



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

**ASHTABULA TOWNSHIP
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

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Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

Ashtabula Township
Ashtabula County
2718 North Ridge Road East
Ashtabula, Ohio 44004

To the Ashtabula Township 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.

Mary Taylor

Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

June 30, 2010

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Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Ashtabula Township
Ashtabula County
2718 North Ridge Road East
Ashtabula, OH 44004

To the Ashtabula Township Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Ashtabula Township, Ashtabula County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008. 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. The Township processes its financial transactions with the Auditor of State's Uniform Accounting Network (UAN). *Government Auditing Standards* considers this service to impair the independence of the Auditor of State to audit the Township because the Auditor of State designed, developed, implemented, and as requested, operates UAN. However, *Government Auditing Standards* permits the Auditor of State to audit and opine on this entity, because Ohio Revised Code § 117.101 requires the Auditor of State to provide UAN services, and Ohio Revised Code §§ 117.11(B) and 115.56 mandate the Auditor of State to audit Ohio governments. We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As 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 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.

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, 2009 and 2008 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, 2009 and 2008, 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 Ashtabula Township, Ashtabula County, as of December 31, 2009 and 2008, 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 30, 2010, 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.



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

June 30, 2010

**ASHTABULA TOWNSHIP
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2009**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>			Totals (Memorandum Only)
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Capital Projects</u>	
Cash Receipts:				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$102,092	\$3,385,255	\$0	\$3,487,347
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	79,826	281,014		360,840
Intergovernmental	306,504	343,017		649,521
Special Assessments		45,259		45,259
Earnings on Investments	16,814			16,814
Miscellaneous	11,131	30,684		41,815
	<u>516,367</u>	<u>4,085,229</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4,601,596</u>
Total Cash Receipts				
Cash Disbursements:				
Current:				
General Government	400,615			400,615
Public Safety		2,527,777		2,527,777
Public Works		1,113,147		1,113,147
Health	40,633	323,438		364,071
Conservation - Recreation	1,199			1,199
Capital Outlay		119,934	12,350	132,284
	<u>442,447</u>	<u>4,084,296</u>	<u>12,350</u>	<u>4,539,093</u>
Total Cash Disbursements				
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	<u>73,920</u>	<u>933</u>	<u>(12,350)</u>	<u>62,503</u>
Other Financing Receipts / (Disbursements):				
Advances-In	10,000	10,000		20,000
Advances-Out	(10,000)	(10,000)		(20,000)
Other Financing Sources	480			480
	<u>480</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>480</u>
Total Other Financing Receipts / (Disbursements)				
Extraordinary item			6,000	6,000
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over / (Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements	74,400	933	(6,350)	68,983
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>223,186</u>	<u>1,457,303</u>	<u>26,179</u>	<u>1,706,668</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$297,586</u>	<u>\$1,458,236</u>	<u>\$19,829</u>	<u>\$1,775,651</u>
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	<u>\$1,576</u>	<u>\$30,712</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$32,288</u>

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

ASHTABULA TOWNSHIP
ASHTABULA COUNTY

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES - FIDUCIARY FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2009**

	Fiduciary Fund Types		Totals (Memorandum Only)
	Private Purpose Trust	Agency	
Non-Operating Cash Receipts:			
Earnings on Investments	\$2,412	\$0	\$2,412
Total Non-Operating Cash Receipts	2,412	0	2,412
Non-Operating Cash Disbursements:			
Other Financing Uses	0	0	0
Total Non-Operating Cash Disbursements	0	0	0
Net Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	2,412	0	2,412
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	181,871	1,190	183,061
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$184,283	\$1,190	\$185,473

