AUDIT REPORT

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005 AND 2004

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



Board of Trustees Berkshire Township 274 North Galena Road Sunbury, Ohio 43074

We have reviewed the *Report of Independent Accountants* of Berkshire Township, Delaware County, prepared by Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc., for the audit period January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2005. 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. 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 Auditor of State 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 Auditor of State 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. Berkshire Township is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

BETTY MONTGOMERY Auditor of State

Betty Montgomeny

December 22, 2006

Audit Report For the Years Ended December 31, 2005 and 2004

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Rockefeller Building 614 W Superior Ave Ste 1242 Cleveland OH 44113-1306 Office phone - (216) 575-1630 Fax - (216) 436-2411

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

Berkshire Township Delaware County 201 North Galena Road Sunbury, Ohio 43074

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Berkshire Township, Delaware County, Ohio as and for the years ended December 31, 2005 and 2004. 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 years ended December 31, 2005 and 2004. Instead of the combined funds the accompanying financial statements present for 2005 and 2004, the revision requires presenting entity wide statements and also to present larger (i.e. major) funds separately for 2005 and 2004. While the Township does not follow GAAP, generally accepted auditing standards require 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 its 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 years ended December 31, 2005 and 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, 2005 and 2004, or its changes in financial position for the years then ended.

Also, in our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances of Berkshire Township, Delaware County as of December 31, 2005 and 2004, 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 years ended December 31, 2005 and 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 November 21, 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, 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. November 21, 2006

COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES - ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES AND FIDUCIARY FUNDS For the Year Ended December 31, 2005

	Government General	Governmental Fund Types Special General Revenue		(Memorandum Only) Total	
Receipts:					
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 184,176	-	-	\$ 184,176	
Licenses, permits and fees	33,583	\$ 5,149	-	38,732	
Intergovernmental	76,373	93,556	-	169,929	
Earnings on Investments	11,113	5,590	\$ 10	16,713	
Miscellaneous	2,818	6,978	<u> </u>	9,796	
Total Receipts	308,063	111,273	10	419,346	
Disbursements:					
Current:					
General Government	113,198	-	-	113,198	
Public Works	-	92,558	-	92,558	
Health	25,658	4,159	-	29,817	
Capital Outlay	38,637	1,163		39,800	
Total Cash Disbursements	177,493	97,880		275,373	
Excess of Receipts Over/(Under)					
Disbursements	130,570	13,393	10	143,973	
Fund Balance January 1, 2005	307,651	187,302	349	495,302	
Fund Balance December 31, 2005	\$ 438,221	\$ 200,695	\$ 359	\$ 639,275	

See accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements.

COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES - ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES AND FIDUCIARY FUNDS

For the Year Ended December 31, 2004

	Fide				
	Governmental Fund Types		Fund Type	(Memorandum	
		Special	Non-Expendable	Only)	
	General	Revenue	Trust	Total	
Receipts:					
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 122,337	_	_	\$ 122,337	
Licenses, permits and fees	57,095	\$ 4,473	_	61,568	
Intergovernmental	61,020	82,405	_	143,425	
Earnings on Investments	3,692	2,471	\$ 5	6,168	
Miscellaneous	6,462	2,700	<u> </u>	9,162	
Total Receipts	250,606	92,049	5	342,660	
Disbursements:					
Current:					
General Government	111,121	-	-	111,121	
Public Works	-	87,323	-	87,323	
Health	22,877	4,536	-	27,413	
Capital Outlay	452,214	26,836		479,050	
Total Cash Disbursements	586,212	118,695		704,907	
Excess of Receipts Over/(Under)					
Disbursements	(335,606)	(26,646)	5	(362,247)	
Fund Balance January 1, 2004	643,257	213,948	344	857,549	
Fund Balance December 31, 2004	\$ 307,651	\$ 187,302	\$ 349	\$ 495,302	

See accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Years Ended December 31, 2005 and 2004

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

Berkshire Township, Delaware 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 a publicly-elected three member Board of Trustees and a publicly-elected Clerk. The Township provides general governmental services, including road and bridge maintenance and cemetery maintenance.

