



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



**MADISON TOWNSHIP
LAKE COUNTY**

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Madison Township
Lake County
2065 Hubbard Road
Madison, Ohio 44057

To the Board of Trustees:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Unmodified and Adverse Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of Madison Township, Lake County, Ohio (the Township), which comprises the cash balances, receipts and disbursements for each governmental fund type and the fiduciary fund type combined total as of and for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, 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 and the fiduciary fund type combined total as of and for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, 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 Township, as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, or the changes in financial position thereof for the years 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 Township, 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 Township 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 Township'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 *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 Township'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 Township's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Madison Township
Lake County
Independent Auditor's Report
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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 June 30, 2025, 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. 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 Township'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 Township's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

KEITH FABER
Ohio Auditor of State



Tiffany L Ridenbaugh, CPA, CFE, CGFM
Chief Deputy Auditor

June 30, 2025

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**MADISON TOWNSHIP
LAKE COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (REGULATORY CASH BASIS)
GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024**

	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$392,362	\$4,343,866	\$0	\$4,736,228
Charges for Services		85,781		85,781
Licenses, Permits and Fees	149,722	121		149,843
Fines and Forfeitures		19,851		19,851
Intergovernmental	407,448	915,849		1,323,297
Special Assessments		104,546		104,546
Earnings on Investments	164,808	21,025		185,833
Miscellaneous	94,414	140,373		234,787
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>1,228,605</u>	<u>5,611,561</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>6,840,166</u>
Cash Disbursements				
Current:				
General Government	814,736			814,736
Public Safety	48,606	3,193,766		3,242,372
Public Works		2,148,407		2,148,407
Health	40,235	4,099		44,334
Conservation - Recreation	232,626			232,626
Capital Outlay		181,709	56	181,765
Debt Service:				
Principal Retirement		5,000		5,000
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>1,136,203</u>	<u>5,532,981</u>	<u>56</u>	<u>6,669,240</u>
<i>Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>	<u>92,402</u>	<u>78,580</u>	<u>(56)</u>	<u>170,926</u>
Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)				
Sale of Capital Assets	1,185	6,966		8,151
<i>Total Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)</i>	<u>1,185</u>	<u>6,966</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>8,151</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	<u>93,587</u>	<u>85,546</u>	<u>(56)</u>	<u>179,077</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>2,540,354</u>	<u>6,396,620</u>	<u>1,829</u>	<u>8,938,803</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u>\$2,633,941</u>	<u>\$6,482,166</u>	<u>\$1,773</u>	<u>\$9,117,880</u>

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

**MADISON TOWNSHIP
LAKE COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF ADDITIONS, DEDUCTIONS
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE (REGULATORY CASH BASIS)**

FIDUCIARY FUND TYPE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	<u>Fiduciary Fund Type</u>
Additions	
Other Amounts Collected for Distribution	<u>\$0</u>
<i>Total Additions</i>	<u>0</u>
Deductions	
Other Distributions	<u>200,902</u>
<i>Total Deductions</i>	<u>200,902</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balance</i>	<u>(200,902)</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balance, January 1</i>	<u>200,902</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balance, December 31</i>	<u><u>\$0</u></u>

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

Madison Township
Lake County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Note 1 – Reporting Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of Madison Township, Lake County, (the Township) as a body corporate and politic. A publicly elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance, and police protection.

Jointly Governed Organizations and Public Entity Risk Pools

The Township participates in jointly governed organizations and a public entity risk pool. Notes 6 and 11 to the financial statements provide additional information for these entities. The Township's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Township is financially accountable.

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 (regulatory cash basis) for all governmental fund types, and a statement of additions, deductions and changes in fund balance (regulatory cash basis) for its fiduciary fund type 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:

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

Police District Fund This fund is used to account for a portion of property tax revenue received and used for the purpose of providing police protection services for the Township.

Gas Tax Fund The gas tax 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.

Capital Project Funds These funds account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for capital outlays, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets. The Township had the following significant capital project fund:

Miscellaneous Capital Projects Fund This fund receives a grant and other funds for major improvements to Township roads and other projects.

Madison Township
Lake County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Fiduciary Funds Fiduciary funds include private purpose trust funds, investment trust funds, and custodial funds. Trust funds account for assets held under a trust agreement meeting certain criteria.

For regulatory purposes, certain own source revenues are permitted to flow through clearing funds presented as custodial funds. The amounts distributed to the other funds of the Township are identified on the statement of additions, deductions and changes in fund balance (regulatory cash basis) for the fiduciary fund type. Also, for regulatory purposes, certain deposits and clearing funds are permitted to be presented as custodial funds.

