



**Mary Taylor, CPA**  
Auditor of State



HOLMES COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY  
HOLMES COUNTY

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Mary Taylor, CPA  
Auditor of State

Holmes County Agricultural Society  
Holmes County  
P.O. Box 232  
Millersburg, Ohio 44654

To the Board of Directors:

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.

*Mary Taylor*

**Mary Taylor, CPA**  
Auditor of State

March 25, 2009

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# Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Holmes County Agricultural Society  
Holmes County  
P.O. Box 232  
Millersburg, Ohio 44654

To the Board of Directors:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Holmes County Agricultural Society, Holmes County, Ohio, (the Society) as of and for the years ended November 30, 2008 and 2007. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Society's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

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

As described more fully in Note 1, the Society 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.

While the Society 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 societies to reformat their statements. The Society 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 November 30, 2008 and 2007 do not present fairly, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Society as of November 30, 2008 and 2007, 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 cash balances of the Holmes County Agricultural Society, Holmes County, Ohio, as of November 30, 2008 and 2007, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the accounting basis Note 1 describes.

The Society 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 March 25, 2009, on our consideration of the Society'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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Taylor". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Mary Taylor, CPA**  
Auditor of State

March 25, 2009

**HOLMES COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY  
HOLMES COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND  
CHANGE IN CASH BALANCE  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED NOVEMBER 30, 2008 AND 2007**

	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
<b>Operating Receipts:</b>		
Admissions	\$104,318	\$97,126
Privilege Fees	78,807	72,210
Rentals	975	2,695
Other Operating Receipts	13,108	6,980
Total Operating Receipts	197,208	179,011
<b>Operating Disbursements:</b>		
Wages and Benefits	25,273	24,233
Utilities	20,445	24,018
Professional Services	45,542	46,293
Equipment and Grounds Maintenance	84,945	75,644
Senior Fair	12,092	12,586
Junior Fair	15,081	14,269
Capital Outlay	5,647	2,637
Other Operating Disbursements	32,345	34,309
Total Operating Disbursements	241,370	233,989
Excess (Deficiency) of Operating Receipts (Under) Operating Disbursements	(44,162)	(54,978)
<b>Non-Operating Receipts (Disbursements):</b>		
State Support	7,300	6,348
County Support	27,000	30,000
Miscellaneous	22,191	24,806
Investment Income	2,417	3,264
Debt Service		(10)
Net Non-Operating Receipts (Disbursements)	58,908	64,408
Excess of Receipts Over Disbursements	14,746	9,430
Cash Balance, Beginning of Year	117,576	108,146
<b>Cash Balance, End of Year</b>	<b>\$132,322</b>	<b>\$117,576</b>

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

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**HOLMES COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY  
HOLMES COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
NOVEMBER 30, 2008 AND 2007**

**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 Holmes County Agricultural Society, Holmes County, (the Society) as a body corporate and politic. The Society is a county agricultural society corporation formed under Chapter 1711 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Society was founded in 1966 to operate an annual agricultural fair. The Society sponsors the week-long Holmes County Fair during August. Holmes County is not financially accountable for the Society. The Board of Directors manages the Society. The Board is made up of 19 directors serving staggered three-year terms. Society members elect Board members from its membership. Members of the Society must be residents of Holmes County and pay an annual membership fee to the Society.

**Reporting Entity**

The reporting entity includes all activity occurring on the fairgrounds. This includes the annual fair. Other year round activities at the fairgrounds include facility rental and community events. The reporting entity does not include any other activities or entities of Holmes County, Ohio.

Notes 5 and 6, respectively, summarize the Junior Fair Board's and Junior Livestock Sale Committee's financial activity.

The Society's management believes this financial statement presents all activities for which the Society 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 Society recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred.

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

**C. Deposits**

The Society'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.

**D. Property, Plant, and Equipment**

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

**HOLMES COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY  
HOLMES COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
NOVEMBER 30, 2008 AND 2007  
(Continued)**

**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

**E. Restricted Support**

Restricted support includes amounts that donors restrict for specific uses.

