



**SOUTHWEST PUBLIC LIBRARIES  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**REGULAR AUDIT**

**FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**



**SOUTHWEST PUBLIC LIBRARIES  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Southwest Public Libraries  
Franklin County  
3959 Broadway  
Grove City, Ohio 43123

To the Board of Trustees:

### Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

#### ***Unmodified and Adverse Opinions***

We have audited the financial statements of the Southwest Public Libraries, Franklin County, Ohio (the Library), which comprises the cash balances, receipts and disbursements for each governmental fund type and combined total as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements.

#### ***Unmodified Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting***

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the cash balances, receipts and disbursements for each governmental fund type combined total as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, in accordance with the financial reporting provisions which Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(C) permit, described in Note 2.

#### ***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* section of our report, the accompanying financial statements do not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Library, as of December 31, 2023, and 2022, or the changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended.

#### ***Basis for Opinions***

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Library, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

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

As described in Note 2 of the financial statements, the financial statements are prepared by the Library on the basis of the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(C), which is an accounting basis other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP), to satisfy these requirements. The effects on the financial statements of the variances between the regulatory basis of accounting described in Note 2 and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, although not reasonably determinable, are presumed to be material and pervasive.

***Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements***

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(C) permit. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Library's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and the financial audit standards in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Library's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.

- conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Library's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

***Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated August 13, 2024, on our consideration of the Library'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. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Library's 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 Library's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Keith Faber  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

August 13, 2024

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**Southwest Public Libraries***Franklin County**Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements  
and Changes in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis)**All Governmental Fund Types**For the Year Ended December 31, 2023*

|  | General            | Capital<br>Projects | Combined<br>Total  |
|--|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Cash Receipts</b>                                 |                    |                     |                    |
| Property and Other Local Taxes                       | \$2,530,433        |                     | \$2,530,433        |
| Public Library                                       | 4,872,337          |                     | 4,872,337          |
| Intergovernmental                                    | 239,525            |                     | 239,525            |
| Patron Fines and Fees                                | 81,370             |                     | 81,370             |
| Contributions, Gifts and Donations                   | 14,775             |                     | 14,775             |
| Earnings on Investments                              | 61,232             |                     | 61,232             |
| Miscellaneous  | 71,498             |                     | 71,498             |
| <i>Total Cash Receipts</i>                           | <u>7,871,170</u>   | <u>0</u>            | <u>7,871,170</u>   |
| <b>Cash Disbursements</b>                            |                    |                     |                    |
| Current:   |                    |                     |                    |
| Library Services:                                    |                    |                     |                    |
| Public Services and Programs                         | 3,180,795          |                     | 3,180,795          |
| Collection Development and Processing                | 924,167            |                     | 924,167            |
| Support Services:                                    |                    |                     |                    |
| Facilities Operation and Maintenance                 | 1,863,970          |                     | 1,863,970          |
| Information Services                                 | 361,376            |                     | 361,376            |
| Business Administration                              | 1,205,948          |                     | 1,205,948          |
| Capital Outlay                                       | 62,737             | 40,306              | 103,043            |
| <i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>                      | <u>7,598,993</u>   | <u>40,306</u>       | <u>7,639,299</u>   |
| <i>Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i> | <u>272,178</u>     | <u>(40,306)</u>     | <u>231,871</u>     |
| <i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>              | 272,178            | (40,306)            | 231,871            |
| <i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>                 | <u>3,435,052</u>   | <u>184,156</u>      | <u>3,619,207</u>   |
| <i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>               | <u>\$3,707,229</u> | <u>\$143,849</u>    | <u>\$3,851,079</u> |

*See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements*

**Southwest Public Libraries**  
*Franklin County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2023*

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**Note 1 – Reporting Entity**

The Southwest Public Libraries (the Library) was organized as a school district public library in 1923 under the laws of the State of Ohio. The Library has its own seven-member Board of Trustees appointed by the South-Western City School District Board of Education. Appointments are for seven-year terms and members serve without compensation. Under Ohio statutes, the Library is a body politic and corporate capable of exercising such other powers and privileges conferred upon it by law. The Library also determines and operates under its own budget. Control and management of the Library is governed by sections 3375.33 to 3375.39 of the Ohio Revised Code with the administration of the day-to-day operations of the Library being the responsibility of the Director and financial accountability being solely that of the Fiscal Officer.

The Library is fiscally independent of the Board of Education, although the Board of Education serves in a ministerial capacity as the taxing authority for the Library. The determination to request approval of a tax levy, the role and purpose(s) of the levy, are discretionary decisions made solely by the Board of Library Trustees. Once those decisions are made, the Board of Education must put the levy on the ballot. There is no potential for the Library to provide a financial benefit to or impose a financial burden on the Board of Education.

Under the provisions of Statement No. 14 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, "The Financial Reporting Entity," the Library is considered to be a related organization of the South-Western City School District.