Custodial funds are purely custodial in nature and are used to report fiduciary activity that is not required to be reported in a trust fund. The Township disburses these funds as directed by the individual, organization or other government. The Township had the following custodial fund:

Fire Loss Claims Fund This fund holds insurance proceeds as a security against the cost of removing, repairing or securing damaged property.

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 Township recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (C) permit.

Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund (except certain custodial funds) 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.

A summary of 2024 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

Deposits and Investments

The Township's accounting basis includes investments as assets. This basis does not record disbursements for investment purchases or receipts for investment sales. This basis records gains or losses at the time of sale as receipts or disbursements, respectively.

Madison Township
Lake County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

The Township values U.S. Treasury Notes at cost. 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 Township 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 or retirement, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. The financial statements do not include a liability for unpaid leave.

Fund Balance

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

Nonspendable The Township 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 Township 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 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*. 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 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.

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

Madison Township
Lake County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Note 3 – Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2024 follows:

<u>2024 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts</u>			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$1,229,786	\$1,229,790	\$4
Special Revenue	5,618,525	5,618,527	2
Total	\$6,848,311	\$6,848,317	\$6

<u>2024 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures</u>			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$1,224,887	\$1,139,325	\$85,562
Special Revenue	7,778,006	5,558,854	2,219,152
Capital Projects	56	56	0
Total	\$9,002,949	\$6,698,235	\$2,304,714

Note 4 – Deposits and Investments

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

<u>2024</u>	
<i>Cash Management Pool:</i>	
Demand deposits	\$73,723
Certificates of deposit	4,234,152
Other time deposits (savings and NOW accounts)	4,808,794
Total deposits	<u>9,116,669</u>
STAR Ohio	1,211
Total investments	1,211
<i>Total carrying amount of deposits and investments held in the Pool</i>	<u>\$9,117,880</u>

The Township does not use a separate payroll clearing account. The expenditures included in the accompanying financial statements reflect net payroll plus all remitted payroll withholdings. At December 31, 2024, the Township is holding \$69,312 in unremitted employee 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.

Madison Township
Lake County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Investments

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

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 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 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 – Risk Management

Workers' Compensation

Workers' Compensation coverage is provided by the State of Ohio. The Township 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 Township is a member of the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (the Pool). The Pool assumes the risk of loss up to the limits of the Township's policy. The Pool covers the following risks:

- General liability and casualty
- Public official's liability
- Cyber
- Law Enforcement liability
- Vehicles
- Property
- Equipment Breakdown

The Pool reported the following summary of assets and actuarially-measured liabilities available to pay those liabilities as of December 31:

	<u>2023 (Latest Available)</u>
Cash and investments	\$33,494,457
Actuarial liabilities	\$10,885,549

Madison Township
Lake County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Note 7 – Defined Benefit Pension Plans

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Some Township employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes this 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 or 13 percent of their gross salaries, and the Township contributed an amount equaling 14 or 18.10 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2024.

Social Security

Thirteen (13) Township employees (Board of Zoning Appeal and Zoning Commission) contributed to Social Security. This plan provides retirement benefits, including survivor and disability benefits to participants.

Employees contributed 6.2 percent of their gross salaries. The Township contributed an amount equal to 6.2 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2024.

Note 8 – Postemployment Benefits

OPERS offers cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plans. 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.

Accounts that retirees use to be reimbursed for health care expenses. For calendar year 2024, the portion of OPERS 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 2024, the portion of employer contributions OPERS 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 – Debt

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2024, was as follows:

	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>
OPWC - Dunbar/Bathgate	<u>\$47,500</u>	<u>0%</u>
Total	<u>\$47,500</u>	

The Township entered into a loan agreement during 2010 for the Dunbar/Bathgate Area Storm Trunk System Phase III project. The project was completed in 2014. This loan agreement was made with the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) in the amount of \$100,000 at an interest rate of 0.00% for a term of 20 years payable semi-annually. This is paid from the Gasoline Tax Fund.

Madison Township
Lake County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Amortization

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

Year Ending December 31:	General Obligation Notes
2025	\$5,000
2026	5,000
2027	5,000
2028	5,000
2029	5,000
2030-2034	<u>22,500</u>
Total	<u><u>\$47,500</u></u>

Note 10 – Contingent Liabilities

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

Note 11 – Jointly Governed Organizations

Madison Joint Fire District

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of the Madison Joint Fire District, Lake County (the District) as a body corporate and politic. A six-member Board of Trustees governs the District. Board members consist of three trustees from Madison Township and three council members from the Village of Madison. The District provides fire protection and rescue services for the communities of Madison Township and the Village of Madison. Financial information can be obtained by contacting Joanne Clapp, Fiscal Officer, 840 River Street, Madison, OH 44057.

Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC)

The Township is a member of the Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (“NOPEC”), a jointly governed organization. NOPEC is a regional council of governments formed under Chapter 167 of the Ohio Revised Code. NOPEC was formed to serve as a vehicle for communities wishing to proceed jointly with an aggregation program for the purchase of electricity and natural gas. NOPEC is currently comprised of over 100 communities who have been authorized by ballot to purchase electricity and/or natural gas on behalf of their citizens. The intent of NOPEC is provide electricity and/or natural gas at the lowest possible rates while at the same time insuring stability in prices by entering into long-term contracts with suppliers to provide electricity and/or natural gas to the citizens of its member communities.

NOPEC is governed by a General Assembly made up of one representative from each member community. The representatives from each County then elect one person to serve on the eight-member NOPEC Board of Directors. The Board of Directors oversees and manages the operation of the aggregation program. The degree of control exercised by a participating government is limited to its representation in the General Assembly and on the Board of Director. The Township did not contribute to NOPEC in 2024. Financial information can be obtained by contacting Chuck Keiper, Executive Director, 31360 Solon Road, Suite 33, Solon, Ohio 44139.

Madison Township
Lake County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Madison Joint Recreation District

The Township participates on the Madison Joint Recreation District Board along with Madison Village and Madison Local School District to provide recreational opportunities for their citizens. Financial information can be obtained by contacting Duane Frager, Fiscal Officer, PO Box 456, Madison, OH 44057.

Note 12 – Fund Balances

Included in fund balance are amounts the Township cannot spend, including the balance of unclaimed monies, which cannot be spent for five years. 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. At year end the balances of these amounts were as follows:

Fund Balances	General	Special Revenue	Total
Outstanding Encumbrances	\$3,122	\$25,873	\$28,995
Total	<u>\$3,122</u>	<u>\$25,873</u>	<u>\$28,995</u>

The fund balance of special revenue funds is either restricted or committed. The fund balance of capital projects funds are restricted, committed, or assigned. These restricted, committed, and assigned amounts in the special revenue, debt service, capital projects, and permanent funds would include the outstanding encumbrances. In the general fund, outstanding encumbrances are considered assigned.

**MADISON TOWNSHIP
LAKE COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (REGULATORY CASH BASIS)
GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023**

	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$385,539	\$4,221,960	\$0	\$4,607,499
Charges for Services		94,062		94,062
Licenses, Permits and Fees	162,302	107		162,409
Fines and Forfeitures		25,815		25,815
Intergovernmental	342,865	1,537,950		1,880,815
Special Assessments		112,079		112,079
Earnings on Investments	115,079	13,960		129,039
Miscellaneous	102,426	136,116		238,542
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>1,134,026</u>	<u>6,116,234</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>7,250,260</u>
Cash Disbursements				
Current:				
General Government	801,326	171,809		973,135
Public Safety	47,592	3,085,162		3,132,754
Public Works		2,470,513		2,470,513
Health	31,910	3,589		35,499
Conservation - Recreation	85,187	116,922		202,109
Capital Outlay		152,309	9,944	162,253
Debt Service:				
Principal Retirement		5,000		5,000
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>966,015</u>	<u>6,005,304</u>	<u>9,944</u>	<u>6,981,263</u>
<i>Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>	<u>168,011</u>	<u>110,930</u>	<u>(9,944)</u>	<u>268,997</u>
Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)				
Sale of Capital Assets	25	1,005		1,030
<i>Total Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)</i>	<u>25</u>	<u>1,005</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,030</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	<u>168,036</u>	<u>111,935</u>	<u>(9,944)</u>	<u>270,027</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>2,372,318</u>	<u>6,284,685</u>	<u>11,773</u>	<u>8,668,776</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u>\$2,540,354</u>	<u>\$6,396,620</u>	<u>\$1,829</u>	<u>\$8,938,803</u>

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

**MADISON TOWNSHIP
LAKE COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF ADDITIONS, DEDUCTIONS
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE (REGULATORY CASH BASIS)**

FIDUCIARY FUND TYPE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

	<u>Fiduciary Fund Type</u>
Additions	
Other Amounts Collected for Distribution	\$200,902
<i>Total Additions</i>	<u>200,902</u>
Deductions	
Other Distributions	28,612
<i>Total Deductions</i>	<u>28,612</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balance</i>	172,290
<i>Fund Cash Balance, January 1</i>	<u>28,612</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balance, December 31</i>	<u><u>\$200,902</u></u>

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

Madison Township
Lake County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Note 1 – Reporting Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of Madison Township, Lake County, (the Township) as a body corporate and politic. A publicly elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance, and police protection.

