



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

**NORTHWEST AMBULANCE DISTRICT
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE	PAGE
Cover Letter	1
Independent Accountants' Report.....	3
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Cash Balances - All Fund Types - For the Year Ended December 31, 2009.....	5
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Cash Balances - All Fund Types - For the Year Ended December 31, 2008.....	6
Notes to the Financial Statements	7
Independent Accountants' Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>	13

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Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

Northwest Ambulance District
Ashtabula County
1480 S. Broadway
Geneva, Ohio 44041

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

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Auditor of State

October 15, 2010

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Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Northwest Ambulance District
Ashtabula County
1480 S. Broadway
Geneva, Ohio 44041

To the Board of Directors:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Northwest Ambulance District, Ashtabula County, (the District) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008. 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. 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 combined funds 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, 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 District 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 reserves for encumbrances of Northwest Ambulance District, 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 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 October 15, 2010, 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.

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

October 15, 2010

**NORTHWEST AMBULANCE DISTRICT
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

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

All Fund Types

General

Cash Receipts:

Property and Other Local Taxes	\$692,179
Charges for Services	353,459
Intergovernmental	92,071
Earnings on Investments	1,086
Miscellaneous	21,965
	<hr/>
Total Cash Receipts	<u>1,160,760</u>

Cash Disbursements:

Current Disbursements:	
Security of Persons and Property:	
Salaries	\$534,924
Materials and Supplies	77,306
Equipment	116,146
Service	78,699
Repairs	25,755
Insurance	107,604
Other	69,735
Capital Outlay	31,848
	<hr/>
Total Cash Disbursements	<u>1,042,017</u>

Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	<u>118,743</u>
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Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>531,262</u>
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Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u><u>\$650,005</u></u>
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The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**NORTHWEST AMBULANCE DISTRICT
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**

	All Fund Types
	General
Cash Receipts:	
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$688,986
Charges for Services	270,983
Intergovernmental	91,646
Earnings on Investments	4,672
Miscellaneous	20,058
	20,058
Total Cash Receipts	1,076,345
Cash Disbursements:	
Current Disbursements:	
Security of Persons and Property:	
Salaries	493,621
Materials and Supplies	68,036
Equipment	46,782
Service	78,381
Repairs	20,620
Insurance	118,418
Other	52,243
Capital Outlay	225,914
	225,914
Total Cash Disbursements	1,104,015
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(27,670)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	558,932
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$531,262

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

**NORTHWEST AMBULANCE DISTRICT
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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 Northwest Ambulance District, Ashtabula County, (the District) as a body corporate and politic. Five Board Members govern the District. Each political subdivision within the District appoints one member. Those subdivisions are Geneva Township, Harpersfield Township, Austinburg Township, Trumbull Township and the City of Geneva.

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. Deposits 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.

The District values certificates of deposit and money market savings account at cost.

D. Fund Accounting

The District uses fund accounting to segregate cash and investments that are restricted as to use. The District 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.

E. Budgetary Process

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

**NORTHWEST AMBULANCE DISTRICT
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

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

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – (Continued)

1. Appropriations

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, and function level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Board Members 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 commitments are made. Encumbrances at year end are canceled, and re-appropriated in the subsequent year.

A summary of 2009 and 2008 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.

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 District 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	\$269,200	\$150,148
Certificates of deposit	\$205,006	\$200,000
Total deposits	474,206	350,148
Money Market	182,355	181,114
Total deposits and investments	\$656,561	\$531,262

Deposits: Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation;

**NORTHWEST AMBULANCE DISTRICT
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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		\$1,048,000	\$1,160,760	\$112,760
	Total	\$1,048,000	\$1,160,760	\$112,760

2009 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures				
Fund Type		Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General		\$1,048,000	\$1,042,017	\$5,983
	Total	\$1,048,000	\$1,042,017	\$5,983

2008 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts				
Fund Type		Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General		\$992,000	\$1,076,345	\$84,345
	Total	\$992,000	\$1,076,345	\$84,345

2008 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures				
Fund Type		Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General		\$1,221,000	\$1,104,015	\$116,985
	Total	\$1,221,000	\$1,104,015	\$116,985

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.

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.

**NORTHWEST AMBULANCE DISTRICT
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

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

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 2008 and 2009, OPERS members contributed 10%, of their gross salaries and the District contributed an amount equaling 14%, of participants' gross salaries. The District has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2009.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

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

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

The District 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. American Risk Pooling Consultants, Inc. (ARPCO), a division of York Insurance Services Group, Inc. (York), functions as the administrator of PEP and provides underwriting, claims, loss control, risk management, and reinsurance services for PEP. PEP is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP), which is also administered by ARPCO. 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 and Property Coverage

APEEP provides PEP with an excess risk-sharing program. Under this arrangement, PEP retains insured risks up to an amount specified in the contracts. At December 31, 2009, PEP retained \$350,000 for casualty claims and \$150,000 for property claims.

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

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, 2009 and 2008.

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
Assets	\$36,374,898	\$35,769,535
Liabilities	<u>(15,256,862)</u>	<u>(15,310,206)</u>
Net Assets	<u>\$21,118,036</u>	<u>\$20,459,329</u>

**NORTHWEST AMBULANCE DISTRICT
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

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

6. RISK MANAGEMENT – (Continued)

At December 31, 2009 and 2008, respectively, the liabilities above include approximately \$14.1 million and \$13.7 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets above also include approximately \$13.7 million and \$12.9 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 447 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2009 and 2008, respectively. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. As of December 31, 2009, the Government's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$3,000.

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.

<u>Contributions to PEP</u>	
<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
\$2,881.00	\$2758.00

After one year of membership, a member may withdraw on the anniversary of the date of joining PEP, if the member notifies PEP in writing 60 days prior to the anniversary date. Upon withdrawal, members are eligible for a full or partial refund of their capital contributions, minus the subsequent year's contribution. Withdrawing members have no other future obligation to PEP. 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*

Northwest Ambulance District
Ashtabula County
1480 S. Broadway
Geneva, Ohio 44041

To the Board of Directors:

We have audited the financial statements of the Northwest Ambulance District, Ashtabula County, (the District) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2010, and have issued our report thereon dated October 15, 2010, wherein we noted the District 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 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 did note a certain matter not requiring inclusion in this report that we reported to the District's management in a separate letter dated October 15, 2010.

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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 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 the 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

October 15, 2010



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

NORTHWEST AMBULANCE DISTRICT

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
NOVEMBER 4, 2010**