Prior Audit Findings	22

This page intentionally left blank.

**WILSON, PHILLIPS & AGIN, CPA'S, INC.
1100 BRANDYWINE BLVD. BUILDING G
ZANESVILLE, OHIO 43701**

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Jackson Township
Ashland County
464 Township Road 700
Polk, Ohio 44866

To the Township Trustees:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the cash balances, receipts and disbursements by fund type and related notes of Jackson Township, Ashland County, as of and for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016.

Management's Responsibility For the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for preparing and fairly presenting these financial statements in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit; this responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to preparing and fairly presenting financial statements free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to opine on these financial statements based on our audit. We audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the financial audit standards in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require us to plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit requires obtaining evidence about financial statement amounts and disclosures. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including assessing the risks of material financial statement misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In assessing those risks, we consider internal control relevant to the Township's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not to the extent needed to opine on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control. Accordingly, we express no opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of management's accounting policies and the reasonableness of their significant accounting estimates, as well as our evaluation of the overall financial statement presentation.

We believe the audit evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to support our audit opinion.

Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

As described in Note 2 of the financial statements, the Township prepared these financial statements using the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D), which is an accounting basis other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (GAAP), to satisfy these requirements.

Although the effects on the financial statements of the variances between the regulatory accounting basis and GAAP are not reasonable determinable, we presume they are material.

Though the Township does not intend these statements to conform to GAAP, auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America require us to include an adverse opinion on GAAP. However, the adverse opinion does not imply the amounts reported are materially misstated under the accounting basis Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit. Our opinion on this accounting basis permitted is in the *Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting* paragraph below.

Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the *Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles* paragraph, the financial statements referred to above do not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of Jackson Township, Ashland County as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, or changes in financial position thereof for the years then ended.

Basis for Adverse Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting for the year ended December 31, 2016

Prior audits had provided for audit adjustments to be made in the amount \$54,649 to increase the General Fund balance and in the amount of \$42,073 to decrease the Special Revenue Fund balance. These were not posted until January 1, 2017, therefore the cash balances at December 31, 2016 were misstated.

Adverse Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting for the year ended December 31, 2016.

In our opinion, based on the effects of the matter described in the basis for Adverse Opinion on Regulatory Basis for the year ended December 31, 2016 paragraph, the financial statements referred to above do not present fairly, in all material respects, the combined cash balances of Jackson Township, Ashland County as of December 31, 2016, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit, described in Note 2.

Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting for the year ended December 31, 2017

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined cash balances of Jackson Township, Ashland County as of December 31, 2017, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit, described in Note 2.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued a report dated February 12, 2018, on our consideration of Jackson 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. That report describes the scope of our internal control testing over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and does not opine on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Township's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Wilson, Phillips & Agin, CPA's, Inc.
Zanesville, Ohio
February 12, 2018

**JACKSON TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		Totals (Memorandum Only)
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	
Cash Receipts:			
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 37,256	\$ 53,050	\$ 90,306
Licenses, Permits and Fees	5,522	2,700	8,222
Intergovernmental	50,141	106,190	156,331
Miscellaneous	17,514	156	17,670
Total Cash Receipts	<u>110,433</u>	<u>162,096</u>	<u>272,529</u>
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	106,780	50,457	157,237
Public Works	25,097	75,755	100,852
Health	-	105	105
Total Cash Disbursements	<u>131,877</u>	<u>126,317</u>	<u>258,194</u>
Net Change in Fund cash Balance	(21,444)	35,779	14,335
Fund Cash Balances, January 1, restated	<u>50,730</u>	<u>18,029</u>	<u>68,759</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31			
Restricted	-	53,808	53,808
Unassigned (Deficit)	29,286	-	29,286
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$ 29,286</u>	<u>\$ 53,808</u>	<u>\$ 83,094</u>

See notes to financial statements.

