



**VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA
MARION COUNTY**

REGULAR AUDIT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2006



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA
MARION COUNTY

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Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

Village of Caledonia
Marion County
110 East Marion Street
Caledonia, Ohio 43314

To the Village Council:

As you are aware, the Auditor of State's Office (AOS) must modify the *Independent Accountants' Report* we provide on your financial statements due an interpretation from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). While AOS does not legally require your Village 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.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Taylor".

Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

April 9, 2007

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Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Village of Caledonia
Marion County
110 East Marion Street
Caledonia, Ohio 43314

To the Village Council:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Village of Caledonia, Marion County, Ohio, (the Village) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2006. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Village's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. The Village processes its financial transactions with the Auditor of State's Uniform Accounting Network (UAN). *Government Auditing Standards* considers this service to impair the independence of the Auditor of State to audit the Village because the Auditor of State designed, developed, implemented, and as requested, operates UAN. However, *Government Auditing Standards* permits the Auditor of State to audit and opine on this entity, because Ohio Revised Code § 117.101 requires the Auditor of State to provide UAN services, and Ohio Revised Code §§ 117.11(B) and 115.56 mandate the Auditor of State to audit Ohio governments. We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described more fully in Note 1, the Village has prepared these financial statements using accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. These practices differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Although we cannot reasonably determine the effects on the financial statements of the variances between these regulatory accounting practices and GAAP, we presume they are material.

Instead of the combined funds the accompanying financial statements present, GAAP requires presenting entity wide statements and also presenting the Village's larger (i.e. major) funds separately. While the Village 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 Village's to reformat their statements. The Village 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 year ended December 31, 2006, do not present fairly, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Village as of December 31, 2006, or its changes in financial position or cash flows, where applicable, for the year 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 Village of Caledonia, Marion County, Ohio, as of December 31, 2006, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the year then ended on the accounting basis Note 1 describes.

As described in Note 8, for the year ended December 31, 2006, the Village changed its financial presentation comparable to the requirements of Governmental Accounting Standard No.34, *Basic Financial Statements – and Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments* to the accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits.

The Village 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 April 9, 2007, on our consideration of the Village's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. While we did not opine on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance, that report describes the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. You should read it in conjunction with this report in assessing the results of our audit.



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

April 9, 2007

**VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA
MARION COUNTY**

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

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>			Totals (Memorandum Only)
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Capital Projects</u>	
Cash Receipts:				
Property Tax and Other Local Taxes	\$52,967	\$2,047	\$3,617	\$58,631
Intergovernmental Receipts	38,138	32,989	493	71,620
Fines, Licenses, and Permits	2,286	0	0	2,286
Earnings on Investments	512	265	0	777
Miscellaneous	5,424	0	0	5,424
	<u>99,327</u>	<u>35,301</u>	<u>4,110</u>	<u>138,738</u>
Cash Disbursements:				
Current:				
Security of Persons and Property	14,226	0	0	14,226
Leisure Time Activities	7,888	0	0	7,888
Community Environment	1,196	0	0	1,196
Transportation	2,188	27,710	0	29,898
General Government	55,080	0	0	55,080
	<u>80,578</u>	<u>27,710</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>108,288</u>
Total Cash Receipts Over Cash Disbursements	18,749	7,591	4,110	30,450
Fund Cash Balances, January 1, 2006	74,329	38,373	5,045	117,747
Fund Cash Balances, December 31, 2006	<u><u>\$93,078</u></u>	<u><u>\$45,964</u></u>	<u><u>\$9,155</u></u>	<u><u>\$148,197</u></u>

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

**VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA
MARION COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGE IN FUND CASH BALANCE - PROPRIETARY FUND TYPE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2006**

	Enterprise
Operating Cash Receipts:	
Charges for Services	\$134,819
Operating Cash Disbursements:	
Personal Services	2,761
Fringe Benefits	356
Contractual Services	65,730
Supplies and Materials	5,750
Capital Outlay	1,172
Total Operating Cash Disbursements	75,769
Operating Income	59,050
Non-Operating Cash Receipts:	
Special Assessments	49,770
Earnings on Investments	12,049
Total Non-Operating Cash Receipts	61,819
Non-Operating Cash Disbursements:	
Debt Service - Principal	47,830
Debt Service - Interest	53,098
Total Non-Operating Cash Disbursements	100,928
Excess of Receipts Over Disbursements	19,941
Fund Cash Balance, January 1, 2006	475,036
Fund Cash Balance, December 31, 2006	\$494,977

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

**VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA
MARION COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2006**

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 Village of Caledonia, Marion County, Ohio, (the Village) as a body corporate and politic. A publicly-elected six-member Council governs the Village. The Village provides general government services, sewer utilities, maintenance of Village roads and bridges, and park operations (leisure time activities). The Village contracts with the Marion County Sheriff's department to provide security of persons and property.

