



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

**LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP
WASHINGTON COUNTY
DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND 2015**

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Dave Yost • Auditor of State

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Lawrence Township
Washington County
692 Bear Run Road
Reno, Ohio 45773

To the Board of Trustees:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the cash balances, receipts and disbursements by fund type, and related notes of Lawrence Township, Washington County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015.

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 § 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code § 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 opinions.

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

As described in Note 2 of the financial statements, the Township prepared these financial statements using the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code § 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code § 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 § 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code § 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, 2016 and 2015, 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 Lawrence Township, Washington County, Ohio, as of December 31, 2016 and 2015, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code § 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(D) permit, described in Note 2.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated April 7, 2017, 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.



Dave Yost
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

April 7, 2017

**LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (CASH BASIS)
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016**

	General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts			
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$14,816	\$10,584	\$25,400
Intergovernmental	27,580	220,484	248,064
Earnings on Investments	76	15	91
Miscellaneous	2,214	333	2,547
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>44,686</u>	<u>231,416</u>	<u>276,102</u>
Cash Disbursements			
Current:			
General Government	28,166	6,471	34,637
Public Safety	3,000	0	3,000
Public Works	0	210,334	210,334
Health	8,472	0	8,472
Capital Outlay	0	74,858	74,858
Debt Service:			
Principal Retirement	5,160	19,225	24,385
Interest and Fiscal Charges	267	903	1,170
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>45,065</u>	<u>311,791</u>	<u>356,856</u>
<i>Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>	<u>(379)</u>	<u>(80,375)</u>	<u>(80,754)</u>
Other Financing Receipts			
Other Debt Proceeds	0	75,124	75,124
<i>Total Other Financing Receipts</i>	<u>0</u>	<u>75,124</u>	<u>75,124</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	<u>(379)</u>	<u>(5,251)</u>	<u>(5,630)</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>35,433</u>	<u>128,753</u>	<u>164,186</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31			
Restricted	0	112,858	112,858
Committed	0	10,644	10,644
Assigned	27,570	0	27,570
Unassigned	7,484	0	7,484
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u><u>\$35,054</u></u>	<u><u>\$123,502</u></u>	<u><u>\$158,556</u></u>

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

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**LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2016**

Note 1 - Reporting Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of Lawrence Township, Washington County, Ohio (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 fire protection services. The Township contracts with the Little Muskingum Volunteer Fire Department to provide fire protection and ambulance services. Police protection is provided by the Washington County Sheriff's Department.

The Township participates in the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a risk sharing pool. Note 8 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity.

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

The Township's financial statements consist of a combined statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balances (cash basis) for all governmental fund types which are organized on a fund type basis.

Fund Accounting

The Township uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. The funds of the Township are presented below:

General Fund The general fund accounts for and reports all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund. The general fund balance is available to the Township for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

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:

Gasoline Tax Fund This fund accounts for and reports that portion of the State gasoline tax restricted for maintenance and repair of roads within the Township.

Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund The motor vehicle license tax fund accounts for and reports that portion of motor vehicle license registration fees restricted for maintenance and repair of roads within the Township.

Permissive Sales Tax Fund This fund receives money from the Washington County Commissioners from the County's permissive sale tax levy. Funds are restricted for the purpose of maintaining Township roads.

**LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2016
(Continued)**

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code § 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code § 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 § 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(D) permit.

Budgetary Process

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

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. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year-end.

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 approve estimated resources.

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 in the subsequent year.

A summary of 2016 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

Deposits

The Township pools all available funds of the Township in an interest-bearing checking account.

Capital Assets

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

**LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2016
(Continued)**

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Fund Balance

Fund balance is divided into four 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:

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.

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.

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.

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.

Note 3 - Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2016 follows:

2016 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$44,175	\$44,686	\$511
Special Revenue	306,500	306,540	40
Total	\$350,675	\$351,226	\$551

**LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2016
(Continued)**

Note 3 - Budgetary Activity (Continued)

2016 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$47,702	\$45,065	\$2,637
Special Revenue	321,382	311,791	9,591
Total	\$369,084	\$356,856	\$12,228

Note 4 - 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:

	2016
Demand deposits	\$158,556

Deposits Deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Note 5 - Property Taxes

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.

Note 6 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

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.

**LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2016
(Continued)**

Note 6 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans (Continued)

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. OPERS members contributed 10%, of their gross salaries and the Township contributed an amount equaling 14%, of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2016.

Note 7 - Postemployment Benefits

OPERS offers a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plan, which includes multiple health care plans including medical coverage, prescription drug coverage, deposits to a Health Reimbursement Arrangement and Medicare Part B premium reimbursements, to qualifying benefit recipients of both the traditional pension and the combined plans. OPERS contributes 2 percent of the employer contribution to fund these benefits.

Note 8 - 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, 2015, 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.

**LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2016
(Continued)**

Note 8 - 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, 2015 and 2014 (the latest information available):

	2015	2014
Assets	\$37,313,311	\$35,970,263
Liabilities	8,418,518	8,912,432
Net Position	\$28,894,793	\$27,057,831

At December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively, the liabilities above include approximately \$7.8 and \$8.2 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets above also include approximately \$7.7 and \$7.2 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 989 members and 957 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2015 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, 2016, the Township's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$2,000.

