



**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

**RUSH TOWNSHIP
TUSCARAWAS COUNTY**

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**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Rush Township
Tuscarawas County
10306 Kennedy Hill Road SE
Uhrichsville, Ohio 44683

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Rush Township, Tuscarawas County, Ohio, (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 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 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 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 May 12, 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 audit.

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

May 12, 2003

**RUSH TOWNSHIP
TUSCARAWAS 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>	<u>Capital Projects</u>	
Cash Receipts:				
Local Taxes	\$21,530	\$23,710	\$0	\$45,240
Intergovernmental	37,462	72,389		109,851
Charges for Services		3,000		3,000
Earnings on Investments	146	64		210
Other Revenue	6,909	422		7,331
	<u>66,047</u>	<u>99,585</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>165,632</u>
Total Cash Receipts				
Cash Disbursements:				
Current:				
General Government	54,380			54,380
Public Safety	3,725	12,514		16,239
Public Works	112	67,266		67,378
Health	2,933	420		3,353
Debt Service:				
Redemption of Principal		16,933		16,933
Interest and Fiscal Charges		7,164		7,164
Capital Outlay	20,000		5,991	25,991
	<u>81,150</u>	<u>104,297</u>	<u>5,991</u>	<u>191,438</u>
Total Cash Disbursements				
Total Cash Receipts (Under) Cash Disbursements	<u>(15,103)</u>	<u>(4,712)</u>	<u>(5,991)</u>	<u>(25,806)</u>
Other Financing Receipts:				
Proceeds of Notes	20,112			20,112
	<u>20,112</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>20,112</u>
Total Other Financing Receipts				
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	5,009	(4,712)	(5,991)	(5,694)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	(4,050)	17,871	10,000	23,821
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$959</u>	<u>\$13,159</u>	<u>\$4,009</u>	<u>\$18,127</u>

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

**RUSH TOWNSHIP
TUSCARAWAS COUNTY**

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

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>			Totals (Memorandum Only)
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Capital Projects</u>	
Cash Receipts:				
Local Taxes	\$20,317	\$20,924		\$41,241
Intergovernmental	44,048	63,837		107,885
Licenses, Permits, and Fees			\$10,000	10,000
Charges for Services		3,000		3,000
Earnings on Investments	208	126		334
Other Revenue	8,356	150		8,506
	<u>72,929</u>	<u>88,037</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>170,966</u>
Total Cash Receipts				
	<u>72,929</u>	<u>88,037</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>170,966</u>
Cash Disbursements:				
Current:				
General Government	62,965			62,965
Public Safety	3,424	2,721		6,145
Public Works	2,500	61,899		64,399
Health	2,123			2,123
Debt Service:				
Redemption of Principal	2,919	12,227		15,146
Interest and Fiscal Charges	681	7,388		8,069
Capital Outlay				0
	<u>74,612</u>	<u>84,235</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>158,847</u>
Total Cash Disbursements				
	<u>74,612</u>	<u>84,235</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>158,847</u>
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	<u>(1,683)</u>	<u>3,802</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>12,119</u>
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>(2,367)</u>	<u>14,069</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>11,702</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>(\$4,050)</u>	<u>\$17,871</u>	<u>\$10,000</u>	<u>\$23,821</u>

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

**RUSH TOWNSHIP
TUSCARAWAS COUNTY**

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

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Rush Township, Tuscarawas County, Ohio (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, cemetery maintenance and fire protection. The Township contracts with the Smith Ambulance Service, Inc. to provide ambulance services.

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

All cash is maintained in a checking account. The Township has no investments.

D. Fund Accounting

The Township uses fund accounting to segregate cash that is 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 Funds

These funds are used to account for proceeds from specific sources (other than from trusts or for capital projects) that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Township has the following significant Special Revenue Fund:

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

**RUSH TOWNSHIP
TUSCARAWAS COUNTY**

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

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

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 the appropriation measure 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 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. The Township did not use the encumbrance method of accounting.

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 capital outlay disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements.

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH

The Township maintains a cash 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	\$18,127	\$23,821

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

**RUSH TOWNSHIP
TUSCARAWAS COUNTY**

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

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

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

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$65,941	\$86,159	\$20,218
Special Revenue	100,128	99,585	(543)
Capital Projects	10,000	0	(10,000)
Total	\$176,069	\$185,744	\$9,675

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$68,907	\$81,150	(\$12,243)
Special Revenue	\$110,983	\$104,297	6,686
Capital Projects	10,000	5,991	4,009
Total	\$189,890	\$191,438	(\$1,548)

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$70,885	\$72,929	\$2,044
Special Revenue	\$87,210	\$88,037	827
Capital Projects	10,000	10,000	0
Total	\$168,095	\$170,966	\$2,871

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$80,606	\$74,612	\$5,994
Special Revenue	94,263	84,235	10,028
Total	\$174,869	\$158,847	\$16,022

Contrary to Ohio Rev. Code 5705.41(D), the Township had expenditures which were not certified by the Clerk as to the availability of funds, prior to incurring the obligation.

Contrary to Ohio Rev. Code 5705.39, during the year appropriations exceeded estimated fund resources for the general (2002 and 2001), fire (2002) and cemetery (2001) funds.

**RUSH TOWNSHIP
TUSCARAWAS COUNTY**

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

4. 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.

