



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

**GEAUGA COUNTY PARK DISTRICT
GEAUGA COUNTY
DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND 2015**

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Dave Yost • Auditor of State

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Geauga County Park District
Geauga County
9160 Robinson Road
Chardon, Ohio 44024

To the Board of Commissioners:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the cash balances, receipts and disbursements by fund type, and related notes of the Geauga County Park District, Geauga County, (the District) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015.

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 District'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 District'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 opinions.

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

As described in Note 2 of the financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, the District 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 (GAAP), to satisfy these requirements.

Although the effects on the financial statements of the variances between the regulatory accounting basis and GAAP are not reasonably determinable, we presume they are material.

Though the District does not intend these statements to conform to GAAP, auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America require us to include an adverse opinion on GAAP. However, the adverse opinion does not imply the amounts reported are materially misstated under the accounting basis Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit. Our opinion on this accounting basis is in the *Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting* paragraph below.

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 District as of December 31, 2016 and 2015, 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 the Geauga County Park District, Geauga County, as of December 31, 2016 and 2015, 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 2 to the financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 6, 2017, 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. 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 District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Yost". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "D".

Dave Yost
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

June 6, 2017

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Geauga County Park District
Geauga County

*Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements
and Changes in Fund Balances (Cash Balances)
All Governmental Fund Types
For the Year Ended December 31, 2016*

	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts				
Property Taxes	\$5,794,696	\$0	\$0	\$5,794,696
Intergovernmental	889,125	0	0	889,125
Grants	2,395	0	0	2,395
Investment Income	19,217	0	32,576	51,793
Gifts and Donations	100,477	1,857	7,750	110,084
Fees	68,871	0	0	68,871
Sales	17,403	0	0	17,403
Refunds	7,002	0	0	7,002
Other Receipts	21,173	0	392,486	413,659
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>6,920,359</u>	<u>1,857</u>	<u>432,812</u>	<u>7,355,028</u>
Cash Disbursements				
Current Disbursements:				
Conservation/Recreation:				
Salaries	2,915,440	0	0	2,915,440
Supplies	242,130	0	0	242,130
Materials	142,600	0	0	142,600
Equipment	380,503	0	0	380,503
Contracts - Service	557,994	0	143,357	701,351
Contracts - Projects	0	0	1,363,622	1,363,622
Land	0	0	1,090,873	1,090,873
Advertising and Printing	146,094	0	0	146,094
Travel	14,804	0	0	14,804
Ohio Public Employees Retirement	408,463	0	0	408,463
Worker's Compensation	13,313	0	0	13,313
Unemployment Compensation	435	0	0	435
Hospitalization	633,447	0	0	633,447
State Tax Expense	4,854	0	0	4,854
County Tax Expense	99,680	0	0	99,680
Other	61,425	88	0	61,513
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>5,621,182</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>2,597,852</u>	<u>8,219,122</u>
<i>Total Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>	<u>1,299,177</u>	<u>1,769</u>	<u>(2,165,040)</u>	<u>(864,094)</u>
Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)				
Transfers In	0	0	4,925,000	4,925,000
Transfers Out	(4,925,000)	0	0	(4,925,000)
<i>Total Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)</i>	<u>(4,925,000)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4,925,000</u>	<u>0</u>
<i>Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements</i>	<u>(3,625,823)</u>	<u>1,769</u>	<u>2,759,960</u>	<u>(864,094)</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>6,338,434</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,883,745</u>	<u>9,222,179</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31				
Committed	57,797	1,769	5,643,705	5,703,271
Assigned	94,130	0	0	94,130
Unassigned (Deficit)	2,560,684	0	0	2,560,684
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u>2,712,611</u>	<u>1,769</u>	<u>5,643,705</u>	<u>8,358,085</u>

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

Geauga County Park District
Geauga County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

Note 1 - Reporting Entity

The Geauga County Park District (the District), Geauga County, is a body politic and corporate established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The probate judge of Geauga County appoints a three-member Board of Commissioners to govern the District. The Commissioners are authorized to acquire, develop, protect, maintain, and improve park lands and facilities. The Commissioners may convert acquired land into forest reserves. The Commissioners are also responsible for activities related to conserving natural resources, including streams, lakes, submerged lands, and swamp lands. The Board may also create parks, parkways, and other reservations and may afforest, develop, improve and protect and promote the use of these assets conducive to the general welfare.

The Geauga County Park District Foundation (the Foundation) is also associated with the District. The Foundation is a nonprofit organization which operates under the Board of Trustees. The Foundation's mission is to build enduring assets for the Geauga County Park District.

Since the Foundation's tax exemption is based on the Foundation's intent to support the District it is considered a component unit of the District per Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement Nos. 14, 34 and 61.

The District is financially accountable for the Foundation as it appoints a voting majority of the Foundation's governing board and the District is able to significantly influence the programs or services performed or provided by the Foundation. The District does not approve the budget or debt issuance of the Foundation.

The Foundation is audited by an independent auditor annually and financial statements can be obtained from the Geauga Park District Foundation, 9160 Robinson Road, Chardon, Ohio 44024.

