BROOKFIELD TOWNSHIP NOBLE COUNTY, OHIO

AUDIT REPORT

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004 & 2003

Charles E. Harris and Associates, Inc. Certified Public Accountants and Government Consultants



Auditor of State Betty Montgomery

Board of Trustees Brookfield Township 11544 Township Road 92 Cumberland, Ohio 43732

We have reviewed the *Report of Independent Accountants* of Brookfield Township, Noble County, prepared by Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc. for the audit period January 1, 2003 through December 31, 2004. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

The financial statements in the attached report are presented in accordance with a regulatory basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State's Office (AOS). Due to a February 2, 2005 interpretation from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), modifications were required to the *Report of Independent Accountants* on your financial statements. While the AOS does not legally require your government to prepare financial statements pursuant to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), the AICPA interpretation requires auditors to formally acknowledge that you did not prepare your financial statements in accordance with GAAP. The attached report includes an opinion relating to GAAP presentation and measurement requirements, but does not imply the statements are misstated under the non-GAAP regulatory basis. The *Report of Independent Accountants* also includes an opinion on the financial statements using the regulatory format the AOS permits.

Our review was made in reference to the applicable sections of legislative criteria, as reflected by the Ohio Constitution, and the Revised Code, policies, procedures and guidelines of the Auditor of State, regulations and grant requirements. Brookfield Township is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

Betty Montgomery

BETTY MONTGOMERY Auditor of State

March 31, 2006

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BROOKFIELD TOWNSHIP NOBLE COUNTY For the Years Ending December 31, 2004 and 2003

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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

To the Board of Trustees Brookfield Township Cumberland, Ohio

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Brookfield Township, Noble County, Ohio as and for the years ended December 31, 2004 and 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 the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure 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 described more fully in Note 1, the Township has prepared these financial statements using accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. These practices differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Although we cannot reasonably determine the effects on the financial statements of the variances between these regulatory accounting practices and GAAP, we presume they are material.

Revisions to GAAP would require the Township to reformat its financial statement presentation and make other changes effective for the year ended December 31, 2004. Instead of the combined funds the accompanying financial statements present for 2004 (and 2003), the revisions require presenting entity wide statements and also to present its larger (i.e. major) funds separately for 2004. While the Township does not follow GAAP, generally accepted auditing standards requires us to include the following paragraph if the statements do not substantially conform to the new GAAP presentation requirements. The Auditor of State permits, but does not require governments to reformat their statements. The Township has elected not to reformat its statements. Since the Township does not use GAAP to measure financial statement amounts, the following paragraph does not imply the amounts reported are materially misstated under the accounting basis the Auditor of State permits. Our opinion on the fair presentation of the amounts reported pursuant to its non-GAAP basis is in the second following paragraph.

In our opinion, because of the effects of the matter discussed in the preceding two paragraphs, the financial statements referred to above for the year ended December 31, 2004, do not present fairly, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Township as of December 31, 2004, or its changes in financial position for the year then ended.

Also, 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 Brookfield Township, Noble County, as of December 31, 2004 and 2003, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the accounting basis Note 1 describes.

The aforementioned revision to generally accepted accounting principles also requires the Township to include Management's Discussion and Analysis for the year ended December 31, 2004. The Township has not presented Management's Discussion and Analysis, which accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America has determined is necessary to supplement, although not required to be part of, the financial statements.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated February 7, 2006, 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 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.

Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc. February 7, 2006

BROOKFIELD TOWNSHIP NOBLE COUNTY 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, 2004

	Governmental Funds		Fiduciary Fund Type		Totals		
	G	eneral	Special evenue	Non-Ex	rust	•	norandum Only)
Receipts:							
Property Taxes and Other Local Taxes	\$	15,001	\$ 1,513		-	\$	16,514
Intergovernmental		7,330	75,641		-		82,971
Interest		107	238	\$	17		362
Miscellaneous		433	85		-		518
Total Receipts		22,871	 77,477		17		100,365
Disbursements:							
General Government		19,797	-		-		19,797
Public Safety		1,000	-		-		1,000
Public Health Services		1,459	-		-		1,459
Public Works		-	59,583		-		59,583
Capital Outlay		-	8,521		-		8,521
Total Disbursements		22,256	 68,104		-		90,360
Total Receipts Over(Under) Disbursements		615	9,373		17		10,005
Fund Balance 1/1/2004		40,118	 150,114		6,300		196,532
Fund Balance 12/31/2004	\$	40,733	\$ 159,487	\$	6,317	\$	206,537
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31, 2004	\$	18,552	\$ 34,840	\$	-	\$	53,392

See accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements.

