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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Richland Township Guernsey County 14126 Ideal Road Senecaville, Ohio 43780

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Richland Township, Guernsey 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.

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 Richland Township, Guernsey County, 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.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 18, 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.

743 E. State St. / Athens Mall Suite B / Athens, OH 45701 Telephone: (740) 594-3300 (800) 441-1389 Fax: (740) 594-2110 www.auditor.state.oh.us Richland Township Guernsey 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.

Betty Montgomeny

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

June 18, 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			Fiduciary Fund Type	Totals	
	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Capital Projects	Nonexpendable Trust	(Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:						
Property Tax and Other Local Taxes	\$21,366	\$64,953	\$	\$	\$	\$86,319
Intergovernmental Receipts	14,098	68,784	10,072	82,491		175,445
Fines, Licenses, and Permits		8,611			_	8,611
Earnings on Investments	2,990	123			7	3,120
Miscellaneous	6	3,710				3,716
Total Cash Receipts	38,460	146,181	10,072	82,491	7	277,211
Cash Disbursements:						
Current:						
Public Works		135,558		65,724		201,282
Public Health Services	342	31,788				32,130
General Government	39,333					39,333
Debt Service:						
Principal Payments			9,006			9,006
Interest Payments			1,047			1,047
Capital Outlay		4,756		15,443		20,199
Total Cash Disbursements	39,675	172,102	10,053	81,167	0	302,997
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	(1,215)	(25,921)	19	1,324	7	(25,786)
Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements):						
Transfers-In		5,094				5,094
Transfers-Out				(5,094)		(5,094)
Other Financing Sources	42	5,325		·		5,367
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)	42	10,419	0	(5,094)	0	5,367
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing						
Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements						
and Other Financing Disbursements	(1,173)	(15,502)	19	(3,770)	7	(20,419)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	15,112	96,741	420	9,957	1,067	123,297
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$13,939	\$81,239	\$439	\$6,187	\$1,074	\$102,878
Reserves for Encumbrances, December 31	\$878	\$7,795	\$0	\$1,060	\$0	\$9,733

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

		Governmental Fund Types			Fiduciary Fund Type	Totals
	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Capital Projects	Nonexpendable Trust	(Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:						
Property Tax and Other Local Taxes	\$19,984	\$61,952	5	\$	\$	\$81,936
Intergovernmental Receipts	14,375	65,713	8,163	11,673		99,924
Fines, Licenses, and Permits		4,548				4,548
Earnings on Investments	4,636	114			8	4,758
Miscellaneous		3,140				3,140
Total Cash Receipts	38,995	135,467	8,163	11,673	8	194,306
Cash Disbursements:						
Current:						
Security of Persons and Property		13,850				13,850
Public Health Services	346	28,649				28,995
Public Works		73,152				73,152
General Government	47,085					47,085
Debt Service:						
Principal Payments			9,006			9,006
Interest Payments			1,574			1,574
Capital Outlay		1,049		8,316		9,365
Total Cash Disbursements	47,431	116,700	10,580	8,316	0	183,027
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	(8,436)	18,767	(2,417)	3,357	8	11,279
Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements):						
Other Financing Sources	486	2,375				2,861
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)	486	2,375	0	0	0	2,861
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements						
and Other Financing Disbursements	(7,950)	21,142	(2,417)	3,357	8	14,140
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	23,062	75,599	2,837	6,600	1,059	109,157
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$15,112	\$96,741	\$420	\$9,957	\$1,067	\$123,297
Reserves for Encumbrances, December 31	\$899	\$5,460	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,359

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

Richland Township, Guernsey 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 and a publicly-elected Clerk. The Township provides road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance, fire protection, and emergency medical services. The Township contracts with the Villages of Senecaville, Lore City, and Quaker City to provide fire protection and emergency 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 and Investments

Certificates of deposit and savings trust deposits 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:

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)

Gasoline Tax Fund - This fund receives gasoline tax money to construct, maintain and repair Township roads.

