



**Auditor of State  
Betty Montgomery**



**BASCOM JOINT AMBULANCE DISTRICT  
SENECA COUNTY**

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**Auditor of State  
Betty Montgomery**

Bascom Joint Ambulance District  
Seneca County  
5960 West Tiffin Street  
P.O. Box 119  
Bascom, Ohio 44809-0119

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 a February 2, 2005 interpretation from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). While AOS does not legally require your government to prepare financial statements pursuant to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), the AICPA interpretation requires auditors to formally acknowledge that you did not prepare your financial statements in accordance with GAAP. Our Report includes an opinion relating to GAAP presentation and measurement requirements, but does not imply the amounts the statements present are misstated under the non-GAAP basis you follow. The AOS report also includes an opinion on the financial statements you prepared using the cash basis and financial statement format the AOS permits.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Betty Montgomery".

**Betty Montgomery**  
Auditor of State

May 27, 2005

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**Auditor of State  
Betty Montgomery**

**INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT**

Bascom Joint Ambulance District  
Seneca County  
5960 West Tiffin Street  
P.O. Box 119  
Bascom, Ohio 44809-0119

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Bascom Joint Ambulance District, Seneca County, (the District) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003. These financial statements are the responsibility of the District'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 District has prepared these financial statements using accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. These practices differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Although we cannot reasonably determine the effects on the financial statements of the variances between these regulatory accounting practices and GAAP, we presume they are material.

Revisions to GAAP would require the District to reformat its financial statement presentation and make other changes effective for the year ended December 31, 2004. Instead of the combined funds the accompanying financial statements present for 2004 (and 2003), the revisions require presenting entity wide statements and also to present its larger (i.e. major) funds separately for 2004. While the District does not follow GAAP, generally accepted auditing standards requires us to include the following paragraph if the statements do not substantially conform to the new GAAP presentation requirements. The Auditor of State permits, but does not require governments to reformat their statements. The District has elected not to reformat its statements. Since this District does not use GAAP to measure financial statement amounts, the following paragraph does not imply the amounts reported are materially misstated under the accounting basis the Auditor of State permits. Our opinion on the fair presentation of the amounts reported pursuant to its non-GAAP basis is in the second following paragraph.

In our opinion, because of the effects of the matter discussed in the preceding two paragraphs, the financial statements referred to above for the year ended December 31, 2004 do not present fairly, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the District as of December 31, 2004, or their changes in financial position for the year then ended.

Also, in our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the fund cash balances of Bascom Joint Ambulance District, Seneca County, as of December 31, 2004 and 2003, and its cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the accounting basis Note 1 describes.

The aforementioned revision to generally accepted accounting principles also requires the District to include Management's Discussion and Analysis for the year ended December 31, 2004. The District has not presented Management's Discussion and Analysis, which accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America has determined is necessary to supplement, although not required to be part of, the financial statements.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated May 27, 2005, on our consideration of the District'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.



**Betty Montgomery**  
Auditor of State

May 27, 2005



**BASCOM JOINT AMBULANCE DISTRICT  
SENECA COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND  
CHANGES IN CASH BALANCE  
GENERAL FUND  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004**

	<u>General</u>
<b>Cash Receipts:</b>	
Local Taxes	\$ 100,949
Intergovernmental	11,533
Earnings on Investments	571
Miscellaneous	<u>1,241</u>
Total Cash Receipts	<u>114,294</u>
<b>Cash Disbursements:</b>	
General Government	<u>88,054</u>
Total Disbursements	<u>88,054</u>
Total Receipts Over Disbursements	26,240
Cash Balance, January 1	<u>102,257</u>
<b>Cash Balance, December 31</b>	<b><u><u>\$ 128,497</u></u></b>

THE NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS STATEMENT.

**BASCOM JOINT AMBULANCE DISTRICT  
SENECA COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND  
CHANGES IN CASH BALANCE  
GENERAL FUND  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003**

	<u>General</u>
<b>Cash Receipts:</b>	
Local Taxes	\$ 96,959
Intergovernmental	10,754
Charges for Services	5,500
Earnings on Investments	491
Miscellaneous	<u>12,345</u>
Total Cash Receipts	<u>126,049</u>
<b>Cash Disbursements:</b>	
General Government	<u>104,561</u>
Total Disbursements	<u>104,561</u>
Total Receipts Over Disbursements	21,488
Cash Balance, January 1	<u>80,769</u>
<b>Cash Balance, December 31</b>	<b><u><u>\$ 102,257</u></u></b>

THE NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS STATEMENT.

**BASCOM JOINT AMBULANCE DISTRICT  
SENECA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2003**

**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**A. Description of the Entity**

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of the Bascom Joint Ambulance District, Seneca County, (the District) as a body corporate and politic. The District is directed by an appointed three-member Board of Trustees. One board member is appointed by each political subdivision within the District and one representative selected by the Board of Trustees in a joint session of the Townships. These subdivisions are Hopewell and Loudon Township. The District provides ambulance rescue service within the District.

