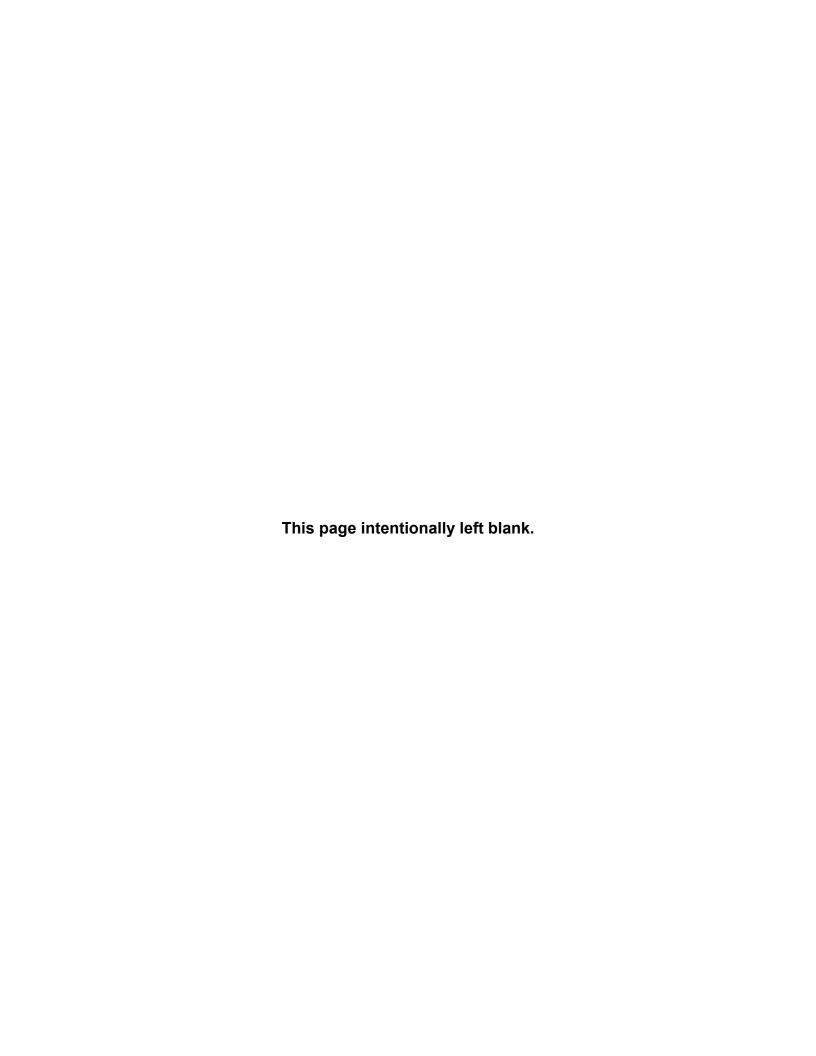




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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Franklin Township Coshocton County 1000 Muskingum Avenue Conesville. Ohio 43811

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Franklin Township, Coshocton County, Ohio, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2003 and 2002. 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.

The Township's financial transactions were processed using the Auditor of State's Uniform Accounting Network (UAN). *Government Auditing Standards* considers this service to impair the independence of the Auditor of State to conduct the audit of the Township because the Auditor of State designed, developed, implemented, and, as requested, operates UAN. However, *Government Auditing Standards* permits the Auditor of State to audit and opine on this entity, because Ohio Revised Code § 117.01 requires the Auditor of State to provide UAN services, and Ohio Revised Code §§ 117.11(B) and 115.56 mandate the Auditor of State to audit Ohio governments.

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, 2003 and 2002, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

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Betty Montgomery

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 30, 2004 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.

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

June 30, 2004

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL AND FIDUCIARY FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003

	Governmental	Fund Types		
	General	Special Revenue	Non-Expendable Trust	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:				
Local Taxes	\$99,514	\$101,435		\$200,949
Intergovernmental	91,285	146,794		238,079
Charges for Services	7,000			7,000
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	10,676	4.050	C4C	10,676
Earnings on Investments Other Revenue	2,353 1,189	4,659 8,539	\$16	7,028 9,728
Other Revenue	1,109	0,039		9,720
Total Cash Receipts	212,017	261,427	16	473,460
Cash Disbursements: Current:				
General Government	153,919	22,046		175,965
Public Safety	854			854
Public Works	8,040	98,167		106,207
Health	39,851	5,424		45,275
Capital Outlay	34,016	129,435		163,451
Total Cash Disbursements	236,680	255,072	0	491,752
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	(24,663)	6,355	16	(18,292)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	277,852	750,896	2,182	1,030,930
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$253,189	\$757,251	\$2,198	\$1,012,638
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	\$4,364	\$4,168	\$0	\$8,532

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

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

	Governmenta	I Fund Types		
	General	Special Revenue	Non-Expendable Trust	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts: Local Taxes Intergovernmental Charges for Services Licenses, Permits, and Fees Earnings on Investments	\$99,913 91,878 3,500 11,805 2,344	\$101,776 142,492 5,307	\$20	\$201,689 234,370 3,500 11,805 7,671
Other Revenue Total Cash Receipts	<u>262</u> <u>209,702</u>	6,943 256,518		7,205 466,240
Cash Disbursements: Current: General Government Public Safety Public Works Health Capital Outlay	142,069 2,518 8,454 33,918 41,737	32,184 83,367 3,178 43,938		174,253 2,518 91,821 37,096 85,675
Total Cash Disbursements	228,696	162,667	0	391,363
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	(18,994)	93,851	20	74,877
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	296,846	657,045	2,162	956,053
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$277.852	\$750.896	\$2.182	\$1.030.930
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	\$4,404	\$13,889	\$0	\$18,293

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Franklin Township, Coshocton 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, cemetery maintenance, and 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

The Township maintains cash in a checking accounts, passbook savings account and certificates of deposit. 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 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 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.

