428 Second St. Marietta, OH 45750 740.373.0056

1035 Murdoch Ave Parkersburg, WV 26101 304.422.2203

121 E Main St St. Clairsville, OH 43950 740.695.1569



MARSEILLES TOWNSHIP WYANDOT COUNTY Regular Audit For the Years Ended December 31, 2014 and 2013

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Board of Trustees Marseilles Township 14518 Township Highway 71 Upper Sandusky, OH 43351

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of Marseilles Township, Wyandot County, prepared by Perry & Associates, Certified Public Accountants, A.C., for the audit period January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2014. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

Our review was made in reference to the applicable sections of legislative criteria, as reflected by the Ohio Constitution, and the Revised Code, policies, procedures and guidelines of the Auditor of State, regulations and grant requirements. Marseilles Township is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

Dave Yost Auditor of State

September 9, 2015



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

June 12, 2015

Marseilles Township Wyandot County 14518 Township Highway 71 Upper Sandusky, OH 43351

To the Board of Trustees:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements and related notes of **Marseilles Township**, Wyandot County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for preparing and fairly presenting these financial statements in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit; this responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to preparing and fairly presenting financial statements free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to opine on these financial statements based on our audit. We audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the financial audit standards in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require us to plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit requires obtaining evidence about financial statement amounts and disclosures. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including assessing the risks of material financial statement misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In assessing those risks, we consider internal control relevant to the Township's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not to the extent needed to opine on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control. Accordingly, we express no opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of management's accounting policies and the reasonableness of their significant accounting estimates, as well as our evaluation of the overall financial statement presentation.

We believe the audit evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to support our audit opinion.

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Marseilles Township Wyandot County Independent Auditor's Report Page 2

Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

As described in Note 1B of the financial statements, the Township prepared these financial statements using the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D), which is an accounting basis other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP), to satisfy these requirements.

Although the effects on the financial statements of the variances between the regulatory accounting basis and GAAP are not reasonably determinable, we presume they are material.

Though the Township does not intend these statements to conform to GAAP, auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America require us to include an adverse opinion on GAAP. However, the adverse opinion does not imply the amounts reported are materially misstated under the accounting basis Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit. Our opinion on this accounting basis is in the *Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting* paragraph below.

Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the *Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles* paragraph, the financial statements referred to above do not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Township as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, or changes in financial position thereof for the years then ended.

Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined cash balances of Marseilles Township, Wyandot County as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit, described in Note 1B.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 12, 2015, 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. That report describes the scope of our internal control testing over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing, and does not opine on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Township's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Perry & Associates

Certified Public Accountants, A.C.

Gerry Marocutes CAG A. C.

Marietta, Ohio

COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (CASH BASIS) ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

	<u> </u>	General	pecial evenue	Totals morandum Only)
Cash Receipts				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$	33,663	\$ 6,994	\$ 40,657
Charges for Services		-	33,000	33,000
Licenses, Permits and Fees		965	1,350	2,315
Intergovernmental		5,867	112,901	118,768
Earnings on Investments		65	58	123
Miscellaneous		1,471		1,471
Total Cash Receipts		42,031	 154,303	 196,334
Cash Disbursements				
Current:				
General Government		57,585	_	57,585
Public Safety		-	29,181	29,181
Public Works		_	76,445	76,445
Health		387	119	506
Capital Outlay		-	289	289
Capital Cullay			 200	203
Total Cash Disbursements		57,972	 106,034	 164,006
Net Change in Fund Cash Balances		(15,941)	48,269	32,328
Fund Cash Balances, January 1		128,119	 247,756	 375,875
Fund Cash Balances, December 31 Restricted		-	296,025	296,025
Unassigned		112,178	 -	112,178
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$	112,178	\$ 296,025	\$ 408,203

COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (CASH BASIS) ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2013

	G	eneral	pecial evenue	Totals morandum Only)
Cash Receipts Property and Other Local Taxes Charges for Services Licenses, Permits and Fees Intergovernmental Earnings on Investments	\$	29,690 - - 29,557 64	\$ 9,974 11,000 1,400 87,693 50	\$ 39,664 11,000 1,400 117,250 114
Miscellaneous		2,172	 7,832	 10,004
Total Cash Receipts		61,483	 117,949	 179,432
Cash Disbursements Current:				
General Government Public Safety Public Works Health		62,643 396 - 450	12,970 64,178 3,643	62,643 13,366 64,178 4,093
Capital Outlay		-	 35,680	 35,680
Total Cash Disbursements		63,489	 116,471	179,960
Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements		(2,006)	1,478	(528)
Other Financing Disbursements Other Financing Uses		(736)		 (736)
Net Change in Fund Cash Balances		(2,742)	1,478	(1,264)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1		130,861	 246,278	377,139
Fund Cash Balances, December 31 Restricted Unassigned		- 128,119	247,756 -	247,756 128,119
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$ ^	128,119	\$ 247,756	\$ 375,875

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 Marseilles Township, Wyandot 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, fire protection services.