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. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

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 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.)

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

C. CASH

Investments are included in the fund cash balances. Accordingly, purchases 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. **FUND ACCOUNTING**

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, an accounting entity, which stands separate from the activities reported in other funds. The restrictions associated with each class of funds are as follows:

Governmental Fund Types:

General Fund: 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.

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Years Ended December 31, 2005 and 2004

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (continued)

D. <u>FUND ACCOUNTING</u> – (continued)

Governmental Fund Types – (continued)

Special Revenue Funds: 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. The Township has the following significant Special Revenue funds:

- Permissive Motor Vehicle License Fund This fund receives Countylevied tax money to pay for improvements for the Township.
- Gasoline Tax Fund This fund receives gasoline tax money for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads.
- Cemetery Fund This fund is used to maintain and operate the Township's cemetery.

<u>Fiduciary Fund Type:</u> This fund is used to account for resources restricted by a legally binding trust agreement. The Township had the following significant Fiduciary Fund:

 Clossen Cemetery Non-Expendable Trust – This fund accounts for resources restricted by a legally binding trust agreement. The agreement requires the Township to maintain the corpus of the trust. The earnings on the investment of the corpus are to be used specifically for the upkeep of the Clossen cemetery site at the Township's cemetery.

E. <u>BUDGETARY PROCESS</u>

A budget of estimated cash receipts and disbursements is prepared by the Clerk, approved by the Township 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. Estimated Resources

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 county budget commission approves the certificate of estimated resources.

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

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Years Ended December 31, 2005 and 2004

1. <u>SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES</u> - (continued)

E. <u>BUDGETARY PROCESS</u> - (continued)

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 and submits it to the county budget commission for approval. This amended certificate may be further amended during the year if projected revenue increases or the Clerk identifies decreases in revenue.

Budgeted receipts, as shown in Note 4, do not include the unencumbered fund balances as of January 1, 2004 and 2005. However, those fund balances are available for appropriation.

2. Appropriations

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 Township's legal level of control is the function level.

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

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>ACCUMULATED LEAVE</u>

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.

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Years Ended December 31, 2005 and 2004

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 at December 31 was as follows:

	2004		2005		
Demand Deposit	\$	26,772	\$	50,690	
Certificates of Deposit		302,240		311,313	
STAR Ohio		166,290		277,272	
Total Deposits and Investments	\$	495,302	\$	639,275	

Deposits: Deposits are either (1) insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, (2) collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the Township, or (3) collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool.

Investments: Investments in STAR Ohio are not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book-entry form.

3. PROPERTY TAXES

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 2004.

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.

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

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Years Ended December 31, 2005 and 2004

4. **BUDGETARY ACTIVITY**

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2005 and 2004 follows:

2005 Budgeted v	s Actu	ual Budgeta	ry Ba	asis Expend	itures
Funds		oropriation authority		udgetary penditures	Variance
General Special Revenue Non-Expendable Trust	\$	528,000 276,000 -	\$	177,493 97,880 -	\$ 350,507 178,120 -
Total	\$	804,000	\$	275,373	\$ 528,627

2004 Budgeted v	/s Act	ual Budgeta	ry Ba	ısis Expendi	ture	es	
Funds	Appropriation Authority				•		
General Special Revenue Non-Expendable Trust	\$	835,500 291,716 -	\$	586,212 118,695	\$	249,288 173,021	
Total	\$	1,127,216	\$	704,907	\$	422,309	

2005 Budgeted vs Actual Receipts					
Formula		Actual	Variana		
Funds		Receipts	<u>r</u>	Receipts	<u> Variance</u>
General	\$	222,208	\$	308,063	\$ 85,855
Special Revenue		90,170		111,273	21,103
Non-Expendable Trust		4		10	6
Total	\$	312,382	\$	419,346	\$ 106,964

2004 Budgeted vs Actual Receipts					
Funds		udgeted Receipts		Actual Receipts	Variance
General Special Revenue Non-Expendable Trust	\$	196,965 79,750 4	\$	250,606 92,049 5	\$ 53,641 12,299 1
Total	\$	276,719	\$	342,660	\$ 65,941

