HOLMES TOWNSHIP CRAWFORD COUNTY REPORT ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006



Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

Board of Trustees Holmes Township 3865 Holmes Center Road Bucyrus, Ohio 44820

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of Holmes Township, Crawford County, prepared by Holbrook & Manter, for the audit period January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2007. 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 *Independent Auditor's Report* 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 *Independent Auditor's Report* 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. Holmes Township is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

Mary Taylor

October 28, 2008

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
Independent Auditor's Report	3-4
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Cash Balances - All Governmental Fund Types and Similar Fiduciary Fund For the Year Ended December 31, 2007	5
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Cash Balances - All Governmental Fund Types and Similar Fiduciary Fund For the Year Ended December 31, 2006	6
Notes to the Financial Statements	7-11
Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>	12-13
Schedule of Findings	14





INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Trustees Holmes Township Crawford County

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Holmes Township, Crawford County, Ohio, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006. 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 audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As discussed in Note 1, the Township has prepared these financial statements using accounting practices the Auditor of State of Ohio 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.

Instead of the combined funds the accompanying financial statements present for 2007 and 2006, GAAP requires presenting entity wide statements and also presenting the Township's larger (i.e. major) funds separately. While the Township does not follow GAAP, generally accepted auditing standards requires us to include the following paragraph if the statements do not substantially conform to the new GAAP presentation requirements. The Auditor of State of Ohio permits, but does not require, governments to reformat their statements. The Township has elected not to reformat its statements. Since this Township does not use GAAP to measure financial statement amounts, the following paragraph does not imply the amounts reported are materially misstated under the accounting basis the Auditor of State of Ohio 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, 2007 and 2006 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, 2007 and 2006, 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 and reserve for encumbrances of Holmes Township, Crawford County, as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

As described in Note 7, for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006, the Township changed 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* to the accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits.

The Government 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 September 29, 2008 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.

Wallrook & Martin

Certified Public Accountants

September 29, 2008

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES-ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

	_	General		Special Revenue	-	Capital Projects	<u> </u>	Total Memorandum Only
CASH RECEIPTS:-								
Property tax and other local taxes	\$	12,429	\$	84,975	\$	0	\$	97,404
Intergovernmental receipts		42,063		102,491		0		144,554
Earnings on investments		1,338		823		0		2,161
Miscellaneous	_	1,635		6,500	_	0	_	8,135
Total cash receipts		57,465		194,789		0		252,254
CASH DISBURSEMENTS:-								
Current;-								
General government		28,180		18,247		0		46,427
Public safety		0		47,357		0		47,357
Public works		0		174,207		0		174,207
Health		6,729		0		0		6,729
Capital outlay	_	75	_	0	_	0	-	75
Total cash disbursements	_	34,984		239,811	_	0	_	274,795
Total receipts over (under) cash disbursements		22,481	(45,022)		0	((22,541)
Fund cash balances, January 1, 2007	_	13,072		214,590	_	1,512	_	229,174
Fund cash balances, December 31, 2007	\$_	35,553	\$	169,568	\$_	1,512	\$_	206,633
Reserve for encumbrances, December 31, 2007	\$_	0	\$	0	\$_	0	\$_	0

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES-ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2006

	-	General	_	Special Revenue	_	Capital Projects	-	Total Memorandum Only
CASH RECEIPTS:-								
Property tax and other local taxes	\$	9,358	\$	72,323	\$	0	\$	81,681
Intergovernmental receipts		16,360		114,168		0		130,528
Earnings on investments		1,341		868		0		2,209
Miscellaneous	_	1,223	_	9,501	_	0	-	10,724
Total cash receipts		28,282		196,860		0		225,142
CASH DISBURSEMENTS:-								
Current;-								
General government		32,265		10,516		0		42,781
Public safety		0		23,701		0		23,701
Public works		1,000		127,447		0		128,447
Health		2,489		0		0		2,489
Capital outlay	_	250	_	14,000	-	2,830	-	17,080
Total cash disbursements	-	36,004	_	175,664	-	2,830	-	214,498
Total receipts over (under) cash disbursements	((7,722)		21,196		(2,830)		10,644
Fund cash balances, January 1, 2006	_	20,794	_	193,394	-	4,342	-	218,530
Fund cash balances, December 31, 2006	\$ _	13,072	\$_	214,590	\$	1,512	\$	229,174
Reserve for encumbrances, December 31, 2006	\$_	0	\$_	15,852	\$	0	\$	15,852

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES:-

<u>Description of the Entity</u> – Holmes Township, Crawford County, (the Township) is a body corporate and politic established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The Township is directed by three publicly - elected Trustees. The Township provides road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance, fire protection, and emergency medical services. The Township contracts with the Village of Plymouth to provide emergency medical services.

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

Basis of Accounting - These financial statements follow the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State of Ohio, which is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. Receipts are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned, and disbursements are recognized when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

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

<u>Cash and Investments</u>- The Township maintains interest bearing checking and savings accounts. Certificates of deposits are valued at cost.