Component units are legally separate organizations for which the Library is financially accountable. The Library is financially accountable for an organization if the Library appoints a voting majority of the organization's governing board; and (1) the Library is able to significantly influence the programs or services performed or provided by the organization; or (2) the Library is legally entitled to or can otherwise access the organization's resources; the Library is legally obligated or has otherwise assumed the responsibility to finance the deficits of, or provide financial support to, the organization; or the Library is obligated for the debt of the organization. Component units may also include organizations for which the Library authorizes the issuance of debt or the levying of taxes or determines the budget if there is also the potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or impose specific financial burdens on the Library. The Library has no component units.

The Friends of Southwest Public Libraries is a not-for-profit organization with a self-appointing board. The Library is not financially accountable for the organization, nor does the Library approve the budget or the issuance of debt of the organization. The economic resources received or held by the organization that the Library is entitled to, or has the ability to otherwise access, are not significant to the Library. Therefore, this organization has been excluded from the reporting entity of the library.

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

**Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

***Basis of Presentation***

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

**Southwest Public Libraries**  
*Franklin County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2023*

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**Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

***Fund Accounting***

The Library 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 Library 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 Library for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

***Capital Project Funds*** The capital projects fund accounts for and reports resources committed or assigned by the Board of Library Trustees specifically for major capital and technology improvements.

***Basis of Accounting***

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 (C). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Library 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 (C) permit.

***Budgetary Process***

The Board must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end. Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund and character or major category of the object code level for all funds. Budgetary modifications at the legal level of control may only be made by resolution of the Board of Library Trustees.

A summary of 2023 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

***Deposits and Investment***

The Library'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.

Money market mutual funds are recorded at share values the mutual funds report. Investment in STAR Ohio is measured at the net asset value (NAV) per share provided by STAR Ohio. The NAV per share is calculated on an amortized cost basis that provides an NAV per share that approximates fair value.

***Capital Assets***

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

**Southwest Public Libraries**  
*Franklin County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2023*

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**Note 2 – Summary of significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

***Accumulated Leave***

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. The financial statements do not include a liability for unpaid leave.

***Leases and SBITAs***

The Library is the lessor/lessee in various leases (as defined by GASB 87) related to buildings and other equipment under noncancelable leases. Lease revenue/disbursements are recognized when they are received/paid.

The Library has entered into noncancelable Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITA) contracts (as defined by GASB 96) for several types of software including contracts related to financial systems and various other software. Subscription disbursements are recognized when they are paid.

***Fund Balance***

Fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the Library must observe constraints imposed upon the use of its governmental-fund resources. The classifications are as follows:

***Nonspendable*** The Library classifies assets as *nonspendable* when legally or contractually required to maintain the amounts intact. For regulatory purposes, nonspendable fund balance includes unclaimed monies that are required to be held for five years before they may be utilized by the Library and the nonspendable portion of the corpus in permanent funds.

***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*** The Board of Trustees can *commit* amounts via formal action (resolution). The Library must adhere to these commitments unless the Board amends 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*. For regulatory purposes, assigned fund balance in the general fund is limited to encumbrances outstanding at year end.

***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 Library 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.

For regulatory purposes, limited disclosure related to fund balance is included in Note 12.

**Southwest Public Libraries**  
*Franklin County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2023*

**Note 3 – Budgetary Activity**

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2023 follows:

| 2023 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts |                   |                 |           |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Fund Type                         | Budgeted Receipts | Actual Receipts | Variance  |
| General                           | \$7,505,095       | \$7,871,170     | \$366,075 |
| Total                             | \$7,505,095       | \$7,871,170     | \$366,075 |

  

| 2023 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures |                         |                        |             |
|---|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------|
| Fund Type   | Appropriation Authority | Budgetary Expenditures | Variance    |
| General   | \$10,939,148            | \$7,630,987            | \$3,308,161 |
| Capital Projects                                      | 184,156                 | 40,306                 | 143,850     |
| Total   | \$11,123,304            | \$7,671,293            | \$3,452,011 |

**Note 4 – Deposits and Investments**

To improve cash management, cash received by the Library is pooled. Monies for all funds are maintained in this pool. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. A summary of the Library's deposit and investment accounts are as follows:

|  | 2023               |
|--|--------------------|
| <b><i>Cash Management Pool:</i></b>  |                    |
| Demand deposits  | \$2,708,309        |
| Petty Cash   | \$200              |
| Cash for Transactions (Cash Registers)   | \$800              |
| Total deposits   | \$2,709,309        |
| STAR Ohio  | \$1,141,770        |
| Total investments  | \$1,141,770        |
| <i>Total carrying amount of deposits and investments held in the Pool (ties to FS)</i> | <u>\$3,851,079</u> |

The Library does not use a separate payroll clearing account. The expenditures included in the accompanying financial statements reflect net payroll plus all remitted payroll withholdings.

***Deposits***

Deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; or collateralized through the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution.

At December 31, 2023 \$0 of deposits were not insured or collateralized, contrary to Ohio Law

***Investments***

Investments in STAR Ohio and mutual funds are not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book-entry form.