The Township participates in a public entity risk pool. Note 6 to the financial statements provides additional information for these entities. This organization is:

Public Entity Risk Pool:

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.

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 permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Board 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 financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit.

C. Deposits and Investments

The Township'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.

D. 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 accounts for and reports all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund.

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

D. Fund Accounting (Continued)

2. Special Revenue Funds

These funds account for and report the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditure for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects. The Township had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

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

<u>Fire District Fund -</u> This fund receives levy monies for the funding of fire services provided to Township residents.

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, level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Board of Trustees must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. 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 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 reappropriated. The Township did not encumber all commitments required by Ohio law.

A summary of 2014 and 2013 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

F. Fund Balance

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.

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

F. Fund Balance (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.

G. 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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013 (CONTINUED)

2. Equity in Pooled Deposits

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

	 2014	2013
Demand deposits	\$ 408,203	\$ 375,875
Total deposits	\$ 408,203	\$ 375,875

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 ending December 31, 2014 and 2013 follows:

2014	Buagei	ea	vs.	А	ctuai	Recei	pt	S
		$\overline{}$		-	•		_	_

	В	udgeted		Actual			
Fund Type	F	Receipts		Receipts		Variance	
General	\$	30,175	\$	42,031	\$	11,856	
Special Revenue		126,300		154,303		28,003	
Total	\$	156,475	\$	196,334	\$	39,859	

2014 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

App	oropriation	Ві	udgetary		
Authority		Expenditures		Variance	
\$	158,000	\$	57,972	\$	100,028
	341,304		106,034		235,270
\$	499,304	\$	164,006	\$	335,298
	\$	\$ 158,000 341,304	Authority Exp \$ 158,000 \$ 341,304	Authority Expenditures \$ 158,000 \$ 57,972 341,304 106,034	Authority Expenditures V \$ 158,000 \$ 57,972 \$ 341,304 106,034

2013 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

2010 Badgeted V3. Actual Necelpts							
	Budgeted			Actual			
Fund Type	Receipts		Receipts		Variance		
General	\$	52,825	\$	61,483	\$	8,658	
Special Revenue		126,300		117,949		(8,351)	
Total	\$	179,125	\$	179,432	\$	307	

2013 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

App	Appropriation		Budgetary			
A	Authority		Expenditures		Variance	
\$	164,000	\$	64,225	\$	99,775	
	368,275		116,471		251,804	
\$	532,275	\$	180,696	\$	351,579	
•	\$	Authority \$ 164,000 368,275	Authority Exp \$ 164,000 \$ 368,275	Authority Expenditures \$ 164,000 \$ 64,225 368,275 116,471	Authority Expenditures V \$ 164,000 \$ 64,225 \$ 368,275 116,471	

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.

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 elected officials and 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 2014 and 2013, OPERS members contributed 10% of their gross salaries and the Township contributed 14% of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2014.

6. 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. York Risk Pooling Services, Inc. (formally known as American Risk Pooling Consultants, Inc.) (York or Management), functions as the administrator of the Pool and provides underwriting claims, loss control, risk management, and reinsurance services for the Pool. 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

The Pool is a member of American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP), which is also administered by York. APEEP provides the Pool with an excess risk-sharing program. Under this arrangement, OTARMA retains insured risks up to an amount specified in the contracts. At December 31, 2014, OTARMA retained \$350,000 for casualty claims and \$250,000 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.

6. Risk Management (Continued)

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, 2013 and 2014

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
Assets	\$34,954,286	\$35,970,263
Liabilities	8,486,363	8,912,432
Net Position	\$26,467,923	\$27,057,831

At December 31, 2013 and 2014, respectively, the liabilities above include approximately \$7.9 and \$8.2 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets above also include approximately \$7.4 and \$7.2 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 957 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2013 and 2014, respectively. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. As of December 31, 2014, the Township's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$6,000

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				
<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>			
\$ 11,781	\$ 11,291			

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.

7. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Amounts grantor agencies pay to the township are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor. The grantor may require refunding any disallowed costs. Management cannot presently determine amounts grantors may disallow. However, based on prior experience, management believes any refunds would be immaterial.



428 Second St. Marietta, OH 45750 740.373.0056

1035 Murdoch Ave Parkersburg, WV 26101 304.422.2203

121 E Main St St. Clairsville, OH 43950 740.695.1569

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

June 12, 2015

Marseilles Township Wyandot County 14518 Township Highway 71 Upper Sandusky, OH 43351

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States and the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*, the financial statements of **Marseilles Township**, Wyandot County (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, and the related notes to the financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated June 12, 2015, wherein we noted the Township followed financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

As part of our financial statement audit, we considered the Entity's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures appropriate in the circumstances to the extent necessary to support our opinion on the financial statements, but not to the extent necessary to opine on the effectiveness of the Entity's internal control. Accordingly, we have not opined on it.

