



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

**RICE TOWNSHIP
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

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Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Rice Township
Sandusky County
1830 County Road 145
Fremont, Ohio 43420-9330

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Rice Township, Sandusky County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2005, which collectively comprise the Township's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Township's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions 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. The Township processes its financial transactions with 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 audit 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 our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As discussed in Note 1, the accompanying financial statements and notes follow the modified cash accounting basis. This is a comprehensive accounting basis other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective modified cash financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Rice Township, Sandusky County, Ohio, as of December 31, 2005, and the respective changes in modified cash financial position and the respective budgetary comparison for the General, Gasoline Tax, and Road and Bridge funds thereof for the years then ended in conformity with the basis of accounting Note 1 describes.

For the year ended December 31, 2005, the Township revised its financial presentation comparable to the requirements of Governmental Accounting Standard No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis for State and Local Governments*.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated May 7, 2007, 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.

Management's discussion and analysis is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information the Governmental Accounting Standards Board requires. We have applied certain limited procedures, consisting principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measuring and presenting the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

May 7, 2007

**RICE TOWNSHIP
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005
UNAUDITED**

This discussion and analysis of Rice Township's (the Township) financial performance provides an overall review of the Township's financial activities for the year ended December 31, 2005, within the limitations of the Township's modified cash basis accounting. Readers should also review the basic financial statements and notes to enhance their understanding of the Township's financial performance.

Highlights

Key highlights for 2005 are as follows:

- Net assets of governmental activities decreased \$121,893, or 34 percent, a significant change from the prior year. The fund most affected by the decrease in cash and cash equivalents was the General Fund, which realized the greatest burden of increased costs in 2005.
- The Township's general receipts are primarily property and other local taxes and grants and entitlements not restricted to specific programs. These receipts represent 42 and 14 percent respectively of the total cash received for governmental activities during the year. Property and other local tax receipts for 2005 changed very little compared to 2004 as development within the Township has leveled.
- Expenditures were also similar to 2004 with the exception of Capital Outlay expenditures increasing because the Township constructed a new maintenance building during 2005. The building contract was awarded to Ansted Construction in 2004 with actual construction started and completed in 2005.
- The Township entered into an installment purchase agreement arranged through the Municipal Services Group and financed by the Citizens Bank of Las Cruces New Mexico in 2005 for a John Deere Comfort Vantage Cab Tractor, Tiger Side-Mount Flail Mower and Tiger Rear-Offset Flail Mower. Payments will be made through 2010.

Using the Basic Financial Statements

This annual report is presented in a format consistent with the presentation requirements of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 34, as applicable to the Township's modified cash basis of accounting.

Report Components

The statement of net assets and the statement of activities provide information about the cash activities of the Township as a whole.

Fund financial statements provide a greater level of detail. Funds are created and maintained on the financial records of the Township as a way to segregate money whose use is restricted to a particular specified purpose. These statements present financial information by fund, presenting funds with the largest balances or most activity in separate columns.

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of the government-wide and fund financial statements and provide expanded explanation and detail regarding the information reported in the statements.

**RICE TOWNSHIP
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005
UNAUDITED
(Continued)**

Basis of Accounting

The basis of accounting is a set of guidelines that determine when financial events are recorded. The Township has elected to present its financial statements on a modified cash basis of accounting. This basis of accounting is a basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles. Under the Township's modified cash basis of accounting, receipts and disbursements are recorded when cash is received or paid.

As a result of using the modified cash basis of accounting, certain assets and their related revenues (such as accounts receivable) and certain liabilities and their related expenses (such as accounts payable) are not recorded in the financial statements. Therefore, when reviewing the financial information and discussion within this report, the reader must keep in mind the limitations resulting from the use of the modified cash basis of accounting.

Reporting the Township as a Whole

The Township contracts with the Village of Lindsey and the Portage Fire District to provide fire protection; Police protection is under the jurisdiction of the Sandusky County Sherriff. The Township is zoned and operates a cemetery.

The statement of net assets and the statement of activities reflect how the Township did financially during 2005, within the limitations of modified cash basis accounting. The statement of net assets presents the cash balances and investments of the governmental activities of the Township at year end. The statement of activities compares cash disbursements with program receipts for each governmental program activity. Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the program's goods or services and grants and contributions restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. General receipts are all receipts not classified as program receipts. The comparison of cash disbursements with program receipts identifies how each governmental function draws from the Township's general receipts.

These statements report the Township's cash position and the changes in cash position. Keeping in mind the limitations of the modified cash basis of accounting, you can think of these changes as one way to measure the Township's financial health. Over time, increases or decreases in the Township's cash position is one indicator of whether the Township's financial health is improving or deteriorating. When evaluating the Township's financial condition, you should also consider other nonfinancial factors as well such as the Township's property tax base, the condition of the Township's capital assets and infrastructure, the extent of the Township's debt obligations, the reliance on non-local financial resources for operations and the need for continued growth in the major local revenue sources such as property and income taxes.