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

**ASHTABULA TOWNSHIP
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

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

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>			<u>Totals (Memorandum Only)</u>
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Capital Projects</u>	
Cash Receipts:				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$83,393	\$2,556,577	\$0	\$2,639,970
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	6,719	260,977		267,696
Intergovernmental	210,987	1,107,401	9,350	1,327,738
Special Assessments		42,668		42,668
Earnings on Investments	38,589			38,589
Miscellaneous	55,869	26,663		82,532
Total Cash Receipts	<u>395,557</u>	<u>3,994,286</u>	<u>9,350</u>	<u>4,399,193</u>
Cash Disbursements:				
Current:				
General Government	403,312			403,312
Public Safety		2,468,745		2,468,745
Public Works		1,233,079		1,233,079
Health	81,553	288,220		369,773
Capital Outlay	2,223	52,042		54,265
Total Cash Disbursements	<u>487,088</u>	<u>4,042,086</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4,529,174</u>
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	<u>(91,531)</u>	<u>(47,800)</u>	<u>9,350</u>	<u>(129,981)</u>
Extraordinary Item			13,829	13,829
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over / (Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements	(91,531)	(47,800)	23,179	(116,152)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>314,717</u>	<u>1,505,103</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>1,822,820</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$223,186</u>	<u>\$1,457,303</u>	<u>\$26,179</u>	<u>\$1,706,668</u>
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	<u>\$973</u>	<u>\$31,192</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$32,165</u>

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

**ASHTABULA TOWNSHIP
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

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

	<u>Fiduciary Fund Types</u>		<u>Totals (Memorandum Only)</u>
	<u>Private Purpose Trust</u>	<u>Agency</u>	
Non-Operating Cash Receipts:			
Earnings on Investments	\$4,083	\$0	\$4,083
Total Non-Operating Cash Receipts	4,083	0	4,083
Non-Operating Cash Disbursements:			
Other Financing Uses	0	0	0
Total Non-Operating Cash Disbursements	0	0	0
Net Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	4,083	0	4,083
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	177,788	1,190	178,978
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$181,871</u>	<u>\$1,190</u>	<u>\$183,061</u>

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

**ASHTABULA TOWNSHIP
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2009 AND 2008**

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 Ashtabula Township, Ashtabula County, (the Township) as a body corporate and politic. A publicly-elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance, fire protection and emergency medical services.

The Township's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Township 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 Township 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. Deposits and Investments

The Township'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.

Certificate of Deposits are valued at cost. The Township maintains an interest bearing savings account for general operations, gazebo account and for cemetery bequest monies.

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 reports all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

2. Special Revenue Funds

These funds account for proceeds from specific sources (other than from private-purpose 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 for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads and bridges.

**ASHTABULA TOWNSHIP
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2009 AND 2008
(Continued)**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

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

Fire Levy Fund - This fund receives property tax and grant money for covering costs for providing fire protection services and obtaining equipment.

Ambulance Fund – This fund receives ambulance billing fees for the purchase and maintenance of emergency services equipment.

3. Capital Projects Fund

These funds account for receipts restricted to acquiring or constructing major capital projects (except those financed through enterprise or trust funds). The Township had the following significant Capital Projects fund:

FEMA Fund – This fund received moneys for training and equipment purchases for the Fire Department.

4. Fiduciary Funds

Fiduciary funds include private purpose trust funds and an agency fund. Trust funds account for assets held under a trust agreement for individuals, private organizations, or other governments which are not available to support the Township's own programs.

The Township's private purpose trust funds are for the benefit of certain individuals for cemetery grave upkeep and maintenance.

Agency funds are purely custodial in nature and are used to hold resources for individuals, organizations, or other governments. The Township disburses these funds as directed by the individual, organization, or other governments. The Township's agency fund accounts for unclaimed monies.

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 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. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end.

**ASHTABULA TOWNSHIP
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2009 AND 2008
(Continued)**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

2. Estimated Resources

Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus unencumbered 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 individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over, and need not be re-appropriated.

A summary of 2009 and 2008 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

F. Property, Plant, and Equipment

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

G. Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. The financial statements do not include a liability for unpaid leave.