**JACKSON TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2017**

1. REPORTING ENTITY

Description of the Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of Jackson Township, Ashland County, (the Township) as a body corporate and politic. A publically-elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides general government services, road and bridge maintenance and cemetery maintenance.

The Township participates in the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA) public entity risk pool. Note 6 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.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Basis of Presentation

The Township's financial statements consist of a combined statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balances (regulatory cash basis) for all governmental fund types and a combined statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balances (regulatory cash basis) for all proprietary and fiduciary fund types which are organized on a fund type basis.

B. Fund Accounting

The Township uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. The funds of the Township are presented below:

General Fund

The General Fund accounts for and reports all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund. The general fund balance is available to the Township for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

Special Revenue Funds

These funds account for and report the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditure for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects. The Township had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

Road & Bridge Fund – This fund receives property tax monies to pay for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads.

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

**JACKSON TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2017**

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

C. Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code 117-2-03(D). 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 financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code 117-2-03(D) permit.

D. Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund be budgeted annually.

Appropriations

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function and object level of control and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Trustees must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end.

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 approve estimated resources.

Encumbrances

The Ohio Revised Code requires the Township to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are canceled, and re-appropriated in the subsequent year.

A summary of 2017 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

E. Deposits and Investments

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

F. Capital Assets

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

**JACKSON TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2017**

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

G. Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. The financial statements do not include a liability for unpaid leave.

H. Fund Balance

Fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the Township must observe constraints imposed upon the use of its governmental-fund resources. The classifications are as follows:

Nonspendable

The Township classifies assets as *nonspendable* when legally or contractually required to maintain the amounts intact.

Restricted

Fund balance is *restricted* when constraints placed on the use of resources are either externally imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or is imposed by law through constitutional provisions.

Committed

Trustees can *commit* amounts via formal action (resolution). The Township must adhere to these commitments unless the Trustees amend the resolution. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed to satisfy contractual requirements.

Assigned

Assigned fund balances are intended for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as *restricted* or *committed*. Governmental funds other than the general fund report all fund balances as *assigned* unless they are restricted or committed. In the general fund, *assigned* amounts represent intended uses established by Township Trustees or a Township official delegated that authority by resolution, or by State Statute.

Unassigned

Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund and includes amounts not included in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is used only to report a deficit balance.

The Township applies restricted resources first when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which either restricted or unrestricted (committed, assigned, and unassigned) amounts are available. Similarly, within unrestricted fund balance, committed amounts are reduced, first followed by assigned, and then unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

**JACKSON TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2017**

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the year ended December 31, 2017 is as follows:

2017 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 110,537	\$ 110,433	\$ (104)
Special Revenue	156,609	162,096	5,487
Total	\$ 267,146	\$ 272,529	\$ 5,383

2017 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 151,243	\$ 131,877	\$ 19,366
Special Revenue	159,800	126,317	33,483
Total	\$ 311,043	\$ 258,194	\$ 52,849

Contrary to ORC 5705.41(D), the Township made expenditures prior to certification.

4. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH

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

	2017
Demand Deposits	\$ 83,094
Total	\$ 83,094

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

5. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which rates are adopted by Township Trustees. 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.

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

**JACKSON TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2017**

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 Workers' 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. York Risk Pooling Services, Inc. (formally known as American Risk Pooling Consultants, Inc.) functions as the administrator of the Pool and provides underwriting claims, loss control, risk management, and reinsurance services for the Pool. Member governments pay annual contributions to fund OTARMA. OTARMA pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

Casualty and Property Coverage

The Pool is a member of American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP), which is also administered by York. APEEP provides the Pool with an excess risk-sharing program. Under this arrangement, OTARMA retains insured risks up to an amount specified in the contracts. At December 31, 2016, OTARMA retained \$350,000 for casualty claims and \$250,000 for property claims.