In the statement of net assets and the statement of activities, we report governmental activities which include the Township's basic services such as fire protection. State grants and property taxes finance most of these activities. Benefits provided through governmental activities are not necessarily paid for by the people receiving them.

**RICE TOWNSHIP
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005
UNAUDITED
(Continued)**

Reporting the Township's Most Significant Funds

Fund financial statements provide detailed information about the Township's major funds – not the Township as a whole. The Township establishes separate funds to better manage its many activities and to help demonstrate that money that is restricted as to how it may be used is being spent for the intended purpose. The funds of the Township are all governmental funds.

The governmental fund financial statements provide a detailed view of the Township's governmental operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps determine whether there are more or less financial resources that can be spent to finance the Township's programs. The Township's significant governmental funds are presented on the financial statements in separate columns. The information for nonmajor funds (funds whose activity or balances are not large enough to warrant separate reporting) is combined and presented in total in a single column. The Township's major governmental funds are the General Fund, Gasoline Tax Fund and Road and Bridge Fund. The programs reported in governmental funds are closely related to those reported in the governmental activities section of the entity-wide statements.

The Township as a Whole

Table 1 provides a summary of the Township's net assets for 2005 compared to 2004 on a modified cash basis:

(Table 1)
Net Assets

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>	
	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>
Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$231,524	\$353,417
Total Assets	\$231,524	\$353,417
Net Assets		
Restricted for:		
Other Purposes	180,481	162,512
Unrestricted	51,043	190,905
Total Net Assets	\$231,524	\$353,417

As mentioned previously, net assets of governmental activities decreased \$121,893 or 34 percent during 2005. The primary reason contributing to the decreases in cash balances is because the Township constructed a new maintenance building in 2005 at a cost of \$189,409.

**RICE TOWNSHIP
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005
UNAUDITED
(Continued)**

Table 2 reflects the changes in net assets on a modified cash basis in 2005. Since the Township did not prepare financial statements in this format for 2004, a comparative analysis of government-wide data has not been presented. In future years, when prior year information is available, a comparative analysis will be presented.

(Table 2)
Changes in Net Assets

	Governmental Activities
	2005
Receipts:	
Program Receipts:	
Charges for Services and Sales	\$3,739
Operating Grants and Contributions	95,568
Capital Grants and Contributions	20,000
Total Program Receipts	119,307
General Receipts:	
Property and Other Local Taxes Levied For:	
General Purposes	68,973
Road and Bridge	40,876
Special Levy - Fire	14,437
Grants and Entitlements Not Restricted to Specific Programs	41,555
Interest	2,589
Miscellaneous	6,441
Total General Receipts	174,871
Total Receipts	294,178
 Disbursements:	
General Government	88,940
Public Safety	33,342
Public Works	33,548
Health	3,464
Capital Outlay	254,645
Debt Service:	
Interest & Fiscal Charges	2,132
Total Disbursements	416,071
 Decrease in Net Assets	(121,893)
 Net Assets, January 1, 2005	353,417
Net Assets, December 31, 2005	\$231,524

**RICE TOWNSHIP
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005
UNAUDITED
(Continued)**

Program receipts represent only 41 percent of total receipts and are primarily comprised of restricted intergovernmental receipts such as motor vehicle license and gas tax money, and an Issue 2 Grant.

General receipts represent 59 percent of the Township's total receipts, and of this amount, over 71 percent are local taxes. State grants and entitlements make up the balance of the Township's general receipts (24 percent). Other receipts are very insignificant and somewhat unpredictable revenue sources.

Disbursements for General Government represent the overhead costs of running the Township and the support services provided for the other Government activities. These include the costs of the Board of Trustees and Fiscal Officer as well as internal services such as payroll and purchasing.

Public Safety is the costs of fire protection services; Public Works is the cost of maintaining the roads. Health is the health department and Capital Outlay is the costs of capital expenditures such as road improvements and the maintenance building.

Governmental Activities

If you look at the Statement of Activities, you will see that the first column lists the major services provided by the Township. The next column identifies the costs of providing these services. The major program disbursements for governmental activities are for general government and capital outlay which account for 21 and 61 percent, of all governmental disbursements, respectively. Public Safety and Public Works also represents significant costs of about 8 percent each. The next three columns of the Statement entitled Program Receipts identify amounts paid by people who are directly charged for the service and grants received by the Township that must be used to provide a specific service. The net Receipt (Disbursement) column compares the program receipts to the cost of the service. This "net cost" amount represents the cost of the service which ends up being paid from money provided by local taxpayers. These net costs are paid from the general receipts which are presented at the bottom of the Statement. A comparison between the total cost of services and the net cost is presented in Table 3.

(Table 3)

Governmental Activities

	Total Cost of Services 2005	Net Cost of Services 2005
General Government	\$88,940	\$85,651
Public Safety	33,342	32,047
Public Works	33,548	16,507
Health	3,464	3,014
Capital Outlay	254,645	157,413
Debt Service		
Interst and Fiscal Charges	2,132	2,132
Total Expenses	\$416,071	\$296,764

The dependence upon property and other tax receipts is apparent as over 71 percent of governmental activities are supported through these general receipts.

