



**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

FITCHVILLE TOWNSHIP
HURON COUNTY

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**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Fitchville Township
Huron County
1579 Fitchville River Rd. S.
New London, OH 44851-9223

To the Board of Trustees:

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

We conducted our audits 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 audits 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 audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As discussed in Note 1, the Township 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 generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances and reserves for encumbrances of the Township as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, and its combined cash receipts and 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 March 31, 2003, 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 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 audits.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the audit committee, 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

March 31, 2003

**FITCHVILLE TOWNSHIP
HURON COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		Totals (Memorandum Only)
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	
Cash Receipts:			
Local Taxes	\$36,875	\$16,129	\$53,004
Intergovernmental	25,074	61,915	86,989
Licenses, Permits, and Fees		2,925	2,925
Earnings on Investments	1,921	739	2,660
Other Revenue	1,023	780	1,803
	<u>64,893</u>	<u>82,488</u>	<u>147,381</u>
Total Cash Receipts			
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	59,667		59,667
Public Safety	8,030		8,030
Public Works	6,943	94,470	101,413
Health	2,200	4,846	7,046
	<u>76,840</u>	<u>99,316</u>	<u>176,156</u>
Total Cash Disbursements			
Total Disbursements Over Receipts	<u>(11,947)</u>	<u>(16,828)</u>	<u>(28,775)</u>
Other Financing Receipts:			
Sale of Fixed Assets	1,049		1,049
Other Sources	616		616
	<u>1,665</u>		<u>1,665</u>
Total Other Financing Receipts			
Excess of Cash Disbursements Over Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts	(10,282)	(16,828)	(27,110)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	108,210	49,527	157,737
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$97,928</u>	<u>\$32,699</u>	<u>\$130,627</u>
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31			

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

**FITCHVILLE TOWNSHIP
HURON COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2001**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		Totals (Memorandum Only)
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	
Cash Receipts:			
Local Taxes	\$36,256	\$11,808	\$48,064
Intergovernmental	35,519	61,793	97,312
Licenses, Permits, and Fees		2,000	2,000
Earnings on Investments	4,603	1,941	6,544
Other Revenue	744	1,195	1,939
	<u>77,122</u>	<u>78,737</u>	<u>155,859</u>
Total Cash Receipts			
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	64,990		64,990
Public Safety	8,654		8,654
Public Works	5,346	102,554	107,900
Health	3,277	4,288	7,565
Capital Outlay	3,350		3,350
	<u>85,617</u>	<u>106,842</u>	<u>192,459</u>
Total Cash Disbursements			
Total Disbursements Over Receipts	<u>(8,495)</u>	<u>(28,105)</u>	<u>(36,600)</u>
Other Financing Receipts and (Disbursements):			
Transfers-In		7,000	7,000
Transfers-Out	(7,000)		(7,000)
Other Sources	565		565
	<u>(6,435)</u>	<u>7,000</u>	<u>565</u>
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)			
Excess of Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements Over Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts	(14,930)	(21,105)	(36,035)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>123,140</u>	<u>70,632</u>	<u>193,772</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$108,210</u>	<u>\$49,527</u>	<u>\$157,737</u>
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	<u>\$844</u>	<u>\$175</u>	<u>\$1,019</u>

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

**FITCHVILLE TOWNSHIP
HURON COUNTY**

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

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Fitchville Township, Huron County (the Township) 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 Township is directed by a publicly-elected three-member Board of Trustees. The Township provides general governmental services including road and bridge maintenance, and cemetery maintenance. The Township contracts with the Village of New London for fire protection.

The Township's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Township 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 and Investments

Investments are reported as assets. Accordingly, purchases of investments are not recorded as disbursements, and sales of investments are not recorded as receipts. Gains or losses at the time of sale are recorded as receipts or disbursements, respectively.

Certificates of deposit are valued at cost.

D. Fund Accounting

The Township uses fund accounting to segregate cash and investments that are restricted as to use. The Township classifies its funds into the following types:

1. General Fund

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

2. Special Revenue Fund

These funds are used to account for proceeds from specific sources that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Township had the following significant Special Revenue Fund:

**FITCHVILLE TOWNSHIP
HURON COUNTY**

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

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

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. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end.

2. 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 also approve estimated resources.

3. Encumbrances

The Ohio Revised Code requires the Township to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over, and need not be reappropriated.

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 AND INVESTMENTS

The Township maintains a cash and investments pool used by all funds. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of cash and investments at December 31 was as follows:

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
Demand deposits	\$80,183	\$47,293
Certificates of deposit	50,444	110,444
Total deposits	<u>\$130,627</u>	<u>\$157,737</u>

Deposits are either (1) insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation, or (2) collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool.

**FITCHVILLE TOWNSHIP
HURON COUNTY**

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

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

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

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$73,082	\$66,558	(\$6,524)
Special Revenue	87,937	82,488	(5,449)
Total	\$161,019	\$149,046	(\$11,973)

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$181,292	\$76,840	\$104,452
Special Revenue	137,464	99,316	38,148
Total	\$318,756	\$176,156	\$142,600

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$78,501	\$77,687	(\$814)
Special Revenue	88,887	85,737	(3,150)
Total	\$167,388	\$163,424	(\$3,964)

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$162,450	\$93,461	\$68,989
Special Revenue	148,050	107,017	41,033
Total	\$310,500	\$200,478	\$110,022

4. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which rates are adopted by 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 payment, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

Public utilities are also taxed on personal and real property located within the Township.

**FITCHVILLE TOWNSHIP
HURON COUNTY**

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

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 Township.

5. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

The Township's employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) of Ohio. OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. This plan provides retirement benefits, including postretirement healthcare, and survivor and disability benefits to participants as prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code.

Contribution rates are also prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code. For 2002 and 2001, OPERS members contributed 8.5 percent of their gross salaries. The Township contributed an amount equal to 13.55 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2002.

6. RISK POOL MEMBERSHIP

The Township belongs to the Ohio Government Risk Management Plan (the Plan), an unincorporated non-profit association with over 600 governmental entity members providing a formalized, jointly administered self-insurance risk management program and other administrative services.

Pursuant to Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Plan is deemed a separate legal entity. The Plan provides property, liability, errors and omissions, law enforcement, automobile, excess liability, crime, surety and bond, inland marine and other coverages, modified for each member's needs. The Plan pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the member's deductible.

The Plan uses conventional insurance coverages and reinsures these coverages 100 percent, rather than using a risk pool of member funds to pay individual and collective losses. Therefore, the individual members are only responsible for their self-retention (deductible) amounts which vary from member to member.



**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

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

Fitchville Township
Huron County
1579 Fitchville River Rd. S.
New London, OH 44851-9223

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Fitchville Township, Huron County (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001, and have issued our report thereon dated March 31, 2003. We conducted our audits 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 Township'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 audits 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 audits, we considered the Township'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. However, we noted a matter involving the internal control over financial reporting that does not require inclusion in this report, that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated March 31, 2003.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the audit committee, 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

March 31, 2003



**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

88 East Broad Street
P.O. Box 1140
Columbus, Ohio 43216-1140

Telephone 614-466-4514
800-282-0370

Facsimile 614-466-4490

FITCHVILLE TOWNSHIP

HURON COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

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

Susan Babbitt

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

**CERTIFIED
MAY 8, 2003**