The Village's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Village 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 Village 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 Investments

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

Money market mutual funds (including STAR Ohio) are recorded at share values the mutual funds report.

D. Fund Accounting

The Village uses fund accounting to segregate cash and investments that are restricted as to use. The Village 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 for capital projects) that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Village had the following significant Special Revenue Fund:

VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA
MARION COUNTY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2006
(Continued)

1. **SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES** (Continued)

D. **Fund Accounting** (Continued)

2. **Special Revenue Funds** (Continued)

Street Construction, Maintenance, and Repair Fund - This fund receives gasoline tax and motor vehicle tax money for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Village streets.

3. **Capital Project Fund**

This fund accounts for receipts restricted to acquiring or constructing major capital projects (except those financed through enterprise funds). The Village had the following significant Capital Project Fund:

Other Capital Projects Fund - This fund receives proceeds of a permanent improvement tax levy which are used for maintenance of the Village hall.

4. **Enterprise Funds**

These funds account for operations that are similar to private business enterprises, where management intends to recover the significant costs of providing certain goods or services through user charges. The Village had the following significant Enterprise Funds:

Sewer Operating Fund - This fund receives charges for services from residents to cover sewer service costs.

Enterprise Debt Service Fund - This fund accumulates monies transferred from the Sewer Operating Fund to pay bond principal and interest amounts as they become due.

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 Village Council 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.

**VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA
MARION COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2006
(Continued)**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

E. Budgetary Process (Continued)

3. Encumbrances

The Ohio Revised Code requires the Village to reserve (encumber) appropriations when commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are canceled, and reappropriated in the subsequent year. The Village did not properly encumber all commitments required by Ohio law.

A summary of 2006 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

F. Property, Plant, and Equipment

The Village 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 AND INVESTMENTS

The Village maintains a cash and investments pool all funds use. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of cash and investments at December 31, 2006, was as follows:

Deposits	\$439,375
STAR Ohio	203,799
Total Deposits and Investments	\$643,174

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

Investments: Investments in STAR Ohio are not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book-entry form.

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2006, follows:

2006 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$166,399	\$99,327	(\$67,072)
Special Revenue	70,043	35,301	(34,742)
Capital Projects	9,330	4,110	(5,220)
Enterprise	728,258	196,638	(531,620)
Total	\$974,030	\$335,376	(\$638,654)

**VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA
MARION COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2006
(Continued)**

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY (Continued)

2006 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$163,120	\$80,578	\$82,542
Special Revenue	61,500	27,710	33,790
Capital Projects	6,000	0	6,000
Enterprise	339,628	176,697	162,931
Total	\$570,248	\$284,985	\$285,263

4. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Village Council adopts 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 State pays the Village amounts equaling these deductions. The Village includes these with Intergovernmental Receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to pay semiannually, the first half payment is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

Property owners assess tangible personal property tax. They must file a list of tangible 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 the Village's behalf.

5. DEBT

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2006, was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
Ohio Water Development Authority Loan	\$315,207	4.04%
Ohio Public Works Commission Loan (Sewer)	95,000	0.00%
Ohio Public Works Commission Loan (Drains)	22,943	0.00%
Sanitary Sewer Mortgage Revenue Bonds	781,000	5.00%
Total	\$1,214,150	

The Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) loan relates to a sewer plant expansion project that was mandated by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. The OWDA has approved up to \$526,500 in loans to the Village for this project. The loans will be repaid in semiannual installments of \$19,314, including interest, over 20 years. The loan is collateralized by sewer receipts. The Village has agreed to set utility rates sufficient to cover OWDA debt service requirements.

The Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) sewer loan relates to the sewer plant construction project. The loan is being repaid in semiannual installments of \$5,000, interest free, over 20 years. The Village's storm sewer project exceeded the OPWC grant amount and thus a loan amount of \$33,990 became effective in 2000. The OPWC loan relating to storm drain construction will be repaid in semiannual installments of \$850, interest free, over 20 years.

**VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA
MARION COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2006
(Continued)**

5. DEBT (Continued)

The Sanitary Sewer Mortgage Revenue Bonds relate to the sewer plan construction. The bonds were issued on behalf of the Village by the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Community Development Services as a loan reimbursement at the completion of the construction project. The bonds will be repaid in annual installments ranging from \$40,223 to \$50,900, including interest, over 40 years.