2. EQUITY IN POOLED DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

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

	2009	2008
Demand deposits	\$1,782,321	\$1,710,373
Gazebo Passbook Savings	3,803	2,109
Certificates of deposit	175,000	60,769
Bequest Savings account		116,478
Total deposits	\$1,961,124	\$1,889,729

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

**ASHTABULA TOWNSHIP
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2009 AND 2008
(Continued)**

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2009 and 2008 follows:

2009 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$398,865	\$516,847	\$117,982
Special Revenue	4,655,229	4,085,229	(570,000)
Capital Projects	15,000	6,000	(9,000)
Private Purpose Trust	7,500	2,412	(5,088)
Total	\$5,076,594	\$4,610,488	(\$466,106)

2009 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$535,923	\$444,023	\$91,900
Special Revenue	5,384,349	4,115,008	1,269,341
Capital Projects	41,179	12,350	28,829
Private Purpose Trust	0	0	0
Total	\$5,961,451	\$4,571,381	\$1,390,070

2008 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$422,879	\$395,557	(\$27,322)
Special Revenue	4,061,499	3,994,286	(67,213)
Capital Projects	15,000	23,179	8,179
Private Purpose Trust	7,500	4,083	(3,417)
Total	\$4,506,878	\$4,417,105	(\$89,773)

2008 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$578,363	\$488,061	\$90,302
Special Revenue	4,973,020	4,073,278	899,742
Capital Projects	15,000	0	15,000
Private Purpose Trust	0	0	0
Total	\$5,566,383	\$4,561,339	\$1,005,044

**ASHTABULA TOWNSHIP
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2009 AND 2008
(Continued)**

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 Township.

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.

5. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

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

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2009 and 2008, OPERS members contributed 10% of their gross salaries and the Township contributed an amount equaling 14% of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2009.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

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. American Risk Pooling Consultants, Inc. (ARPCO), a division of York Insurance Services Group, Inc. (York), functions as the administrator of OTARMA and provides underwriting, claims, loss control, risk management, and reinsurance services for OTARMA. OTARMA is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP), which is also administered by ARPCO. Member governments pay annual contributions to fund OTARMA. OTARMA pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

**ASHTABULA TOWNSHIP
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2009 AND 2008
(Continued)**

6. RISK MANAGEMENT- (Continued)

Casualty and Property Coverage

APEEP provides OTARMA with an excess risk-sharing program. Under this arrangement, OTARMA retains insured risks up to an amount specified in the contracts. At December 31, 2008, OTARMA retained \$350,000 for casualty claims and \$100,000 for property claims.

The aforementioned casualty and property reinsurance agreement does 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, 2008 and 2007 (the latest information available):

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Assets	\$40,737,740	\$43,210,703
Liabilities	<u>(12,981,818)</u>	<u>(13,357,837)</u>
Net Assets	<u>\$27,755,922</u>	<u>\$29,852,866</u>

At December 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively, liabilities above include approximately \$12.1 and \$12.5 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets and retained earnings above also include approximately \$10.9 and \$11.6 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 950 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2008 and 2007, 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 \$5,000.

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.

<u>Contributions to OTARMA</u>	
2007	\$35,576
2008	\$ 35,635

**ASHTABULA TOWNSHIP
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2009 AND 2008
(Continued)**

6. RISK MANAGEMENT - (Continued)

After completing one year of membership, members may withdraw on each anniversary of the date they joined OTARMA provided they give written notice to OTARMA 60 days in advance of the anniversary date. Upon withdrawal, members are eligible for a full or partial refund of their capital contributions, minus the subsequent year's 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.

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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*

Ashtabula Township
Ashtabula County
2718 North Ridge Road East
Ashtabula, Ohio 44004

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of Ashtabula Township (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008 and have issued our report thereon dated June 30, 2010 wherein we noted the Township 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 Township uses the Auditor of State's Uniform Accounting Network (UAN) to process its financial transactions. *Government Auditing Standards* considers this service to impair the Auditor of State's independence to audit the Township. 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 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 the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of opining 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.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, when performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and timely correct misstatements. A material weakness is a deficiency, or combination of internal control deficiencies resulting in more than a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Township's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and timely corrected.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be deficiencies, 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 did note certain matters not requiring inclusion in this report that we reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated June 22, 2010.

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 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 Township Trustees. We intend it for no one other than these specified parties.

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

June 30, 2010



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

ASHTABULA TOWNSHIP

ASHTABULA 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
AUGUST 3, 2010**