RANGE TOWNSHIP MADISON COUNTY Regular Audit December 31, 2008 and 2007

Perry & Associates
Certified Public Accountants, A.C.



Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

Board of Trustees Range Township 5650 Dyer Road Mt. Sterling, Ohio 43143

We have reviewed the *Independent Accountants' Report* of Range Township, Madison County, prepared by Perry & Associates, Certified Public Accountants, A.C., for the audit period January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2008. 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 Accountants' 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 Accountants' 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. Range Township is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

Mary Saylor

June 15, 2009

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PARKERSBURG 1035 Murdoch Avenue Parkersburg, WV 26101 (304) 422-2203 MARIETTA 428 Second Street Marietta, OH 45750 (740) 373-0056

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

June 12, 2009

Range Township Madison County 5650 Dyer Road Mt. Sterling, Ohio 43143

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of **Range Township**, **Madison County**, **Ohio**, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Township's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

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

As described more fully in Note 1, the Township has prepared these financial statements using accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. These practices differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Although we cannot reasonably determine the effects on the financial statements of the variances between these regulatory accounting practices and GAAP, we presume they are material.

Instead of the combined funds the accompanying financial statements present, GAAP require 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 GAAP presentation requirements. The Auditor of the State permits, but does not require Townships to reformat their statements. The Township 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.

Range Township Madison County Independent Accountants' Report Page 2

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, 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 Township as of December 31, 2008 and 2007 or their changes in financial position for the years then ended.

Also, in our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances of Range Township, Madison County, as of December 31, 2008 and 2007, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the accounting basis Note 1 describes.

The Township has not presented Management's Discussion and Analysis, which accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America has determined is necessary to supplement, although not required to be part of, the financial statements.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 12, 2009, 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.

Respectfully Submitted,

Perry and Associates

Certified Public Accountants, A.C.

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COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

	Governmental Fund Types					m
	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Capital Project	Permanent Fund	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts: Property and Other Local Taxes Charges for Services Licenses, Permits, and Fees Intergovernmental Earnings on Investments Other	\$ 23,183 - 33,941 840 1,000	\$ 72,834 300 6,400 105,946 4,566 19,466	\$ 28,303 - - 3,665 490	\$ - - - 1,658	\$ - - - 54	\$ 124,320 300 6,400 143,552 7,608 20,466
Total Cash Receipts	58,964	209,512	32,458	1,658	54	302,646
Cash Disbursements: Current: General Government Public Safety Public Works Health Other Capital Outlay Debt Service: Redemption of Principal Interest and Fiscal Charges	96,562 781 - 14,654	36,548 79,144 33,130 36,370 10,000	785 - 5,000 25,585	252,335	- - - - - - -	96,562 36,548 79,925 33,130 785 303,359 15,000 25,585
Total Cash Disbursements	111,997	195,192	31,370	252,335		590,894
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(53,033)	14,320	1,088	(250,677)	54	(288,248)
Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements): Transfer In Transfer Out		1,573 (1,573)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>		1,573 (1,573)
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)						
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing (Disbursements)	(53,033)	14,320	1,088	(250,677)	54	(288,248)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	54,074	260,675	14,185	250,677	1,379	580,990
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$ 1.041	\$ 274,995	\$ 15,273	s -	\$ 1,433	\$ 292,742

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

	Governmental Fund Types					
	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Capital Project	Permanent Fund	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:						
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 22,902	\$ 71,478	\$ 27,187	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 121,567
Licenses, Permits, and Fees		9,775	- 27,107	-	-	9,775
Intergovernmental	81,679	100,424	2,937	_	_	185,040
Earnings on Investments	1,216	5,276	413	6,689	54	13,648
Other Income	530	12,078				12,608
Total Cash Receipts	106,327	199,031	30,537	6,689	54	342,638
Cash Disbursements:						
Current:						
General Government	72,733	-	-	-	-	72,733
Public Safety	4,935	18,082	-	-	-	23,017
Public Works	777	86,335	-	-	-	87,112
Health	-	26,062	-	-	-	26,062
Capital Outlay	9,858	215,350	-	191,027	-	416,235
Other	-	-	568	-	-	568
Debt Service						
Redemption of Principal	-	2,500	5,000	-	-	7,500
Interest and Fiscal Charges			10,784			10,784
Total Cash Disbursements	88,303	348,329	16,352	191,027	-	644,011
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	18,024	(149,298)	14,185	(184,338)	54	(301,373)
Other Financing Receipts and (Disbursements):						
Sale of Bonds	_	_	_	435,000	_	435,000
Sale of Notes	-	150,000	_	,	-	150,000
Advances-In	1,000	´ -	_	1,000	-	2,000
Advances-Out	(1,000)	-	_	(1,000)	-	(2,000)
Other Sources	35			15		50
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)	35	150,000		435,015		585,050
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts						
Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements and Other						
Financing Disbursements	18,059	702	14,185	250,677	54	283,677
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	36,015	259,973			1,325	297,313
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$ 54,074	\$ 260,675	\$ 14,185	\$ 250,677	\$ 1,379	\$ 580,990

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Range Township, Madison County, Ohio (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 a publicly-elected three-member Board of Trustees and a publicly-elected Fiscal Officer. The Township provides general governmental services, including road and bridge maintenance and cemetery maintenance. The Sterling Joint Ambulance District provides the Township with emergency and medical services.