Jointly Governed Organizations and Public Entity Risk Pools

The Township participates in jointly governed organizations and a public entity risk pool. Notes 6 and 11 to the financial statements provide additional information for these entities. The Township's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Township is financially accountable.

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 (regulatory cash basis) for all governmental fund types, and a statement of additions, deductions and changes in fund balance (regulatory cash basis) for its fiduciary fund type 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:

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

Police District Fund This fund is used to account for a portion of property tax revenue received and used for the purpose of providing police protection services for the Township.

Gas Tax Fund The gas tax 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.

Capital Project Funds These funds account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for capital outlays, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets. The Township had the following significant capital project fund:

Miscellaneous Capital Projects Fund This fund receives a grant and other funds for major improvements to Township roads and other projects.

Madison Township
Lake County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Fiduciary Funds Fiduciary funds include private purpose trust funds, investment trust funds, and custodial funds. Trust funds account for assets held under a trust agreement meeting certain criteria.

For regulatory purposes, certain own source revenues are permitted to flow through clearing funds presented as custodial funds. The amounts distributed to the other funds of the Township are identified on the statement of additions, deductions and changes in fund balance (regulatory cash basis) for the fiduciary fund type. Also, for regulatory purposes, certain deposits and clearing funds are permitted to be presented as custodial funds.

Custodial funds are purely custodial in nature and are used to report fiduciary activity that is not required to be reported in a trust fund. The Township disburses these funds as directed by the individual, organization or other government. The Township had the following custodial fund:

Fire Loss Claims Fund This fund holds insurance proceeds as a security against the cost of removing, repairing or securing damaged property.

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 Township recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (C) permit.

Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund (except certain custodial funds) 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.

A summary of 2023 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

Deposits and Investments

The Township's accounting basis includes investments as assets. This basis does not record disbursements for investment purchases or receipts for investment sales. This basis records gains or losses at the time of sale as receipts or disbursements, respectively.

Madison Township
Lake County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

The Township values U.S. Treasury Notes at cost. 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 Township 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 or retirement, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. The financial statements do not include a liability for unpaid leave.

Fund Balance

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

Nonspendable The Township 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 Township 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 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*. 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 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.

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

Madison Township
Lake 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:

<u>2023 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts</u>			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$1,134,051	\$1,134,051	\$0
Special Revenue	6,117,238	6,117,239	1
Total	\$7,251,289	\$7,251,290	\$1

<u>2023 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures</u>			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$1,272,883	\$969,851	\$303,032
Special Revenue	8,478,506	6,036,926	2,441,580
Capital Projects	10,000	9,944	56
Total	\$9,761,389	\$7,016,721	\$2,744,668

Note 4 – Deposits and Investments

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

<u>2023</u>	
<i>Cash Management Pool:</i>	
Demand deposits	\$209,745
Certificates of deposit	4,081,847
Other time deposits (savings and NOW accounts)	4,846,965
Total deposits	<u>9,138,557</u>
STAR Ohio	1,148
Total investments	1,148
<i>Total carrying amount of deposits and investments held in the Pool</i>	<u>\$9,139,705</u>

The Township does not use a separate payroll clearing account. The expenditures included in the accompanying financial statements reflect net payroll plus all remitted payroll withholdings. At December 31, 2023, the Township is holding \$35,458 in unremitted employee 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.

Madison Township
Lake County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Investments

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

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 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 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 – Risk Management

Workers' Compensation

Workers' Compensation coverage is provided by the State of Ohio. The Township 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 Township is a member of the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (the Pool). The Pool assumes the risk of loss up to the limits of the Township's policy. The Pool covers the following risks:

- General liability and casualty
- Public official's liability
- Cyber
- Law Enforcement liability
- Vehicles
- Property
- Equipment Breakdown

The Pool reported the following summary of assets and actuarially-measured liabilities available to pay those liabilities as of December 31:

	2023
Cash and investments	\$33,494,457
Actuarial liabilities	\$10,885,549

Madison Township
Lake County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Note 7 – Defined Benefit Pension Plans

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Some Township employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes this 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 or 13 percent of their gross salaries, and the Township contributed an amount equaling 14 or 18.10 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2023.

Social Security

Thirteen (13) Township employees (Board of Zoning Appeal and Zoning Commission) contributed to Social Security. This plan provides retirement benefits, including survivor and disability benefits to participants.

Employees contributed 6.2 percent of their gross salaries. The Township contributed an amount equal to 6.2 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2023.