**RICE TOWNSHIP
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005
UNAUDITED
(Continued)**

The Township's Funds

Total governmental funds had receipts of \$294,178 and disbursements of \$416,071. The greatest change within governmental funds occurred within the General Fund. The fund balance of the General Fund decreased \$139,862 as the result of increased costs for construction of the new maintenance building.

General Fund Budgeting Highlights

The Township's budget is prepared according to Ohio law and is based upon accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements, and encumbrances. The most significant budgeted fund is the General Fund.

During 2005, the Township amended its General Fund budget once to reflect changing circumstances. There was no significant difference between final budgeted receipts and actual receipts.

Final disbursements and other financing uses were budgeted at \$193,155 while actual disbursements and other financing uses were \$261,350. This was caused by an incorrect entry of appropriations into the Township's accounting system, which allowed them to spend more than they had legally appropriated. Appropriations were reduced by \$19,550 during 2005. The Township spent more than budgeted amounts. The result is the decrease in fund balance of \$139,862 for 2005.

Capital Assets and Debt Administration

Capital Assets

The Township does not record capital assets in the accompanying basic financial statements, but records payments for capital assets as disbursements.

Debt

At December 31, 2005, the Township's outstanding debt included \$63,324 in an installment purchase agreement. For further information regarding the Township's debt, refer to Note 11 to the basic financial statements.

Current Issues

The challenge for all Townships is to provide quality services to the public while staying within the restrictions imposed by limited, and in some cases shrinking funding. We rely heavily on local taxes and have very little industry to support the tax base. The change in Property Tax to Commercial Activity Tax and the loss of a local industry may have a negative impact on the Township's revenue.

Contacting the Township's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, and creditors with a general overview of the Township's finances and to reflect the Township's accountability for the monies it receives. Questions concerning any of the information in this report or requests for additional information should be directed to Teresa McClure, Rice Township Fiscal Officer, 1830 County Road 145, Fremont, Ohio 43420-9330.

**RICE TOWNSHIP
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

*Statement of Net Assets - Modified Cash Basis
December 31, 2005*

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
Assets	
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	<u>\$231,524</u>
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u><u>\$231,524</u></u>
Net Assets	
Restricted for:	
Other Purposes	\$180,481
Unrestricted	<u>51,043</u>
<i>Total Net Assets</i>	<u><u>\$231,524</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**RICE TOWNSHIP
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

*Statement of Activities - Modified Cash Basis
For the Year Ended December 31, 2005*

		Program Cash Receipts			Net (Disbursements) Receipts and Changes in Net Assets
	Cash Disbursements	Charges for Services and Sales	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities
Governmental Activities					
General Government	\$88,940	\$3,289			(\$85,651)
Public Safety	33,342		\$1,295		(32,047)
Public Works	33,548		17,041		(16,507)
Health	3,464	450			(3,014)
Capital Outlay	254,645		77,232	\$20,000	(157,413)
Debt Service:					
Interest and Fiscal Charges	2,132				(2,132)
<i>Total Governmental Activities</i>	\$416,071	\$3,739	\$95,568	\$20,000	(296,764)
General Receipts					
Property Taxes Levied for:					
General Purposes					68,973
Road and Bridge					40,876
Special Levy - Fire					14,437
Grants and Entitlements not Restricted to Specific Programs					41,555
Interest					2,589
Miscellaneous					6,441
					<i>Total General Receipts</i>
					174,871
					Change in Net Assets
					(121,893)
					<i>Net Assets Beginning of Year</i>
					353,417
					<i>Net Assets End of Year</i>
					\$231,524

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**RICE TOWNSHIP
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

*Statement of Modified Cash Basis Assets and Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
December 31, 2005*

	General	Gasoline Tax	Road And Bridge	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Assets					
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$51,043	\$54,392	\$114,983	\$11,106	\$231,524
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u>\$51,043</u>	<u>\$54,392</u>	<u>\$114,983</u>	<u>\$11,106</u>	<u>\$231,524</u>
Fund Balances					
Unreserved:					
Undesignated, Reported in:					
General Fund	51,043				51,043
Special Revenue Funds		54,392	114,983	11,106	180,481
<i>Total Fund Balances</i>	<u>\$51,043</u>	<u>\$54,392</u>	<u>\$114,983</u>	<u>\$11,106</u>	<u>\$231,524</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**RICE TOWNSHIP
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

*Statement of Cash Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Modified-Cash Basis Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended December 31, 2005*

