



**SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY**

REGULAR AUDIT

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2007



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

**SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY**

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Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

Springfield Township Regional Park District
Williams County
305 East Curtis Street
Stryker, Ohio 43557-9469

To the Board of Park Commissioners:

As you are aware, the Auditor of State's Office (AOS) must modify the *Independent Accountants' Report* we provide on your financial statements due to an interpretation from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). While AOS does not legally require your government to prepare financial statements pursuant to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), the AICPA interpretation requires auditors to formally acknowledge that you did not prepare your financial statements in accordance with GAAP. Our Report includes an adverse opinion relating to GAAP presentation and measurement requirements, but does not imply the amounts the statements present are misstated under the non-GAAP basis you follow. The AOS report also includes an opinion on the financial statements you prepared using the cash basis and financial statement format the AOS permits.

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

Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

May 30, 2008

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Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Springfield Township Regional Park District
Williams County
305 East Curtis Street
Stryker, Ohio 43557-9469

To the Board of Park Commissioners:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Springfield Township Regional Park District, Williams County, (the District) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006. 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.

Instead of the fund the accompanying financial statements present, GAAP require presenting entity wide statements and also presenting the District's larger (i.e. major) funds separately. 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 GAAP presentation requirements. The Auditor of State permits, but does not require districts to reformat their statements. The District 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.

Springfield Township Regional Park District
Williams County
Independent Accountants' Report on Internal Control Over
Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters
Required by *Government Auditing Standards*
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In our opinion, because of the effects of the matter discussed in the preceding two paragraphs, the financial statements referred to above for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006, 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, 2007 and 2006, or its changes in financial position for the years then ended.

Also, in our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the fund cash balance of Springfield Township Regional Park District, Williams County, as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, and its cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the accounting basis Note 1 describes.

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 30, 2008, 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.



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

May 30, 2008

**SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCE
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006**

	General 2007	General 2006
Cash Receipts:		
Taxes	\$40,094	\$41,976
Intergovernmental	9,214	6,981
Refund of Receipt	(45)	
Donations	6,280	5,030
Earnings on Investments	3,984	2,996
Other Receipts	7	11
	59,534	56,994
Cash Disbursements:		
Current Disbursements:		
Salaries and Benefits	12,026	12,141
Improvement of Sites	39,620	15,985
Tools and Equipment	3,300	7,496
Supplies	2,356	1,653
Repairs	1,285	1,185
Other Expenses	8,575	9,338
	67,162	47,798
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	(7,628)	9,196
Fund Cash Balance, January 1	69,546	60,350
Fund Cash Balance, December 31	\$61,918	\$69,546

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

**SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 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 Springfield Township Regional Park District, Williams County, (the District) as a body corporate and politic. The probate judge of Williams County appoints a three-member Board of Commissioners to govern the District. The Commissioners are authorized to acquire, develop, protect, maintain, and improve park lands and facilities. The Commissioners may convert acquired land into forest reserves. The Commissioners are also responsible for activities related to conserving natural resources, including streams, lakes, submerged lands, and swamp lands. The Board may also create parks, parkways, and other reservations and may afforest, develop, improve and protect and promote the use of these assets conducive to the general welfare.

The District's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the District 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 District 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 District's accounting basis includes investments as assets. This basis does not record disbursements for investment purchases or receipts for investment sales. This basis records gains or losses at the time of sale as receipts or disbursements, respectively.

Investments were limited to STAR Ohio. This investment was recorded at the share value that STAR Ohio reports.

D. Fund Accounting

The District uses only one fund classification, a General Fund. The General Fund is the general operating fund. It is used to account for all financial resources.

E. Budgetary Process

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

**SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006
(Continued)**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – (CONTINUED)

1. Appropriations

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The District Board 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.

3. Encumbrances

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

A summary of 2007 and 2006 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 AND INVESTMENTS

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

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Demand deposits	\$4,246	\$8,831
STAR Ohio	57,672	60,715
Total deposits and investments	<u>\$61,918</u>	<u>\$69,546</u>

Deposits: Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation.

Investments: The investment in STAR Ohio is not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book-entry form

**SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006
(Continued)**

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2007 and 2006 follows:

Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts		
	2007	2006
Budgeted Receipts	\$44,511	\$44,851
Actual Receipts	59,534	56,994
Variance	\$15,023	\$12,143

Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures		
	2007	2006
Appropriation Authority	\$114,057	\$105,201
Budgetary Expenditures	67,162	47,798
Variance	\$46,895	\$57,403

4. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Board adopted tax rates. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. The financial statements include homestead and rollback amounts the State pays as Intergovernmental Receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to pay semiannually, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

Public utilities are also taxed on personal and real property located within the District.