BROOKFIELD TOWNSHIP NOBLE COUNTY 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

			ernmer ⁻ unds	ntal		uciary d Type		Totals
	G	eneral		Special evenue	Non-Ex	pendable rust	•	norandum Only)
Receipts: Property Taxes and Other Local Taxes Intergovernmental Interest Miscellaneous	\$	14,748 7,225 237 227	\$	1,574 71,659 554	\$	- - 38	\$	16,322 78,884 829 227
Total Receipts		22,437		73,787		38		96,262
Disbursements: General Government Public Safety Public Health Services Public Works Capital Outlay		23,506 1,000 784 - -		- - 52,261 18				23,506 1,000 784 52,261 18
Total Disbursements		25,290		52,279		-		77,569
Total Receipts Over(Under) Disbursements		(2,853)		21,508		38		18,693
Fund Balance 1/1/2003		42,971		128,606		6,262		177,839
Fund Balance 12/31/2003	\$	40,118	\$	150,114	\$	6,300	\$	196,532
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31, 2003	\$	72	\$	154	\$	-	\$	226

See accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements.

1. <u>SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES</u>

A. <u>DESCRIPTION OF THE ENTITY</u>

Brookfield Township, Noble County (the Township) is a body corporate and politic established for the purpose of exercising the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The Township is directed by three publicly-elected Trustees. The Township provides general governmental services, road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance and fire protection services. The Township contracts with Belle Valley Volunteer Fire Department to provide fire protection services.

The Township's management believes these financial statements included in this report represent all of the funds of the Township over which the Township has the ability to exercise direct operating control.

B. <u>BASIS OF ACCOUNTING</u>

The Township prepares its financial statements following the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements basis 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.)

The statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State.

C. <u>CASH</u>

Investments are included in the fund cash balances. Accordingly, purchase of investments, are not recorded as disbursements, and sales of investments are not recorded as receipts. Gains or losses at the time of sale are recorded as receipts or disbursements, respectively.

D. <u>FUND ACCOUNTING</u>

The Township maintains its accounting records in accordance with the principles of "Fund" accounting. Fund accounting is a concept developed to meet the needs of governmental entities in which legal or other restraints require the recording of specific receipts and disbursements. The transactions of each fund are reflected in a self-balancing group of accounts, and accounting entity, which stands separate from the activities reported in other funds. The restrictions associated with each class of funds are as follows:

1. <u>SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES</u> – (Continued)

Governmental Fund Types:

<u>General Fund</u>: The general operating fund of the Township. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required by law or contract to be accounted for in another fund.

<u>Special Revenue Funds</u>: These funds are used to account for proceeds from special sources (other than from trusts or for capital projects) that are restricted to expenditures for specific purposes. Special revenue funds follow:

- Motor Vehicle License Tax
- Gasoline Tax
- Road And Bridge Fund
- Permissive Motor Vehicle License Tax
- FEMA

<u>Fiduciary Funds</u>: These funds are used to account for resources restricted by legally binding trust agreements. The Township had the following non-expendable trust funds:

- Renrock Milton Dye Trust
- Dye Trust
- Renrock Brookfield Trust
- Brookfield Baptist Trust
- Green Trust

E. <u>BUDGETARY PROCESS</u>

A budget of estimated cash receipts and disbursements is prepared by the Clerk, approved by the Board of Trustees, and submitted to the county auditor, as secretary of the County Budget Commission, by July 20 of each year, for the period January 1 to December 31 of the following year.

1. <u>Estimated Resources</u>

The county auditor calculates the estimated revenues available to the Township. He prepares a certificate of estimated resources based upon this calculation and upon the other financial information supplied in the budget sent by the Township. The certificate is approved by the county budget commission and sent to the Township Clerk by September 1.

1. <u>SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES</u> – (Continued)

E. <u>BUDGETARY PROCESS</u> – (Continued)

Prior to December 31, the Township must revise its budget so that the total budgeted expenditures for a fund will not exceed the amount stated in the certificate of estimated resources. The revised budget serves as the basis for the annual appropriation measure.

On or about January 1, the Clerk sends the county auditor a certificate which includes the actual unencumbered balances from the preceding year. The county auditor prepares an amended certificate, submits it to the county budget commission for approval. This amended certificate may be further amended during the year if projected increases or the Clerk identifies decreases in revenue.

Budget receipts, as shown in Note 4, do not include the unencumbered fund balances as of January 1, 2003 and 2004. However, those fund balances are available for appropriation.

2. <u>Appropriations</u>

A temporary appropriation measure to control cash expenditures may be passed on or about January 1 of each year for the period January 1 to March 31. An annual appropriation measure must be passed by March 31 of each year for the period January 1 to December 31. The appropriation measure may be amended or supplemented during the year as new information becomes available. Appropriations may not exceed estimated resources.

3. Encumbrances

The Township is required to use the encumbrance method of accounting by virtue of Ohio law. Under this system, purchase orders, contracts and other commitments for the expenditure of funds are recorded in order to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation and to determine and maintain legal compliance. The sum of expenditures and encumbrances may not exceed appropriated totals at any level of budgetary control. The legal level of control is the object level.

Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year-end. Encumbered appropriations are carried forward to the succeeding fiscal year without being re-appropriated.

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.

G. <u>UNPAID VACATION AND SICK LEAVE</u>

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused vacation and sick leave. Unpaid vacation and sick leave are not reflected as liabilities on the accompanying financial statements.