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

B. Basis of Accounting

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

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

C. Cash and Investments

All cash is maintained in a pooled checking account, savings account, and certificates of deposit. The Township values certificates of deposit at cost.

D. Fund Accounting

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:

1. General Fund

The General Fund is the general operating fund. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

D. Fund Accounting (Continued)

2. Special Revenue Funds

These funds are used to account for proceeds from specific sources that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Township has the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

<u>Gasoline Tax Fund</u> – This fund receives gasoline tax money for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads.

<u>Fire District Fund</u> - This fund receives property tax money for purchasing fire equipment and vehicles and providing emergency fire services.

<u>Cemetery Fund</u> – This fund receives property tax money for the maintenance and upkeep and operations of the cemetery.

3. Debt Service Fund

This fund is used to account for proceeds from specific sources that are restricted to expenditures for specific purposes. The Township has the following significant Debt Service Fund:

<u>General Bond (Note) Retirement Fund</u> – This fund receives property tax money for the purpose of payment on principal and interest on debt.

4. Capital Projects Fund

This fund is used to account for proceeds from specific sources that are restricted to expenditures for specific purposes. The Township has the following significant Capital Projects Fund.

<u>Permanent Improvement Fund</u> – This fund is used for a new building, construction, additions to present facilities and acquisitions of buildings within the purpose of the fund:

5. Permanent Fund (Trust Fund)

This fund accounts for assets held under a trust agreement that are legally restricted to the extent that only earnings, not principal, are available to support the Township's programs. The Township had the following significant Permanent Fund:

<u>Cemetery Endowment Fund</u> – This fund receives interest earned on the non-expendable corpus from a trust agreement. These earnings are used for the general maintenance and upkeep of the Township cemetery.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007 (Continued)

E. Budgetary Process

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

1. Appropriations

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function, and 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.

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 Township to reserve (encumber) appropriations when commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are closed and reappropriated in the subsequent year.

A summary of 2008 and 2007 budgetary activity appears in Note 6.

F. Property, Plant and Equipment

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

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS

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

	<u>2008</u>	2007
Demand Deposits	\$ 241,742	\$ 429,990
Certificates of Deposit	51,000	151,000
Total Deposits and Investments	<u>\$ 292,742</u>	<u>\$ 580,990</u>

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007 (Continued)

3. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 proceeding the October 1 date for which rates are adopted by 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 the 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 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 Township.

Public utilities are also assessed on personal and real property located within the Township.

4. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

The Township's elected officials and employees belong to the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) of Ohio. PERS is a cost-sharing, multi-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 2008 and 2007, members of PERS contributed 10.00% and 9.5% of their gross salaries. The Township contributed an amount equal to 14% and 13.85% of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2008.

5. DEBT

The Township obtained new debt in the amount of \$150,000 for the purchase of a fire truck from the State of Ohio Department of Commerce. The debt is to be repaid over 15 years with 0% interest. The Township makes quarterly payments of \$2,500.

The Township issued a Fire Station Bond in the amount of \$435,000 from Huntington Bank for the construction of a fire station. The bond is to be repaid in semi-annual payments over 27 years with 5.95% interest.

Debt outstanding as of December 31, 2008 was as follows:

	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>
Fire Truck	\$137,500	0.00%
Fire Station	\$425,000	5.95%
Total	\$562,500	

Amortization of the above debt, including interest, is scheduled as follows:

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007 (Continued)

5. Debt (Continued)

Year End	Fire Truck	Fire Station
2009	\$ 10,000	\$ 30,287
2010 2011	10,000 10,000	29,990 29,693
2012	10,000	29,395
2013 2014 – 2019	10,000 50,000	29,097 203,578
2014 - 2019 2020 - 2025	37,500	203,378
2026 – 2031	-	202,475
2032 – 2034	<u> </u>	100,710
Total	<u>\$ 137,500</u>	\$ 859,350

6. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007 follows:

2008 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	В	udgeted		Actual		
Fund Type	F	Receipts	F	Receipts	V	ariance
General	\$	58,964	\$	58,964	\$	-
Special Revenue		211,085		211,085		-
Debt Service		32,458		32,458		-
Capital Projects		1,658		1,658		-
Permanent		50		54		4
Total	\$	304,215	\$	304,219	\$	4

2008 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	App	propriation	В	udgetary		
Fund Type	A	uthority	Exp	penditures	Vai	riance
General	\$	111,997	\$	111,997	\$	-
Special Revenue		196,765		196,765		-
Debt Service		31,370		31,370		-
Capital Projects		252,335		252,335		-
Total	\$	592,467	\$	592,467	\$	-

