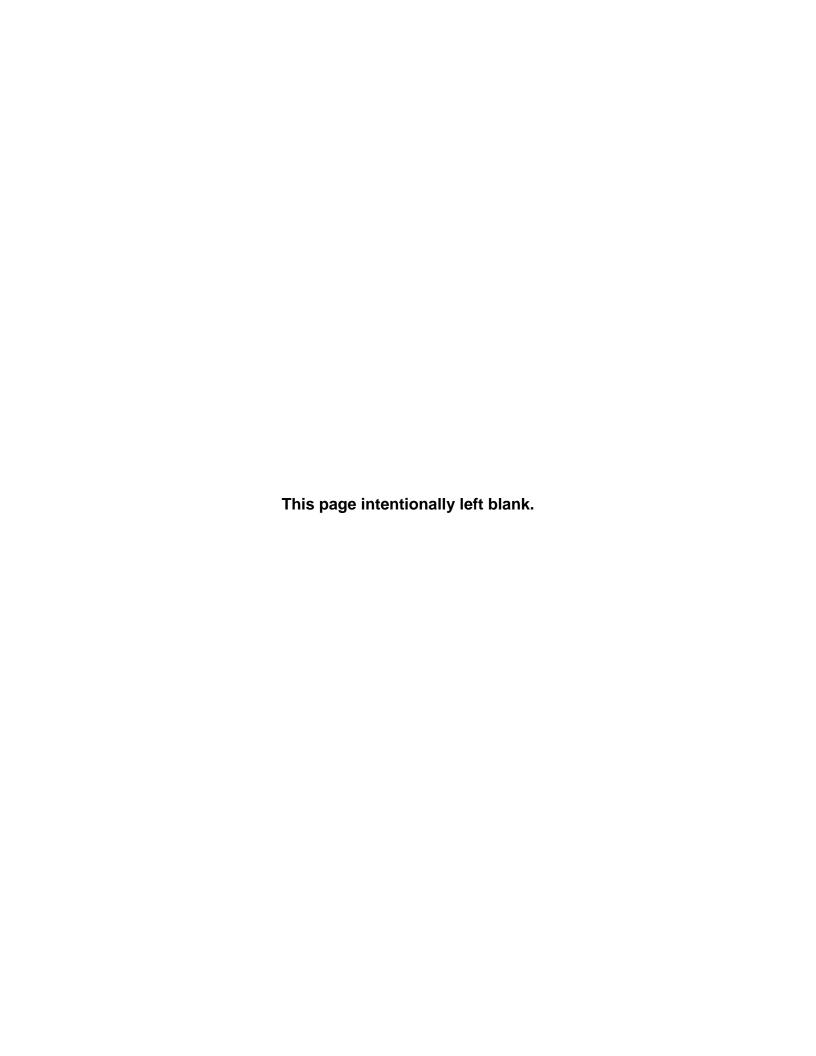




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#### INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Defiance Township
Defiance County
8 Deville Drive
Defiance, Ohio 43512-3706

#### To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Defiance Township, Defiance County, (the Township) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2003. 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. 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 § 117.101 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. 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.

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Independent Accountants' Report
Page 2

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, 2003, 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 8, 2005, 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 grant agreements and other matters. While we did not opine on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance, that report describes the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. You should read it in conjunction with this report in assessing the results of our audit.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management and 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

Butty Montgomeny

June 8, 2005

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

	Gover	Governmental Fund Types		
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:				
Local Taxes	\$19,029	\$58,490		\$77,519
Intergovernmental	59,123	70,837	\$24,917	154,877
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	18,839	,		18,839
Earnings on Investments	1,143	1,019		2,162
Other Revenue	142	1,489		1,631
Total Cash Receipts	98,276	131,835	24,917	255,028
Cash Disbursements:				
Current:				
General Government	61,958			61,958
Public Safety	50,000			50,000
Public Works		123,663		123,663
Health	6,162		04.047	6,162
Capital Outlay			24,917	24,917
Total Cash Disbursements	118,120	123,663	24,917	266,700
Total Cash Receipts Over/				
(Under) Cash Disbursements	(19,844)	8,172		(11,672)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	17,503	218,238		235,741
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	(\$2,341)	\$226,410		\$224,069

THE NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS STATEMENT.