**F. Income Tax Status**

The Society is a not-for-profit organization, exempt from income taxes under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Society is not a private foundation within the meaning of Section 509 (a). Contributions to the Society are deductible per Section 170(b)(1)(A)(v1). Management is unaware of any actions or events that would jeopardize the Society's tax status.

**2. DEPOSITS**

The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of deposits and investments at November 30, 2008 and 2007 was as follows:

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Demand deposits	<u>\$132,322</u>	<u>\$117,576</u>

**Deposits:** Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation or collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the Society.

**3. RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Holmes County Commissioners provide general insurance coverage for all the buildings on the Holmes County Fairgrounds pursuant to Ohio Revised Code § 1711.24. A private company provides general liability insurance, with limits of 2,000,000. This policy includes crime coverage for employee dishonesty with limits of liability of \$2,000,000. The Society's Treasurer is bonded with coverage of \$40,000.

The Society is exposed to various risks of property and casualty losses, and injuries to employees.

The Society insures against injuries to employees through the Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation.

The Society belongs to the Public Entities Pool of Ohio (PEP), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio local governments. PEP provides property and casualty coverage for its members. PEP is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP). Member governments pay annual contributions to fund PEP. PEP pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

Casualty Coverage

For an occurrence prior to January 1, 2006 PEP retains casualty risks up to \$250,000 per occurrence, including claim adjustment expenses. PEP 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.

**HOLMES COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY  
HOLMES COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
NOVEMBER 30, 2008 AND 2007  
(Continued)**

**3. RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)**

For an occurrence on or subsequent to January 1, 2006, the Pool retains casualty risk up to \$350,000 per occurrence. Claims exceeding \$350,000 are reinsured with APEEP in an amount not to exceed \$2,650,000 for each claim and \$10,000,000 in the aggregate per year. Governments can elect up to \$10,000,000 in additional coverage with the General Reinsurance Corporation, through contracts with PEP.

If losses exhaust PEP'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 (prior to January 1, 2006) or \$3,000,000 (on or subsequent to January 1, 2006) as noted above.

Property Coverage

Beginning in 2005, APEEP established a risk-sharing property program. Under the program, Travelers reinsures specific losses exceeding \$250,000 up to \$600 million per occurrence. This amount was increased to \$300,000 in 2007. For 2007, APEEP reinsures members for specific losses exceeding \$100,000 up to \$300,000 per occurrence, subject to an annual aggregate loss payment. For 2006, 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 values. If the stop loss is reached by payment of losses between \$100,000 and \$250,000 in 2006, or \$100,000 and \$300,000 in 2007, Travelers will then reinsure specific losses exceeding \$100,000 up to their \$600 million per occurrence limit. The aggregate stop-loss limit for 2007 was \$2,014,548.

The aforementioned casualty and property reinsurance agreements do not discharge PEP's primary liability for claims payments on covered losses. Claims exceeding coverage limits are the obligation of the respective government.

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

Financial Position

PEP'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, 2007 and 2006 (the latest information available):

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Assets	\$37,560,071	\$36,123,194
Liabilities	<u>(17,340,825)</u>	<u>(16,738,904)</u>
Net Assets	<u>\$20,219,246</u>	<u>\$19,384,290</u>

**HOLMES COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY  
HOLMES COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
NOVEMBER 30, 2008 AND 2007  
(Continued)**

**3. RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)**

At December 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively, the liabilities above include approximately \$15.9 million and \$15.0 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets and retained earnings above also include approximately \$15.0 million and \$14.4 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 443 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. The Society's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$10,831. This payable includes the subsequent year's contribution due if the Society terminates participation, as described in the last paragraph below.

Based on discussions with PEP, the expected rates PEP charges 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 annual liability of each member is limited to the amount of financial contributions required to be made to PEP for each year of membership.

**Contributions to PEP**

2006	\$8,890
2007	\$9,381
2008	\$9,418

After completing one year of membership, members may withdraw on each anniversary of the date they joined PEP provided they provide written notice to PEP 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 budgetary contribution. Withdrawing members have no other future obligation to the pool. Also upon withdrawal, payments for all casualty claims and claim expenses become the sole responsibility of the withdrawing member, regardless of whether a claim occurred or was reported prior to the withdrawal.