<u>Fund Accounting</u> - The Township uses fund accounting to segregate cash and investments that are restricted as to use. The Township classifies its funds into the following types:

General Fund

The General Fund is the general operating fund. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required by law or contract to be restricted.

Special Revenue Funds

These funds are used to account for proceeds from specific sources (other than from trusts or for capital projects) that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Township had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

Road and Bridge Fund

This fund receives property tax money to pay for, construct, maintain and repair Township roads.

Gasoline Tax Fund

This fund receives gasoline tax money to pay for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads.

Special Levy (Fire Protection) Fund

This fund receives tax levy money to pay for fire protection services

Capital Projects Fund

This fund is used to account for receipts that are restricted for the acquisition or construction of major capital projects

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES:- (continued)

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

Appropriations

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function or object level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Board of Trustees must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. The Crawford County Budget Commission must also approve the annual appropriation measure. Appropriations lapse at year-end.

Estimated Resources

Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus cash as of January 1. The Crawford County Budget Commission must also approve estimated resources.

Encumbrances

The Ohio Revised Code requires the Township to reserve (encumber) appropriations when commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year-end are carried over, and need not be re-appropriated.

A summary of 2007 & 2006 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

<u>Property, Plant and Equipment</u> - Acquisitions of property, plant, and equipment are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements.

NOTE 2 - EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS:-

The Township maintains a cash pool used by all funds. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of cash and investments at December 31 was as follows:

	 2007	 2006
Interest Checking	\$ 121,053	\$ 145,690
Money Market	85,580	 83,484
Total deposits	\$ 206,633	\$ 229,174

<u>Deposits</u> - The Townships deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation up to \$100,000. As of December 31, 2007 and 2006, deposits over \$100,000 were collateralized by securities specifically held by the financial institution.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006

NOTE 3 - BUDGETARY ACTIVITY:-

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2007 was as follows:

2007 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

Fund Type	_	Bu	udgeted Receipts	_	Actual Receipts	_	Variance
General		\$	45,803	\$	57,465	\$	11,662
Special revenue			152,602		194,789		42,187
Capital project			0		0	_	0
	Total	\$	198,405	\$_	252,254	\$_	53,849

2007 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Fund Type	_	_	Appropriation Authority	_	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General		\$	59,375	\$	34,984	\$ 24,391
Special revenue			351,339		239,811	111,528
Capital project		_	1,512	_	0	1,512
	Total	\$ _	412,226	\$_	274,795	\$ 137,431

Contrary to Ohio Revised Code 5705.36, for 2007 the Township did not amend the certification during the year for sources which were available for expenditures from each fund. Therefore, the appropriation measure adopted by the Township in accordance with Ohio Revised Code 5705.39 was not effective. In addition, this caused the appropriations to exceed actual resources available during 2007.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006

NOTE 3 - BUDGETARY ACTIVITY:-

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2006 was as follows:

2006 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

Fund Type	_	<u>_ F</u>	Budgeted Receipts	-	Actual Receipts	-	Variance
General		\$	28,900	\$	28,282	\$	(618)
Special revenue			141,500		196,860		55,360
Capital project		_	0	_	0	_	0
	Total	\$	170,400	\$_	225,142	\$_	54,742

2006 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Fund Type	_	_	Appropriation Authority	_	Budgetary Expenditures	_	Variance
General		\$	48,979	\$	36,004	\$	12,975
Special revenue			306,779		191,516		115,263
Capital project		-	4,342	_	2,830	_	1,512
	Total	\$ _	360,100	\$_	230,350	\$_	129,750

Contrary to Ohio law, actual receipts were less than estimated resources during 2006 in the General fund by \$618.

Contrary to Ohio Revised Code 5705.36, for 2006 the Township did not amend the certification during the year for sources which were available for expenditures from each fund. Therefore, the appropriation measure adopted by the Township in accordance with Ohio Revised Code 5705.39 was not effective. In addition, this caused the appropriations to exceed actual resources available during 2006.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006

NOTE 4 - PROPERTY TAX:-

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which rates are adopted by the Board of Trustees. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. Homestead and rollback amounts are then paid by the State, and are reflected in the accompanying financial statements as Intergovernmental Receipts. Payments are due to Crawford County by December 31. If the property owner elects to make semiannual payment, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

Tangible personal property tax is assessed by the property owners, who must file a list of such property to Crawford County by each April 30.

The County is responsible for assessing property, and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on behalf of the Township.

NOTE 5 - RETIREMENT SYSTEMS:-

The Township's employees belong to the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) of Ohio. PERS is a cost–sharing, multiple–employer plan. This plan provides retirement benefits, including post-retirement healthcare, and survivor and disability benefits to participants, as prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code.