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Years Ended December 31, 2005 and 2004

5. RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Employees of the Township belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a state operated, 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 prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code. OPERS members contributed 8.5% of their gross pay while the Township contributed an amount equal to 13.55% of covered payroll. The Township paid all required contributions through 2005.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

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 townships pay annual contributions to fund OTARMA. OTARMA pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

<u>Casualty Coverage</u> - OTARMA retains casualty risks up to \$250,000 per occurrence, including claim 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 \$10,000,000 in the aggregate per year. Townships can elect additional coverage, from \$2,000,000 to \$12,000,000 with the General Reinsurance Corporation, through contracts with OTARMA.

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

<u>Property Coverage</u> - Through 2004, OTARMA retained property risks, including automobile physical damage, up to \$100,000 on any specific loss in any one occurrence. The Travelers Indemnity Company reinsured losses exceeding \$100,000 up to \$500 million per occurrence. APEEP's Guarantee Fund was responsible for losses and loss adjustment expenses exceeding operating contributions.

Beginning in 2005, Travelers reinsures specific losses exceeding \$250,000 up to \$600 million per occurrence. APEEP reinsures members for specific losses exceeding \$100,000 up to \$250,000 per occurrence, subject to an annual aggregate loss payment. Travelers provides aggregate stop-loss coverage based upon the combined members' total insurable value. If the stop-loss is reached by payment of losses between \$100,000 and \$250,000, Travelers will reinsure specific losses exceeding \$100,000 up to their \$600 million per occurrence limit. The aggregate stop-loss limit for 2005 was \$1,682,589.

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.

Property and casualty settlements did not exceed insurance coverage for the past three years.

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Years Ended December 31, 2005 and 2004

6. RISK MANAGEMENT - (continued)

Members may withdraw on each anniversary of the date they joined OTARMA. They must provide written notice to OTARMA 60 days in advance of the anniversary date. Upon withdrawal, members are eligible for a full or partial refund of their capital contribution, minus the subsequent year's premium. Also, upon withdrawal, payments for all property and casualty claims and claim expenses become the sole responsibility of the withdrawing member, regardless of whether a claim was incurred or reported prior to the withdrawal.

<u>Financial Position</u> - 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, 2005 and 2004:

Casualty Coverage	2005	2004
Assets	\$ 30,485,638	\$ 28,132,620
Liabilities	(12,344,576)	(11,086,379)
Retained earnings	\$ 18,141,062	\$ 17,046,241
Casualty Coverage	2005	2004
Assets	\$ 9,177,796	\$ 7,588,343
Liabilities	(1,406,031)	(543,176)
Retained earnings	\$ 7,771,765	\$ 7,045,167

The casualty coverage assets and retained earnings above include approximately \$11.6 million and \$10.3 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 950 member townships in the future, as of December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively. OTARMA will collect these amounts in future annual premium billings when OTARMA's related liabilities are due for payment. The Township's share of these unpaid claims is approximately \$10,194.

7. CONTINGENT LIABILITES/SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Management believes there are no pending claims or lawsuits.

Fax - (216) 436-2411

REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

The Board of Trustees Berkshire Township **Delaware County** 201 North Galena Road Sunbury, Ohio 43074

We have audited the financial statements of Berkshire Township, Delaware County, Ohio, (the Township) as and for the years ended December 31, 2005 and 2004, and have issued our report thereon dated November 21, 2006, wherein we noted the Township follows 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 the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' Government Auditing Standards.

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 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 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 November 21, 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 that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

However, we noted other matters involving compliance that do not require inclusion in this report, that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated November 21, 2006.

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.

Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc.

November 21, 2006

STATUS OF PRIOR YEARS' CITATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The prior audit report, for the years ending December 31, 2003 and 2002, reported no material citations or recommendations.



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

Telephone 614-466-4514

800-282-0370

Facsimile 614-466-4490

BERKSHIRE TOWNSHIP

DELAWARE 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 JANUARY 4, 2007