



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

**FREEPORT TOWNSHIP
HARRISON COUNTY**

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Dave Yost • Auditor of State

Freeport Township
Harrison County
PO Box 235
Freeport, Ohio 43973

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.

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

Dave Yost
Auditor of State

May 14, 2012

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Dave Yost • Auditor of State

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Freeport Township
Harrison County
PO Box 235
Freeport, Ohio 44973

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Freeport Township, Harrison County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010. 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(A) mandates 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, 2011 and 2010 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, 2011 and 2010, 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 as of December 31, 2011 and 2010 of Freeport Township, Harrison County and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the accounting basis Note 1 describes.

As described in Note 1, during 2011 Freeport Township adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated May 14, 2012, 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.



Dave Yost
Auditor of State

May 14, 2012

**FREEPORT TOWNSHIP
HARRISON COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (CASH BASIS)
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011**

Governmental Fund Types

	General	Special Revenue	Permanent	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$11,340	\$40,247		\$51,587
Intergovernmental	12,391	102,900		115,291
Earnings on Investments	75	213	\$22	310
Miscellaneous	104	1,280		1,384
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>23,910</u>	<u>144,640</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>168,572</u>
Cash Disbursements				
Current:				
General Government	19,296			19,296
Public Safety		20,702		20,702
Public Works		111,733		111,733
Health	2,045	15,826		17,871
Capital Outlay		755		755
Debt Service:				
Principal Retirement		5,115		5,115
Interest and Fiscal Charges		226		226
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>21,341</u>	<u>154,357</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>175,698</u>
<i>Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>	<u>2,569</u>	<u>(9,717)</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>(7,126)</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>9,511</u>	<u>76,070</u>	<u>777</u>	<u>86,358</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31				
Nonspendable			500	500
Restricted		60,169		60,169
Assigned		6,184	299	6,483
Unassigned (Deficit)	12,080			12,080
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u>\$12,080</u>	<u>\$66,353</u>	<u>\$799</u>	<u>\$79,232</u>

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

FREEPORT TOWNSHIP
HARRISON COUNTY

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010**

	Governmental Fund Types			Totals (Memorandum Only)
	General	Special Revenue	Permanent	
Cash Receipts:				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$11,245	\$40,692		\$51,937
Intergovernmental	13,178	103,872		117,050
Earnings on Investments	44	31	\$22	97
Miscellaneous	571	487		1,058
Total Cash Receipts	25,038	145,082	22	170,142
Cash Disbursements:				
Current:				
General Government	23,752			23,752
Public Safety		30,172		30,172
Public Works		101,949		101,949
Health	626	17,497		18,123
Capital Outlay	1,184	2,011		3,195
Debt Service:				
Redemption of Principal		10,000		10,000
Interest and Other Fiscal Charges		2,000		2,000
Total Cash Disbursements	25,562	163,629		189,191
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(524)	(18,547)	22	(19,049)
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over / (Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements	(524)	(18,547)	22	(19,049)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	10,035	94,617	755	105,407
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$9,511	\$76,070	\$777	\$86,358

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

**FREEPORT TOWNSHIP
HARRISON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2011 AND 2010**

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 Freeport Township, Harrison County, (the Township) as a body corporate and politic. A publicly-elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance, and general government services. The Township contracts with the Freeport Volunteer Fire Department to provide fire services.

The Township participates in the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA) a risk sharing pool available to townships. Note 6 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity. The organization is:

Public Entity Risk Pool:

The Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA) provides property and casualty coverage for its members.

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).

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as the Auditor of State prescribes or permits.

C. Fund Accounting

The Township uses fund accounting to segregate cash and investments 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:

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

**FREEPORT TOWNSHIP
HARRISON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2011 AND 2010
(Continued)**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

3. Permanent Funds

These funds account for assets held under a trust agreement that are legally restricted to the extent that only earnings, not principal, are available to support the Township's programs. The Township had the following significant permanent fund:

Cemetery Endowment Fund – This fund receives interest earned on the nonexpendable corpus from a trust agreement. These earnings are used for the general maintenance and upkeep of the Township's cemetery.

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

A summary of 2011 and 2010 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

E. Fund Balance

For December 31, 2011, fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the Township must observe constraints imposed upon the use of its governmental-fund resources. The classifications are as follows:

1. Nonspendable

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

**FREEPORT TOWNSHIP
HARRISON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2011 AND 2010
(Continued)**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

2. Restricted

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

3. Committed

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

4. Assigned

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

5. Unassigned

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

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

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.