	General	Gasoline Tax	Road and Bridge	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Receipts					
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$68,973		\$40,876	\$14,437	\$124,286
Charges for Services	2,109				2,109
Licenses, Permits and Fees	1,180			450	1,630
Intergovernmental	41,555	\$77,233	5,830	32,505	157,123
Interest	2,065	424		100	2,589
Other	5,606		49	786	6,441
<i>Total Receipts</i>	<u>121,488</u>	<u>77,657</u>	<u>46,755</u>	<u>48,278</u>	<u>294,178</u>
Disbursements					
Current:					
General Government	88,883			57	88,940
Public Safety	12,282			21,060	33,342
Public Works			25,493	8,055	33,548
Health				3,464	3,464
Capital Outlay	156,185	55,031	16,020	27,409	254,645
Debt Service:					
Interest and Fiscal Charges			2,132		2,132
<i>Total Disbursements</i>	<u>257,350</u>	<u>55,031</u>	<u>43,645</u>	<u>60,045</u>	<u>416,071</u>
<i>Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>	<u>(135,862)</u>	<u>22,626</u>	<u>3,110</u>	<u>(11,767)</u>	<u>(121,893)</u>
Other Financing Sources (Uses)					
Transfers In				4,000	4,000
Transfers Out	(4,000)				(4,000)
<i>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</i>	<u>(4,000)</u>			<u>4,000</u>	
<i>Net Change in Fund Balances</i>	(139,862)	22,626	3,110	(7,767)	(121,893)
<i>Fund Balances Beginning of Year</i>	<u>190,905</u>	<u>31,766</u>	<u>111,873</u>	<u>18,873</u>	<u>353,417</u>
<i>Fund Balances End of Year</i>	<u><u>\$51,043</u></u>	<u><u>\$54,392</u></u>	<u><u>\$114,983</u></u>	<u><u>\$11,106</u></u>	<u><u>\$231,524</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**RICE TOWNSHIP
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

*Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes
In Fund Balance - Budget and Actual -Budget Basis
General Fund
For the Year Ended December 31, 2005*

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
Receipts				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$58,374	\$58,374	\$68,973	\$10,599
Charges for Services	2,109	2,109	2,109	
Licenses, Permits and Fees			1,180	1,180
Intergovernmental	45,865	45,865	41,555	(4,310)
Interest	2,065	2,065	2,065	
Other	2,476	2,476	5,606	3,130
<i>Total Receipts</i>	110,889	110,889	121,488	10,599
Disbursements				
Current:				
General Government	109,173	93,123	88,883	4,240
Public Works	18,000	14,500	12,282	2,218
Health	1,000	1,000		1,000
Capital Outlay	80,532	80,532	156,185	(75,653)
<i>Total Disbursements</i>	208,705	189,155	257,350	(68,195)
<i>Excess of Disbursements Over Receipts</i>	(97,816)	(78,266)	(135,862)	(57,596)
Other Financing Uses				
Transfers Out	(4,000)	(4,000)	(4,000)	
<i>Net Change in Fund Balance</i>	(101,816)	(82,266)	(139,862)	(57,596)
<i>Fund Balance Beginning of Year</i>	190,905	190,905	190,905	
<i>Fund Balance End of Year</i>	\$89,089	\$108,639	\$51,043	(\$57,596)

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**RICE TOWNSHIP
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

*Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes
In Fund Balance - Budget and Actual -Budget Basis
Gasoline Tax Fund
For the Year Ended December 31, 2005*

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
Receipts				
Intergovernmental	\$60,575	\$60,575	\$77,233	\$16,658
Interest	425	425	424	(1)
<i>Total Receipts</i>	61,000	61,000	77,657	16,657
Disbursements				
Current:				
Public Works	2,700	2,700		2,700
Capital Outlay	60,000	60,000	55,031	4,969
<i>Total Disbursements</i>	62,700	62,700	55,031	7,669
<i>Net Change in Fund Balance</i>	(1,700)	(1,700)	22,626	24,326
<i>Fund Balance Beginning of Year</i>	31,766	31,766	31,766	
<i>Fund Balance End of Year</i>	\$30,066	\$30,066	\$54,392	\$24,326

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**RICE TOWNSHIP
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

*Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes
In Fund Balance - Budget and Actual -Budget Basis
Road and Bridge Fund
For the Year Ended December 31, 2005*

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
Receipts				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$52,264	\$52,264	\$40,876	(\$11,388)
Intergovernmental			5,830	5,830
Other			49	49
<i>Total Receipts</i>	52,264	52,264	46,755	(5,509)
Disbursements				
Current:				
Public Works	32,835	32,835	25,493	7,342
Capital Outlay	86,555	86,555	16,020	70,535
Debt Service:				
Interest and Fiscal Charges			2,132	(2,132)
<i>Total Disbursements</i>	119,390	119,390	43,645	75,745
<i>Net Change in Fund Balance</i>	(67,126)	(67,126)	3,110	70,236
<i>Fund Balance Beginning of Year</i>	111,873	111,873	111,873	
<i>Fund Balance End of Year</i>	\$44,747	\$44,747	\$114,983	\$70,236

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**RICE TOWNSHIP
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005**

NOTE 1 – REPORTING ENTITY

Rice Township, Sandusky County, Ohio (the Township), is a body politic and corporate established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The Township is directed by a publicly elected three-member Board of Trustees. The Township also has an elected Township Fiscal Officer.