**Southwest Public Libraries**  
*Franklin County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2023*

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**Note 5 – Grants in Aid and Taxes**

***Grants in Aid***

The primary source of revenue for Ohio public libraries is the Public Library Fund (PLF). The State allocates PLF to each county based on the total tax revenue credited to the State's general revenue fund during the preceding month using the statutory allocation method. Estimated entitlement figures were issued to County Auditors. The actual current year entitlements were computed in December of the current year. The difference between the estimate and actual will be adjusted evenly in the PLF distributions made from January-June of the subsequent year.

***Property Taxes***

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the taxing authority of the subdivision to whose jurisdiction the Library is subject adopts rates. The State Department of Taxation, Division of Tax Equalization, adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable non-business, owner occupancy, and homestead exemption credits and/or homestead and rollback deductions. The financial statements include these credits and/or deduction amounts the State pays as Other Governments' Grants In Aid. 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 Library.

**Note 6 – Risk Management**

***Workers' Compensation***

Workers' Compensation coverage is provided by the State of Ohio. The Library pays the State Workers' Compensation System a premium based on a rate per \$100 of salaries. This rate is calculated based on accident history and administrative costs.

***Risk Pool Membership***

The Library belongs to the Ohio Plan Risk Management, Inc. (OPRM) (the "Plan"), a non-assessable, unincorporated non-profit association providing a formalized, jointly administered self-insurance risk management program and other administrative services to Ohio governments ("Members"). The Plan is legally separate from its member governments.

Pursuant to Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code, the plan provides property, liability, errors and omissions, law enforcement, automobile, excess liability, crime, surety and bond, inland marine and other coverages to its members sold through fourteen appointed independent agents in the State of Ohio.

OPRM coverage programs are developed specific to each member's risk management needs and the related premiums for coverage are determined through the application of uniform underwriting criteria addressing the member's exposure to loss. Effective November 1, 2016, the OPRM elected to participate in a property loss corridor deductible. The property corridor includes losses paid between 70% and 75%. In 2018, the casualty loss corridor was eliminated, and the property corridor was adjusted to losses paid between 65% and 70%. Effective November 1, 2019, the property loss corridor was adjusted to losses between 60% and 67.5% and has remained unchanged in subsequent treaties.

OPRM had 773 members as of December 31, 2023.

**Southwest Public Libraries**  
*Franklin County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2023*

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**Note 6 – Risk Management (Continued)**

The Pool's audited financial statements conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and equity at December 31, 2023.

|                 |               |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Assets          | \$ 23,113,696 |
| Liabilities     | ( 16,078,587) |
| Members' Equity | \$ 7,035,109  |

You can read the complete audited financial statements for OPRM at the Plan's website, [www.ohioplan.org](http://www.ohioplan.org).

**Note 7 – Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

***Ohio Public Employees Retirement System***

The Library 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 health care and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. OPERS members contributed 10 percent of their gross salaries, and the Library contributed an amount equaling 14 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Library has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2023.

| <i>Retirement Rates</i> | <i>Year</i>        | <i>Member Rate</i> | <i>Employer Rate</i> |
|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| <i>OPERS – Local</i>    | <i>2012 – 2023</i> | <i>10%</i>         | <i>14%</i>           |

**Note 8 – Postemployment Benefits**

OPERS offers a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plan. OPERS offers a health reimbursement arrangement (HRA) allowance to benefit recipients meeting certain age and service credit requirements. The HRA is an account funded by OPERS that provides tax-free reimbursement for qualified medical expenses such as monthly post-tax insurance premiums, deductibles, co-insurance, and co-pays incurred by eligible benefit recipients and their dependents. For calendar year 2023, the portion of employer contributions allocated to health care was 0 percent for members in the traditional pension plan and 2 percent for members in the combined plan. For 2023, the portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for members in the member-directed plan was 4.0 percent; however, a portion of the health care rate was funded with reserves.

**Southwest Public Libraries**  
*Franklin County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2023*

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**Note 9 – Operating Lease**

The Library leases the building that houses the Westland Area Library located at 4740 West Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43228. The building is part of the Lincoln Village Shopping Center and was owned by Nationwide Development Corporation of Columbus, Ohio until September 2009 when it was acquired by Echo Property Development of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The terms of the original lease with Nationwide Development continue to be in effect as the Library and Echo agreed to extend the lease in 2017 for another 18 years. The Library disbursed \$449,504 to pay lease expenses which includes taxes, insurance, and CAM charges of \$100,209. In addition, both parties agreed to add approximately 3,625 square feet of space to the building. Both parties agreed that the construction costs would be shared 60% (echo) and 40% (Library) with the Library's portion being amortized over the 18 year extension at an annual rate of 8% and incorporated into lease payment.