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

**B. Basis of Accounting**

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

**C. Fund Accounting**

The District uses fund accounting to segregate cash that is restricted as to use. The General Fund is the general operating fund and is used to account for all financial resources of the District.

**D. Budgetary Process**

The Ohio Revised Code requires the District to budget each fund annually.

**1. 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 Board of Trustees must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. The County Budget Commission must also approve the annual appropriation measure. Appropriations lapse at year end.

**2. Estimated Resources**

Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus cash as of January 1. The County Budget Commission must also approve estimated resources.

**BASCOM JOINT AMBULANCE DISTRICT  
SENECA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2003  
(Continued)**

**3. Encumbrances**

The Ohio Revised Code requires the District to reserve (encumber) appropriations when commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are canceled, and reappropriated in the subsequent year.

A summary of 2004 and 2003 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

**F. Property, Plant, and Equipment**

The District 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 District maintains a cash pool used by all funds. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits. The carrying amount of cash at December 31 follows:

	2004	2003
Demand deposits	\$ 128,497	\$ 102,257

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, 2004 and 2003 follows:

2004 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 115,000	\$ 114,294	\$ (706)

2004 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 144,650	\$ 88,054	\$ 56,596

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 113,000	\$ 126,049	\$ 13,049

**BASCOM JOINT AMBULANCE DISTRICT  
SENECA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2003  
(Continued)**

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 144,150	\$ 104,561	\$ 39,589

**4. PROPERTY TAX**

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Board of Trustees adopts rates. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. The State then pays the District amounts equaling the homestead and rollback deductions. 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 District.

Tangible personal property tax owners assess that property. The property owners must file a tangible property list 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 District.

**5. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS**

The District's full-time 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' retirement benefits, including postretirement healthcare and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2004 and 2003, OPERS members contributed 8.5 percent of their wages. The District contributed an amount equal to 13.55 percent of participants' gross salaries. The District has paid all contribution required through December 31, 2004.

**6. RISK MANAGEMENT**

**Risk Pool Membership**

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

Casualty Coverage

PEP retains casualty risks up to \$250,000 per claim, including loss adjustment expenses. PEP pays a percentage of its contributions to APEEP. APEEP reinsures claims exceeding \$250,000, up

**BASCOM JOINT AMBULANCE DISTRICT  
SENECA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2003  
(Continued)**

to \$1,750,000 per claim and \$5,000,000 in the aggregate per year. Governments can elect additional coverage, from \$2,000,000 to \$10,000,000 from the General Reinsurance Corporation.

If losses exhaust PEP's retained earnings, APEEP covers PEP losses up to \$5,000,000 per year, subject to a per-claim limit of \$2,000,000.

Property Coverage

PEP retains property risks, including automobile physical damage, up to \$100,000 on any specific loss with an annual aggregate of \$1,250,000 for 2002. There is no aggregate for 2003 and future accident years. Beginning in 2003, PEP retains property risks, including automobile physical damage, up to \$100,000 on any specific loss in any one occurrence. The Travelers Indemnity Company reinsures losses exceeding \$100,000. APEEP's Guarantee Fund pays losses and loss adjustment expenses exceeding operating contributions.

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

Financial Position

PEP's financial statements (audited by other accountants) conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and retained earnings at December 31, 2003 and 2002 (the latest information available):

<u>Casualty Coverage</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
Assets	\$ 25,288,098	\$ 20,174,977
Liabilities	(12,872,985)	(8,550,749)
Retained Earnings	<u>\$ 12,415,113</u>	<u>\$ 11,624,228</u>

<u>Property Coverage</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
Assets	\$ 3,158,813	\$ 2,565,408
Liabilities	(792,061)	(655,318)
Retained Earnings	<u>\$ 2,366,752</u>	<u>\$ 1,910,090</u>



**Auditor of State  
Betty Montgomery**

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

Bascom Joint Ambulance District  
Seneca County  
5960 West Tiffin Street  
P.O. Box 119  
Bascom, Ohio 44809-0119

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities of Bascom Joint Ambulance District, Seneca County, (the District) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated May 27, 2005, wherein we noted the District followed accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes 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 District's internal control over financial reporting to determine our auditing procedures to express our opinion on the financial statements and not to opine on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements caused by error or fraud in amounts material to the financial statements we audited may occur and not be timely detected by employees when performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider material weaknesses.

**Compliance and Other Matters**

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

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Bascom Joint Ambulance District  
Seneca County  
Independent Accountants' Report on Internal Control Over  
Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters  
Required by *Government Auditing Standards*  
Page 2

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

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

**Betty Montgomery**  
Auditor of State

May 27, 2005



**BASCOM JOINT AMBULANCE DISTRICT  
SENECA COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS  
DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2003**

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <b><i>Explain</i></b>
2002-001	Ohio Revised Code § 5705.41(D), failure to certify all funds.	Yes	





**Auditor of State  
Betty Montgomery**

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**BASCOM JOINT AMBULANCE DISTRICT**

**SENECA 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  
JUNE 30, 2005**