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

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. DEBT

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2002 was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
General Obligation Notes - Fire Truck	\$84,941	6.20-6.90%
General Obligation Notes - Tractor	1,950	5.35%
General Obligation Notes - Dump Truck	5,839	5.75%
General Obligation Notes - Backhoe	20,112	3.35-4.75%
Total	\$112,842	

The general obligation notes were issued to finance the purchase of a new fire truck, new tractor, new dump truck and a new backhoe. The notes will be secured by the trucks, tractor and backhoe.

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

	General Obligation Notes - Fire Truck	General Obligation Notes - Tractor	General Obligation Notes - Dump Truck	General Obligation Notes - Backhoe
Year ending December 31:				
2003	\$9,419	2,054	3,255	\$5,920
2004	15,093	0	3,087	5,637
2005	15,075	0	0	5,450
2006	15,058	0	0	5,238
2007	15,043	0	0	0
2008-2010	44,897	0	0	0
Total	\$114,585	\$2,054	\$6,342	\$22,245

**RUSH TOWNSHIP
TUSCARAWAS COUNTY**

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

6. RETIREMENT SYSTEM

The Township's employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). 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% of their gross salaries. The Township contributed an amount equal to 13.55% of participants' gross salaries for 2002 and 2001. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2002.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Township has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

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

8. TUSCARAWAS COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (COMMISSION)

The Township is associated with the Tuscarawas County Regional Planning Commission as a Jointly Governed Organization. The Commission is a statutorily created political subdivision of the State. The Commission is jointly governed among Tuscarawas County municipalities and townships. Each member's control over the operation of the Commission is limited to its representation on the board. The Commission makes studies, maps, plans, recommendations and reports concerning the physical, environmental, social, economical and governmental characteristics, functions and services of the county. The Township contributed \$89 in both 2002 and 2001 to the Commission.

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**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

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

Rush Township
Tuscarawas County
10306 Kennedy Hill Road SE
Uhrichsville, Ohio 44683

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Rush Township, Tuscarawas County, Ohio, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001, and have issued our report thereon dated May 12, 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 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 instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* which are described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings as items 2002-001 through 2002-002.

We also noted certain immaterial instances of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated May 12, 2003.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, 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 May 12, 2003.

Rush Township
Tuscarawas 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

May 12, 2003

**RUSH TOWNSHIP
TUSCARAWAS COUNTY
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001**

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS
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FINDING NUMBER 2002-001

Noncompliance Citation

Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D) states in part, that no subdivision or taxing unit shall make any contract or order any expenditure of money unless there is attached thereto a certificate of the fiscal officer of the subdivision that the amount required to meet the same has been lawfully appropriated for such purpose and is in the treasury or in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrances. Every such contract made without such a certificate shall be null and void and no warrant shall be issued in payment of any amount due thereon.

This section also provides two "exceptions" to the above requirements:

- A. Then and Now Certificate - If no certificate is furnished as required, upon receipt of the fiscal officer's certificate that both at the time that the contract or order was made and at the time that he is completing his certification a sufficient sum was appropriated and free of any previous encumbrances, the Board may authorize the issuance of a warrant in payment of the amount due upon such contract or order by resolution within 30 days from the receipt of such certificate, if such expenditure is otherwise valid.
- B. If the amount involved is less than \$1,000 (which was increased to \$3,000 on April 7, 2003), the fiscal officer may authorize it to be paid without the affirmation of the taxing authority, upon completion of the then and now certificate, provided that the expenditure is otherwise lawful.

Of the expenditures tested, 51% were not certified by the Clerk prior to incurring the commitment and the two exceptions noted above were not utilized. The Township should inform all Township employees of the requirements of Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D) and the importance of certifying the availability of funds. The Township should implement the use of so called Then and Now Certificates and Blanket Certificates as further permitted by Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41.

FINDING NUMBER 2002-002

Noncompliance Citation

Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.39 requires that total appropriations from each fund not exceed total estimated fund resources from each fund. No appropriation measure is to become effective until the county auditor files a certificate that the total appropriations from each fund do not exceed the total official estimate or amended official estimate.

FINDING NUMBER 2002-002 (Continued)

During 2002, total appropriations exceeded total estimated resources during the year as follows:

Fund	Appropriation Resolution Date	Estimated Resources	Appropriations	Variance
General Fund	03/14/02	\$62,821	\$68,907	\$6,086
Fire Fund	05/27/02	\$4,610	\$12,610	\$8,000
General Fund	02/26/01	\$56,645	\$64,596	\$7,651
General Fund	03/28/01	\$64,596	\$68,534	\$3,938
General Fund	10/22/01	\$68,534	\$75,534	\$7,000
Cemetery Fund	10/22/01	\$823	\$898	\$75

**RUSH TOWNSHIP
TUSCARAWAS COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001**

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; Explain:
2000-41279-001	Ohio Rev. Code 5705.41(D), failure to certify funds	No	Not corrected. Refer to finding 2002-001
2000-41279-002	Ohio Rev. Code 5705.41(B)	No	Partially corrected. Refer to management letter
2000-41279-003	Ohio Rev. Code 505.24 (C)	Yes	Corrected



**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

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RUSH TOWNSHIP

TUSCARAWAS 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
JULY 1, 2003**