Tangible personal property tax is assessed by the property owners, who must file a list of such property to the County by each April 30.

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

5. RETIREMENT SYSTEM

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

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2007 and 2006, OPERS members contributed 9.5% and 9%, respectively, of their gross salaries and the District contributed an amount equaling 13.85% and 13.7%, respectively, of participants' gross salaries. The District has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2007.

**SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006
(Continued)**

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

Commercial Insurance

The District has obtained commercial insurance for the comprehensive property and general liability risks.

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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*

Springfield Township Regional Park District
Williams County
305 East Curtis Street
Stryker, Ohio 43557-9469

To the Board of Park Commissioners:

We have audited the financial statements of the Springfield Township Regional Park District, Williams County, (the District) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006, and have issued our report thereon dated May 30, 2008, wherein we noted the District prepared its financial statements using accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits rather than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the District'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 District's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we have not opined on the effectiveness of the District'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 District'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 District's internal control will not prevent or detect a more-than-inconsequential financial statement misstatement.

We consider the following deficiency described in the accompanying schedule of findings to be a significant deficiency in internal control over financial reporting: 2007-002.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies resulting in more than a remote likelihood that the District'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 internal control deficiencies that might be significant deficiencies and accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all significant deficiencies that are also material weaknesses. However, we believe that the significant deficiency described above is not a material weakness.

We also noted certain matters that we reported to the District's management in a separate letter dated May 30, 2008.

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 an instance of noncompliance that we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2007-001.

We also noted certain noncompliance or other matters not requiring inclusion in this report that we reported to the District's management in a separate letter dated May 30, 2008.

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



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

May 30, 2008

**SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006**

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

Noncompliance Citation

Ohio Rev. Code § 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 Secretary - Clerk is attached thereto. The Secretary - Clerk 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 Secretary - Clerk's certificate must be obtained prior to a subdivision or taxing authority entering into a contract or order involving the expenditure of money. The main exceptions are: "then and now" certificates, blanket certificates, and super blanket certificates, which are provided for in sections 5705.41(D)(1) and 5705.41(D)(3), respectively, of the Ohio Revised Code.

1. "Then and Now" certificate – If the Secretary - Clerk can certify that both at the time that the contract or order was made ("then"), and at the time that the Secretary - Clerk 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 District can authorize the drawing of a warrant for the payment of the amount due. The District 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 Secretary - Clerk 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 District.

2. Blanket Certificate – Secretary - Clerk may prepare "blanket" certificates for a certain sum of money not in excess of an amount established by resolution or ordinance adopted by a majority of the members of the legislative authority against any specific line item account over a period not running beyond the end of the current fiscal year. The blanket certificates may, but need not, be limited to a specific vendor. Only one blanket certificate may be outstanding at one particular time for any one particular line item appropriation.

3. Super Blanket Certificate – The District 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.

Ninety eight (98%) percent of the transactions tested were not certified by the Secretary - Clerk at the time the commitment was incurred and there was no evidence that the District followed the aforementioned exceptions. Failure to properly certify the availability of funds can result in overspending funds and negative cash fund balances.

**FINDING NUMBER 2007-001
(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 District's funds exceeding budgetary spending limitations, we recommend that the Secretary - Clerk certify that the funds are or will be available prior to obligation by the District. When prior certification is not possible, "then and now" certification should be used.

We recommend the District 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 Secretary - Clerk should sign the certification at the time the District incurs a commitment, and only when the requirements of 5705.41(D) are satisfied. The Secretary - Clerk should post approved purchase commitments to the proper appropriation code, to reduce the available appropriation.

FINDING NUMBER 2007-002

Significant Deficiency – Financial Reporting

As a result of the audit procedures performed, the following errors were noted in the financial statements that required a audit adjustments in 2007 and 2006.

1. Public Utility Tax Loss Reimbursement monies of \$2,614 in 2007 and \$3,192 in 2006 were misposted to "Taxes" instead of "Intergovernmental Revenue."
2. Tangible Personal Property Tax Loss Reimbursement monies of \$2,757 in 2007 were misposted to "Taxes" instead of "Intergovernmental Revenue."

Sound financial reporting is the responsibility of the fiscal officer and the governing board and is essential to ensure the information provided to the readers of the financial statements is complete and accurate.

To ensure the District's financial statements and notes to the statements are complete and accurate, the District should adopt policies and procedures, including a final review of the statements and notes by the Secretary - Clerk and Board of Park Commissioners, to identify and correct errors and omissions.

Officials' Response:

Management did not respond to these findings.

**SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006**

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <i>Explain</i>
2005-001	Ohio Revised Code § 5705.41 (D)(1), improper certification of funds.	No	Not Corrected – Reissued as Finding 2007-001.



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

WILLIAMS 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 26, 2008**