



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

**SANDY TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY**

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Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

Sandy Township
Stark County
5880 Ravenna Avenue
Waynesburg, Ohio 44688

To the Board of Trustees:

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

Mary Taylor

Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

October 13, 2009

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Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Sandy Township
Stark County
5880 Ravenna Avenue
Waynesburg, Ohio 44688

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Sandy Township Stark County, Ohio, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Township's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. The Township 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 Township 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 Township 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 require presenting entity wide statements and also presenting the Township's larger (i.e. major) funds separately. While the Township does not follow GAAP, generally accepted auditing standards requires us to include the following paragraph if the statements do not substantially conform to GAAP presentation requirements. The Auditor of State permits, but does not require townships to reformat their statements. The Township has elected not to follow GAAP statement formatting requirements. The following paragraph does not imply the amounts reported are materially misstated under the accounting basis the Auditor of State permits. Our opinion on the fair presentation of the amounts reported pursuant to its non-GAAP basis is in the second following paragraph.

In our opinion, because of the effects of the matter discussed in the preceding two paragraphs, the financial statements referred to above for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007 do not present fairly, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Township as of December 31, 2008 and 2007, or its changes in financial position for the years then ended.

Also, in our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances and reserves for encumbrances of Sandy Township, Stark County, as of December 31, 2008 and 2007, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the accounting basis Note 1 describes.

The Township has not presented Management's Discussion and Analysis, which accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America has determined is necessary to supplement, although not required to be part of, the financial statements.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated October 13, 2009, on our consideration of the Township's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. While we did not opine on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance, that report describes the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. You should read it in conjunction with this report in assessing the results of our audit.



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

October 13, 2009

**SANDY TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY**

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

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		Totals (Memorandum Only)
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	
Cash Receipts:			
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$33,658	\$75,567	\$109,225
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	235,937		235,937
Fines and Forfeitures	1,991		1,991
Intergovernmental	57,870	111,936	169,806
Earnings on Investments	5,237	1,597	6,834
Miscellaneous	10,929	2,541	13,470
	<u>345,622</u>	<u>191,641</u>	<u>537,263</u>
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	280,375		280,375
Public Safety	75,809	25,460	101,269
Public Works	72,856	172,513	245,369
Health	9,000		9,000
	<u>438,040</u>	<u>197,973</u>	<u>636,013</u>
Total Cash Receipts (Under) Cash Disbursements	(92,418)	(6,332)	(98,750)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>312,669</u>	<u>222,124</u>	<u>534,793</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$220,251</u>	<u>\$215,792</u>	<u>\$436,043</u>
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	<u>\$25,209</u>	<u>\$685</u>	<u>\$25,894</u>

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

**SANDY TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY**

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

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		Totals (Memorandum Only)
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	
Cash Receipts:			
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$34,607	\$77,278	\$111,885
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	299,617		299,617
Fines and Forfeitures	3,649		3,649
Intergovernmental	46,595	109,263	155,858
Earnings on Investments	16,393	4,589	20,982
Miscellaneous	9,108	785	9,893
	<u>409,969</u>	<u>191,915</u>	<u>601,884</u>
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	269,104		269,104
Public Safety	80,264	23,872	104,136
Public Works	12,594	220,876	233,470
Health	8,655		8,655
Capital Outlay		13,512	13,512
Debt Service:			
Redemption of Principal	5,283		5,283
Interest and Other Fiscal Charges	16,717		16,717
	<u>392,617</u>	<u>258,260</u>	<u>650,877</u>
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	17,352	(66,345)	(48,993)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>295,317</u>	<u>288,469</u>	<u>583,786</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$312,669</u>	<u>\$222,124</u>	<u>\$534,793</u>
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	<u>\$15,323</u>	<u>\$6,050</u>	<u>\$21,373</u>

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

**SANDY TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY**

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

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Description of the Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of the Sandy Township, Stark County, Ohio, (the Township) as a body corporate and politic. A publicly-elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides general government services, including road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance, fire protection and emergency medical services. In addition the Township has an annual contract with the Village of Magnolia for police protection services.

The Township participates in a jointly governed organization which is the Stark County Regional Planning Commission. The Stark County Regional Planning Commission makes studies, maps, plans, recommendation and reports concerning the physical, environmental, social, economical and governmental characteristics, functions and services of the County. Note 8 to the financial statements provide additional information for this entity.