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

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 internal control deficiencies resulting in a reasonable possibility that internal control will not prevent or detect and timely correct a material misstatement of the Township's financial statements. We consider finding 2014-001 described in the accompanying schedule of audit findings to be a material weakness.

A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of internal control deficiencies less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance. We consider finding 2014-002 described in the accompanying schedule of audit findings to be a significant deficiency.

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Marseilles Township Wyandot County Independent Auditors Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by *Government Auditing Standards* Page 2

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, opining 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 we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which is described in the accompanying schedule of audit findings as item 2014-002.

We also noted certain matters not requiring inclusion in this report that we reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated June 12, 2015.

Purpose of this Report

This report only describes the scope of our internal control and compliance testing and our testing results, and does not opine on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed under *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Township's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Perry & Associates

Certified Public Accountants, A.C.

Kerry Marocutes CAB A. C.

Marietta, Ohio

SCHEDULE OF AUDIT FINDINGS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

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

FINDING NUMBER 2014-001

Material Weakness

Posting Receipts and Disbursements

Receipts and disbursements should be posted to the fund and line item accounts as established by Ohio Administrative Code.

During 2014 and 2013, several receipts and disbursements were not posted into the correct fund or accurate receipt or disbursement classifications based on the nature of the disbursement. The following posting errors were noted:

- Disbursements from the Gasoline Tax Fund were recorded as General Government instead of Public Works in 2014 and 2013;
- Disbursements from the Road and Bridge Fund were recorded as General Government instead of Public Works in 2014 and 2013;
- Disbursements from the Cemetery Fund were recorded as General Government instead of Health in 2014 and 2013:
- Disbursements from the Fire District Fund were recorded as General Government instead of Public Safety in 2014 and 2013;
- Disbursements from the Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund were recorded as General Government instead of Public Works in 2014:
- Rollback and Homestead receipts were not properly allocated to the Road and Bridge and Fire District Fund in 2014 and 2013;
- Fire Equipment and Training Grants were recorded as Miscellaneous instead of Intergovernmental in the Fire District Fund in 2014.

Not posting receipts and disbursements accurately resulted in the financial statements requiring several adjustments and reclassifications. The financial statements reflect all adjustments and reclassifications, and the client has made all adjustments to the accounting system.

We recommend the Fiscal Officer refer to the Ohio Township Handbook for guidance to determine the proper establishment of receipt and disbursement accounts and posting of receipts and disbursements.

Management's Response – We did not receive a response from officials to this finding.

SCHEDULE OF AUDIT FINDINGS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

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

FINDING NUMBER 2014-002

Significant Deficiency/Non-Compliance

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

There are several exceptions to the standard requirement stated above that a Fiscal Officer's certificate must be obtained prior to a subdivision or taxing authority entering into a contract or order involving the expenditure of money. The main exceptions are: "then and now" certificates, blanket certificates, and super blanket certificates, which are provided for in sections 5705.41(D)(1) and 5705.41(D)(3), respectively, of the Ohio Revised Code.

- 1. "Then and Now" certificate If the Fiscal Officer can certify that both at the time that the contract or order was made ("then"), and at the time that the Fiscal Officer is completing the certification ("now"), that sufficient funds were available or in the process of collection, to the credit of a proper fund, properly appropriated and free from any previous encumbrance, the taxing authority (Board of Trustees) can authorize the drawing of a warrant for the payment of the amount due. The taxing authority has thirty days from the receipt of the "then and now" certificate to approve payment by ordinance or resolution. Amounts of less than \$3,000 may be paid by the Fiscal Officer without a resolution or ordinance upon completion of the "then and now" certificate, provided that the expenditure is otherwise lawful. This does not eliminate any otherwise applicable requirement for approval of expenditures by the Township.
- 2. Blanket Certificate The 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 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 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.

The Township did not properly certify the availability of funds prior to purchase commitment for 92% of the disbursements tested during 2014 and 91% in 2013 and there was no evidence that the Township followed the aforementioned exceptions. Without these certifications, the management of the Township lost budgetary control over disbursements.

SCHEDULE OF AUDIT FINDINGS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

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

FINDING NUMBER 2014-002 (Continued)

Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41(D)(1) (Continued)

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

Management's Response – We did not receive a response from officials to this finding.

MARSEILLES TOWNSHIP WYANDOT COUNTY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; Explain
2012-01	Posting Receipts and Disbursements	No	Not Corrected; Repeated as Finding 2014-001
2012-02	Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.36	Yes	N/A
2012-03	Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41(D)	No	Not Corrected; Repeated as Finding 2014-002
2012-04	Filing IRS Form 1099-MISC	Yes	N/A



MARSEILLES TOWNSHIP

WYANDOT 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.

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

Susan Babbitt

CERTIFIED SEPTEMBER 22, 2015