Future lease payments are as followed:

| Year      | Amount       |
|-----------|--------------|
| 2024      | \$ 349,295   |
| 2025      | \$ 357,150   |
| 2026      | \$ 362,761   |
| 2027      | \$ 362,761   |
| 2028      | \$ 362,761   |
| 2029-2033 | \$ 1,848,589 |
| 2034-2037 | \$ 1,504,904 |
| Total:    | \$ 5,148,221 |

Part of the Library's lease payment is for property taxes incurred by Echo Property Development and reimbursement of common area maintenance charges for the shopping center. Future additional property taxes will cause the amounts listed above to increase by the amount of the property tax attributable to the 4740 West Broad Street location. It is not possible to predict when these increases may occur or what amounts the increases will be. Common area maintenance charges fluctuate based on the maintenance needs of the shopping center. It is not possible to predict what these charges will be in the future. All operating lease expenses are reflected as Facilities Operation and Maintenance disbursements within the General Fund on the basic financial statements.

**Note 10 – Construction and Contractual Commitments**

The Library Board of Trustees approved a Development Agreement and a Lease/Purchase Agreement with the City of Grove City on June 9, 2015 for the construction and lease/purchase of a 48,000 square foot building located at 3959 Broadway, Grove City Ohio 43123 to be the future home of the Grove City Library. The agreement called for the City of Grove City to pay for all building construction and site development costs and then to lease the Grove City Library building to the Library for a period of 30 years; at the end of which, the Library becomes the sole owner of the property. The annual lease payment to the City of Grove City is \$300,000 for 30 years, commencing on September 1, 2016. Under the agreement, the Library paid the City \$1,000,000 toward construction costs in June, 2015 with that cost being expended as a capital expenditure from the Capital Projects Fund. The Library paid the City a second and final installment of \$1,000,000 upon completion of the building in September, 2016. In addition, the Library agreed to deed then-current Grove City Library Property at 3359 Park Street, Grove City, Ohio 43123 to the City of Grove City upon the completion of the new library building at 3959 Broadway.



**Southwest Public Libraries**  
*Franklin County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2023*

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**Note 11 – Contingent Liabilities**

As of the date of these financial statements, the Library's management is unaware of any contingent liabilities which could have a material impact on the Library's financial condition.

**Note 12 – Fund Balances**

Included in fund balances for the Library are encumbrances. Encumbrances are commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods or services. Encumbrance accounting is utilized to the extent necessary to assure effective budgetary control and accountability and to facilitate effective cash planning and control. Outstanding encumbrances in the General Fund are considered assigned. At year end the balances of these amounts were as follows:

|                          |         |        |  |  |
|--------------------------|---------|--------|--|--|
|                          |         |        |  |  |
| Fund Balances            | General | Total  |  |  |
| Outstanding Encumbrances | 31,994  | 31,994 |  |  |

The unspent monies in the Capital Project fund is classified as committed.

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**Southwest Public Libraries***Franklin County**Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements  
and Changes in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis)**All Governmental Fund Types**For the Year Ended December 31, 2022*

|   | General            | Capital<br>Projects | Combined<br>Total  |
|---|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Cash Receipts</b>                                  |                    |                     |                    |
| Property and Other Local Taxes                        | \$2,400,788        |                     | \$2,400,788        |
| Public Library  | \$4,796,556        |                     | 4,796,556          |
| Intergovernmental                                     | \$234,250          |                     | 234,250            |
| Patron Fines and Fees                                 | \$75,737           |                     | 75,737             |
| Contributions, Gifts and Donations                    | \$4,215            |                     | 4,215              |
| Earnings on Investments                               | \$17,837           |                     | 17,837             |
| Miscellaneous   | \$128,172          |                     | 128,172            |
| <i>Total Cash Receipts</i>                            | <u>7,657,554</u>   | <u>0</u>            | <u>7,657,554</u>   |
| <b>Cash Disbursements</b>                             |                    |                     |                    |
| Current:  |                    |                     |                    |
| Library Services:                                     |                    |                     |                    |
| Public Services and Programs                          | 3,169,270          |                     | 3,169,270          |
| Collection Development and Processing                 | 824,224            |                     | 824,224            |
| Support Services:                                     |                    |                     |                    |
| Facilities Operation and Maintenance                  | 1,785,462          |                     | 1,785,462          |
| Information Services                                  | 458,880            |                     | 458,880            |
| Business Administration                               | 912,503            |                     | 912,503            |
| Capital Outlay  | 49,567             | 124,484             | 174,052            |
| <i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>                       | <u>7,199,907</u>   | <u>124,484</u>      | <u>7,324,391</u>   |
| <i>Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>  | <u>457,648</u>     | <u>(124,484)</u>    | <u>333,163</u>     |
| <b>Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)</b>       |                    |                     |                    |
| Transfers In  |                    | 150,000             | 150,000            |
| Transfers Out   | (150,000)          |                     | (150,000)          |
| <i>Total Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)</i> | <u>(150,000)</u>   | <u>150,000</u>      | <u>0</u>           |
| <i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>               | 307,648            | 25,516              | 333,163            |
| <i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>                  | <u>3,127,404</u>   | <u>158,640</u>      | <u>3,286,044</u>   |
| <i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>                | <u>\$3,435,052</u> | <u>\$184,156</u>    | <u>\$3,619,207</u> |