Contribution rates are also prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code. For 2007 and 2006, PERS members contributed 9.5% and 9.0% of their gross salaries, respectively. The Township contributed an amount equal to 13.85% and 13.7% of participants' gross salaries for 2007 and 2006, respectively. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2007.

NOTE 6 - RISK MANAGEMENT:-

The Township belongs to the Ohio Government Risk Management Plan (the Plan), an unincorporated non profit association with over six hundred governmental entity members providing a formalized, jointly administered self insurance risk management program and other administrative services.

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

The Plan uses conventional insurance coverage's and reinsures these coverage's 100%, rather than using a risk pool member funds to pay individual and collective losses. Therefore, the individual members are only responsible for their self-retention (deductible) amounts which vary form member to member.

NOTE 7 - CHANGE IN BASIS OF ACCOUNTING;-

For the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006, the Township changed 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* to the accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. This change did not result in a restatement of the fund balances.



<u>Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting</u> and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

Board of Trustees Holmes Township Crawford County

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Holmes Township, Crawford County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006, and have issued our report thereon dated September 29, 2008, wherein we noted the Township had followed accounting practices the Auditor of State of Ohio 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 *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Township's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our audit procedures for expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not to opine on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we have not opined on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control over financial reporting.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. However, as discussed below, we identified a certain deficiency in internal control over financial reporting that we consider a significant deficiency.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the Township's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with its applicable accounting basis, such that there is more than a remote likelihood that the Township's internal control will not prevent or detect a more-than-inconsequential financial statement misstatement.

We consider the following deficiency described in the accompanying schedule of findings to be a significant deficiency in internal control over financial reporting as item 2007-001.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies resulting in more than a remote likelihood that the Township's internal control will not prevent or detect a material financial statement misstatement.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in the internal control that might be significant deficiencies and accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all significant deficiencies that are also material weaknesses. We believe none of the significant deficiencies described above are a material weakness.

We also noted certain internal control matters that we reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated September 29, 2008.

-12-

MEMBERS

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
OHIO SOCIETY OF
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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 or other matter that we must report under Government Auditing Standards which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2007-002.

We also noted certain instances of non-compliance that we reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated September 29, 2008.

Holmes Township's response to the findings identified in our audit is described in the accompanying schedule of findings. We did not audit Holmes Township's response and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

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

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Walbrook & Master

Certified Public Accountants

September 29, 2008

SCHEDULE OF AUDIT FINDINGS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006

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

Finding Number 2007-001	Finding Number	2007-001
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Significant Deficiency – Internal Control and Review Procedures

Although the Trustees receive and review a select number of reports from the Fiscal Officer of the Township for approval on a monthly basis, the Township has not established formal procedures to reasonably assure completeness, and accuracy of the monthly reporting. During our testing and analysis, we noted that the Township is not reviewing the numerical check sequence prior to signing the checks. In addition, they are not reviewing the bank statement for proper inclusion of authorized expenditures within the cancelled checks or electronic fund withdraws.

The Township should carefully review this information and make appropriate inquires to help determine the integrity of the financial information. When performing such review, the trustees' signatures or initials and the date should be affixed to the documents examined and it should be noted in the monthly minutes that the trustees' thoroughly reviewed and approved those documents. In addition, we also recommend that the numerical check sequence be noted in the minutes and signed off of by the Trustees each month.

Officials' Response

The Clerk will provide the bank reconciliations and bank statements to the Trustees for their review and approval at each months meeting. The Township will also document and approve the review of those reports and the numerical sequence of the checks within the monthly minutes.

Non Compliance Citation – Prior Certification of Funds

Section 5705.41 (D), Ohio Revised Code, states that no subdivision shall make any contract or order any expenditure of money, unless a certificate of the Clerk is attached. The Clerk must certify that the amount required to meet such a commitment has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury or in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund, free from any previous encumbrance. Furthermore, contracts and orders for expenditures lacking prior certification should be null and void, unless the Board obtains from the Clerk a certificate stating that there was at the time of the making of the contracts or orders a sufficient sum appropriated and free from previous encumbrance. The Board may authorize the issuance of a check in payment of the amount due upon such contract or order by resolution within 30 days from the receipt of such certificate, if such expenditure is otherwise valid. If the amount involved is less than \$3,000, the Clerk may authorize it to be paid without the affirmation of the Board upon completion of a then and now certificate, if such expenditure is otherwise valid.

During our testing of expenditures, we noted instances of funds obligated without prior certification. A purchase order is required prior to the obligation date, which precedes the invoice date in many instances. Expenditures without prior certification could result in expenditures exceeding appropriations. We recommend that a purchase order be completed before Township funds are obligated. These compliance requirements are important control tools that the Township can use to keep track of budgeted and actual expenditures.

Officials' Response

The Township will work on correcting the finding and improve internal and compliance controls to address the issue.



Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

HOLMES TOWNSHIP

CRAWFORD 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 NOVEMBER 13, 2008