Note 8 – Postemployment Benefits

OPERS offers cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plans. 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.

Accounts that retirees use to be reimbursed for health care expenses. For calendar year 2023, the portion of OPERS 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 OPERS 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 – Debt

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2023, was as follows:

	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>
OPWC - Dunbar/Bathgate	<u>\$52,500</u>	<u>0%</u>
Total	<u>\$52,500</u>	

The Township entered into a loan agreement during 2010 for the Dunbar/Bathgate Area Storm Trunk System Phase III project. The project was completed in 2014. This loan agreement was made with the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) in the amount of \$100,000 at an interest rate of 0.00% for a term of 20 years payable semi-annually. This is paid from the Gasoline Tax Fund.

Madison Township
Lake County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Amortization

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

Year Ending December 31:	General Obligation Notes
2024	\$5,000
2025	5,000
2026	5,000
2027	5,000
2028	5,000
2029-2033	25,000
2034	2,500
Total	<u><u>\$52,500</u></u>

Note 10 – Contingent Liabilities

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

Note 11 – Jointly Governed Organizations

Madison Joint Fire District

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of the Madison Joint Fire District, Lake County (the District) as a body corporate and politic. A six-member Board of Trustees governs the District. Board members consist of three trustees from Madison Township and three council members from the Village of Madison. The District provides fire protection and rescue services for the communities of Madison Township and the Village of Madison. Financial information can be obtained by contacting Joanne Clapp, Fiscal Officer, 840 River Street, Madison, OH 44057.

Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC)

The Township is a member of the Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (“NOPEC”), a jointly governed organization. NOPEC is a regional council of governments formed under Chapter 167 of the Ohio Revised Code. NOPEC was formed to serve as a vehicle for communities wishing to proceed jointly with an aggregation program for the purchase of electricity and natural gas. NOPEC is currently comprised of over 100 communities who have been authorized by ballot to purchase electricity and/or natural gas on behalf of their citizens. The intent of NOPEC is provide electricity and/or natural gas at the lowest possible rates while at the same time insuring stability in prices by entering into long-term contracts with suppliers to provide electricity and/or natural gas to the citizens of its member communities.

NOPEC is governed by a General Assembly made up of one representative from each member community. The representatives from each County then elect one person to serve on the eight-member NOPEC Board of Directors. The Board of Directors oversees and manages the operation of the aggregation program. The degree of control exercised by a participating government is limited to its representation in the General Assembly and on the Board of Director. The Township did not contribute to NOPEC in 2023. Financial information can be obtained by contacting Chuck Keiper, Executive Director, 31360 Solon Road, Suite 33, Solon, Ohio 44139.

Madison Township
Lake County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Madison Joint Recreation District

The Township participates on the Madison Joint Recreation District Board along with Madison Village and Madison Local School District to provide recreational opportunities for their citizens. Financial information can be obtained by contacting Duane Frager, Fiscal Officer, PO Box 456, Madison, OH 44057.

Note 12 – Fund Balances

Included in fund balance are amounts the Township cannot spend, including the balance of unclaimed monies, which cannot be spent for five years. 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. At year end the balances of these amounts were as follows:

Fund Balances	General	Special Revenue	Total
Outstanding Encumbrances	\$3,836	\$31,622	\$35,458
Total	<u>\$3,836</u>	<u>\$31,622</u>	<u>\$35,458</u>

The fund balance of special revenue funds is either restricted or committed. The fund balance of capital projects funds are restricted, committed, or assigned. These restricted, committed, and assigned amounts in the special revenue, debt service, capital projects, and permanent funds would include the outstanding encumbrances. In the general fund, outstanding encumbrances are considered assigned.

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

Madison Township
Lake County
2065 Hubbard Road
Madison, Ohio 44057

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*, the financial statements of the cash balances, receipts, and disbursements for each governmental fund type and the fiduciary fund type combined total as of and for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023 and the related notes to the financial statements of Madison Township, Lake County, Ohio (the Township) and have issued our report thereon dated June 30, 2025, wherein we noted the Township 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 Township'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 Township's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Township'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 Township'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. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

Madison Township
Lake County
Independent Auditor's Report On Internal Control Over
Financial Reporting And On Compliance And Other Matters
Required By *Government Auditing Standards*
Page 2

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Township'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*.

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 Township'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 Township's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

KEITH FABER
Ohio Auditor of State



Tiffany L. Ridenbaugh, CPA, CFE, CGFM
Chief Deputy Auditor

June 30, 2025

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



MADISON TOWNSHIP

LAKE 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 7/24/2025

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