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

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

The District's financial statements consist of a combined statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balances (regulatory cash basis) for all governmental fund types which are organized on a fund type basis.

Geauga County Park District
Geauga County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

Fund Accounting

The District uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. The funds of the District are presented below:

General Fund The General Fund accounts for and reports all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund. The general fund balance is available to the District for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

Special Revenue Fund 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 District's Special Revenue Fund is the K-9 Fund which was established to account for cash receipts and disbursements restricted to the District's K-9 unit.

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 District had the following significant capital project fund: The Park Board Improvement Fund, which was established to acquire, develop and improve park lands and facilities.

Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow 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). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Board 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 financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (D) permit.

Budgetary Process

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

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 District Board must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end.

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.

Geauga County Park District
Geauga County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

Encumbrances The Ohio Revised Code requires the District to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over, and need not be reappropriated.

A summary of 2016 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

Deposit and Investments

As the Ohio Revised Code permits, the Geauga County Treasurer holds the District's deposits as the District's custodian. The County holds the District's assets in its investment pool, valued at the Treasurer's reported carrying amount.

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.

Fund Balance

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

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

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.

Committed Commissioners can *commit* amounts via formal action (resolution). The District must adhere to these commitments unless the Commissioners 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.

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 District Commissioners or a District official delegated that authority by resolution, or by State Statute.

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.

Geauga County Park District
Geauga County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

The District 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.

Note 3 - Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2016 follows:

2016 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$6,686,425	\$6,920,359	\$233,934
Special Revenue	10,000	1,857	(8,143)
Capital Projects	5,393,760	5,357,812	(35,948)
Total	\$12,090,185	\$12,280,028	\$189,843

2016 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$11,591,710	\$10,640,855	\$950,855
Special Revenue	1,500	88	1,412
Capital Projects	4,621,590	3,100,997	1,520,593
Total	\$16,214,800	\$13,741,940	\$2,472,860

Note 4 – Property Taxes

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Board 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 District.

The County is responsible for assessing property, and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on behalf of the District.

Geauga County Park District
Geauga County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

Note 5 – Risk Management

The District 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. Effective November 1, 2012 (and through October 2014) the plan increased its retention to 50% of the first \$250,000 casualty treaty. Effective November 1, 2014, the OPRM retained 47% of the premium and losses on the first \$250,000 casualty treaty and 10% of the first \$1,000,000 property treaty. Members are only responsible for their self-retention (deductible) amounts, which vary from member to member. OPRM had 772 members as of December 31, 2015.

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 equity at December 31, 2015 (the latest information available).

	<u>2015</u>
Assets	\$14,643,667
Liabilities	<u>(9,112,030)</u>
Members' Equity	<u>\$5,531,637</u>

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

Geauga County Park District
Geauga County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

Note 6 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans

The District'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. 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, 2016.

Note 7 - Postemployment Benefits

OPERS offer cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plans, which include multiple health care plans including medical coverage, prescription drug coverage, deposits to a Health Reimbursement Arrangement and Medicare Part B premium reimbursements, to qualifying benefit recipients of both the traditional pension and the combined plans. OPERS contributes 2 percent of the employer contribution to fund these benefits.

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Geauga County Park District
Geauga County

*Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements
and Changes in Fund Balances (Cash Basis)
All Governmental Fund Types
For the Year Ended December 31, 2015*

	General	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts			
Property Taxes	\$4,968,167	\$0	\$4,968,167
Intergovernmental	788,819	0	788,819
Grants	720	0	720
Investment Income	5,864	2,852	8,716
Gifts and Donations	187,871	10,213	198,084
Fees	55,042	0	55,042
Sales	28,477	0	28,477
Refunds	35,472	0	35,472
Other Receipts	65,466	14,413	79,879
	6,135,898	27,478	6,163,376
Cash Disbursements			
Current Disbursements:			
Conservation/Recreation:			
Salaries	2,891,067	0	2,891,067
Supplies	255,295	0	255,295
Materials	202,515	0	202,515
Equipment	569,138	0	569,138
Contracts - Service	692,412	83,891	776,303
Contracts - Projects	0	822,060	822,060
Advertising and Printing	47,862	0	47,862
Travel	13,004	0	13,004
Ohio Public Employees Retirement	409,666	0	409,666
Unemployment Compensation	7,942	0	7,942
Hospitalization	550,923	0	550,923
Other	73,038	0	73,038
	5,712,862	905,951	6,618,813
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	5,712,862	905,951	6,618,813
<i>Total Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>	423,036	(878,473)	(455,437)
Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)			
Transfers In	0	500,000	500,000
Transfers Out	(500,000)	0	(500,000)
	(500,000)	500,000	0
<i>Total Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)</i>	(500,000)	500,000	0
<i>Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements</i>			
	(76,964)	(378,473)	(455,437)
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	6,415,398	3,262,218	9,677,616
Fund Cash Balances, December 31			
Committed	57,509	2,883,745	2,941,254
Assigned	66,523	0	66,523
Unassigned (Deficit)	6,214,402	0	6,214,402
	6,338,434	2,883,745	9,222,179
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	6,338,434	2,883,745	9,222,179

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

Geauga County Park District
Geauga County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2015

Note 1 - Reporting Entity

The Geauga County Park District (the District), Geauga County, is a body politic and corporate established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The probate judge of Geauga County appoints a three-member Board of Commissioners to govern the District. The Commissioners are authorized to acquire, develop, protect, maintain, and improve park lands and facilities. The Commissioners may convert acquired land into forest reserves. The Commissioners are also responsible for activities related to conserving natural resources, including streams, lakes, submerged lands, and swamp lands. The Board may also create parks, parkways, and other reservations and may afforest, develop, improve and protect and promote the use of these assets conducive to the general welfare.