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

The Township maintains a cash and investment 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:

	2003	2004
Demand deposits	\$ 196,532	\$ 206,537

Deposits: Deposits are either (1) insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, or (2) collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the Township.

3. <u>PROPERTY TAX</u>

Real property taxes are levied on assessed values, which equal 35% of appraised value. The county auditor reappraises all real property every six years with a triennial update. The last update was completed for tax year 2001.

Real property taxes become a lien on all non-exempt real property located in the county on January 1. Real property taxes are payable annually or semiannually. If paid annually, payment is due December 31; if paid semiannually, the first payment is due December 31 with the remainder payable by June 20 of the following year. Under certain circumstances, state statute permits later payment dates to be established.

The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts the tax rates for inflation. Real property owners' tax bills are further reduced by homestead and rollback deductions when applicable. The amount of these homestead and rollback reductions is reimbursed to the Township by the State of Ohio. The amounts reimbursed by the State of Ohio are reflected in the accompanying financial statements as Intergovernmental Receipts.

3. <u>PROPERTY TAX</u> – (Continued)

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

The property owners, who must file a list of such property to the County by each April 30, assess tangible personal property tax.

The Noble County Treasurer collects property tax on behalf of all taxing Townships within the county. The Noble County Auditor periodically remits to the taxing Township their portions of the taxes collected.

4. <u>BUDGETARY ACTIVITY</u>

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2004 and 2003 follows:

	2004 Budgeted v	vs Actual Receipts	
	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General Fund	\$ 21,755	\$ 22,871	\$ 1,116
Special Revenue Funds	64,428	77,477	13,049
Non-Expendable Trust	-0-	17	17

2004 Budgeted vs Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures					
	Appropriation	Budgetary			
Fund	Authority	Expenditures	Variance		
General Fund	\$ 48,500	\$ 40,808	\$ 7,692		
Special Revenue Funds	109,200	102,944	6,256		
Non-Expendable Trust	-0-	-0-	-0-		

	2003 Budgeted vs Actual Receipts		
	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General Fund	\$ 19,495	\$ 22,437	\$ 2,942
Special Revenue	58,636	73,787	15,151
Non-Expendable Trust	-0-	38	38

2003 Budgeted vs Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General Fund	\$ 59,800	\$ 25,362	\$ 34,438
Special Revenue	152,866	52,433	100,433
Non-Expendable Trust	-0-	-0-	-0-

5. <u>RETIREMENT SYSTEMS</u>

The Township's officials and employees belong to the Ohio Public Employment Employers 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.

The Ohio Revised Code provides statutory authority for employee and employer contributions. OPERS participants contributed 8.5% of their wages. The Township contributed an amount equal to 13.55% of their wages. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2004.

6. <u>RISK MANAGEMENT</u>

RISK POOL MEMBERSHIP

The Village belongs to the Ohio Government Risk Management Plan ("the Plan"), an unincorporated non-profit association providing a formalized, jointly administered self-insurance risk management program and other administrative services to approximately 500 Ohio governments.

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

The Plan issues its own policies and reinsures the Plan with A-Vii or better rated carriers, except for the 5% portion retained by the Plan. After September 1, 2003, the Plan pays the lesser of 5% or \$25,000 of casualty losses and the lesser of 5% or \$50,000 of property losses. The individual members are only responsible for their self-retention (deductible) amounts, which vary from member to member.

The Pool's audited financial statements conform to generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and Member's Equity at December 31:

	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
Assets	\$ 6,685,522	\$ 5,402,167
Liabilities	2,227,808	1,871,123
Retained Earnings	<u>\$4,457,714</u>	<u>\$ 3,531,044</u>

6. <u>RISK MANAGEMENT</u> –(Continued)

You can read the complete audited financial statements for the Ohio Government Risk Management at the Plan's website, <u>www.ohioplan.org</u>.

7. Contingent Liabilities/Subsequent Events

Management believes there are no pending claims or lawsuits.

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

Brookfield Township Noble County Cumberland, Ohio

We have audited the financial statements of Brookfield Township, Noble County, Ohio (Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003, and have issued our report thereon dated February 7, 2006, wherein we noted the Township followed accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes rather than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Internal Controls 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 an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of 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 internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements caused by error or fraud 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 that do not require inclusion in this report, that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated February 7, 2006.

Compliance and Other Matters

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, grant agreements and other matters 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 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 February 7, 2006.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the management and the Board of Trustees and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Charles E. Harris and Associates, Inc.

February 7, 2006

BROOKFIELD TOWNSHIP NOBLE COUNTY

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2003

FINDING NUMBER	FUNDING SUMMARY	FULLY CORRECTED?	Not Corrected. Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; Explain
2002-41061-001	Contrary to Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D) (1) the Village did not obtain prior certification of available funds for every transaction, nor did the Village use "Then and Now" certificates.	No	Partially Corrected. Re- issued as a noncompliance citation in the Management Letter.



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BROOKFIELD TOWNSHIP

NOBLE 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 APRIL 13, 2006