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

D. Fund Accounting (Continued)

2. Special Revenue Funds (Continued)

Motor Vehicle License Tax - This fund receives state motor vehicle license tax money for constructing, repairing and maintaining Township roads and bridges.

Fire Levy Fund - This fund receives property tax revenue for operating and maintaining equipment and fire protection.

3. Fiduciary Funds (Trust Funds)

Trust funds are used to account for resources restricted by legally binding trust agreements and funds for which the Township is acting in an agency capacity. The Township has the following significant Non-Expendable Trust Funds:

Cemetery Bequest Funds (Powelson and Martin) - These funds are used to record the donations from individuals and the interest received from the related passbook savings account.

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 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 2003 and 2002 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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

G. Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. Unpaid leave is not reflected as a liability under the Township's basis of accounting.

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 at December 31 was as follows:

	2003	2002
Demand deposits	\$1,030,430	\$1,012,138
Certificates of deposit	500	500
Total deposits	\$1,030,930	\$1,012,638

Deposits: Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation with the remaining balance being collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool.

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ended 2003 and 2002 follows:

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$217,254	\$212,017	(\$5,237)
Special Revenue	274,485	261,427	(13,058)
Fiduciary	62	16	(46)
Total	\$491,801	\$473,460	(\$18,341)

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$487,475	\$241,044	\$246,431
Special Revenue	887,000	259,240	627,760
Fiduciary	0	0	0
Total	\$1,374,475	\$500,284	\$874,191

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts				
	Budgeted	Actual		
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance	
General	\$225,782	\$209,702	(\$16,080)	
Special Revenue	274,001	256,518	(17,483)	
Fiduciary	70	20	(50)	
Total	\$499,853	\$466,240	(\$33,613)	

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002 (Continued)

3. **BUDGETARY ACTIVITY (Continued)**

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	A	<u> </u>	
	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$487,070	\$233,100	\$253,970
Special Revenue	775,700	176,556	599,144
Fiduciary	0	0	0
Total	\$1,262,770	\$409,656	\$853,114

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.

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 SYSTEM

The Township's full-time 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. OPERS members contributed 8.5% of their gross salaries. The Township contributed an amount equal to 13.55% of participants' gross salaries for 2003 and 2002. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2003.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002 (Continued)

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk Pool Membership

The Township belongs to the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio local governments. OTARMA provides property and casualty coverage for its members. OTARMA is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP). Member governments pay annual contributions to fund OTARMA. OTARMA pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

Casualty Coverage

OTARMA retains casualty risks up to \$250,000 per claim, including loss adjustment expenses. OTARMA pays a percentage of its contributions to APEEP. APEEP reinsures claims exceeding \$250,000, up to \$1,750,000 per claim and \$5,000,000 in the aggregate per year. Governments can elect additional coverage, from \$2,000,000 to \$10,000,000 from the General Reinsurance Corporation.

If losses exhaust OTARMA's retained earnings, APEEP covers OTARMA losses up to \$5,000,000 per year, subject to a per-claim limit of \$2,000,000.

Property Coverage

OTARMA retains property risks, including automobile physical damage, up to \$10,000 on any specific loss with an annual aggregate of \$1,250,000 for 2002. There is no aggregate for 2003 and future accident years. Beginning in 2003, OTARMA retains property risks, including automobile physical damage, up to \$100,000 on any specific loss in any one occurrence. The Travelers Indemnity Company reinsures losses exceeding \$100,000. APEEP's Guarantee Fund pays losses and loss adjustment expenses exceeding operating contributions.

The aforementioned casualty and property reinsurance agreements do not discharge OTARMA's primary liability for claims payments on covered losses. Claims exceeding coverage limits are the obligation of the respective township.

Financial Position

OTARMA's financial statements (audited by other accountants) conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and retained earnings at December 31:

Casualty Coverage	2003	2002
Assets	\$27,792,223	\$23,757,036
Liabilities	(11,791,300)	(9,197,512)
Retained earnings	<u>\$16,000,923</u>	<u>\$14,559,524</u>

Property Coverage	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
Assets	\$6,791,060	\$6,596,996
Liabilities	<u>(750,956)</u>	(1,204,326)
Retained earnings	<u>\$6,040,104</u>	<u>\$5,392,670</u>

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

Franklin Township Coshocton County 1000 Muskingum Avenue Conesville, Ohio 43811

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Franklin Township, Coshocton, Ohio, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2003 and 2002, and have issued our report thereon dated June 30, 2004 wherein we noted that the Township's financial transactions were processed using the Auditor of State's Uniform Accounting Network (UAN). Government Auditing Standards considers this service to impair the independence of the Auditor of State to conduct the audit of the Township because the Auditor of State designed, developed, implemented, and, as requested, operates UAN. 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 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*.

However, we noted certain immaterial instances of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated June 30, 2004.

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.

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However, we noted another 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 June 30, 2004.

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.

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

Betty Montgomeny

June 30, 2004



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FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP

COSHOCTON 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.

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

Susan Babbitt

CERTIFIED AUGUST 26, 2004