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

Financial Position

OTARMA's financial statements (audited by other accountants) conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and retained earnings at December 31, 2016 (the latest information available):

	<u>2016</u>
Assets	\$38,473,283
Liabilities	<u>(8,244,140)</u>
Retained Earnings	<u>\$30,229,143</u>

At December 31, 2016 the liabilities above include approximately \$7.4 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets above also include approximately \$6.9 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 1,010 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2016. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. As of December 31, 2016, the Township's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$2,157.

Based on discussion 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.

Contributions to OTARMA

2017	\$4,794
2016	5,056
2015	4,641

**JACKSON TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2017**

6. RISK MANAGEMENT(Continued)

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

7. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

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

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2017, OPERS members contributed 10.0% of their gross wages and the Township contributed an amount equal to 14.0% of participant's gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2017.

8. POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

OPERS offers cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plans, which include multiple health care plans including medical coverage, prescription drug coverage, deposits to a Health Reimbursement Arrangement and Medicare Part B premium reimbursements, to qualifying benefit recipients. OPERS contributes 2 percent of the employer contribution to fund these benefits.

9. PUBLIC ENTITY RISK POOL

The Township belongs to the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio local governments. 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 exceeding the member's deductible.

10. RESTATEMENT OF FUND BALANCE

Fund balances in the General and Special Revenue Funds have been restated for the year ended December 31, 2016 for prior audit adjustments and internal adjustments from 2016 activity found by new fiscal officer:

	General	Special Revenue	Total
Fund Balance at December 31, 2016	\$ (3,919)	\$ 60,102	\$ 56,183
Adjustments	54,649	(42,073)	12,576
Fund Balance at January 1, 2017	<u>\$ 50,730</u>	<u>\$ 18,029</u>	<u>\$ 68,759</u>

**JACKSON TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		Totals (Memorandum Only)
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	
Cash Receipts:			
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 36,917	\$ 52,706	\$ 89,623
Licenses, Permits and Fees	3,409	3,670	7,079
Intergovernmental	36,614	104,877	141,491
Miscellaneous	30,381	-	30,381
Total Cash Receipts	<u>107,321</u>	<u>161,253</u>	<u>268,574</u>
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	88,351	61,136	149,487
Public Works	27,430	87,257	114,687
Health	-	2,674	2,674
Conservation-Recreation	-	619	619
Capital Outlay	15,997	-	15,997
Total Cash Disbursements	<u>131,778</u>	<u>151,686</u>	<u>283,464</u>
Net Change in Fund cash Balance	(24,457)	9,567	(14,890)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>20,538</u>	<u>50,535</u>	<u>71,073</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31			
Restricted	-	60,102	60,102
Unassigned (Deficit)	(3,919)	-	(3,919)
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$ (3,919)</u>	<u>\$ 60,102</u>	<u>\$ 56,183</u>

See notes to financial statements.

**JACKSON TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2016**

1. REPORTING ENTITY

Description of the Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of Jackson Township, Ashland County, (the Township) as a body corporate and politic. A publically-elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides general government services, road and bridge maintenance and cemetery maintenance.

The Township participates in the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA) public entity risk pool. Note 6 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.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Basis of Presentation

The Township's financial statements consist of a combined statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balances (regulatory cash basis) for all governmental fund types and a combined statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balances (regulatory cash basis) for all proprietary and fiduciary fund types which are organized on a fund type basis.

B. Fund Accounting

The Township uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. The funds of the Township are presented below:

General Fund

The General Fund accounts for and reports all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund. The general fund balance is available to the Township for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

Special Revenue Funds

These funds account for and report the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditure for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects. The Township had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

Road & Bridge Fund – This fund receives property tax monies to pay for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads.

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

**JACKSON TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2016**

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

C. Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code 117-2-03(D). 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 financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code 117-2-03(D) permit.

D. Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund be budgeted annually.

Appropriations

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function and object level of control and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Trustees must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end.

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 approve estimated resources.

Encumbrances

The Ohio Revised Code requires the Township to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are canceled, and re-appropriated in the subsequent year.