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003

#### 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### A. Description of the Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of Defiance Township, Defiance County, (the Township) as a body corporate and politic. A publicly-elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance, fire protection and emergency medical services. The Township contracts with the City of Defiance to provide fire protection and emergency medical 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 the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements basis. The Township recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements 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 the Auditor of State prescribes or permits.

#### C. 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 reports all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

#### 2. Special Revenue Funds

These funds 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:

<u>Road and Bridge Fund</u> - This fund receives property tax money for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads and bridges.

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

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

#### 3. Capital Project Funds

These funds account for receipts restricted to acquiring or constructing major capital projects (except those financed through enterprise or trust funds). The Township had the following significant capital project fund:

<u>Local Public Works Commission Fund</u> - The Township received the grant monies from the State of Ohio and administered by the Defiance Engineer's office to maintain and repair 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 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.

#### 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. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are canceled, and reappropriated in the subsequent year. The Township did not encumber all commitments required by Ohio law.

A summary of 2003 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

#### F. Property, Plant, and Equipment

The Township records disbursements for acquisitions of property, plant, and equipment when paid. The accompanying financial statements do not report these items as assets.

#### 2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS

The Township maintains a cash and investments pool all funds use. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of demand deposits at December 31, 2003 was \$224,069. Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation; or collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the Township or collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool.

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

#### 3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2003 follows:

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

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	Budgeted	Actual			
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance		
General	\$82,114	\$98,276	\$16,162		
Special Revenue	122,998	131,835	8,837		
Capital Projects		24,917	24,917		
Total	\$205,112	\$255,028	\$49,916		

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$135,724	\$118,120	\$17,604
Special Revenue	317,382	123,663	193,719
Capital Projects	24,917	24,917	0
Total	\$478,023	\$266,700	\$211,323

The following occurred in 2003 contrary to Ohio law:

- The General fund had a cash deficit balance of \$2,341 at December 31, 2003, in addition to an improper allocation of revenues of \$4,174 that should have been credited to the Road and Bridge Fund.
- The Township did not request an amended certificate of estimated resources for the Local Public Works Commission fund.
- Appropriations exceeded the amount of estimated resources in the General, Motor Vehicle License Tax, Gasoline Tax, and Permissive Motor Vehicle License Tax funds.

#### 4. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Trustees adopt rates. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. The financial statements include homestead and rollback amounts the State pays as Intergovernmental Receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to pay semiannually, 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.

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

#### 5. DEBT

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2003 was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
Lease Purchase Obligation	\$55,089	5.8%

The Township entered into a lease – purchase agreement to finance a new dump truck and plowing equipment for Township road maintenance. The final payment of this agreement is due by January 15, 2009. This obligation will be paid from the Township's road funds.

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

	Lease
	Purchase
Year ending December 31:	Obligation
2004	\$13,010
2005	13,011
2006	13,010
2007	13,011
2008	13,010
Total	\$65,052

#### 6. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

The Township's employees are members of the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes this plan's benefits, which include postretirement healthcare and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2003, OPERS members contributed 8.5 percent of their gross salaries. The Township contributed an amount equaling 13.55 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2003.

#### 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 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.

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

#### 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 \$100,000 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, 2003 and 2002 (the latest information available):

Casualty Coverage	2003	2002
Assets	\$27,792,223	\$23,757,036
Liabilities	(11,791,300)	(9,197,512)
Retained Earnings	\$16,000,923	\$14,559,524
Property Coverage	2003	2002
Assets	\$6,791,060	\$6,596,996
Liabilities	(750,956)	(1,204,326)
Retained Earnings	\$6,040,104	\$5,392,670

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## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Defiance Township
Defiance County
8 Deville Drive
Defiance, Ohio 43512-3706

#### To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of Defiance Township (the Township) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2003, and have issued our report thereon dated June 8, 2005, wherein we noted that the Township uses the Auditor of State's Uniform Accounting Network (UAN) to process its financial transactions. *Government Auditing Standards* considers this service to impair the Auditor of State's independence to audit 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 the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*.