*See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements*

**Southwest Public Libraries**  
*Franklin County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2022*

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**Note 1 – Reporting Entity**

The Southwest Public Libraries (the Library) was organized as a school district public library in 1923 under the laws of the State of Ohio. The Library has its own seven-member Board of Trustees appointed by the South-Western City School District Board of Education. Appointments are for seven-year terms and members serve without compensation. Under Ohio statutes, the Library is a body politic and corporate capable of exercising such other powers and privileges conferred upon it by law. The Library also determines and operates under its own budget. Control and management of the Library is governed by sections 3375.33 to 3375.39 of the Ohio Revised Code with the administration of the day-to-day operations of the Library being the responsibility of the Director and financial accountability being solely that of the Fiscal Officer.

The Library is fiscally independent of the Board of Education, although the Board of Education serves in a ministerial capacity as the taxing authority for the Library. The determination to request approval of a tax levy, the role and purpose(s) of the levy, are discretionary decisions made solely by the Board of Library Trustees. Once those decisions are made, the Board of Education must put the levy on the ballot. There is no potential for the Library to provide a financial benefit to or impose a financial burden on the Board of Education.

Under the provisions of Statement No. 14 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, "The Financial Reporting Entity," the Library is considered to be a related organization of the South-Western City School District.

Component units are legally separate organizations for which the Library is financially accountable. The Library is financially accountable for an organization if the Library appoints a voting majority of the organization's governing board; and (1) the Library is able to significantly influence the programs or services performed or provided by the organization; or (2) the Library is legally entitled to or can otherwise access the organization's resources; the Library is legally obligated or has otherwise assumed the responsibility to finance the deficits of, or provide financial support to, the organization; or the Library is obligated for the debt of the organization. Component units may also include organizations for which the Library authorizes the issuance of debt or the levying of taxes or determines the budget if there is also the potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or impose specific financial burdens on the Library. The Library has no component units.

The Friends of Southwest Public Libraries is a not-for-profit organization with a self-appointing board. The Library is not financially accountable for the organization, nor does the Library approve the budget or the issuance of debt of the organization. The economic resources received or held by the organization that the Library is entitled to, or has the ability to otherwise access, are not significant to the Library. Therefore, this organization has been excluded from the reporting entity of the Library.

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

**Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

***Basis of Presentation***

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

**Southwest Public Libraries**  
*Franklin County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2022*

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**Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

***Fund Accounting***

The Library 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 Library are presented below:

***Governmental Funds*** Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions of the Library are financed. The following are the Library's major governmental funds:

***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 Library for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

***Capital Project Funds*** The capital projects fund accounts for and reports resources committed or assigned by the Board of Library Trustees specifically for major capital and technology improvements.

***Basis of Accounting***

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 (C). 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 (C) permit.

***Budgetary Process***

All funds are legally required to be appropriated. The appropriations resolution is the Trustee's authorization to spend resources and sets limits on cash disbursements plus encumbrances at the level of control selected by the Trustees. The legal level of control has been established at the fund and character

or major category of the object code level for all funds. Budgetary modifications at the legal level of control may only be made by resolution of the Board of Library Trustees.

For control purposes, the Library estimates cash receipts for the year. These estimated receipts, together with the unencumbered carry-over balances from the prior year, set a limit on the amount the Trustees may appropriate. The estimated receipts may be revised during the year if projected increases or decreases in receipts are identified by the Fiscal Officer. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts on the budgetary statements reflect the amounts of estimated resources when the original appropriations were adopted. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts on the budgetary statements reflect the amounts of estimated resources at the time final appropriations were enacted by the Trustees.

The appropriations resolution is subject to amendment throughout the year with the restriction that appropriations should not exceed estimated resources. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts reflect the first appropriation ordinance for that fund that covered the entire year, including amounts automatically carried forward from prior years. The amounts reported as the final budgeted

**Southwest Public Libraries**  
*Franklin County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2022*

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**Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

amounts represent the final appropriation amounts passed by the Trustees during the year.

A summary of 2022 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

***Deposits and Investments***

The Library'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.

Money market mutual funds are recorded at share values the mutual funds report. Investment in STAR Ohio is measured at the net asset value (NAV) per share provided by STAR Ohio. The NAV per share is calculated on an amortized cost basis that provides an NAV per share that approximates fair value.

***Capital Assets***

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

***Accumulated Leave***

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. The financial statements do not include a liability for unpaid leave

***Leases***

The Library is the lessor/lessee in various leases (as defined by GASB 87) related to buildings and other equipment under noncancelable leases. Lease revenue/disbursements are recognized when they are received/paid.