**FREEPORT TOWNSHIP
HARRISON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2011 AND 2010
(Continued)**

2. EQUITY IN POOLED DEPOSITS

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

	2011	2010
Demand deposits	\$63,732	\$70,858
Certificates of deposit	15,500	15,500
Total deposits	79,232	86,358

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

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2011 and 2010 follows:

2011 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$23,928	\$23,910	(\$18)
Special Revenue	144,637	144,640	3
Permanent	0	22	22
Total	\$168,565	\$168,572	\$7

2011 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$28,028	\$21,341	\$6,687
Special Revenue	207,646	154,357	53,289
Permanent	312	0	312
Total	\$235,986	\$175,698	\$60,288

2010 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$24,987	\$25,038	\$51
Special Revenue	144,920	145,082	162
Permanent	22	22	0
Total	\$169,929	\$170,142	\$213

**FREEPORT TOWNSHIP
HARRISON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2011 AND 2010
(Continued)**

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY - (Continued)

2010 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$34,324	\$25,562	\$8,762
Special Revenue	221,244	163,629	57,615
Permanent	289	0	289
Total	\$255,857	\$189,191	\$66,666

Contrary to Ohio law, budgetary appropriations exceeded estimated resources in the Motor Vehicle License Fund, the Road and Bridge Fund and the Cemetery Fund in 2011. Also, contrary to Ohio law, all expenditures were not certified.

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.

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. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

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

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2011 and 2010, OPERS members contributed 10%, of their gross salaries and the Township contributed an amount equaling 14%, respectively, of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2011.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

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

**FREEPORT TOWNSHIP
HARRISON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2011 AND 2010
(Continued)**

6. RISK MANAGEMENT - (Continued)

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.

American Risk Pooling Consultants, Inc. (ARPCO), a division of York Insurance Services Group, Inc. (York), functions as the administrator of OTARMA and provides underwriting, claims, loss control, risk management, and reinsurance services for OTARMA. OTARMA is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP), which is also administered by ARPCO. Member governments pay annual contributions to fund OTARMA. OTARMA pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

Casualty and Property Coverage

APEEP provides OTARMA with an excess risk-sharing program. Under this arrangement, OTARMA retains insured risks up to an amount specified in the contracts. At December 31, 2010, OTARMA retained \$350,000 for casualty claims and \$150,000 for property claims.

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

Financial Position

OTARMA's financial statements (audited by other accountants) conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and retained earnings at December 31, 2010 and 2009 (the latest information available:)

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
Assets	\$35,855,252	\$38,982,088
Liabilities	<u>(10,664,724)</u>	<u>(12,880,766)</u>
Net Assets	<u>\$25,190,528</u>	<u>\$26,101,322</u>

At December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively, the liabilities above include approximately \$9.9 and \$12.0 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets above also include approximately \$9.5 and \$11.5 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 940 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. As of December 31, 2010, the Township's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$4,000.

**FREEPORT TOWNSHIP
HARRISON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2011 AND 2010
(Continued)**

6. RISK MANAGEMENT - (Continued)

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.

<u>Contributions to OTARMA</u>	
<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
\$3,255	\$3,255

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

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Dave Yost • Auditor of State

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

Freeport Township
Harrison County
PO Box 235
Freeport, Ohio 43973

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of Freeport Township (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, and have issued our report thereon dated May 14, 2012 wherein we noted the Township followed accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes rather than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. In addition, we noted the Township implemented Government Accounting Standards Board Statement 54 '*Fund Balance and Governmental Type Definitions*' in 2011. We also noted 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(A) mandates 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 the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of opining 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.

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

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, when performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and timely correct misstatements. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and timely corrected. We consider finding 2011-03 described in the accompanying schedule of findings to be a material weakness.

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 instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which are described in the accompanying schedule of findings as items 2011-01 and 2011-02.

We also noted certain matters not requiring inclusion in this report that we reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated May 14, 2012.

The Township's responses to the findings identified in our audit are described in the accompanying schedule of findings. We did not audit the Township's responses and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

We intend this report solely for the information and use of management, the board of trustees, and others within the Township. We intend it for no one other than these specified parties.



Dave Yost
Auditor of State

May 14, 2012

**FREEPORT TOWNSHIP
HARRISON COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2011 AND 2010**

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

FINDING NUMBER 2011-01

Noncompliance Citation

Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41(D) provides in part that no subdivision shall make any contract or give any order involving the expenditure of money unless there is attached thereto a certificate of the fiscal officer of the subdivision that the amount required to meet the obligation has been lawfully appropriated for such purpose and is in the treasury or in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrances. This certificate need be signed only by the subdivision's fiscal officer. Every contract made without such a certificate shall be void, and no warrant shall be issued in payment of any amount due thereon.