A summary of 2016 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

E. Deposits and Investments

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

F. Capital Assets

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

**JACKSON TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2016**

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

G. Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. The financial statements do not include a liability for unpaid leave.

H. Fund Balance

Fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the Township must observe constraints imposed upon the use of its governmental-fund resources. The classifications are as follows:

Nonspendable

The Township classifies assets as *nonspendable* when legally or contractually required to maintain the amounts intact.

Restricted

Fund balance is *restricted* when constraints placed on the use of resources are either externally imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or is imposed by law through constitutional provisions.

Committed

Trustees can *commit* amounts via formal action (resolution). The Township must adhere to these commitments unless the Trustees amend the resolution. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed to satisfy contractual requirements.

Assigned

Assigned fund balances are intended for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as *restricted* or *committed*. Governmental funds other than the general fund report all fund balances as *assigned* unless they are restricted or committed. In the general fund, *assigned* amounts represent intended uses established by Township Trustees or a Township official delegated that authority by resolution, or by State Statute.

Unassigned

Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund and includes amounts not included in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is used only to report a deficit balance.

The Township applies restricted resources first when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which either restricted or unrestricted (committed, assigned, and unassigned) amounts are available. Similarly, within unrestricted fund balance, committed amounts are reduced, first followed by assigned, and then unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

**JACKSON TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2016**

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the year ended December 31, 2016 is as follows:

2016 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 198,871	\$ 107,321	\$ (91,550)
Special Revenue	161,525	161,253	(272)
Total	\$ 360,396	\$ 268,574	\$ (91,822)

2016 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 145,835	\$ 131,778	\$ 14,057
Special Revenue	163,800	151,686	12,114
Total	\$ 309,635	\$ 283,464	\$ 26,171

Contrary to ORC 5705.41(D), the Township made expenditures prior to certification.

4. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH

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

	2016
Demand Deposits	\$ 56,183
Total	\$ 56,183

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

5. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which rates are adopted by Township Trustees. 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.

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

**JACKSON TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2016**

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 Workers' 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. York Risk Pooling Services, Inc. (formally known as American Risk Pooling Consultants, Inc.) functions as the administrator of the Pool and provides underwriting claims, loss control, risk management, and reinsurance services for the Pool. Member governments pay annual contributions to fund OTARMA. OTARMA pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

Casualty and Property Coverage

The Pool is a member of American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP), which is also administered by York. APEEP provides the Pool with an excess risk-sharing program. Under this arrangement, OTARMA retains insured risks up to an amount specified in the contracts. At December 31, 2016, OTARMA retained \$350,000 for casualty claims and \$250,000 for property claims.

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

Financial Position

OTARMA's financial statements (audited by other accountants) conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and retained earnings at December 31, 2016 (the latest information available):

	<u>2016</u>
Assets	\$38,473,283
Liabilities	<u>(8,244,140)</u>
Retained Earnings	<u>\$30,229,143</u>

At December 31, 2016 the liabilities above include approximately \$7.4 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets above also include approximately \$6.9 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 1,010 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2016. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. As of December 31, 2016, the Township's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$2,275.

Based on discussion 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.

Contributions to OTARMA

2016	\$5,056
2015	4,641
2014	4,693

**JACKSON TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2016**

6. RISK MANAGEMENT(Continued)

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

7. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

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

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2016, OPERS members contributed 10.0% of their gross wages and the Township contributed an amount equal to 14.0% of participant's gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2016.

8. POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

OPERS offers cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plans, which include multiple health care plans including medical coverage, prescription drug coverage, deposits to a Health Reimbursement Arrangement and Medicare Part B premium reimbursements, to qualifying benefit recipients. OPERS contributes 2 percent of the employer contribution to fund these benefits.

9. PUBLIC ENTITY RISK POOL

The Township belongs to the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio local governments. 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 exceeding the member's deductible.