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007 (Continued)

6. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY (Continued)

2007 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	В	Budgeted		Actual		
Fund Type	F	Receipts	F	Receipts	Va	riance
General	\$	106,377	\$	106,362	\$	(15)
Special Revenue		349,031		349,031		-
Debt Service		30,537		30,537		-
Capital Projects		441,704		441,704		-
Permanent				54_		54
Total	\$	927,649	\$	927,688	\$	39

2007 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	App	propriation	В	udgetary		
Fund Type	A	uthority	Exp	penditures	Va	ariance
General	\$	88,318	\$	88,303	\$	15
Special Revenue		348,329		348,329		-
Debt Service		16,352		16,352		-
Capital Projects		191,027		191,027		-
Total	\$	644,026	\$	644,011	\$	15

Contrary to Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41 (D), the certification of availability of unencumbered appropriations for expenditure was not obtained for 48% and 23% of expenditures tested during 2008 and 2007 respectively.

7. Risk Management

Risk Pool Membership

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

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

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007 (Continued)

7. Risk Management (Continued)

Casualty Coverage

For an occurrence prior to January 1, 2006, 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.

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 \$2,695,000 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 OTARMA.

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).

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. This amount 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. 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 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 OTARMA'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

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, 2007 and 2006 (the most current available).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007 (Continued)

7. Risk Management (Continued)

	2007	2006
Assets	\$43,210,703	\$42,042,275
Liabilities	(13,357,837)	(12,120,661)
Net Assets	\$29,852,866	\$29,921,614

At December 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively, liabilities above include approximately \$12.5 million and \$11.3 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets and retained earnings above also include approximately \$11.6 million and \$10.8 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 950 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 Township's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$5,853. This payable includes the subsequent year's contribution due if the Township terminates participation, as described in the last paragraph below.

Based on discussions with OTARMA, the expected rates OTARMA 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 OTARMA for each year of membership.

8. TRANSFERS

During 2008 and 2007, the Township transferred monies from the FEMA Fund, Special Revenue Fund Type, to the Gasoline Tax Fund and Fire District Fund, Special Revenue Fund Type. These transfers were determined to be appropriate and in compliance with the Ohio Revised code.

Perry & Associates

Certified Public Accountants, A.C.

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

June 12, 2009

Range Township Madison County 5650 Dyer Road Mt. Sterling, Ohio 43143

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of **Range Township**, **Madison County**, **Ohio** (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007, and have issued our report thereon dated June 12, 2009, wherein we noted the Township 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 Township's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our audit procedures for expressing our opinions 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 the 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 considered significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. However, as discussed below, we identified a certain deficiency in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be 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: 2008-001.

Range Township Madison County Independent Accountants' Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by *Government Auditing Standards* Page 2

Internal Control over Financial Reporting (Continued)

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 the 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 did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider material weaknesses, as defined above.

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 matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards*, which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2008-001.

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.

Respectfully Submitted,

Perry and Associates

Certified Public Accountants, A.C.

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SCHEDULE OF AUDIT FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007

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

FINDING NUMBER 2008-001

Non-Compliance Citation/Significant Deficiency

Ohio Revised Code § 5705.41(D) requires that no subdivision or taxing unit shall make any contract or give any order involving the expenditure of money unless a certificate signed by the fiscal officer is attached thereto. The fiscal officer must certify that the amount required meeting any such contract or expenditure has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury, or is in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrance. Only the subdivision's fiscal officer need sign the certificate. Every contract made without such a certificate shall be void, and no warrant shall be issued in payment of any amount due thereon.

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 sections 5705.41(D)(1) and 5705.41(D)(3), respectively, of the Ohio Revised Code.

- 1. "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 taxing authority can authorize the drawing of a warrant for the payment of the amount due. The taxing authority 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 taxing authority.
- 2. 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.
- 3. Super Blanket Certificate The entity 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. Only one super blanket certificate may be outstanding at a particular time for any one line-item appropriation.

The Township did not properly certify the availability of funds prior to purchase commitment for 48% of the expenditures tested during 2008 and 23% of the expenditures tested during 2007. There was no evidence that the Township followed the aforementioned exceptions.

SCHEDULE OF AUDIT FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007

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

FINDING NUMBER 2008-001(Continued)

Unless the exceptions noted above are used, prior certification is not only required by statute but is a key control in the disbursement process to assure that purchase commitments receive prior approval. To improve controls over disbursements and to help reduce the possibility of the Township's funds exceeding budgetary spending limitations, we recommend that the Fiscal Officer certify that the funds are or will be available prior to an obligation being incurred by the Township. When prior certification is not possible, "then and now" certification should be used.

Management's Response – We did not receive a response from officials to this finding.

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <i>Explain</i>
2006-001	ORC Section 5705.36(A) – amended certificates for estimated resources.	YES	



Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

RANGE TOWNSHIP

MADISON 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 JUNE 30, 2009