***Fund Balance***

Fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the Library must observe constraints imposed upon the use of its governmental-fund resources. The classifications are as follows:

***Nonspendable*** The Library classifies assets as *nonspendable* when legally or contractually required to maintain the amounts intact. For regulatory purposes, nonspendable fund balance includes unclaimed monies that are required to be held for five years before they may be utilized by the Library and the nonspendable portion of the corpus in permanent funds.

***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*** The Board of Trustees can *commit* amounts via formal action (resolution). The Library must adhere to these commitments unless the Board amends 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.

**Southwest Public Libraries**  
*Franklin County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2022*

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**Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

**Assigned** Assigned fund balances are intended for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as *restricted* or *committed*. For regulatory purposes, assigned fund balance in the general fund is limited to encumbrances outstanding at year end.

**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 Library 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.

For regulatory purposes, limited disclosure related to fund balance is included in Note 12.

**Note 3 – Budgetary Activity**

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2022 follows:

| 2022 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts |                    |                    |                  |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Fund Type                         | Budgeted Receipts  | Actual Receipts    | Variance         |
| General                           | \$7,037,554        | \$7,657,554        | \$620,000        |
| Total                             | <u>\$7,037,554</u> | <u>\$7,657,554</u> | <u>\$620,000</u> |

| 2022 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures |                         |                        |                    |
|---|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| Fund Type   | Appropriation Authority | Budgetary Expenditures | Variance           |
| General   | \$10,137,958            | \$7,469,447            | \$2,668,511        |
| Capital Projects                                      | 158,640                 | 142,821                | 15,819             |
| Total   | <u>\$10,296,598</u>     | <u>\$7,612,268</u>     | <u>\$2,684,330</u> |

**Note 4 – Deposits and Investments**

To improve cash management, cash received by the Library is pooled. Monies for all funds are maintained in this pool. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. A summary of the Library's deposit and investment accounts are as follows:

**Southwest Public Libraries**  
*Franklin County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2022*

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**Note 4 – Deposits and Investments (Continued)**

|  | <u>2022</u>        |
|--|--------------------|
| <b><i>Cash Management Pool:</i></b>  |                    |
| Demand deposits  | \$2,534,226        |
| Petty Cash   | 200                |
| Cash for Transactions (Cash Registers)   | <u>800</u>         |
| Total deposits   | <u>2,535,226</u>   |
| STAR Ohio  | <u>1,083,981</u>   |
| Total investments  | <u>1,083,981</u>   |
| <i>Total carrying amount of deposits and investments held in the Pool (ties to FS)</i> | <u>\$3,619,207</u> |

The Library does not use a separate payroll clearing account. The expenditures included in the accompanying financial statements reflect net payroll plus all remitted payroll withholdings.

***Deposits***

Deposits are collateralized through the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution.

At December 31, 2022, \$0 of deposits were not insured or collateralized, contrary to Ohio law.

***Investments***

Investments in STAR Ohio and mutual funds are not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book-entry form.

**Note 5 – Grants in Aid and Taxes**

***Grants in Aid***

The primary source of revenue for Ohio public libraries is the Public Library Fund (PLF). The State allocates PLF to each county based on the total tax revenue credited to the State's general revenue fund during the preceding month using the statutory allocation method. Estimated entitlement figures were issued to County Auditors. The actual current year entitlements were computed in December of the current year. The difference between the estimate and actual will be adjusted evenly in the PLF distributions made from January-June of the subsequent year.

***Property Taxes***

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the taxing authority of the subdivision to whose jurisdiction the Library is subject adopts rates. The State Department of Taxation, Division of Tax Equalization, adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable non-business, owner occupancy, and homestead exemption credits and/or homestead and rollback deductions. The financial statements include these credits and/or deduction amounts the State pays as Other Governments' Grants In Aid. 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 Library.



**Southwest Public Libraries**  
*Franklin County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2022*

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**Note 6 – Risk Management**

***Workers' Compensation***

Workers' Compensation coverage is provided by the State of Ohio. The Library pays the State Workers' Compensation System a premium based on a rate per \$100 of salaries. This rate is calculated based on accident history and administrative costs.

***Risk Management Pool***

The Library belongs to the Ohio Plan Risk Management, Inc. (OPRM) (the "Plan"), a non-assessable, unincorporated non-profit association providing a formalized, jointly administered self-insurance risk management program and other administrative services to Ohio governments ("Members"). The Plan is legally separate from its member governments.

Pursuant to Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code, the plan provides property, liability, errors and omissions, law enforcement, automobile, excess liability, crime, surety and bond, inland marine and other coverages to its members sold through fourteen appointed independent agents in the State of Ohio.

