



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

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Dave Yost · Auditor of State

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Center Township Wood County 17100 Carter Road Bowling Green, Ohio 43402

To the Board of Trustees:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements and related notes of Center Township, Wood County, Ohio (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for preparing and fairly presenting these financial statements in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit; this responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to preparing and fairly presenting financial statements free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to opine on these financial statements based on our audit. We audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the financial audit standards in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require us to plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit requires obtaining evidence about financial statement amounts and disclosures. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including assessing the risks of material financial statement misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In assessing those risks, we consider internal control relevant to the Township's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not to the extent needed to opine on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control. Accordingly, we express no opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of management's accounting policies and the reasonableness of their significant accounting estimates, as well as our evaluation of the overall financial statement presentation.

We believe the audit evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to support our audit opinion.

One Government Center, Suite 1420, Toledo, Ohio 43604-2246 Phone: 419-245-2811 or 800-443-9276 Fax: 419-245-2484 www.ohioauditor.gov Center Township Wood County Independent Auditor's Report Page 2

Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

As described in Note 1B of the financial statements, the Township prepared these financial statements using the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D), which is an accounting basis other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, to satisfy requirements.

The effects on the financial statements of the variances between the regulatory basis of accounting described in Note 1B and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, although not reasonably determinable, are presumed to be material.

Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the *Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles* paragraph, the financial statements referred to above do not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Township as of December 31, 2013 and 2012, or changes in financial position thereof for the years then ended.

Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined cash balances of Center Township, Wood County, Ohio as of December 31, 2013 and 2012, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit, described in Note 1B.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 12, 2014, 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. That report describes the scope of our internal control testing over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing, and does not opine on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Township's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Dave Yost Auditor of State

Columbus, Ohio

June 12, 2014

COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (CASH BASIS) ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2013

	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts	\$70.04.4	¢400.000			
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$72,214	\$102,902			\$175,116
Charges for Services Licenses, Permits and Fees	2,000 1,150	7,031			9,031 1,150
Intergovernmental	58,225	114,122			172,347
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	35,000	114,122			35.000
Earnings on Investments	59	20			79
Miscellaneous	3,751	20			3,751
		· · ·	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		0,101
Total Cash Receipts	172,399	224,075			396,474
Cash Disbursements					
Current:	101.100				101.100
General Government	121,166	05 000			121,166
Public Safety Public Works	42,000	25,039			25,039
Health	42,000 7,782	175,875			217,875 7,782
Capital Outlay	7,782	11,113		\$60,957	79,670
Capital Outlay	7,000	11,113	· _	\$00,957	79,070
Total Cash Disbursements	178,548	212,027		60,957	451,532
Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements	(6,149)	12,048		(60,957)	(55,058)
Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements) Sale of Notes Sale of Capital Assets			\$10,100	60,957	60,957 10,100
Other Financing Uses	(3)		\$10,100		(3)
				\$ 00.057	
Total Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)	(3)		10,100	\$60,957	71,054
Net Change in Fund Cash Balances	(6,152)	12,048	10,100		15,996
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	257,547	130,025			387,572
Fund Cash Balances, December 31					
Restricted		142,073	10,100		152,173
Unassigned	251,395				251,395
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$251,395	\$142,073	\$10,100		\$403,568

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

COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (CASH BASIS) ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012

	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts	•	• · · · · · · ·		•
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$74,051	\$106,213		\$180,264
Charges for Services	2,000	5,625		7,625
Licenses, Permits and Fees	675	110,100		675
Intergovernmental	74,289	113,498		187,787
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	35,000	440		35,000
Earnings on Investments	200	118		318
Miscellaneous	1,300			1,300
Total Cash Receipts	187,515	225,454		412,969
Cash Disbursements Current:				
General Government	141,149	48		141,197
Public Safety	,	25,515		25,515
Public Works	51,418	206,317		257,735
Health	7,614			7,614
Capital Outlay	32,102	32,933		65,035
Debt Service:	,	,		,
Principal Retirement			\$6,722	6,722
Interest and Fiscal Charges			182	182
Total Cash Disbursements	232,283	264,813	6,904	504,000
Net Change in Fund Cash Balances	(44,768)	(39,359)	(6,904)	(91,031)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	302,315	169,384	\$6,904	478,603
Fund Cash Balances, December 31				
Restricted		130,025		130,025
Unassigned	257,547			257,547
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$257,547	\$130,025		\$387,572

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2013 AND 2012

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 Center Township, Wood 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, and fire protection.