**WILSON, PHILLIPS & AGIN, CPA'S, INC.
1100 BRANDYWINE BLVD. BUILDING G
ZANESVILLE, OHIO 43701**

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

Jackson Township
Ashland County
464 Township Road 700
Polk, Ohio 44866

To the Township Trustees:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards general accepted in the United States and the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*, the financial statements of Jackson Township, Ashland County as of and for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated February 12, 2018, which was adverse for the year ended December 31, 2016, as prior audit adjustments had not been made and was unmodified for the year ended December 31, 2017 as beginning balances were restated. We also noted the Township followed financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

As part of our financial statement audit, we considered Jackson Township's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures appropriate in the circumstances to the extent necessary to support our opinions on the financial statements, but not to the extent necessary to opine on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control. Accordingly, we have not opined on it.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Therefore, unidentified material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist. However, as described in the accompanying schedule of findings we identified a certain deficiency in internal control over financial reporting, that we consider a material weakness.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, when performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and timely correct misstatements. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of internal control deficiencies resulting in a reasonable possibility that internal control will not prevent or detect and timely correct a material misstatement of the Township's financial statements. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance. We consider Findings 2017-002 and 2017-003 described in the accompanying schedule of findings to be material weaknesses.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Jackson 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, opining on compliance was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed two instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which is described in the accompanying schedule of finding 2017-001.

Purpose of this Report

This report only describes the scope of our internal control and compliance testing and our testing results, and does not opine on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed under *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Township's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Wilson, Phillips & Agin, CPA's, Inc.
Zanesville, Ohio
February 12, 2018

**JACKSON TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

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

FINDING NUMBER 2017-001

Noncompliance – Certification of Funds

Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41(D) prohibits a subdivision or taxing authority from making any contract or ordering any expenditure of money unless a certificate signed by the fiscal officer is attached thereto. The fiscal officer must certify that the amount required to meet any such contract or expenditure has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury, or is in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrance.

There are several exceptions to the standard requirement stated above that a fiscal officer’s certificate must be obtained prior to a subdivision or taxing authority entering into a contract or order involving the expenditure of money. The 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.

- 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 30 days from the receipt of the “then and now” certificate to approve payment by ordinance or resolution. Amounts 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 the expenditures by the Village.
- Blanket Certificates. Fiscal officers may prepare “blanket” certificates if the Township has approved their use and established maximum amounts.
- Super Blanket Certificates. 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 reasonable 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.

**JACKSON TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

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

FINDING NUMBER 2017-001 (Continued)

The Township did not certify the availability of funds prior to the purchase commitment for 64% of expenditures tested. For these item the Township also did not prepare blanket certificates, super blankets certificates or then and now certificates in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code. Failure to properly certify the availability of funds can result in overspending funds and negative cash fund balances.

We recommend the Township certify purchases to which Section 5705.41(D) applies. 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 code, to reduce available appropriations.

Client Response: We have no response from the client.

FINDING NUMBER 2017-002

Material Weakness – Financial Reporting

All local offices should maintain an accounting system and accounting records sufficient to enable the public office to identify, assemble, analyze, classify, record and report its transactions, maintain accountability for the related assets, document compliance with finance-related legal and contractual requirements and prepare financial statements.

The Township Officer's Handbook (Revised 2017) provides suggested accounts classifications. These accounts classify receipts by fund and source (Taxes or charges for services, for example) and classify disbursements by fund, program (general government, for example) or object (personal services, for example). Using these classifications and the aforementioned accounting records will provide the Township with information required to monitor compliance with the budget, and prepare annual reports in the format required by the Auditor of State.

The Township did not properly post and classify all receipts and expenditures. Errors were made in recording various transactions. Amounts were not always posted to the correct fund and/or line item. The following adjustments and reclassifications were made.