OPRM coverage programs are developed specific to each member's risk management needs and the related premiums for coverage are determined through the application of uniform underwriting criteria addressing the member's exposure to loss. Effective November 1, 2017, the OPRM retained 47% of the premium and losses on the first \$250,000 casualty treaty and 30% of the first \$1,000,000 property treaty. The OPRM is also participated in a property primary excess of loss treaty. This treaty reimbursed the OPRM 30% for losses between \$200,000 and \$1,000,000. The reimbursement is based on the amount of loss between \$200,000 and \$1,000,000. Effective November 1, 2018, the OPRM the property retention remained unchanged, however, the Plan assumed 100% of the first \$250,000 casualty treaty. Members are only responsible for their self-retention (deductible) amounts, which vary from member to member. Effective November 1, 2019, the OPRM's property retention increased from 30% to 33%, while the casualty treaty remains unchanged and still assumes 100% of the first \$250,000 casualty treaty. Effective November 1, 2020, the OPRM's property retention increased from 33% to 55%, while the casualty treaty remains unchanged and still assumes 100% of the first \$250,000 casualty treaty. OPRM had 769 members as of December 31, 2021.

The Pool's audited financial statements conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and equity at December 31, 2022.

|                 |                     |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Assets          | \$ 21,662,291       |
| Liabilities     | ( 18,158,351)       |
| Members' Equity | <u>\$ 3,503,940</u> |

You can read the complete audited financial statements for OPRM at the Plan's website, [www.ohioplan.org](http://www.ohioplan.org).

**Note 7 – Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

***Ohio Public Employees Retirement System***

Library 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 health care and survivor and disability benefits.

**Southwest Public Libraries**  
*Franklin County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2022*

**Note 7 – Defined Benefit Pension Plans (Continued)**

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. OPERS members contributed 10 percent of their gross salaries, and the Library contributed an amount equaling 14 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Library has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2022.

| <i>Retirement Rates</i> | <i>Year</i>        | <i>Member Rate</i> | <i>Employer Rate</i> |
|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| <i>OPERS – Local</i>    | <i>2012 – 2022</i> | <i>10%</i>         | <i>14%</i>           |

**Note 8 – Postemployment Benefits**

OPERS offers a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plan. OPERS offers a health reimbursement arrangement (HRA) allowance to benefit recipients meeting certain age and service credit requirements. The HRA is an account funded by OPERS that provides tax-free reimbursement for qualified medical expenses such as monthly post-tax insurance premiums, deductibles, co-insurance, and co-pays incurred by eligible benefit recipients and their dependents. For calendar year 2022, the portion of employer contributions allocated to health care was 0 percent for members in the traditional pension plan and 2 percent for members in the combined plan. For 2022, the portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for members in the member-directed plan was 4.0 percent; however, a portion of the health care rate was funded with reserves.

**Note 9 – Operating Lease**

The Library leases the building that houses the Westland Area Library located at 4740 West Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43228. The building is part of the Lincoln Village Shopping Center and was owned by Nationwide Development Corporation of Columbus, Ohio until September 2009 when it was acquired by Echo Property Development of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The terms of the original lease with Nationwide Development continue to be in effect as the Library and Echo agreed to extend the lease in 2017 for another 18 years. The Library disbursed \$398,927 to pay lease expenses which includes taxes, insurance, and CAM charges of \$49,632. In addition, both parties agreed to add approximately 3,625 square feet of space to the building. Both parties agreed that the construction costs would be shared 60% (Echo) and 40% (Library) with the Library's portion being amortized over the 18 year extension at an annual rate of 8% and incorporated into lease payment.

Future lease payments are as followed:

| <i>Year</i> | <i>Amount</i> |
|-------------|---------------|
| 2023        | \$ 349,295    |
| 2024        | \$ 349,295    |
| 2025        | \$ 357,150    |
| 2026        | \$ 362,761    |
| 2027        | \$ 362,761    |
| 2028-2032   | \$ 1,835,123  |
| 2033-2037   | \$ 1,881,130  |
| Total:      | \$ 5,497,515  |

**Southwest Public Libraries**  
*Franklin County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2022*

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**Note 9 – Operating Lease (Continued)**

Part of the Library's lease payment is for property taxes incurred by Echo Property Development and reimbursement of common area maintenance charges for the shopping center. Future additional property taxes will cause the amounts listed above to increase by the amount of the property tax attributable to the 4740 West Broad Street location. It is not possible to predict when these increases may occur or what amounts the increases will be. Common area maintenance charges fluctuate based on the maintenance needs of the shopping center. It is not possible to predict what these charges will be in the future. All operating lease expenses are reflected as Facilities Operation and Maintenance disbursements within the General Fund on the financial statements.

**Note 10 – Construction and Contractual Commitments**

The Library Board of Trustees approved a Development Agreement and a Lease/Purchase Agreement with the City of Grove City on June 9, 2015 for the construction and lease/purchase of a 48,000 square foot building located at 3959 Broadway, Grove City Ohio 43123 to be the future home of the Grove City Library. The agreement called for the City of Grove City to pay for all building construction and site development costs and then to lease the Grove City Library building to the Library for a period of 30 years; at the end of which, the Library becomes the sole owner of the property. The annual lease payment to the City of Grove City is \$300,000 for 30 years, commencing on September 1, 2016. Under the agreement, the Library paid the City \$1,000,000 toward construction costs in June 2015 with that cost being expended as a capital expenditure from the Capital Projects Fund. The Library paid the City a second and final installment of \$1,000,000 upon completion of the building in September 2016. In addition, the Library agreed to deed then-current Grove City Library Property at 3359 Park Street, Grove City, Ohio 43123 to the City of Grove City upon the completion of the new library building at 3959 Broadway.

