RIPLEY TOWNSHIP HOLMES COUNTY Regular Audit For the Years Ended December 31, 2010 and 2009

Perry & AssociatesCertified Public Accountants, A.C.



Board of Trustees Ripley Township 12968 Township Road 474 Big Prairie, Ohio 44611

We have reviewed the *Independent Accountants' Report* of Ripley Township, Holmes County, prepared by Perry & Associates, Certified Public Accountants, A. C., for the audit period January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2010. 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. Ripley Township is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

Dave Yost Auditor of State

August 10, 2011



TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE	PAGE
Independent Accountants' Report	1
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Cash Balances - All Governmental Fund Types - For the Year Ended December 31, 2010.	3
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Cash Balances - All Governmental Fund Types - For the Year Ended December 31, 2009.	4
Notes to the Financial Statements	5
Independent Accountants' Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by Government Auditing Standards	11
Schedule of Audit Findings	13
Schedule of Prior Audit Findings	14

Perry & Associates

Certified Public Accountants, A.C.

www.perrycpas.com

MARIETTA 428 Second Street Marietta, OH 45750 (740) 373-0056 (740) 373-2402 Fax PARKERSBURG 1035 Murdoch Avenue Parkersburg, WV 26101 (304) 422-2203 (304) 428-5587 Fax ST.CLAIRSVILLE 121 E Main Street St. Clairsville, OH 43950 (740) 695-1569 (740) 695-5775 Fax

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

June 15, 2011

Ripley Township Holmes County 12968 Township Road 474 Big Prairie, Ohio 44611

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of **Ripley Township**, Holmes County, Ohio, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009. 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.

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, 2010 and 2009 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, 2010 and 2009 or its changes in financial position for the years then ended.

Ripley Township Holmes County Independent Accountants' Report Page 2

Also, in our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances of Ripley Township, Holmes County, Ohio as of December 31, 2010 and 2009, 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 15, 2011, 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.

Very Marcutes CATS A. C.

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

	Governmental Fund Types				
	General		Special Revenue		Totals morandum Only)
Cash Receipts:					
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$	48,251	\$	131,097	\$ 179,348
Intergovernmental		31,639		113,692	145,331
Earnings on Investments		111		36	147
Miscellaneous		845		6,352	 7,197
Total Cash Receipts		80,846		251,177	 332,023
Cash Disbursements: Current:					
General Government		63,576		_	63,576
Public Safety		3,509		_	3,509
Public Works		11,010		252,566	263,576
Capital Outlay		3,080		400	3,480
Debt Service:		,			•
Redemption of Principal		_		8,996	8,996
Interest and Other Fiscal Charges				2,657	 2,657
Total Cash Disbursements		81,175		264,619	 345,794
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements		(329)		(13,442)	 (13,771)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1		18,190		32,469	 50,659
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$	17,861	\$	19,027	\$ 36,888

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

	Governmen		
	General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:			
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 42,678	\$ 119,018	\$ 161,696
Intergovernmental	39,319	118,145	157,464
Earnings on Investments	275	93	368
Miscellaneous	67	12,358	12,425
Total Cash Receipts	82,339	249,614	331,953
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	69,781	-	69,781
Public Works	3,336	218,930	222,266
Health	11,068	2,721	13,789
Capital Outlay	2,621	2,026	4,647
Debt Service:			
Redemption of Principal	-	9,405	9,405
Interest and Other Fiscal Charges		2,247	2,247
Total Cash Disbursements	86,806	235,329	322,135
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(4,467)	14,285	9,818
Other Financing Receipts			
Sale of Fixed Assets	150		150
Total Other Financing Receipts	150		150
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing			
Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	(4,317)	14,285	9,968
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	22,507	18,184	40,691
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$ 18,190	\$ 32,469	\$ 50,659

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2010 AND 2009

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Ripley Township, Holmes County, (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. The Township provides general governmental services, which includes road maintenance.

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

The Township Fiscal Officer invests all funds of the Township in an interest-bearing checking account.

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:

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

<u>Road and Bridge Fund</u> – This fund receives property tax money for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads and bridges.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2010 AND 2009 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (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, or object level of control and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Board of Trustees must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. The County Budget Commission must also approve the annual appropriation measure. Appropriations lapse at year-end.

2. Estimated Resources

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

3. Encumbrances

The Ohio Revised Code requires the Township to reserve (encumber) appropriations when commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are cancelled, and reappropriated in the subsequent year.

A summary of 2010 and 2009 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.