The Geauga County Park District Foundation (the Foundation) is also associated with the District. The Foundation is a nonprofit organization which operates under the Board of Trustees. The Foundation's mission is to build enduring assets for the Geauga County Park District.

Since the Foundation's tax exemption is based on the Foundation's intent to support the District it is considered a component unit of the District per Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement Nos. 14, 34 and 61.

The District is financially accountable for the Foundation as it appoints a voting majority of the Foundation's governing board and the District is able to significantly influence the programs or services performed or provided by the Foundation. The District does not approve the budget or debt issuance of the Foundation.

The Foundation is audited by an independent auditor annually and financial statements can be obtained from the Geauga Park District Foundation, 9160 Robinson Road, Chardon, Ohio 44024.

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

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

The District's financial statements consist of a combined statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balances (regulatory cash basis) for all governmental fund types which are organized on a fund type basis.

Geauga County Park District
Geauga County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2015

Fund Accounting

The District uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. The funds of the District are presented below:

General Fund The General Fund accounts for and reports all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund. The general fund balance is available to the District for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

Capital Project Fund 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 District's Capital Project Fund, the Park Board Improvement Fund, was established to acquire, develop and improve park lands and facilities.

Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow 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). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Board 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 financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (D) permit.

Budgetary Process

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

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 District Board must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end.

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.

Encumbrances The Ohio Revised Code requires the District to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over, and need not be reappropriated.

A summary of 2015 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

Geauga County Park District
Geauga County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2015

Deposit and Investments

As the Ohio Revised Code permits, the Geauga County Treasurer holds the District's deposits as the District's custodian. The County holds the District's assets in its investment pool, valued at the Treasurer's reported carrying amount.

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.

Fund Balance

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

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

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.

Committed Commissioners can *commit* amounts via formal action (resolution). The District must adhere to these commitments unless the Commissioners 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.

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 District Commissioners or a District official delegated that authority by resolution, or by State Statute.

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 District 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.

Geauga County Park District
Geauga County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2015

Note 3 - Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2015 follows:

2015 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$6,059,399	\$6,135,898	\$76,499
Capital Projects	526,613	527,478	865
Total	\$6,586,012	\$6,663,376	\$77,364

2015 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$7,027,981	\$6,279,385	\$748,596
Capital Projects	1,044,787	956,041	88,746
Total	\$8,072,768	\$7,235,426	\$837,342

Note 4 – Property Taxes

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Board 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 District.

The County is responsible for assessing property, and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on behalf of the District.

Geauga County Park District
Geauga County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2015

Note 5 – Risk Management

The District 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. Effective November 1, 2012 (and through October 2014) the plan increased its retention to 50% of the first \$250,000 casualty treaty. Effective November 1, 2014, the OPRM retained 47% of the premium and losses on the first \$250,000 casualty treaty and 10% of the first \$1,000,000 property treaty. Members are only responsible for their self-retention (deductible) amounts, which vary from member to member. OPRM had 772 members as of December 31, 2015.

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 equity at December 31, 2015.

	<u>2015</u>
Assets	\$14,643,667
Liabilities	<u>(9,112,030)</u>
Members' Equity	<u>\$5,531,637</u>

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

Geauga County Park District
Geauga County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2015

Note 6 - Defined Benefit Pension Plan

The District'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. 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, 2015.

Note 7 - Postemployment Benefits

OPERS offer cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plans, which include multiple health care plans including medical coverage, prescription drug coverage, deposits to a Health Reimbursement Arrangement and Medicare Part B premium reimbursements, to qualifying benefit recipients of both the traditional pension and the combined plans. OPERS contributes 2 percent of the employer contribution to fund these benefits.

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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

Geauga County Park District
Geauga County
9160 Robinson Road
Chardon, Ohio 44024

To the Board of Commissioners:

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 the cash balances, receipts, and disbursements by fund type of the Geauga County Park District, Geauga County, (the District) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, and the related notes to the financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated June 6, 2017 wherein we noted the District followed financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

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 a reasonable possibility that internal control will not prevent or detect and timely correct a material misstatement of the District'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.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all internal control deficiencies that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider material weaknesses. However, unidentified material weaknesses may exist.

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, 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 no instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards*.

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 District's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed under *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Yost". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping "D" and "Y".

Dave Yost
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

June 6, 2017



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

GEAUGA COUNTY PARK DISTRICT

GEAUGA 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
JUNE 27, 2017**