There are several exceptions to the standard requirement stated above that a fiscal officers' 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 no certificate is furnished as required, upon receipt of the clerk/treasurers' certificate that a sufficient sum was, both at the time of the contract or order and at the time of the certificate, appropriated and free of any previous encumbrances, the District may authorize the issuance of a warrant in payment of the amount due upon such contract or order by resolution within 30 days from the receipt of such certificate, if such expenditure is otherwise valid.

If the amount involved is less than \$3,000 the fiscal officer may authorize payment through a Then and Now Certificate without affirmation of Board of Trustees if such expenditure is otherwise valid.

2. Blanket Certificate – Fiscal Officer 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 Township may also make expenditures and contracts for any amount from a specific line item appropriation 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 may be outstanding a particular time for any line item appropriation.

The Township did not properly certify or record the amount against the applicable appropriation accounts for 32% and 35% of tested expenditures in 2010 and 2011, respectively. The Township did not properly utilize the certification exceptions described above for those expenditures lacking prior certification.

**FINDING NUMBER 2011-01
 (Continued)**

Failure to certify the availability of funds and encumber appropriations for the full amount of the expenditure could result in overspending in negative cash balances. 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 Township's funds exceeding budgetary spending limitations, the Fiscal Officer should certify that the funds are or will be available prior to obligation by the Township. When prior certification is not possible, "then and now" certification should be used.

The Township should certify purchases to which section Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41(D) applies. The most convenient certification method is to use purchase orders that include the certification language which Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41(D) requires authorizing disbursements. The Fiscal Officer should sign the certification at the time the Township incurs a commitment, and only when the requirements of Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41(D) are satisfied. The Township should post approved purchase commitments to the proper appropriation code, to reduce the available appropriation.

FINDING NUMBER 2011-02

Noncompliance Citation

Ohio Revised Code 5705.39 prohibits a political subdivision from making a fund appropriation in excess of the total estimated resources available for expenditure from that fund as certified by the budget commission on the Amended Official Certificates of Estimated Resources.

Appropriations exceeded the amount certified as available by the budget commission during 2011 in the following funds:

2011:

Fund	Appropriation	Total Estimated Resources	Variance
Motor Vehicle License	\$16,454	\$14,284	\$2,170
Road & Bridge	\$17,811	\$15,712	\$2,099
Cemetery	\$31,423	\$28,118	\$3,305

Failure to limit appropriations to the amount certified by the budget commission could result in overspending and negative cash balances. The Township should compare appropriations to estimated resources and if adequate resources are available for additional appropriations, the Township should submit an amended certificate of estimated resources to the budget commission for certification. If the resources are not available to cover the appropriations, an amendment to the appropriation resolution should be passed by the Board of Trustees to reduce the appropriations.

FINDING NUMBER 2011-03

Material Weakness

Proper Classification of Receipts and Disbursements

The Fiscal Officer did not correctly code and classify all receipts and disbursements in 2010 and 2011, resulting in reclassifications to the financial statements. The Fiscal Officer has agreed to the reclassifications and the corrected amounts are reflected in the accompanying financial statements.

2010:

Fund	Account Type	Amount	Description
General	Intergovernmental revenue	\$2,249	Tangible personal property reimbursement classified as local tax revenue
Gasoline Tax	Principal expense	\$10,000	Principal expense classified as capital outlay expense
Road & Bridge	Interest expense	\$2,000	Interest expense classified as public safety expense

2011:

Fund	Account Type	Amount	Description
General	Intergovernmental revenue	\$1,905	Tangible personal property reimbursement receipt classified as local tax revenue
Gasoline Tax	Principal expense	\$5,116	Principal expense classified as capital outlay expense
Gasoline Tax	Interest expense	\$226	Interest expense classified as capital outlay expense

Failure to consistently post all transactions increases the possibility the Township will not be able to identify, assemble, analyze, classify, record and report its transactions correctly or to document compliance with finance-related legal and contractual requirements. The Fiscal Officer should refer to Auditor of State Bulletin 2000-008, which provides guidance on accounting for on-behalf-of programs when a local government or its residents are beneficiaries of the program. The Fiscal Officer should maintain the accounting system to enable the Township to identify, assemble, analyze, classify, record and report all transactions and to maintain accountability. The Township should adopt procedures for the review of posted transactions and subsequent reporting on the financial statements.

Officials Response:

Please be advised that we at Freeport Township acknowledge the audit performed on the books of Freeport Twp. for the years 2010 and 2011 and appreciate the advice given to enhance the business of said township.

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**FREEPORT TOWNSHIP
HARRISON COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2011 and 2010**

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <i>Explain</i>
2009-001	Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41 (D)	No	Cited as 2011-01
2009-002	Ohio Revised Code 5705.38	Yes	
2009-003	Posting of receipts and disbursements	No	Cited as 2011-03



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

FREEPORT TOWNSHIP

HARRISON 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
AUGUST 21, 2012**