**Note 11 – Contingent Liabilities**

As of the date of these financial statements, the Library's management is unaware of any contingent liabilities which could have a material impact on the Library's financial condition.

**Note 12 – Fund Balances**

Included in fund balances for the Library are encumbrances. Encumbrances are commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods or services. Encumbrance accounting is utilized to the extent necessary to assure effective budgetary control and accountability and to facilitate effective cash planning and control. Outstanding encumbrances in the General and Capital Project Fund are considered assigned. At year end the balances of these amounts were as follows:

| Fund Balances            | General   | Capital<br>Project | Total     |
|--------------------------|-----------|--------------------|-----------|
| Nonspendable:            |           |                    |           |
| Outstanding Encumbrances | 119,540   | 18,337             | 137,877   |
| Total                    | \$119,540 | \$18,337           | \$137,877 |

The remaining fund balance for the capital project fund is committed.

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# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



65 East State Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
ContactUs@ohioauditor.gov  
800-282-0370

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

Southwest Public Libraries  
Franklin County  
3959 Broadway  
Grove City, Ohio 43123

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (Government Auditing Standards), the financial statements of the cash balances, receipts, and disbursements for each governmental fund type combined total as of and for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022 and the related notes to the financial statements of the Southwest Public Libraries, Franklin County, (the Library) and have issued our report thereon dated August 13, 2024, wherein we noted the Library followed financial reporting provisions Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 and Ohio Admin. Code 117-2-03(C) permit.

### ***Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting***

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Library's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Library's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Library's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. 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 Library's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. 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 deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We identified a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2023-001 that we consider to be a material weakness.

### ***Report on Compliance and Other Matters***

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Library's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

### ***Library's Response to Findings***

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the Library's response to the finding identified in our audit and described in the accompanying schedule of findings. The Library's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

### ***Purpose of This Report***

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Library's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Library's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



Keith Faber  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

August 13, 2024

**SOUTHWEST PUBLIC LIBRARIES  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
DECEMBER 31, 2023 and 2022**

|  |
|--|
| <b>FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS<br/>REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS</b> |
|--|

**FINDING NUMBER 2023-001**

**Financial Reporting – Material Weakness**

In our audit engagement letter, as required by AU-C Section 210, *Terms of Engagement*, paragraph .06, management acknowledge its responsibility for the preparation and fair presentation of their financial statements; 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 as discussed in AU-C Section 210 paragraphs .A14 & .A16

The District's oversight and review procedures were not sufficient to help ensure the notes were complete and accurate.

The notes to the financial statements contained the following errors and omissions for the year ending December 31, 2022:

- General and Capital Project funds budgetary expenditures were understated by \$119,540 and \$18,337, respectively.
- The financial information for the Ohio Plan Risk Management, Inc were included for 2020 rather than 2022.
- The Operating Lease note disclosure failed to report future lease payments from years 2025 through 2036

The notes to the financial statements contained the following errors and omissions for the year ending December 31, 2023:

- The operating lease note disclosure was omitted.
- The financial information for the Ohio Plan Risk Management, Inc were included for 2022 rather than 2023.
- Multiple immaterial variances throughout the footnotes.

The above errors to notes to the financial statements for both fiscal year 2022 and 2023, to which management agreed, have been subsequently corrected.

The lack of oversight and received procedures over the preparation of the notes to the financial statements decreases the reliability of financial data at year-end and can result in misleading the readers of the report.

The Library should implement procedures to help ensure all relevant note disclosures are included and presented accurately.

**Officials' Response:** We acknowledge and agree with the findings presented. We recognize the importance of accurate and reliable financial reporting and will incorporate your recommendations when preparing the 2024 financial statements and in future periods.

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Administrative Offices: Grove City Library, 3959 Broadway Grove City, Ohio 43123 ph 614.875.6716  
Westland Area Library, 4740 W. Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43228 ph 614.878-1301

[www.swpl.org](http://www.swpl.org)

**SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS  
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

| <b>Finding Number</b> | <b>Finding Summary</b>   | <b>Status</b>       | <b>Additional Information</b>   |
|-----------------------|--|---------------------|---|
| 2021-001              | Financial Statement Presentation – Material Weakness: Several material posting errors were identified. | Partially corrected | Reporting errors were limited to the note disclosures. Finding was re-issued as finding 2023-001. |

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# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



**SOUTHWEST PUBLIC LIBRARIES**

**FRANKLIN COUNTY**

## **AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION**

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



**Certified for Release 8/29/2024**

65 East State Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215  
Phone: 614-466-4514 or 800-282-0370

This report is a matter of public record and is available online at  
[www.ohioauditor.gov](http://www.ohioauditor.gov)