The reporting entity is comprised of the primary government.

A. Primary Government

The primary government consists of all funds, departments, boards and agencies that are not legally separate from the Township. The Township provides general government services, maintenance of Township roads and bridges, fire protection and cemetery maintenance. The Township contracts with the Village of Lindsey and Portage Township Volunteer Fire Department for fire protection. Police protection is provided by the Sandusky County Sheriff.

B. Component Units

Component units are legally separate organizations for which the Township is financially accountable. The Township is financially accountable for an organization if the Township appoints a voting majority of the organization's governing board and (1) the Township is able to significantly influence the programs or services performed or provided by the organization; or (2) the Township is legally entitled to or can otherwise access the organization's resources; the Township is legally obligated or has otherwise assumed the responsibility to finance the deficits of, or provide support to, the organization; or the Township is obligated for the debt of the organization. The Township is also financially accountable for any organizations that are fiscally dependent on the Township in that the Township approves their budget, the issuance of their debt or the levying of their taxes. Component units also include legally separate, tax-exempt entities whose resources are for the direct benefit of the Township, are accessible to the Township and are significant in amount to the Township.

Based on this criteria, the Township has no component units.

C. Public Entity Risk Pool

The Township participates in one public entity risk pool, the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA). Note 8 to the financial statements provide additional information for this entity.

The Township's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Township is financially accountable.

**RICE TOWNSHIP
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005
(Continued)**

NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

As discussed further in Note 2.C, these financial statements are presented on a modified cash basis of accounting. This modified cash basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Generally accepted accounting principles include all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements, which have been applied to the extent they are applicable to the modified cash basis of accounting. In the government-wide financial statements, Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) pronouncements and Accounting Principles Board (APB) opinions issued on or before November 30, 1989, have been applied, to the extent they are applicable to the modified cash basis of accounting, unless those pronouncements conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements, in which case GASB prevails. Following are the more significant of the Township's accounting policies.

A. Basis of Presentation

The Township's basic financial statements consist of government-wide financial statements, including a statement of net assets, a statement of activities, and fund financial statements which provide a more detailed level of financial information.

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The statement of net assets and the statement of activities display information about the Township as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental receipts or other nonexchange transactions.

The statement of net assets presents the cash balances of the governmental activities of the Township at year end. The statement of activities compares disbursements with program receipts for each of the Township's governmental activities. Disbursements are reported by function. A function is a group of related activities designed to accomplish a major service or regulatory program for which the Township is responsible. Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the program's goods or services, grants and contributions restricted to meeting the operational requirements of a particular program. General receipts are all receipts not classified as program receipts, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct disbursements with program receipts identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing on a modified cash basis or draws from the Township's general receipts.

Fund Financial Statements

During the year, the Township segregates transactions related to certain Township functions or activities in separate funds to aid financial management and to demonstrate legal compliance. Fund financial statements are designed to present financial information of the Township at this more detailed level. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds. Each major fund is presented in a separate column. Nonmajor funds are aggregated and presented in a single column.

B. Fund Accounting

The Township uses fund accounting to maintain its financial records during the year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. Funds are used to segregate resources that are restricted as to use. The funds of the Township are categorized as governmental.

**RICE TOWNSHIP
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005
(Continued)**

NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – (CONTINUED)

Governmental Funds

The Township classifies funds financed primarily from taxes, intergovernmental receipts (e.g. grants), and other nonexchange transactions as governmental funds. The Township's major governmental funds are as follows:

1. **General Fund**

The General Fund is used to account for all financial resources, except those required to be accounted for in another fund. The General Fund balance is available to the Township for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

2. **Gasoline Tax Fund**

The Gasoline Tax Fund receives state fuel excise taxes to pay for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads.

3. **Road and Bridge Fund**

The Road and Bridge Fund received property tax monies for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads and bridges.

The other governmental funds of the Township account for grants and other resources whose use is restricted to a particular purpose.

C. Basis of Accounting

The Township's financial statements are prepared using the modified cash basis of accounting. Receipts are recorded in the Township's financial records and reported in the financial statements when cash is received rather than when earned and disbursements are recorded when cash is paid rather than when a liability is incurred.

As a result of the use of this modified cash basis of accounting, certain assets and their related revenues (such as accounts receivable and revenue for billed or provided services not yet collected) and certain liabilities and their related expenses (such as accounts payable and expenses for goods or services received but not yet paid, and accrued liabilities and the related expenses) are not recorded in these financial statements.

D. Budgetary Process

All funds are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the tax budget, the certificate of estimated resources, and the appropriations ordinance, all of which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The tax budget demonstrates a need for existing or increased tax rates. The certificate of estimated resources establishes a limit on the amount the Township may appropriate.

**RICE TOWNSHIP
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005
(Continued)**

NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – (CONTINUED)

The appropriations ordinance is the Township's authorization to spend resources and sets limits on disbursements plus encumbrances at the level of control selected by the Township. The legal level of control has been established at the fund, function, and object level for all funds.