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.

<u>Contributions to OTARMA</u>
2016
\$4,711

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.

**LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2016
(Continued)**

Note 9 - Debt

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2016 was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
2012 Mower Loan	\$9,085	3.75%
2013 Grader Loan	9,395	3.25%
2016 Truck Loan	75,123	2.70%
Total	\$93,603	

The Township entered into a promissory note in 2012 to finance the purchase of a mower. The Township's taxing authority collateralized the agreement.

The Township entered into a promissory note in 2013 to refinance a grader for Township road maintenance previously financed as a capital lease. The Township's taxing authority collateralized the agreement.

The Township entered into a promissory note in 2016 to finance the purchase of a truck. The Township's taxing authority collateralized the agreement.

Amortization

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

Year ending December 31:	2012 Mower Loan	2013 Grader Loan	2016 Truck Loan
2017	\$9,273	\$9,497	\$12,789
2018			11,805
2019			11,805
2020			11,805
2021			11,805
2022-2026			22,626
Total	\$9,273	\$9,497	\$82,635

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**LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (CASH BASIS)
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015**

	General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts			
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$15,177	\$10,838	\$26,015
Intergovernmental	31,935	220,154	252,089
Earnings on Investments	77	24	101
Miscellaneous	2,793	0	2,793
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>49,982</u>	<u>231,016</u>	<u>280,998</u>
Cash Disbursements			
Current:			
General Government	23,195	15,979	39,174
Public Safety	0	3,000	3,000
Public Works	0	220,967	220,967
Health	8,403	0	8,403
Debt Service:			
Principal Retirement	1,276	22,266	23,542
Interest and Fiscal Charges	75	1,938	2,013
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>32,949</u>	<u>264,150</u>	<u>297,099</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	17,033	(33,134)	(16,101)
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>18,400</u>	<u>161,887</u>	<u>180,287</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31			
Restricted	0	115,543	115,543
Committed	0	13,210	13,210
Assigned	3,527	0	3,527
Unassigned	31,906	0	31,906
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u><u>\$35,433</u></u>	<u><u>\$128,753</u></u>	<u><u>\$164,186</u></u>

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

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**LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2015**

Note 1 - Reporting Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of Lawrence Township, Washington County, Ohio (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 fire protection services. The Township contracts with the Little Muskingum Volunteer Fire Department to provide fire protection and ambulance services. Police protection is provided by the Washington County Sheriff's Department.

The Township participates in the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a risk sharing pool. Note 8 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity.

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

The Township's financial statements consist of a combined statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balances (cash basis) for all governmental fund types which are organized on a fund type basis.

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**LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2015
(Continued)**

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Fund Accounting(Continued)

Permissive Sales Tax Fund This fund receives money from the Washington County Commissioners from the County's permissive sale tax levy. Funds are restricted for the purpose of maintaining Township roads.

Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code § 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code § 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 § 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(D) permit.

Budgetary Process

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

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. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year-end.

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 approve estimated resources.

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 in the subsequent year.

A summary of 2015 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

Deposits

The Township pools all available funds of the Township in an interest-bearing checking account.

**LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2015
(Continued)**

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Capital Assets

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

Fund Balance

Fund balance is divided into four 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:

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.

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.

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.

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.

Note 3 - Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2015 follows:

**LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2015
(Continued)**

Note 3 - Budgetary Activity (Continued)

2015 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$49,950	\$49,982	\$32
Special Revenue	230,823	231,016	193
Total	\$280,773	\$280,998	\$225

2015 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$35,188	\$32,949	\$2,239
Special Revenue	293,050	264,150	28,900
Total	\$328,238	\$297,099	\$31,139

Note 4 - 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:

	2015
Demand deposits	\$164,186

Deposits Deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Note 5 - Property Taxes

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.

**LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2015
(Continued)**

Note 6 - Defined Benefit Pension Plan

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

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. OPERS members contributed 10%, of their gross salaries and the Township contributed an amount equaling 14%, of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2015.

Note 7 - Postemployment Benefits

OPERS offers a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plan, which includes multiple health care plans including medical coverage, prescription drug coverage, deposits to a Health Reimbursement Arrangement and Medicare Part B premium reimbursements, to qualifying benefit recipients of both the traditional pension and the combined plans. OPERS contributes 2 percent of the employer contribution to fund these benefits.

Note 8 - 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.

**LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2015
(Continued)**

Note 8 - Risk Management (Continued)

At December 31, 2015, 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.

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, 2015 and 2014 (the latest information available):

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Assets	\$37,313,311	\$35,970,263
Liabilities	8,418,518	8,912,432
Net Position	\$28,894,793	\$27,057,831

At December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively, the liabilities above include approximately \$7.8 and \$8.2 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets above also include approximately \$7.7 and \$7.2 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 989 members and 957 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2015 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, 2015, the Township's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$2,000.

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.

<u>Contributions to OTARMA</u>
<u>2015</u>
\$4,710

**LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2015
(Continued)**

Note 8 - Risk Management (Continued)

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.

