



**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

**BLADENSBURG TOWNSHIP JOINT FIRE DISTRICT
KNOX COUNTY**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE	PAGE
Independent Accountants' Report.....	1
Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Change in Fund Cash Balance – General Fund – For the Years Ended December 31, 2002 and December 31, 2001	3
Notes to the Financial Statements	5
Independent Accountants' Report on Compliance and on Internal Control Required by <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>	9

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**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Bladensburg Township Joint Fire District
Knox County
22600 Deal Road
Gambier, Ohio 43022

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Bladensburg Township Fire District, Knox County, Ohio, (the District) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2002, and December 31, 2001. These financial statements are the responsibility of the District's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As discussed in Note 1, the District prepares its financial statements on the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the fund cash balance of the District as of December 31, 2002, and December 31, 2001, and its cash receipts and cash disbursements for the years then ended on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated April 16, 2003, on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

Bladensburg Township Joint Fire District
Knox County
Independent Accountants' Report
Page 2

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Board of Trustees, and other officials authorized to receive this report under § 117.26, Ohio Revised Code, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Betty Montgomery". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

BETTY MONTGOMERY
Auditor of State

April 16, 2003

**BLADENSBURG TOWNSHIP JOINT FIRE DISTRICT
KNOX COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGE IN FUND CASH BALANCE
GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND DECEMBER 31, 2001**

	2002	2001
	General Fund	General Fund
Cash Receipts:		
Local Taxes	\$62,329	\$60,083
Intergovernmental	8,131	8,518
Earnings on Investments	728	824
Other Revenue	3,065	2,620
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Cash Receipts	74,253	72,045
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Cash Disbursements:		
Current:		
Public Safety	54,764	73,688
Debt Service:		
Redemption of Principal	5,600	5,600
Interest and Fiscal Charges	459	882
Capital Outlay	8,000	6,309
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Cash Disbursements	68,823	86,479
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	5,430	(14,434)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Other Financing Receipts :		
Other Sources	1,805	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	7,235	(14,434)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Fund Cash Balance, January 1	32,725	47,159
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Fund Cash Balance, December 31	<u>39,960</u>	<u>32,725</u>

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

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**BLADENSBURG TOWNSHIP JOINT FIRE DISTRICT
KNOX COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Bladensburg Township Fire District, Knox County, Ohio, (the District) is a body corporate and politic established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The District is directed by a three-member Board of Trustees. The Board consists of a trustee from each Township and a council person from the Village of Bladensburg. The District provides fire protection and emergency medical services.

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

B. Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. Receipts are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned, and disbursements are recognized 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 prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State.

C. Cash

The District maintains an interest-bearing checking account.

D. Fund Accounting

The District uses fund accounting. The District classifies its fund into the following type:

1. General Fund

The General Fund is the general operating fund. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

E. Budgetary Process

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

1. Appropriations

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function or object level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Board of Trustees must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. The County Budget Commission must also approve the annual appropriation measure. Appropriations lapse at year end.

**BLADENSBURG TOWNSHIP JOINT FIRE DISTRICT
KNOX COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001
(Continued)**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

E. Budgetary Process (Continued)

2. Estimated Resources

Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus cash as of January 1. The County Budget Commission must also approve estimated resources.

3. Encumbrances

The Ohio Revised Code requires the District to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made.

A summary of 2002 and 2001 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

F. Property, Plant and Equipment

Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements.

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH

The District maintains a cash pool. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits. The carrying amount of cash at December 31 was as follows:

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
Demand Deposits	\$39,960	\$32,725

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

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2002 and December 31, 2001 follows:

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$76,970	\$76,058	(\$912)

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$108,882	\$68,823	\$40,059

**BLADENSBURG TOWNSHIP JOINT FIRE DISTRICT
KNOX COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001
(Continued)**

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY (Continued)

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$62,850	\$72,045	\$9,195

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$108,189	\$86,479	\$21,710

4. DEBT

The District retired notes totaling \$11,200 during 2002 and 2001. The note proceeds were used to purchase a fire truck.

5. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which rates are adopted by the Board of Trustees. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. Homestead and rollback amounts are then paid by the State, and are reflected in the accompanying financial statements as Intergovernmental Receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to make semiannual payments, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

Tangible personal property tax is assessed by the property owners, who must file a list of such property to the County by each April 30.

The County is responsible for assessing property, and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on behalf of the District.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

Commercial Insurance

The District has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

- Comprehensive property and general liability
- Vehicles
- Errors and omissions

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Auditor of State Betty Montgomery

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL REQUIRED BY *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

Bladensburg Township Joint Fire District
Knox County
22600 Deal Road
Gambier, Ohio 43022

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Bladensburg Township Fire District, Knox County, Ohio, (the District) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2002, and December 31, 2001, and have issued our report thereon dated April 16, 2003. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Compliance

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

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the District's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses.

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Bladensburg Township Joint Fire District
Knox County
Independent Accountants' Report on Compliance and on Internal Control
Required by *Government Auditing Standards*
Page 2

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management and the Board of Trustees, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Betty Montgomery". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

BETTY MONTGOMERY
Auditor of State

April 16, 2003



**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

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BLADENSBURG TOWNSHIP JOINT FIRE DISTRICT

KNOX COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

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

Susan Babbitt

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

**CERTIFIED
JUNE 10, 2003**