#### **Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Township's internal control over financial reporting to determine our auditing procedures to express our opinion on the financial statements and not to opine on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a reportable 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 caused by error or fraud in amounts material to the financial statements we audited may occur and not be timely detected by employees when performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider material weaknesses. In a separate letter to the Township's management dated June 8, 2005, we reported other matters involving internal control over financial reporting we did not deem reportable conditions.

#### **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of reasonably assuring whether the Township's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant

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agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect 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 an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which are described in the accompanying schedule of findings as items 2003-001 through 2003-004. In a separate letter to the Township's management dated June 8, 2005, we reported other matters related to noncompliance we deemed immaterial.

We intend this report solely for the information and use of management and the Board of Trustees. It is not intended for anyone other than these specified parties.

**Betty Montgomery** Auditor of State

Betty Montgomery

June 8, 2005

#### SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2003

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

#### FINDING NUMBER 2003-001

#### **Noncompliance Citation**

Ohio Revised Code § 5705.10 requires that all revenue derived from a special levy is to be credited to a special fund for the purpose for which the levy was made and all revenue derived from a source other than the general property tax and which the law prescribes shall be used for a particular purpose is to be paid into a special fund for such purpose.

The following monies were not recorded in the proper fund:

- 1. Homestead and rollback deductions from real estate property tax billings which were reimbursed from the State of Ohio were credited to the Township's General fund instead of being apportioned to the Road and Bridge fund. The Road and Bridge fund should have received \$3,503.
- 2. A distribution of personal property tax received from the County Auditor was credited entirely to the Township's General fund. The Road and Bridge fund should have received \$671 of this distribution.

This could result in monies being used for purposes other than those prescribed by law. Audit adjustments were recorded to the Township's financial statements to properly account for these monies.

Ohio Revised Code § 5705.10, also requires that monies paid into any fund shall be used only for the purposes for which such fund is established. As a result of these adjustments, the General fund at December 31, 2003 had a deficit fund balance of \$2,341. The existence of a negative fund balance means that monies from other funds have been used for purposes other than for which those funds were established.

We recommend that the Clerk record homestead and rollback reimbursements and personal property tax distributions according to the allocation listed on the tax apportionment sheets received from the County Auditor. Proper fund allocation of these monies will provide an accurate picture of the Township's financial position which can prevent deficit fund balances.

#### FINDING NUMBER 2003-002

#### **Noncompliance Citation**

Ohio Revised Code § 5705.36 (A) (3) states that upon the determination by the fiscal officer of a subdivision that the revenue to be collected by the subdivision will be greater than the amount included in an official certificate and the legislative authority intends to appropriate and expend the excess revenue, the fiscal officer shall certify the amount of the excess to the commission, and if the commission determines that the fiscal officer's certification is reasonable, the commission shall certify an amended official certificate reflecting the excess.

Defiance Township Defiance County Schedule of Findings Page 2

### FINDING NUMBER 2003- 002 (Continued)

The Township received and expended \$24,917 in Local Public Works Commission grant monies. There was no certification of this amount made to the county budget commission. The Clerk should certify to the commission all amounts received which were not included in the original amended certificate of estimated resources if the Township plans to expend these amounts during the same fiscal year.

#### FINDING NUMBER 2003-003

#### **Noncompliance Citation**

Ohio Revised Code § 5705.39 requires the total appropriations from each fund not exceed the total of the estimated revenue available for expenditures. The following funds had appropriations in excess of estimated resources in 2003:

	Estimated		
Fund	Appropriations	Resources	Difference
General Fund	\$135,724	\$121,737	\$13,987
Special Revenue Funds:			
Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund	22,998	22,323	675
Gasoline Tax Fund	123,989	121,176	2,813
Permissive Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund	32,067	31,213	854

This could result in appropriations being overstated and thereby giving an inaccurate presentation of these amounts to management.