The Township participates in The Ohio Plan, a public entity risk pool. Note 7 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity.

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.

STAR Ohio is recorded at share values the State reports.

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 accounts for and reports all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2013 AND 2012 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

D. Fund Accounting

2. Special Revenue Funds

These funds account for and report the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditure for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects. The Township had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

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

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

3. Debt Service Funds

These funds account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for principal and interest. The Township had the following significant Debt Service Fund:

<u>Debt Service Fund</u> - This fund is used to retire notes issued for the purchase of a truck.

4. Capital Project Funds

These funds account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for capital outlays, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets. The Township had the following significant Capital Project Fund:

<u>Capital Equipment Fund</u> - The fund is used to record the purchases of new equipment and vehicles.

E. Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each 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. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2013 AND 2012 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

E. Budgetary Process

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 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 reappropriated. The Township did not encumber all commitments required by Ohio law.

A summary of 2013 and 2012 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

F. Fund Balance

Fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the Township must observe constraints imposed upon the use of its governmental-fund resources. The classifications are as follows:

1. Nonspendable

The Township classifies assets as *nonspendable* when legally or contractually required to maintain the amounts intact.

2. Restricted

Fund balance is *restricted* when constraints placed on the use of resources are either externally imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or is imposed by law through constitutional provisions.

3. Committed

Trustees can *commit* amounts via formal action (resolution). The Township must adhere to these commitments unless the Trustees amend the resolution. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed to satisfy contractual requirements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2013 AND 2012 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

F. Fund Balance

4. Assigned

Assigned fund balances are intended for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as *restricted* or *committed*. Governmental funds other than the general fund report all fund balances as *assigned* unless they are restricted or committed. In the general fund, *assigned* amounts represent intended uses established by Township Trustees or a Township official delegated that authority by resolution, or by State Statute.

5. Unassigned

Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund and includes amounts not included in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is used only to report a deficit balance.

The Township applies restricted resources first when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which either restricted or unrestricted (committed, assigned, and unassigned) amounts are available. Similarly, within unrestricted fund balance, committed amounts are reduced first followed by assigned, and then unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

G. 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.

H. 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:

	2013	2012
Demand deposits	\$287,522	\$271,571
STAR Ohio	116,046	116,001
Total deposits and investments	\$403,568	\$387,572

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

Investments in STAR Ohio are not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book-entry form.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2013 AND 2012 (Continued)

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2013 and 2012 follows:

2013 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$166,545	\$172,399	\$5,854
Special Revenue	207,104	224,075	16,971
Debt Service	10,100	10,100	
Capital Projects	60,957	60,957	
Total	\$444,706	\$467,531	\$22,825

2013 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
	Appropriation Budgetary		
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$429,223	\$178,551	\$250,672
Special Revenue	329,907	212,027	117,880
Capital Projects	60,957	60,957	
Total	\$820,087	\$451,535	\$368,552

2012 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$131,737	\$187,515	\$55,778
Special Revenue	206,025	225,454	19,429
Total	\$337,762	\$412,969	\$75,207

2012 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
	Appropriation		
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$438,548	\$232,283	\$206,265
Special Revenue	374,496	264,813	109,683
Debt Service	6,904	6,904	
Total	\$819,948	\$504,000	\$315,948

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2013 AND 2012 (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.

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, 2013 was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
General Obligation Notes	\$61,207	3.25%

The Township issued general obligation notes to finance the purchase of a new truck and plowing equipment for Township road maintenance. The Township's taxing authority collateralized the notes.