The certificate of estimated resources may be amended during the year if projected increases or decreases in receipts are identified by the Township Fiscal Officer. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts on the budgetary statements reflect the amounts on the certificate of estimated resources when the original appropriations were adopted. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts on the budgetary statements reflect the amounts on the amended certificated of estimated resources in effect at the time final appropriations were passed by the Township.

The appropriations ordinance is subject to amendment throughout the year with the restriction that appropriations cannot exceed estimated resources. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts reflect the first appropriation ordinance for that fund that covered the entire year. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts represent the final appropriation amounts passed by the Township during the year.

E. Cash

To improve cash management, cash received by the Township is pooled. Individual fund integrity is maintained through Township records. Interest in the pool is presented as "Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents".

Interest earnings are allocated to Township funds according to State statutes or grant requirements. Interest receipts credited to the General Fund during 2005 were \$2,065 which includes \$1,037 assigned from other Township funds.

F. Inventory and Prepaid Items

The Township reports disbursements for inventories and prepaid items when paid. These items are not reflected as assets in the accompanying financial statements.

G. Capital Assets

Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets in the accompanying financial statements.

H. Accumulated Leave

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

I. Employer Contributions to Cost-Sharing Pension Plans

The Township recognizes the disbursement for employer contributions to cost-sharing pension plans when they are paid. As described in Notes 9 and 10, the employer contributions include portions for pension benefits and for postretirement health care benefits.

**RICE TOWNSHIP
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005
(Continued)**

NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – (CONTINUED)

J. Long-Term Obligations

The Township's modified cash basis financial statements do not report liabilities for long-term obligations. Since recording a capital asset when entering into a capital lease is not the result of a cash transaction, neither an other financing source nor a capital outlay expenditure are reported at inception. Lease payments are reported when paid.

K. Net Assets

Net assets are reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through enabling legislation or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws or regulations of other governments. Net assets restricted for other purposes include resources restricted for road and bridge construction, maintenance and repair and fire protection.

The Township's policy is to first apply restricted resources when an obligation is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net assets are available.

NOTE 3 – CHANGE IN BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

Last year the Township reported fund financial statements by fund type using the regulatory basis of accounting as prescribed by the State Auditor's Office. This year the Township has implemented the modified cash basis of accounting described in Note 2. The fund financial statements now present each major fund in a separate column with nonmajor funds aggregated and presented in a single column, rather than a column for each fund type.

NOTE 4 – COMPLIANCE

Contrary to Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(B), expenditures exceeded appropriations in the General fund by \$68,195 and in the FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) fund by \$1,717.

NOTE 5 – BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on the basis of cash receipts, disbursements, and encumbrances. The Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual – Budgetary Basis presented for the general fund, gasoline tax fund, and road and bridge fund are prepared on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. There are no differences between the budgetary basis and the modified cash basis in as much as the Township cancels outstanding year end encumbrances.

**RICE TOWNSHIP
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005
(Continued)**

NOTE 6 – DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

Monies held by the Township are classified by State statute into three categories.

Active monies are public monies determined to be necessary to meet current demands upon the Township treasury. Active monies must be maintained either as cash in the Township treasury, in commercial accounts payable or withdrawable on demand, including negotiable order of withdrawal (NOW) accounts, or in money market deposit accounts.

Inactive deposits are public deposits that the Trustees have identified as not required for use within the current five year period of designation of depositories. Inactive deposits must either be evidenced by certificates of deposit maturing not later than the end of the current period of designation of depositories, or by savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts.

Interim deposits are deposits of interim monies. Interim monies are those monies which are not needed for immediate use but which will be needed before the end of the current period of designation of depositories. Interim deposits must be evidenced by time certificates of deposit maturing not more than one year from the date of deposit or by savings or deposit accounts, including passbook accounts.

Interim monies held by the Township can be deposited or invested in the following securities:

1. United States Treasury bills, bonds, notes, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury, or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligation or security issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality including, but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Government National Mortgage Association, and Student Loan Marketing Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;
3. Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above provided the market value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least 2 percent and be marked to market daily, and the term of the agreement must not exceed thirty days;
4. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio or Ohio local governments;
5. Time certificates of deposit or savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts;
6. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in division (1) or (2) and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions;
7. The State Treasurer's investment pool (STAR Ohio).

**RICE TOWNSHIP
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005
(Continued)**

NOTE 6 – DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS – (CONTINUED)

Investments in stripped principal or interest obligations, reverse repurchase agreements, and derivatives are prohibited. The issuance of taxable notes for the purpose of arbitrage, the use of leverage, and short selling are also prohibited. An investment must mature within five years from the date of purchase, unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the Township, and must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity. Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions.

Deposits

The Township has no deposit policy for custodial risk beyond the requirements of State statute. Ohio law requires that deposits be either insured or be protected by eligible securities pledged to and deposited either with the Township or a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment, or by a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution whose market value at all times shall be at least one hundred five percent of the deposits being secured. 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.