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

B. Accounting Basis

These financial statements follow the accounting basis the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Township recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

C. Deposits and Investments

All cash is maintained in a checking account. The Township had no investments.

D. Fund Accounting

The Township uses fund accounting to segregate cash that are restricted as to use. The Township classifies its funds into the following types:

1. General Fund

The General Fund reports all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

2. Special Revenue Funds

These funds account for proceeds from specific sources (other than from private-purpose trusts or for capital projects) that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Township had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

**SANDY TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY**

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

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

D. Fund Accounting

2. Special Revenue Funds (Continued)

Road and Bridge Fund – This fund receives property tax money for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads and bridges.

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

E. Budgetary Process

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

1. Appropriations

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

2. Estimated Resources

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

3. Encumbrances

The Ohio Revised Code requires the Township to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over, and need not be re-appropriated.

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

F. Property, Plant, and Equipment

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

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.

**SANDY TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY**

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

2. Equity in Pooled Cash

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

	2008	2007
Demand deposits	\$436,043	\$534,793

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

3. Budgetary Activity

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

2008 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$489,035	\$345,622	(\$143,413)
Special Revenue	157,036	191,641	34,605
Total	\$646,071	\$537,263	(\$108,808)

2008 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$789,097	\$463,249	\$325,848
Special Revenue	285,870	198,658	87,212
Total	\$1,074,967	\$661,907	\$413,060

2007 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$485,626	\$409,969	(\$75,657)
Special Revenue	146,312	191,915	45,603
Debt Service	25,000	0	(25,000)
Total	\$656,938	\$601,884	(\$55,054)

**SANDY TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY**

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

3. Budgetary Activity (Continued)

2007 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$764,402	\$407,940	\$356,462
Special Revenue	348,570	264,310	84,260
Debt Service	25,000	0	25,000
Total	\$1,137,972	\$672,250	\$465,722

4. Property Tax

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

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

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

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

5. Debt

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2008 was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
General Obligation Notes	\$238,543	5%

The Township issued general obligation notes to finance the construction of an addition to the Sandy Township Fire Station. The Township's taxing authority collateralized the notes, and has levied taxes in an amount sufficient to pay interest on this note.

**SANDY TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY**

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

5. Debt (Continued)

Amortization of the above debt, including interest, is scheduled as follows:

Year ending December 31:	General Obligation Notes
2009	\$25,000
2010	15,361
2011	15,361
2012	15,362
2013	15,362
2014-2033	307,231
Total	\$393,677

6. Retirement System

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

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

7. Risk Management

The Township is exposed to various risks of property and casualty losses, and injuries to employees.

The Township insures against injuries to employees through the Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation.

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

**SANDY TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY**

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

7. Risk Management (Continued)

Casualty Coverage

For an occurrence prior to January 1, 2006, OTARMA retains casualty risks up to \$250,000 per occurrence, including claim adjustment expenses. OTARMA pays a percentage of its contributions to APEEP. APEEP reinsures claims exceeding \$250,000, up to \$1,750,000 per claim and \$10,000,000 in the aggregate per year. For an occurrence on or subsequent to January 1, 2006, the Pool retains casualty risk up to \$350,000 per occurrence. Claims exceeding \$350,000 are reinsured with APEEP in an amount not to exceed \$2,650,000 for each claim and \$10,000,000 in the aggregate per year. Governments can elect up to \$10,000,000 in additional coverage with the General Reinsurance Corporation, through contracts with OTARMA.

If losses exhaust PEP's retained earnings, APEEP provides *excess of funds available* coverage up to \$5,000,000 per year, subject to a per-claim limit of \$2,000,000 (prior to January 1, 2006) or \$3,000,000 (on or subsequent to January 1, 2006).

Property Coverage

Through 2004, OTARMA retained property risks, including automobile physical damage, up to \$100,000 on any specific loss in any one occurrence. The Travelers Indemnity Company reinsured losses exceeding \$100,000 up to \$500 million per occurrence.