2. EQUITY IN POOLED DEPOSITS

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

	2010		2009		
Total Demand Deposits	\$ 36,888	5	\$	50,659	

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2010 AND 2009 (Continued)

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009 follows:

	10 Budgetee	d vs. Actual I	Receip	ots			
	В	Budgeted		Actual			
Fund Type	F	Receipts		Receipts		Variance	
General	\$	72,255	\$	80,846	\$	8,591	
Special Revenue		234,450		251,177		16,727	
Total	\$	306,705	\$	332,023	\$	25,318	
							

2010 Budgeted vs.	Actual Budgetary	Basis Expenditures	
	Appropriation	Budgetary	

	App	propriation	B	udgetary		
Fund Type	Authority		Expenditures		Variance	
General	\$	83,850	\$	81,175	\$	2,675
Special Revenue		275,395		264,619		10,776
Total	\$	359,245	\$	345,794	\$	13,451

2009 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted		Actual			
Fund Type	Receipts		Receipts		Variance	
General	\$	69,940	\$	82,489	\$	12,549
Special Revenue		237,990		249,614		11,624
Total	\$	307,930	\$	332,103	\$	24,173

2009 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation		Budgetary			
Fund Type	Authority		Expenditures		Variance	
General	\$	95,604	\$	86,806	\$	8,798
Special Revenue		255,858		235,329		20,529
Total	\$	351,462	\$	322,135	\$	29,327

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2010 AND 2009 (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. DEBT

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2010 was as follows:

	P1	rincipal	Interest Rate	
Case Road Grader Loan	\$	81,686	3.00%	

The Township obtained a promissory note from The Killbuck Savings and Loan for \$100,087 in October 2008 to finance the purchase of a Case road grader for Township road maintenance.

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

	Case Road		
Year ending December 31:	(Grader	
2011	\$	11,653	
2012	\$	11,653	
2013	\$	11,653	
2014		11,653	
2015		11,653	
Thereafter		45,568	
Total	\$	103,833	

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2010 AND 2009 (Continued)

6. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

The Township's elected officials and employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) of Ohio. OPERS is a cost-sharing, multi-employer plan. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes this plan's benefits, which includes postretirement healthcare, and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2010 and 2009, OPERS members contributed 10% of their gross salaries, and the Township contributed an amount equal to 14% of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2010.

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. 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.

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, 2009, OTARMA retained \$350,000 for casualty claims and \$150,000 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.

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, 2009 and 2008 (the latest information available):

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2010 AND 2009 (Continued)

7. RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)

Financial Position (Continued)

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
Assets	\$38,982,088	\$40,737,740
Liabilities	(12,880,766)	(12,981,818)
Net Assets	\$26,101,322	<u>\$27,755,922</u>

At December 31, 2009 and 2008, respectively, the liabilities above include approximately \$12.0 and \$12.1 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets above also include approximately \$11.5 and \$10.9 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 950 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, 2010, 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.

Contributions to OTARMA		
<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	
\$4,478	\$3,486	

After one year of membership, a member may withdraw on the anniversary of the date of joining OTARMA, if the member notifies OTARMA 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 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.

Perry & Associates

Certified Public Accountants, A.C.

www.perrycpas.com

MARIETTA 428 Second Street Marietta, OH 45750 (740) 373-0056 (740) 373-2402 Fax PARKERSBURG 1035 Murdoch Avenue Parkersburg, WV 26101 (304) 422-2203 (304) 428-5587 Fax ST.CLAIRSVILLE 121 E Main Street St. Clairsville, OH 43950 (740) 695-1569 (740) 695-5775 Fax

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

June 15, 2011

Ripley Township Holmes County 12968 Township Road 474 Big Prairie, Ohio 44611

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of **Ripley Township**, Holmes County, Ohio, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009, and have issued our report thereon dated June 15, 2011, 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 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.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. Therefore, we cannot assure that we have identified all deficiencies, significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. However, as described in the accompanying schedule of audit findings we identified a certain deficiency in internal control over financial reporting, that we consider a material weakness.

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 a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and timely corrected. We consider finding 2010-001 described in the accompanying schedule of audit findings to be material weaknesses

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

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 that we must report under *Government Auditing Standards*.

We also noted certain matters not requiring inclusion in this report that we reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated June 15, 2011.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Perry and Associates

Certified Public Accountants, A.C.

Gerry Marocutes CATS A. C.

SCHEDULE OF AUDIT FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2010 AND 2009

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

FINDING NUMBER 2010-001

Material Weakness

Posting Receipts and Expenditures

Receipts and expenditures should be posted to the fund and line item accounts as established by Ohio Administrative Code.

During 2010 and 2009, several receipts and expenditures were not posted into accurate classifications based on the source of the receipt or expenditure. The following posting errors were noted:

- Debt payments were recorded as Capital Outlay instead of Redemption of Principal and Interest and Other Fiscal Charges in 2010 and 2009.
- Rollback tax receipts were posted as Property and Other Local Taxes instead of Intergovernmental in the General, Road and Bridge and Road District Funds in 2010 and 2009.

Not posting revenues and disbursements accurately resulted in the financial statements requiring several reclassifications. The accompanying financial statements reflect all reclassifications.

To help ensure accuracy and reliability in the financial reporting process, we recommend that management perform a detailed review of its draft financial statements. Such review should include procedures to ensure that all sources of revenues and expenditures are properly identified and classified on the financial statements.

We also recommend the Fiscal Officer refer to the Ohio Township Handbook for guidance to determine the proper establishment of receipt and expenditure accounts and posting of receipts and expenditures.

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

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2010 AND 2009

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <i>Explain</i>
2008-001	ORC Section 5705.39 – Appropriations exceeded estimated resources.	No	Not Corrected; Moved to Management Letter





RIPLEY TOWNSHIP

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.

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

Susan Babbitt

CERTIFIED AUGUST 23, 2011