NOTE 7 – PROPERTY TAXES

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real property, public utility property, and tangible personal property located in the Township. Real property tax receipts received in 2005 represent the collection of 2004 taxes. Real property taxes received in 2005 were levied after October 1, 2004, on the assessed values as of January 1, 2004, the lien date. Assessed values for real property taxes are established by State statute at 35 percent of appraised market value. 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. Under certain circumstances, State statute permits alternate payment dates to be established.

Public utility property tax receipts received in 2005 represent the collection of 2004 taxes. Public utility real and tangible personal property taxes received in 2004 became a lien on December 31, 2004, were levied after October 1, 2004, and are collected with real property taxes. Public utility real property is assessed at 35 percent of true value; public utility tangible personal property is currently assessed at varying percentages of true value.

Tangible personal property tax receipts received in 2005 (other than public utility property) represent the collection of 2005 taxes. Tangible personal property taxes received in 2005 were levied after October 1, 2004, on the true value as of December 31, 2004. Tangible personal property is currently assessed at 25 percent of true value for capital assets and 23 percent for inventory. Amounts paid by multi-county taxpayers are due September 20. Single county taxpayers may pay annually or semiannually. If paid annually, the first payment is due April 30; if paid semiannually, the first payment is due April 30, with the remainder payable by September 20.

**RICE TOWNSHIP
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005
(Continued)**

NOTE 7 – PROPERTY TAXES – (CONTINUED)

The full tax rate for all Township operations for the year ended December 31, 2005, was \$3.90 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The assessed values of real property, public utility property, and tangible personal property upon which 2005 property tax receipts were based are as follows:

Real Property	
Residential	\$13,415,600
Agricultural	5,093,390
Commercial/Industrial/Mineral	4,849,180
Tangible Personal Property	
Business	9,573,780
Public Utility	1,945,500
Total Assessed Value	<u>\$35,057,450</u>

NOTE 8 – 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.

Casualty Coverage

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.

Property Coverage

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.

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.

**RICE TOWNSHIP
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005
(Continued)**

NOTE 8 – RISK MANAGEMENT – (CONTINUED)

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.

Settlements did not exceed insurance coverage for the past three fiscal years.

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, 2005 and 2004, (the latest information available).

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

At December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively, casualty coverage assets and retained earnings noted above include approximately \$11.6 million and \$10.3 million of estimated incurred claims that will be paid subsequent to December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively. These amounts will be billed and collected from members in the future when the related claims are due for payment. Because OTARMA is a public entity risk pool that shares risk management among its members, a specific liability related to the Township can not be reasonably estimated.

After completing one year of membership, members may withdraw on each anniversary 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 contributions, minus the subsequent year's contribution. Also upon withdrawal, payments for all casualty claims and claim expenses become the sole responsibility of the withdrawing member, regardless of whether a claim was incurred or reported prior to withdrawal. Withdrawing members have no other future obligation to the pool.

**RICE TOWNSHIP
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005
(Continued)**

NOTE 8 – RISK MANAGEMENT – (CONTINUED)

Based on discussions with OTARMA the expected rates charged by OTARMA to compute member contributions, which are used to pay claims as they become due, are not expected to change significantly from those used to determine the historical contributions detailed below. By contract, the liability of each member is limited to the amount of financial contributions required to be made to OTARMA for each year of membership. The Townships contributions to OTARMA for the past three years are as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Contribution</u>
2005	\$3,950
2004	\$3,976
2003	\$3,918

The Township pays the State Workers' Compensation System a premium based on a rate per \$100 of salaries. This rate is calculated based on accident history and administrative costs. The System administers and pays all claims.

The Township provides health insurance to its full-time employees through a private carrier.

NOTE 9 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

The Township participates in the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS administers three separate pension plans. The traditional plan is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan. The member-directed plan is a defined contribution plan in which the member invests both member and employer contributions (employer contributions vest over five years at 20 percent per year). Under the member directed plan, members accumulate retirement assets equal to the value of the member and vested employer contributions plus any investment earnings.

The combined plan is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan that has elements of both a defined benefit and a defined contribution plan. Under the combined plan, employer contributions are invested by the retirement system to provide a formula retirement benefit similar to the traditional plan benefit. Member contributions, whose investment is self-directed by the member, accumulate retirement assets in a manner similar to the member directed plan.

OPERS provides retirement, disability, survivor and death benefits and annual cost of living adjustments to members of the traditional and combined plans. Members of the member directed plan do not qualify for ancillary benefits. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by Chapter 145 of the Ohio Revised Code. OPERS issues a stand-alone financial report that may be obtained by writing to OPERS, 277 East Town Street, Columbus, OH 43215-4642 or by calling (614) 222-6705 or (800) 222-7377.

For the year ended December 31, 2005, the members of all three plans were required to contribute 8.5 percent of their annual covered salaries. The Township's contribution rate for pension benefits for 2005 was 13.55 percent. The Ohio Revised Code provides statutory authority for member and employer contributions.