We recommend that the Clerk compare appropriation amounts with estimated resources and make appropriate adjustments when needed.

#### FINDING NUMBER 2003-004

#### **Noncompliance Citation**

Ohio Revised Code § 5705.41(D)(1) prohibits a subdivision or taxing entity from making any contract or ordering any expenditure of money unless a certificate signed by the fiscal officer is attached thereto. The fiscal officer must certify that the amount required to meet any such contract or expenditure has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury, or is in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrance.

There are several exceptions to the standard requirement stated above that a fiscal officer's certificate must be obtained prior to a subdivision or taxing authority entering into a contract or order involving the expenditure of money. The <u>main</u> exceptions are: "then and now" certificates, blanket certificates, and super blanket certificates, which are provided for in §§ 5705.41(D)(1) and 5705.41(D)(3), respectively, of the Ohio Revised Code.

Defiance Township Defiance County Schedule of Findings Page 3

### FINDING NUMBER 2003- 004 (Continued)

1. "Then and Now" certificate – If the fiscal officer can certify that both at the time that the contract or order was made ("then"), and at the time that the fiscal officer is completing the certification ("now"), that sufficient funds were available or in the process of collection, to the credit of a proper fund, properly appropriated and free from any previous encumbrance, the Township can authorize the drawing of a warrant for the payment of the amount due. The Township has thirty days from the receipt of the "then and now" certificate to approve payment by ordinance or resolution.

Amounts of less than \$3,000 may be paid by the fiscal officer without a resolution or ordinance upon completion of the "then and now" certificate, provided that the expenditure is otherwise lawful. This does not eliminate any otherwise applicable requirement for approval of expenditures by the Township.

- 2. Blanket Certificate Fiscal officers may prepare "blanket" certificates for a certain sum of money not in excess of an amount established by resolution or ordinance adopted by a majority of the members of the legislative authority against any specific line item account over a period not running beyond the end of the current fiscal year. (Prior to September 26, 2003, blanket certificates were limited to \$5,000 and three months.) The blanket certificates may, but need not, be limited to a specific vendor. Only one blanket certificate may be outstanding at one particular time for any one particular line item appropriation.
- 3. Super Blanket Certificate The Township may also make expenditures and contracts for any amount from a specific line-item appropriation account in a specified fund upon certification of the fiscal officer for most professional services, fuel, oil, food items, and any other specific recurring and reasonably predictable operating expense. This certification is not to extend beyond the current year. More than one super blanket certificate may be outstanding at a particular time for any line item appropriation.

In 2003, ninety four percent of the transactions tested were not certified by the fiscal officer at the time the commitment was incurred and there was no evidence that the Township followed the aforementioned exceptions. Failure to properly certify the availability of funds can result in overspending funds and negative cash fund balances.

Unless the exceptions noted above are used, prior certification is not only required by statute but is a key control in the disbursement process to assure that purchase commitments receive prior approval. To improve controls over disbursements and to help reduce the possibility of the Township's funds exceeding budgetary spending limitations, we recommend that the Clerk certify that the funds are or will be available prior to obligation by the Township. When prior certification is not possible, "then and now" certification should be used.

We recommend the Township certify purchases to which § 5705.41(D) applies. The most convenient certification method is to use purchase orders that include the certification language § 5705.41(D) requires to authorize disbursements. The fiscal officer should sign the certification at the time the Township incurs a commitment, and only when the requirements of § 5705.41(D) are satisfied. The fiscal officer should post approved purchase commitments to the proper appropriation code, to reduce the available appropriation.

### SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2003

Finding Number	Finding	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer
number	Summary	Corrected?	Valid; <i>Explain</i>
2002-001	Revised Code § 5705.10 incorrect fund account postings.	No	Not corrected. Reissued as finding #2003-001.
2002-002	Revised Code § 5705.39 appropriations exceeded estimated resources.	No	Not corrected. Reissued as finding #2003-003.
2002-003	Revised Code § 5705.40 appropriations were incorrectly modified.	Yes	



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# DEFIANCE 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 4, 2005