**4. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

Kerry Taylor, Board President, owns Millersburg Electric. The Society paid Millersburg Electric \$18,679 and \$12,331 respectively for 2008 and 2007 for electrical services.

Chris Hanna, Board Vice-President, is employed by Moore's Lawn & Garden. The Society paid Moore's Lawn & Garden \$136 and \$59 respectively for 2008 and 2007 for repairs and supplies.

Dale McKee, Board Member, has part ownership in W.T. McKee Construction. The Society paid W.T. McKee Construction \$971 and \$2,990 respectively for 2008 and 2007 for repair work and supplies.

Tim Feikert, Board Member, has part ownership in Feikert Sand & Gravel. The Society paid Feikert Sand & Gravel \$200 and \$500 respectively for 2008 and 2007 for gravel.

Jason Mast, Board Member, is employed by Menez Brother Sand & Gravel. The Society paid Menez Brother Sand & Gravel \$3,700 in 2007 for gravel.

**HOLMES COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY  
HOLMES COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
NOVEMBER 30, 2008 AND 2007  
(Continued)**

**4. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS (Continued)**

Gail Cochran, Treasurer, works in the loan department of Commercial and Savings Bank where the Society has its bank accounts.

Scott Stallman, Concessions Manager, works in the information technology department of Commercial and Savings Bank where the Society has its bank accounts.

**5. JUNIOR FAIR BOARD**

The Junior Fair Board, which is comprised of 4-H, FFA, Boy Scout, Girl Scout, and Farm Bureau Youth organization representatives, is responsible for the Junior Fair Division activities of the Holmes County Fair. The Society disbursed \$15,081 and \$14,269 for 2008 and 2007, respectively, directly to vendors to support Junior Fair activities. These expenses are reflected as a disbursement in the accompanying financial statement as Junior Fair Disbursement. Holmes County paid the Society \$500 in both 2008 and 2007 to support Junior Club work. The Junior Fair Board accounts for its activities separately. These accompanying financial statements do not include this activity. The Junior Fair Board's financial activity for the years ended November 30, 2008 and 2007 follows:

	2008	2007
Beginning Cash Balance	\$12,077	\$14,362
Receipts	10,888	9,860
Disbursements	(11,377)	(12,145)
Ending Cash Balance	\$11,588	\$12,077

**6. JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SALE COMMITTEE**

The Junior Livestock Committee is a separate committee charged with running the Junior Livestock Auction. This auction is held during fair week. Children may sell their animals directly to market or through the Holmes County's auction. A commission of 2 percent on auction sales covers auction costs. The Junior Livestock Committee retains this money. The accompanying financial statement does not include the Junior Livestock Committee's activities. The Junior Livestock Committee's financial activity for the years ended November 30, 2008 and 2007 follows:

	2008	2007
Beginning Cash Balance	\$20,070	\$17,197
Receipts	301,090	361,201
Disbursements	(299,995)	(358,328)
Ending Cash Balance	\$21,165	\$20,070

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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*

Holmes County Agricultural Society  
Holmes County  
P.O. Box 232  
Millersburg, Ohio 44654

To the Board of Directors:

We have audited the financial statements of the Holmes County Agricultural Society, Holmes County, Ohio, (the Society) as of and for the years ended November 30, 2008 and 2007, and have issued our report thereon dated March 25, 2009, wherein we noted the Society followed accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes rather than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and 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 Society'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 Society's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we have not opined on the effectiveness of the Society'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 Society'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 Society'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 Society'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.

However, we noted certain matters that we reported to the Society's management in a separate letter dated March 25, 2009.

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### **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of reasonably assuring whether the Society'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 no instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards*.

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

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

**Mary Taylor, CPA**  
Auditor of State

March 25, 2009



Mary Taylor, CPA  
Auditor of State

**AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY**

**HOLMES 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  
JUNE 9, 2009**