Amortization of the above debt, including interest, follows:

<u>Year ending December 31:</u>	<u>OWDA Loan</u>	<u>OPWC Loan (Sewer)</u>	<u>OPWC Loan (Drains)</u>	<u>Sanitary Sewer Rev. Bonds</u>
2007	\$38,628	\$10,000	\$1,700	\$50,050
2008	38,628	10,000	1,700	50,500
2009	38,628	10,000	1,700	49,900
2010	38,628	10,000	1,700	50,300
2011	38,628	10,000	1,700	49,650
2012-2016	193,140	45,000	8,500	250,600
2017-2021	0	0	5,942	250,050
2022-2026	0	0	0	250,650
2027-2031	0	0	0	250,650
2032-2036	0	0	0	249,900
2037	0	0	0	50,400
Total	<u>\$386,280</u>	<u>\$95,000</u>	<u>\$22,942</u>	<u>\$1,552,650</u>

6. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

Village officials have an option to choose Social Security or the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). As of December 31, 2006, certain Village officials have elected Social Security. The Village's liability is 6.2 percent of wages paid. Other Village employees and officials belong to 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 2006, OPERS members contributed 9 percent of their wages. The Village contributed an amount equal to 13.7 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2006.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Village belongs to the Ohio Government Risk Management Plan (the "Plan"), an unincorporated non-profit association providing a formalized, jointly administered self-insurance risk management program and other administrative service to approximately 465 Ohio governments ("Members").

VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA
MARION COUNTY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2006
(Continued)

7. RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)

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

The Plan issues its own policies and reinsures with A-VII or better rated carriers, except for a portion the Plan retains. Effective November 1, 2005, the Plan began retaining 15% of the premium and losses on the first \$250,000 casualty treaty and 10% of the first \$1,000,000 property treaty. With policies effective September 1, 2003 and after, the Plan pays the lesser of 5% or \$25,000 for casualty losses up to the coverage limit and the lesser of 5% or \$50,000 for property losses up to the coverage limit. The individual members are only responsible for their self-retention (deductible) amounts, which vary from member to member.

The Plan's financial statements (audited by other auditors) conform with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and reported the following assets, liabilities and retained earnings at December 31, 2005 and 2004 (the latest information available):

	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>
Assets	\$8,219,430	\$6,685,522
Liabilities	(2,748,639)	(2,227,808)
Members Equity	<u>\$5,470,791</u>	<u>\$4,457,714</u>

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

8. CHANGE IN BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

For the year ended December 31, 2006, the Village changed its financial presentation comparable to the requirements of Governmental Accounting Standard No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements – and Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments* to the accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. This change did not result in a restatement of the fund balances.



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*

Village of Caledonia
Marion County
110 East Marion Street
Caledonia, Ohio 43314

To the Village Council:

We have audited the financial statements of the Village of Caledonia, Marion County, Ohio, (the Village) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2006, and have issued our report thereon dated April 9, 2007, wherein we noted the Village changed their financial presentation and followed accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes rather than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We also noted the Village uses the Auditor of State's Uniform Accounting Network (UAN) to process its financial transactions. *Government Auditing Standards* considers this service to impair the Auditor of State's independence to audit the Village because the Auditor of State designed, developed, implemented, and, as requested, operates UAN. 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 Village'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 Village's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we have not opined on the effectiveness of the Village's internal control over financial reporting.

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

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the Village'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 Village's internal control will not prevent or detect a more-than-inconsequential financial statement misstatement.

We consider the deficiency described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2006-001 to be a significant deficiency in internal control over financial reporting.

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

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

We also noted certain internal control matters that we reported to the Village's management in a separate letter dated April 9, 2007.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of reasonably assuring whether the Village'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 or other matters that we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2006-001.

We intend this report solely for the information and use of the finance committee, management, and the Village Council. We intend it for no one other than these specified parties.



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

April 9, 2007

VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA
MARION COUNTY

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2006

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

FINDING NUMBER 2006-001

Certification of Expenditures

Ohio Revised Code § 5705.41 (D)(1) prohibits a subdivision or taxing entity from making any contract or ordering any expenditure of money unless a certificate signed by the fiscal officer is attached thereto. The fiscal officer must certify that the amount required to meet any such contract or expenditure has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury, or is in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrance.

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 section 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 Village can authorize the drawing of a warrant for the payment of the amount due. The Village has thirty days from the receipt of the "then and now" certificate to approve payment by ordinance or 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 Village.

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 on particular line item appropriation.
3. **Super Blanket Certificate** – The Village 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 expense. 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.

Eight percent of the transactions tested were not certified by the fiscal officer at the time the commitment was incurred and there was no evidence that the Village followed the aforementioned exceptions. Failure to properly certify the availability of funds can result in overspending funds and negative cash fund balances.

**VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA
MARION COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2006
(Continued)**

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

FINDING NUMBER 2006-001 (Continued)

Certification of Expenditures (Continued)

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

We recommend the Village 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 Village incurs a commitment, and only when the requirements of 5705.41(D) are satisfied. The fiscal officer should post approved purchase commitments to the proper appropriation code, to reduce the available appropriation.

We did not receive a response from Officials to this finding.



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA

MARION 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, 2007