**RICE TOWNSHIP
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005
(Continued)**

NOTE 9 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN – (CONTINUED)

The Township's required contributions for pension obligations to the traditional and combined plans for the years ended December 31, 2005, 2004, and 2003, were \$8,170, \$7,703, and \$6,164 respectively. The full amount has been contributed for 2005, 2004, and 2003.

NOTE 10 - POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

The Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) provides postretirement health care coverage to age and service retirees with ten or more years of qualifying Ohio service credit with either the traditional or combined plans. Health care coverage for disability recipients and primary survivor recipients is available. Members of the member-directed plan do not qualify for postretirement health care coverage. The health care coverage provided by the retirement system is considered an Other Postemployment Benefit as described in *GASB Statement No. 12*. A portion of each employer's contribution to the traditional or combined plans is set aside for the funding of postretirement health care based on authority granted by State statute. The 2005 local government employer contribution rate was 13.55 percent of covered payroll; 4.00 percent of covered payroll was the portion that was used to fund health care.

Benefits are advance-funded using the entry age normal actuarial cost method. Significant actuarial assumptions, based on OPERS's latest actuarial review performed as of December 31, 2004, include a rate of return on investments of 8.00 percent, an annual increase in active employee total payroll of 4.00 percent compounded annually (assuming no change in the number of active employees) and an additional increase in total payroll of between .50 percent and 6.3 percent based on additional annual pay increases. Health care premiums were assumed to increase between 1.00 and 6.00 percent annually for the next eight years and 4.00 percent annually after eight years.

All investments are carried at market. For actuarial valuation purposes, a smoothed market approach is used. Assets are adjusted to reflect 25 percent of unrealized market appreciation or depreciation on investment assets annually.

The number of active contributing participants in the traditional and combined plans was 376,109. Actual employer contributions for 2005 which were used to fund postemployment benefits were \$2,412. The actual contribution and the actuarially required contribution amounts are the same. OPERS's net assets available for payment of benefits at December 31, 2004, (the latest information available) were \$10.8 billion. The actuarially accrued liability and the unfunded actuarial accrued liability were \$29.5 billion and \$18.7 billion, respectively.

On September 9, 2004, the OPERS Retirement Board adopted a Health Care Preservation Plan (HCPP) with an effective date of January 1, 2007. The HCPP restructures OPERS' health care coverage to improve the financial solvency of the fund in response to increasing health care costs. Member and employer contribution rates increased as of January 1, 2006 which will allow additional funds to be allocated to the health care plan.

**RICE TOWNSHIP
SANDUSKY COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005
(Continued)**

NOTE 11 – LEASES

The Township leases equipment under an installment purchase agreement. The Township disbursed \$7,036 to pay lease costs for the year ended December 31, 2005. Future lease payments are as follows:

Year	Amount
2006	\$14,072
2007	\$14,072
2008	\$14,072
2009	\$14,072
2010	\$7,036
Total	<u>\$63,324</u>

NOTE 12 – INTERFUND TRANSFER

During 2005 the following transfer was made:

Transfers from the General Fund to:	
Other Governmental Funds	\$4,000

Transfer represents the allocation of unrestricted receipts collected in the General Fund to help finance the Cemetery Fund in accordance with budgetary authorizations.

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Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

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

Rice Township
Sandusky County
1830 County Road 145
Fremont, Ohio 43420-9330

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Rice Township, Sandusky County (the Township) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2005, which collectively comprise the Township's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated May 7, 2007, wherein, we noted that the Township revised its financial statement presentation comparable to the requirements of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis for State and Local Governments*. We also noted 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 opinions 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 May 7, 2007, we reported other matters involving internal control over financial reporting we did not deem reportable conditions.

One Government Center / Room 1420 / Toledo, OH 43604-2246
Telephone: (419) 245-2811 (800) 443-9276 Fax: (419) 245-2484
www.auditor.state.oh.us

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 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 an instance of noncompliance we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2005-001. In a separate letter to the Township's management dated May 7, 2007, 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.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Taylor".

Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

May 7, 2007

RICE TOWNSHIP
SANDUSKY COUNTY

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2005

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

FINDING NUMBER 2005-001

Noncompliance Citation

Ohio Revised Code § 5705.41(B) prohibits a subdivision from making an expenditure unless it has been properly appropriated.

Our testing of budgetary compliance at December 31, 2005, identified the following instances in which expenditures exceeded appropriations:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Appropriations</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Excess</u>
General	\$193,155	\$261,350	(\$68,195)
FEMA		\$1,717	(\$1,717)

Management was advised that the failure to have adequate appropriations in place at the time of the expenditures being made could cause expenditures to exceed available resources, further resulting in deficit spending practices.

The Fiscal Officer should not certify the availability of funds and should deny payment requests exceeding appropriations. The Fiscal Officer may request the Board approve increased expenditure levels by increasing appropriations and amending estimated resources, if necessary.

Officials' Response: We did not receive a response from Officials to the finding reported above.



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

RICE TOWNSHIP
SANDUSKY 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 Babbitt

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

CERTIFIED
MAY 31, 2007