Road and Bridge Fund - This fund receives property tax money to construct, maintain, and repair Township roads and bridges.

3. Debt Service Funds

The debt service fund is used to accumulate resources for the payment of bonds and note indebtness. The Township had the following significant Debt Service Fund:

Bond Retirement Fund - This fund receives motor vehicle license tax money and gasoline tax money for the principal and interest payments of outstanding general obligation notes.

4. Capital Project Funds

These funds are used to account for receipts that are restricted for the acquisition or construction of major capital projects (except those financed through enterprise or trust funds). The Township had the following significant Capital Projects Funds:

Public Works Commission Fund - This fund receives Issue II money through the County Engineer for maintenance of Township roads.

CDBG Fund – This fund receives money from the County for repair of Township roads.

5. Fiduciary Funds (Trust Funds)

These funds are used to account for resources restricted by legally binding trust agreements. The Township had the following significant Fiduciary Funds:

Lucinda-Lowry Trust Fund - This fund receives interest earnings from a savings account to maintain certain cemeteries within the Township.

Lowry-Moss Trust Fund – This fund receives interest earnings from a savings account to maintain certain cemeteries within the Township.

E. Budgetary Process

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

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

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

E. Budgetary Process (Continued)

1. Appropriations

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund 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.

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	\$11,804	\$32,230
Savings Trust Deposits	1,074	1,067
Certificates of Deposit	90,000	90,000
Total	\$102,878	\$123,297

Deposits: Deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and/or collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool.

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

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2003 and 2002 follows:

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$35,972	\$38,502	\$2,530
Special Revenue	130,115	156,600	26,485
Debt Service	10,500	10,072	(428)
Capital Projects	11,673	82,491	70,818
Fiduciary	0	7	7
Total	\$188,260	\$287,672	\$99,412

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$48,599	\$40,553	\$8,046
Special Revenue	211,052	179,897	31,155
Debt Service	10,900	10,053	847
Capital Projects	25,094	87,321	(62,227)
Total	\$295,645	\$317,824	(\$22,179)

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$37,781	\$39,481	\$1,700
Special Revenue	131,043	137,842	6,799
Debt Service	8,163	8,163	0
Capital Projects	7,267	11,673	4,406
Fiduciary	0	8	8
Total	\$184,254	\$197,167	\$12,913

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures				
Appropriation Budgetary				
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance	
General	\$59,364	\$48,330	\$11,034	
Special Revenue	203,718	122,160	81,558	
Debt Service	11,000	10,580	420	
Capital Projects	13,316	8,316	5,000	
Total	\$287,398	\$189,386	\$98,012	

Contrary to Ohio law, budgetary expenditures exceeded appropriation authority in the CDBG Fund, Capital Projects Fund Type, by \$65,724 for the year ended December 31, 2003.

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

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.

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, 2003, was as follows:

	Principal	Rate
General Obligation Notes	\$9,008	5.75%
Total	\$9,008	

The general obligation notes were issued to finance the purchase of a truck to be used for Township road maintenance. The notes are collateralized solely by the Township's taxing authority.

Amortization of the above debt, including interest of \$520, is scheduled as follows:

Year ending December 31:	Notes	
2004	\$9,528	
Total	\$9.528	

6. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

The Township's elected officials and employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (PERS). 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 2003 and 2002, OPERS members contributed 8.5% of their gross salaries. The Township contributed an amount equal to 13.55% of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2003.

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

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk Pool Membership

The Township belongs to the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio townships. 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. Claims exceeding \$250,000 are reinsured with APEEP 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 \$700,000 for 2001 and \$1,250,000 for 2002. The Travelers Indemnity Company reinsures losses exceeding \$10,000 if the annual aggregate is reached and all specific losses exceeding \$100,000. APEEP's Operating Fund and Guarantee Fund pay for losses and loss adjustment expenses should they exceed 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 government.

