



**MID-COUNTY JOINT AMBULANCE DISTRICT
OTTAWA COUNTY**

REGULAR AUDIT

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2007



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

MID-COUNTY JOINT AMBULANCE DISTRICT
OTTAWA COUNTY

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Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

Mid-County Joint Ambulance District
Ottawa County
P.O. Box 88
Oak Harbor, Ohio 43449-0088

To the Board of Trustees:

As you are aware, the Auditor of State's Office (AOS) must modify the *Independent Accountants' Report* we provide on your financial statements due to an interpretation from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). While AOS does not legally require your government to prepare financial statements pursuant to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), the AICPA interpretation requires auditors to formally acknowledge that you did not prepare your financial statements in accordance with GAAP. Our Report includes an adverse opinion relating to GAAP presentation and measurement requirements, but does not imply the amounts the statements present are misstated under the non-GAAP basis you follow. The AOS report also includes an opinion on the financial statements you prepared using the cash basis and financial statement format the AOS permits.

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

Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

August 26, 2008

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Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Mid-County Joint Ambulance District
Ottawa County
P.O. Box 88
Oak Harbor, Ohio 43449-0088

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Mid-County Joint Ambulance District, Ottawa County, (the District) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006. These financial statements are the responsibility of the District's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. The District 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 District 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 described more fully in Note 1, the District has prepared these financial statements using accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. These practices differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Although we cannot reasonably determine the effects on the financial statements of the variances between these regulatory accounting practices and GAAP, we presume they are material.

Instead of the fund the accompanying financial statements present, GAAP require presenting entity wide statements and also presenting the District's larger (i.e. major) funds separately. While the District does not follow GAAP, generally accepted auditing standards requires us to include the following paragraph if the statements do not substantially conform to GAAP presentation requirements. The Auditor of State permits, but does not require districts to reformat their statements. The District has elected not to follow GAAP statement formatting requirements. The following paragraph does not imply the amounts reported are materially misstated under the accounting basis the Auditor of State permits. Our opinion on the fair presentation of the amounts reported pursuant to its non-GAAP basis is in the second following paragraph.

In our opinion, because of the effects of the matter discussed in the preceding two paragraphs, the financial statements referred to above for the years ended December 31, 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 District 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 fund cash balance of the Mid-County Joint Ambulance District, Ottawa County, as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, and its cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the accounting basis Note 1 describes.

The District 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 August 26, 2008, on our consideration of the District'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.



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

August 26, 2008

**MID-COUNTY JOINT AMBULANCE DISTRICT
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCE
GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006**

	General Fund	
	2007	2006
Cash Receipts:		
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$173,375	\$174,895
Charges for Services	10,300	9,675
Intergovernmental	29,656	39,690
Earnings on Investments	2,849	1,646
Miscellaneous	2,167	9,665
Total Cash Receipts	218,347	235,571
Cash Disbursements:		
Current Disbursements:		
Public Safety	160,035	162,820
Capital Outlay		77,562
Total Cash Disbursements	160,035	240,382
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	58,312	(4,811)
Fund Cash Balance, January 1	163,816	168,627
Fund Cash Balance, December 31	\$222,128	\$163,816

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**MID-COUNTY JOINT AMBULANCE DISTRICT
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of the Mid-County Joint Ambulance District, Ottawa County, (the District) as a body corporate and politic. A three-member Board of Trustees governs the District. Each political subdivision within the District appoints one member. Those subdivisions are Salem Township, the Village of Oak Harbor, and the Village of Rocky Ridge. The District provides medical and rescue services within the District and by contract to areas outside the District.

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

B. Accounting Basis

These financial statements follow the accounting basis the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The District recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as the Auditor of State prescribes or permits.

C. Cash and Investments

The District's accounting basis includes investments as assets. This basis does not record disbursements for investment purchases or receipts for investment sales. This basis records gains or losses at the time of sale as receipts or disbursements, respectively.

Certificates of deposit are valued at cost.

D. Fund Accounting

The District uses fund accounting to segregate cash and investments that are restricted as to use. The District has one fund and classifies it as follows:

General Fund

The General Fund accounts for all financial resources.

E. Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires the District to budget its fund annually.

**MID-COUNTY JOINT AMBULANCE DISTRICT
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006
(Continued)**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – (Continued)

1. Appropriations

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements) 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 County Budget Commission must also approve the annual appropriation measure. Appropriations lapse at year end.

2. Estimated Resources

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

3. Encumbrances

The Ohio Revised Code requires the District to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. The District did not encumber all commitments required by Ohio law.

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

F. Property, Plant, and Equipment

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

2. CASH

The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of cash at December 31 was as follows:

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Demand deposits	\$152,128	\$143,816
Certificates of deposit	70,000	20,000
Total deposits	<u>\$222,128</u>	<u>\$163,816</u>

Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation; or collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool.

**MID-COUNTY JOINT AMBULANCE DISTRICT
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006
(Continued)**

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2007 and 2006 follows:

2007 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$220,500	\$218,347	(\$2,153)

2007 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$384,316	\$160,035	\$224,281

2006 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$202,500	\$235,571	\$33,071

2006 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$371,127	\$240,382	\$130,745

4. PROPERTY TAX

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

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

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

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

**MID-COUNTY JOINT AMBULANCE DISTRICT
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006
(Continued)**

5. RETIREMENT SYSTEM

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

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2007 and 2006, OPERS members contributed 9.5 and 9%, respectively, of their gross salaries and the District contributed an amount equaling 13.85 and 13.7%, respectively, of participants' gross salaries. The District has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2007.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

Commercial Insurance

The District has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

- Comprehensive property and general liability;
- Vehicles; and
- Errors and omissions.

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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

Mid-County Joint Ambulance District
Ottawa County
P.O. Box 88
Oak Harbor, Ohio 43449-0088

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of the Mid-County Joint Ambulance District, Ottawa County, (the District) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006, and have issued our report thereon dated August 26, 2008, wherein we noted the District prepared its financial statements using accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits rather than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We also noted the District 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 District. 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 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 the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the District'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 District's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we have not opined on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over financial reporting.

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 District'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 District's internal control will not prevent or detect a more-than-inconsequential financial statement misstatement.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies resulting in more than a remote likelihood that the District'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 internal control deficiencies that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider material weaknesses, as defined above.

We noted certain matters that we reported to the District's management in a separate letter dated August 26, 2008.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of reasonably assuring whether the District'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 2007-001.

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

We intend this report solely for the information and use of management and the Board of Trustees. We intend it for no one other than these specified parties.



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

August 26, 2008

**MID-COUNTY JOINT AMBULANCE DISTRICT
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006**

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS
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FINDING NUMBER 2007-001

Noncompliance Citation

Ohio Revised Code § 5705.41 (D)(1) states no subdivision or taxing authority shall make any contract or give any order involving the expenditure of money unless there is attached thereto a certificate of the fiscal officer of the subdivision. The fiscal officer 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. Further, contracts and orders for expenditures lacking prior certification shall be null and void.

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

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

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

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

**FINDING NUMBER 2007-001
(Continued)**

The Clerk-Treasurer did not properly certify funds prior to purchase commitment for 87% of the expenditures we tested. Also, there was no evidence the District followed the aforementioned exceptions for these transactions. Certification is not only required by Ohio law but is a key control in the disbursement process to assure that purchase commitments receive prior approval, and to help reduce the possibility of District funds being over expended or exceeding budgetary spending limitations as set by the Board of Trustees.

To improve controls over disbursements, we recommend all District non-payroll disbursements receive prior certification of the Clerk-Treasurer. When that is not possible, a "Then and Now" Certificate should be executed.

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

Client Response:

The prior certification process for all purchases has been implemented with the implementation of the Uniform Accounting System by the District in 2007.

MID-COUNTY JOINT AMUBLANCE DISTRICT
OTTAWA COUNTY

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <i>Explain</i>
2005-001	ORC 5705.41 (D) failure to certify funds	No	Partially Corrected and reissued as item 2007-001 in this report



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

MID-COUNTY JOINT AMBULANCE DISTRICT

OTTAWA 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
SEPTEMBER 18, 2008**