Note 9 - Debt

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2015 was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
2012 Mower Loan	\$17,829	3.75%
2013 Grader Loan	25,084	3.25%
Total	\$42,913	

The Township entered into a promissory note in 2012 to finance the purchase of a mower. The Township's taxing authority collateralized the agreement.

The Township entered into a promissory note in 2013 to refinance a grader for Township road maintenance previously financed as a capital lease. The Township's taxing authority collateralized the agreement.

Amortization

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

Year ending	2012 Mower	2013 Grader
December 31:	Loan	Loan
2016	\$9,273	\$16,281
2017	9,273	10,854
Total	\$18,546	\$27,135

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Dave Yost • Auditor of State

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

Lawrence Township
Washington County
692 Bear Run Road
Reno, Ohio 45773

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 the cash balances, receipts, and disbursements by fund type of Lawrence Township, Washington County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated April 7, 2017, wherein we noted the Township followed financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code § 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(D) permit.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

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 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. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all internal control deficiencies that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Therefore, unidentified material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist. We did identify a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings that we consider a material weakness. We consider Finding 2016-002 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, 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 matter we must report under *Government Auditing Standards*, which is described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings as item 2016-001.

Entity's Response to Findings

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.

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.



Dave Yost
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

April 7, 2017

**LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND 2015**

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS
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FINDING NUMBER 2016-001

Noncompliance

Ohio Rev. Code Chapter 133 allows various methods for subdivisions to incur debt. Ohio Rev. Code § 133.22 allows a subdivision to issue anticipatory securities, § 133.10 allows anticipation securities in anticipation of current property tax revenues, § 133.14 allows the issuance of securities for the purpose of paying all or any portion of the costs of any permanent improvement that the subdivision is authorized, alone or in cooperation with other persons, to acquire, improve, or construct and § 133.18 allows the taxing authority of a subdivision by legislation to submit to the electors of the subdivision the question is issuing any general obligation bonds, for one purpose, that the subdivision has power or authority to issue.

The Township signed a promissory note originating in 2012 in the amount of \$42,162 for a grader, a promissory note originating in 2013 in the amount of \$68,000 for a mower, and a promissory note originating in 2016 for a truck in the amount of \$75,123, that did not meet the requirements of Ohio Rev. Code § 133.20.

The Board of Trustees should only authorize the issuance of notes pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code § 133.20.

Official's Response: Due to cost savings, the Township does not plan on correcting this in the future.

FINDING NUMBER 2016-002

Material Weakness

All local public offices should maintain an accounting system and accounting records sufficient to enable the public office to identify, assemble, analyze, classify, record and report its transactions, maintain accountability for the related assets, document compliance with finance-related legal and contractual requirements and prepare financial statements.

The Fiscal Officer posted certain transactions incorrectly resulting in material audit adjustments.

For the year ended December 31, 2015, the following item was noted:

- Because the 2016 General Fund appropriations exceeded the 2016 General Fund estimated receipts, \$3,527 of the December 31, 2015 fund balance was reclassified as assigned rather than as unassigned.

For the year ended December 31, 2016, the following items were noted:

- Because the 2016 General Fund appropriations exceeded the 2016 General Fund estimated receipts, \$27,570 of the December 31, 2016 fund balance was reclassified as assigned rather than as unassigned.
- Because the Road and Bridge Fund levy was within the 10 mil limitation, the December 31, 2016 fund balance of \$10,644 was reclassified as committed rather than as restricted.

**LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND 2015
(Continued)**

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (Continued)
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FINDING NUMBER 2016-002 (Continued)

Material Weakness (Continued)

These misstatements were caused by confusion over proper classifications and a lack of management oversight. As a result, significant adjustments and reclassifications, with which the Township's management agrees, were made to the financial statements and ledgers, and are reflected in the accompanying financial statements.

The Fiscal Officer should refer to Appendix A of the Township Handbook for proper classification and take additional care in posting transactions to the Township's ledgers in order to ensure the financial statements reflect the appropriate sources of the receipts and expenditures.

Official's Response: We plan on correcting this in the future.

**LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND 2015**

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Status	Additional Information
2014-001	Ohio Rev. Code Chapter 133 cited for issuing unallowable debt	Not Corrected	Repeated as Finding 2016-001. Applied to both debt previously issued and issued in the current period. The Township believes the cost savings and efficiency associated with this type of debt is more favorable.
2014-002	Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.14(D) cited and identified as a material weakness for transferring FEMA reimbursements to the incorrect fund and without approval.	Fully Corrected	N/A
2014-003	Ohio Admin. Code § 117-2-02(A) cited and identified as a material weakness for material misstatements requiring audit adjustment.	Partially Corrected	Repeated as a material weakness only as Finding 2016-002. This resulted from an oversight by the Fiscal Officer who plans to correct this for future annual reports.

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LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP

WASHINGTON COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

This is a true and correct copy of the report which is required to be filed in the Office of the Auditor of State pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in Columbus, Ohio.

Susan Babbitt

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

CERTIFIED
MAY 4, 2017