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 2002 and 2001 (the latest information available):

Casualty Coverage	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
Assets	\$23,757,036	\$23,703,776
Liabilities	<u>(9,197,512)</u>	<u>(9,379,003)</u>
Retained earnings	<u>\$14,559,524</u>	<u>\$14,324,773</u>

Property Coverage	2002	<u>2001</u>
Assets	\$6,596,996	\$5,011,131
Liabilities	<u>(1,204,326)</u>	<u>(647,667)</u>
Retained earnings	<u>\$5,392,670</u>	<u>\$4,363,464</u>



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

Richland Township Guernsey County 14126 Ideal Road Senecaville, Ohio 43780

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of Richland Township, Guernsey County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2003 and 2002, and have issued our report thereon dated June 18, 2004. 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 instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* which are described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings as items 2003-001 and 2003-002. We also noted a certain immaterial instance of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated June 18, 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 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 other matters involving the internal control over financial reporting the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, we noted other matters involving the internal control over financial reporting the internal control over financi

743 E. State St. / Athens Mall Suite B / Athens, OH 45701 Telephone: (740) 594-3300 (800) 441-1389 Fax: (740) 594-2110 www.auditor.state.oh.us Richland Township Guernsey County Independent Accountants' Report on Compliance and on Internal Control Required by *Government Auditing Standards* Page 2

This report is intended 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 Montgomeny

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

June 18, 2004

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS

FINDING NUMBER 2003-001

Noncompliance Citation

Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(B) states that no subdivision or taxing unit shall make any expenditure of money unless the same has been properly appropriated.

The following fund's expenditures exceeded appropriations at the legal level of control at year end by the following amount:

2003	Appropriations	Actual Disbursements	Variance
CDBG Fund	\$0	\$65,724	\$(65,724)

We recommend the Township Clerk modify appropriations with the Board of Township Trustees and County Budget Commission before incurring obligations that would cause expenditures to exceed appropriations. The Township Clerk should deny any payments until the legislative authority has passed the necessary changes to the appropriation measure. This variance was created by the auditor adjusting these amounts onto the financial statements.

FINDING NUMBER 2003-002

Finding for Recovery - Repaid Under Audit

Ohio Rev. Code Section 505.60(C) states if any township officer or employee is denied coverage under a health care plan procured under division (B) of this section or if any township officer or employee elects not to participate in the township's health care plan, the township may reimburse the officer or employee for each out-of-pocket premium that the officer or employee incurs for insurance policies described in division (A) of this section that the officer or employee otherwise obtains, but not to exceed an amount equal to the average premium paid by the township for its officers and employees under policies it procures under division (B) of this section.

During the first four months of 2002, the Township had a group health insurance plan with Fortis Benefits, with the monthly premium being \$245.44. Township Trustee Jerry Dettra was denied coverage under the group plan. The Township reimbursed Jerry Dettra, Township Trustee, \$682.14 a month for the months of January, February, March and April 2002 to cover reimbursement of health care premiums. This reimbursement to Jerry Dettra was in excess of the reimbursement amount allowed under Ohio Rev. Code Section 505.60(C) based on the average premium paid by \$436.70 a month over a four month period for a cumulative total of \$1,746.80.

In accordance with the foregoing facts, and pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code Section 117.28, a finding for recovery is hereby issued against Jerry Dettra and his surety company, Ohio Government Risk Management Plan, jointly and severally, in the amount of \$1,746.80 and in favor of Richland Township, Guernsey County's General Fund in the amount of \$873.40, Gasoline Tax Fund in the amount of \$436.70 and the Road and Bridge Fund in the amount of \$436.70.

On June 8, 2004, Township Trustee Jerry Dettra paid \$1,746.80 with check number 5477, which was deposited into the Richland Township, Guernsey County, general checking account.

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002

Finding <u>Number</u>	Finding <u>Summary</u>	Fully <u>Corrected</u> ?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <i>Explain</i> :
2001- 41030- 001	Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D)(1) states 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.	Yes	



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

Telephone 614-466-4514 800-282-0370

Facsimile 614-466-4490

RICHLAND TOWNSHIP

GUERNSEY 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 Babbett

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

CERTIFIED AUGUST 5, 2004