Beginning in 2005, Travelers reinsures specific losses exceeding \$250,000 up to \$600 million per occurrence. This amount increased to \$300,000 in 2007. For 2007, APEEP reinsures members for specific losses exceeding \$100,000 up to \$300,000 per occurrence, subject to an annual aggregate loss payment. Traveler's provides aggregate stop-loss coverage based upon the combined members' total insurable values. If the stop loss is reached by payment of losses between \$100,000 and \$250,000 in 2006, or \$100,000 and \$300,000 in 2007, Travelers will reinsure specific losses exceeding \$100,000 up to their \$600 million per occurrence limit. The aggregate stop-loss limit for 2007 was \$2,014,548.

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

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

Financial Position

OTARMA's financial statements (audited by other accountants) conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and retained earnings at December 31, 2007 and 2006 (the latest information available):

**SANDY TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY**

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

7. Risk Management (Continued)

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

At December 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively, liabilities above include approximately \$12.5 million and \$11.3 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets and retained earnings above also include approximately \$11.6 million and \$10.8 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 950 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. The Township's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$12,000. This payable includes the subsequent year's contribution due if the Township terminates participation, as described in the last paragraph below.

Based on discussions with OTARMA, the expected rates OTARMA charges to compute member contributions, which are used to pay claims as they become due, are not expected to change significantly from those used to determine the historical contributions detailed below. By contract, the annual liability of each member is limited to the amount of financial contributions required to be made to OTARMA for each year of membership.

Contributions to OTARMA

2005	\$15,624
2006	\$16,462
2007	\$12,146

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

8. Jointly Governed Organization

The Township is associated with the Stark County Regional Planning Commission, (the Commission) as a Jointly Governed Organization. The Commission is a statutorily created political subdivision of the State. The Commission is jointly governed among Stark County municipalities and townships. Each member's control over the operation of the Commission is limited to its representation on the board. The Commission makes studies, maps, plans, recommendations and reports concerning the physical, environmental, social, economical and governmental characteristics, functions and services of the county. The Township contributed \$250 in both 2008 and 2007 to the Regional Planning Commission.

**SANDY TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY**

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

8. Related Party Transaction

During the audit period, the Township made donations totaling \$95,000 to a local organization of which a Trustee's spouse is Board President.



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*

Sandy Township
Stark County
5880 Ravenna Avenue
Waynesburg, Ohio 44688

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of Sandy Township, Stark County, Ohio, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007, and have issued our report thereon dated October 13, 2009 wherein we noted the Township prepared its financial statements using accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits rather than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We also noted the Township 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 Township. 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 conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Township's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our audit procedures for expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not to opine on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we have not opined on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control over financial reporting.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the Township's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with its applicable accounting basis, such that there is more than a remote likelihood that the Township's internal control will not prevent or detect a more-than-inconsequential financial statement misstatement.

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

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

We noted certain matters that we reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated October 13, 2009.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of reasonably assuring whether the Township's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed an instance of noncompliance or other matters that we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which is described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings as item 2008-001. We also noted a certain noncompliance or other matter that we reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated October 13, 2009.

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



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

October 13, 2009

**SANDY TOWNSHIP
STARK COUNTY**

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

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

FINDING NUMBER 2008-001

Noncompliance

Ohio Rev. Code Section 2921.42(A)(1) provides no public official shall knowingly authorize or employ the authority or influence of his office to secure authorization of any public contract in which he, a member of his family, or any of his business associates has an interest.

Ohio Rev. Code Section 102.03(D) provides no public official or employee shall use or authorize the use of the authority or influence of office or employment to secure anything of value or the promise or offer of anything of value that is of such a character as to manifest a substantial and improper influence upon the public official or employee with respect to that person's duties.

On June 20, 2007 and June 18, 2008, the Township Trustees unanimously approved requests for grant monies in the amounts of \$40,000 and \$55,000, respectively, to be disbursed to Citizens Against American Landfill Expansion (CAALE).

The President of CAALE is the wife of one of the Trustees.

To avoid a potential conflict of interest, the Trustee should abstain from all decisions/proceedings that involve CAALE and related requests for grant monies.

We are referring this matter to the Ohio Ethics Commission.

Officials' Response: The Officials' have elected not to respond to the finding.



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

SANDY TOWNSHIP

STARK 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
NOVEMBER 17, 2009**