Adjustments:

- In 2016, an adjustment was made from the General Fund to the Road and Bridge Fund in the amount of \$8,702, for rollbacks being posted in its entirety to the General Fund and should have been allocated to the Road and Bridge Fund.
- In 2017, an adjustment was made from the General Fund to the Road and Bridge Fund in the amount of \$8,714, for rollbacks being posted in its entirety to the General Fund and should have been allocated to the Road and Bridge Fund.

**JACKSON TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

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

FINDING NUMBER 2017-002 (Continued)

Reclassifications:

- In 2016, a reclassification from Property and Other Local taxes to Intergovernmental Receipts in the amount of \$9,308 in the MVL Tax Fund.
- In 2016, a reclassification from Property and Other Local taxes to Intergovernmental Receipts in the amount of \$7,057 in the General Fund.
- In 2016, there was a reclassification of \$17,594 from General Government to Public Works in the amount of \$1,597 and to Capital Outlay in the amount of 15,997 in the General Fund.
- In 2017, a reclassification from Property and Other Local taxes to Intergovernmental Receipts in the amount of \$8,939 in the MVL Tax Fund.
- In 2017, a reclassification from Property and Other Local taxes to Intergovernmental Receipts in the amount of \$7,067 in the General Fund.
- In 2017, a reclassification from Miscellaneous Receipts to Intergovernmental Receipts in the amount of \$21,037 in the General Fund for a grant incorrectly posted.
- In 2017, a reclassification from General Government to Public Works in the amount of \$20,000.

The adjustments with which the Township Official's agree are reflected in the accompanying financial statements and posted to the accounting records.

We recommend the Township utilize available authoritative resources to appropriately classify and record all receipt and expenditure transactions.

Client Response: We received no response from the client.

FINDING NUMBER 2017-003

Material Weakness – Bank Reconciliations

Ohio Admin. Code Section 117-2-02 (A) states that all local public offices shall maintain an accounting system and accounting records sufficient to enable the public office to identify, assemble, analyze, classify, record and report its transaction, maintain accountability for the related assets (and liabilities, if generally accepted accounting principles apply), document compliance with finance-related legal and contractual requirements and prepare financial statements.

Accurate monthly reconciliations of the ending bank account balance to the Township's ending book balance was not performed during the audit period until the December 31, 2017 monthly bank reconciliation. Information was not detailed to enable a proper reconciliation to be performed. The lack of reconciliations could result in undetected and/or uncorrected errors. This was done as of and for the December 2017 reconciliation but not for the other months. We recommend that proper monthly reconciliations are done timely and reviewed by management.

Client Response: We received no response from the client.

**JACKSON TOWNSHIP
ASHLAND COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; Explain:
2015-001	Internal Control Financial Reporting	No	Not Corrected: Cited in current report as finding 2017-002
2015-002	Noncompliance Credit Card Policy Supporting documentation	Yes	Finding No Longer Valid
2015-003	Noncompliance Fraud Reporting system	Yes	Finding No Longer Valid
2015-004	Noncompliance and Internal Control Accounting records and monthly bank recociliations	No	Not Corrected: Cited in current report as finding 2017-003
2015-005	Noncompliance Income Tax Withholdings	Yes	Finding No Longer Valid
2015-006	Noncompliance Retirement Withholdings	Yes	Finding No Longer Valid
2015-007	Noncompliance ORC 5705.38 (A) and 5705.41(B)	Yes	Finding No Longer Valid
2015-008	Noncompliance Public Records Policy	Yes	Finding No Longer Valid
2015-009	Noncompliance Investment Training	Yes	Finding No Longer Valid
2015-010	Noncompliance ORC 5705.39 appropriations exceeding estimated resources	Yes	Finding No Longer Valid
2015-011	Noncompliance ORC 5705.10(D) revenue posting	No	Not Corrected: Cited in current report as finding 2017-002



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

JACKSON TOWNSHIP

ASHLAND COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

This is a true and correct copy of the report which is required to be filed in the Office of the Auditor of State pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in Columbus, Ohio.

Susan Babbitt

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

CERTIFIED
MAY 10, 2018