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

	General
	Obligation
Year ending December 31:	Notes
2014	\$21,542
2015	21,542
2016	21,542
Total	\$64,626

6. RETIREMENT SYSTEM

The Township's 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 2013 and 2012, 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, 2013.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2013 AND 2012 (Continued)

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Township belongs to the Ohio Plan Risk Management, Inc. (OPRM) - formerly known as the Ohio Government Risk Management Plan, (the "Plan"), a non-assessable, unincorporated non-profit association providing a formalized, jointly administered self-insurance risk management program and other administrative services to Ohio governments ("Members"). The Plan is legally separate from its member governments.

Pursuant to Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code, the plan provides property, liability, errors and omissions, law enforcement, automobile, excess liability, crime, surety and bond, inland marine and other coverages to its members sold through fourteen appointed independent agents in the State of Ohio.

OPRM coverage programs are developed specific to each member's risk management needs and the related premiums for coverage are determined through the application of uniform underwriting criteria addressing the member's exposure to loss, except OPRM retains 41.5% (effective November 1, 2011) of the premium and losses on the first \$250,000 casualty treaty and 10% of the first \$1,000,000 property treaty. Effective November 1, 2012 the plan increased its retention to 50% of the first \$250,000 casualty treaty. The Plan's property retention remained unchanged from prior years. This change was made to balance the reinsurance market conditions. Members are only responsible for their self-retention (deductible) amounts, which vary from member to member. OPRM had 767 and 765 members as of December 31, 2012 and 2011 respectively.

Plan members are responsible to notify the Plan of their intent to renew coverage by their renewal date. If a member chooses not to renew with the Plan, they have no other financial obligation to the Plan, but still need to promptly notify the Plan of any potential claims occurring during their membership period. The former member's covered claims, which occurred during their membership period, remain the responsibility of the Plan.

Settlement amounts did not exceed insurance coverage for the past three fiscal years.

The Pool's audited financial statements conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and retained earnings at December 31, 2012 and 2011 (the latest information available).

	2012	2011
Assets	\$13,100,381	\$12,501,280
Liabilities	(6,687,193)	(5,328,761)
Members'		
Equity	\$6,413,188	\$7,172,519

You can read the complete audited financial statements for OPRM at the Plan's website, <u>www.ohioplan.org</u>

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Dave Yost · Auditor of State

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

Center Township Wood County 17100 Carter Road Bowling Green, Ohio 43402

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States and the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*, the financial statements of Center Township, Wood County, Ohio (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated June 12, 2014 wherein we noted the Township followed financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 permit.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

As part of our financial statement audit, we considered the Township's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures appropriate in the circumstances to the extent necessary to support our opinion on the financial statements, but not to the extent necessary to opine on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control. Accordingly, we have not opined on it.

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

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 internal control deficiencies resulting in a reasonable possibility that internal control will not prevent or detect and timely correct a material misstatement of the Township's financial statements. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance. We consider finding 2013-001 described in the accompanying schedule of findings to be a material weakness.

Center Township Wood County Independent Auditor's 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, opining 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 2013-002.

Purpose of this Report

This report only describes the scope of our internal control and compliance testing and our testing results, and does not opine on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed under *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Township's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

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Dave Yost Auditor of State

Columbus, Ohio

June 12, 2014

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2013 AND 2012

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

FINDING NUMBER 2013-001

Material Weakness

Accurate financial reporting is the responsibility of the Fiscal Officer and Board of Trustees and is essential to ensure the information provided to the readers of the financial statements is complete and accurate. For example, the following reclassifications were included in the accompanying financial statements and, where applicable, the Township's accounting records:

Fund	Year	Amount	Township Classification	Correct Classification per Ohio Township Handbook and UAN Manual
General	2013	\$35,000	Miscellaneous	Payment in Lieu of Taxes
Debt Service	2013	60,957	Principal Retirement	Capital Outlay
Debt Service	2013	10,100	Other Financing Sources	Sale of Capital Asset
General	2013	35,000	Miscellaneous	Payment in Lieu of Taxes

		Fund Recorded in by				
Year	Amount	Description	Township	Correct Fund		
2013	\$60,957	Capital Outlay	Debt Service	Capital Equipment		
2013	60,957	Sale of Notes	Debt Service	Capital Equipment		

The Township also had the following classification errors which were not adjusted in the accompanying financial statements:

Correct Classification per

Fund	Year	Amount	Township Classification	Ohio Township Handbook and UAN Manual
General	2013	\$1,252	Unassigned	Assigned
General	2013	5,331	Property Taxes	Intergovernmental
Road and Bridge	2013	5,278	Property Taxes	Intergovernmental
Special Levy - Fire	2013	2,406	Property Taxes	Intergovernmental
General	2012	1,246	Unassigned	Assigned
General	2012	6,869	Property Taxes	Intergovernmental
Road and Bridge	2012	7,107	Property Taxes	Intergovernmental
Special Levy - Fire	2012	3,282	Property Taxes	Intergovernmental
Gasoline Tax	2012	2,000	Capital Outlay	Principal Retirement
Permissive MVGT	2012	2,278	Capital Outlay	Principal Retirement

The failure to correctly classify financial activity in the accounting records and financial statements may impact, a user's understanding of the financial operations, the ability to make sound financial decisions, the ability to comply with budgetary laws, and may result in the material misstatement of the financial statements. In addition, such undetected errors may result in irregularities not being detected in a timely manner by the Trustees.

Center Township Wood County Schedule of Findings Page 2

FINDING NUMBER 2013-001 (Continued)

We recommend the Township adopt policies and procedures to identify and correct errors and omissions. The Fiscal Officer should review the Ohio Township Handbook, UAN Manual, Auditor of State Bulletins, and other resources for guidance in correctly classifying receipts and disbursements. Additionally, the Trustees should perform periodic reviews of the receipt and disbursement ledgers to help identify errors and/or irregularities.

FINDING NUMBER 2013-002

Noncompliance Citation

Ohio Rev. Code §5705.41(D)(1) provides in part that no subdivision or taxing unit shall make any contract or give any order involving the expenditure of money unless there is attached thereto a certificate of the fiscal officer that the amount required for the order or contract has been lawfully appropriated for such purpose and is in the treasury or in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrances. Every such 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 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, each of 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 both at the time the contract or order was made ("then"), and at the time the fiscal officer is completing the certification ("now"), that sufficient funds were available or in the process of collections, to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrance, the Board can authorize the drawing of a warrant for the payment of the amount due. The Board has thirty days from the receipt of the "then and now" certificate to approve payment by ordinance or resolution.

Amounts 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 Board.

- 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 Board 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 may, but need not, be limited to a specific vendor. This certification is not to extend beyond the current year. More than one super blanket certificate may be outstanding at a particular time for any line item appropriation.

Center Township Wood County Schedule of Findings Page 3

FINDING NUMBER 2013-002 (Continued)

Thirty-three percent of transactions tested were not certified by the Fiscal Officer at the time the commitments were incurred, and there was no evidence the Board followed the aforementioned exceptions. Rather, for each instance, the Fiscal Officer signed the fiscal certificate after the goods or services had been ordered or an invoice already received. Failure to properly certify the availability of funds can result in overspending funds and negative cash fund balances.

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, the Fiscal Officer should certify that the funds are or will be available prior to obligation by the Township. When prior certification is not possible, "then and now" certification should be used.

The Fiscal Officer should certify the full purchase amounts to which section Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41(D) applies. The most convenient certification method is to use purchase orders that include the certification language which Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41(D) requires for the authorization of disbursements. The Fiscal Officer should sign the certification prior to incurring a commitment, and only when the requirements of Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41(D) are satisfied. The Fiscal Officer should post approved purchase commitments to the proper appropriation code, to reduce the available appropriation.

Officials' Response:

We did not receive a response from Officials to the findings reported above.

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2013 AND 2012

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; Explain
2011-001	Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(B) for expenditures exceeding appropriations.	Yes	
2011-002	Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(D)(1) for unrecorded encumbrances.	Not Corrected	Not corrected and repeated as Finding 2013-002 in this report.
2011-003	Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.38(A) for not adopting an appropriation resolution.	Yes	
2011-004	011-004 Material weakness due to not performing cash reconciliations.		



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

CENTER TOWNSHIP

WOOD 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 Babbett

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

CERTIFIED JULY 1, 2014

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