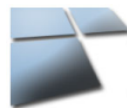


Lawrence County Transportation Improvement District
Lawrence County
Regular Audit
For the Year Ended December 31, 2016



Millhuff-Stang

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

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Dave Yost • Auditor of State

Board of Trustees
Lawrence County Transportation Improvement District
111 South 4th Street
Ironton, Ohio 45648

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Lawrence County Transportation Improvement District, Lawrence County, prepared by Millhuff-Stang, CPA, Inc., for the audit period January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016. 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.

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. The Lawrence County Transportation Improvement District is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Yost".

Dave Yost
Auditor of State

May 25, 2017

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Lawrence County Transportation Improvement District
Table of Contents
For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

Title	Page
Independent Auditor's 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, 2016	3
Notes to the Financial Statements	4
Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance With <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>	7

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Independent Auditor's Report

Board of Trustees
Lawrence County Transportation Improvement District
111 South 4th Street
Ironton, Ohio 45638

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 Lawrence County Transportation Improvement District, Lawrence County, Ohio (the District), a component unit of Lawrence County, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2016.

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 1 of the financial statements, 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 or changes in financial position thereof for the year 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 Lawrence County Transportation Improvement District, Lawrence County, as of December 31, 2016 and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the year 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 1.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated February 24, 2017 on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and on 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.



Natalie Millhuff-Stang, CPA, CITP
President/Owner
Millhuff-Stang, CPA, Inc.
Portsmouth, Ohio

February 24, 2017

Lawrence County Transportation Improvement District
*Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements and
 Changes in Fund Cash Balances*
All Governmental Fund Types
For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		Totals (Memorandum Only)
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	
Cash Receipts:			
Intergovernmental	\$ 17,015	\$ 116,179	\$ 133,194
Miscellaneous	234	0	234
Total Cash Receipts	17,249	116,179	133,428
Cash Disbursements:			
Current Disbursements:			
General Government	3,815	0	3,815
Public Works	0	103,174	103,174
Debt Service:			
Principal Retirement	0	500,000	500,000
Total Cash Disbursements	3,815	603,174	606,989
Net Change in Fund Cash Balance	13,434	(486,995)	(473,561)
Fund Cash Balance, January 1	640	486,995	487,635
Fund Cash Balance, December 31:			
Unassigned	14,074	0	14,074
Fund Cash Balance, December 31	<u>\$14,074</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$14,074</u>

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

Lawrence County Transportation Improvement District

*Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2016*

Note 1 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Description of the Entity

The Lawrence County Transportation Improvement District, Lawrence County, Ohio (the District) is a body corporate and politic established to plan, construct and improve highways, roads, bridges, interchanges and accompanying capital improvements and developments throughout Lawrence County. The District was formed under Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5540.02, by action of the Board of Lawrence County Commissioners on March 3, 2011.

The resolution to create the District states the Board shall consist of seven members. The members shall be appointed as follows: five (5) members shall be appointed by the County Commissioners; one (1) nonvoting member appointed by the Speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives of the general assembly; and one (1) nonvoting member appointed by the President of the Senate of the general assembly.

The Board of Directors appoints a Chairman, who presides at all meetings and is the chief officer of the District. He has the authority to sign all contracts, releases, notes, bonds and other instruments and documents to be executed on behalf of the District. He is the chief officer of the District for the purpose of civil process and is authorized to accept such services on behalf of the District. He performs such other duties and has such authority as may be provided from time to time by the Board.

The District is a discretely presented component unit in Lawrence County's Annual Financial Report, as defined by the provisions of GASB Statements No. 14, 39 and 61. The Lawrence County Auditor acts as fiscal agent for the District and the Lawrence County Treasurer acts as custodian of all funds. The District's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the District is financially accountable.

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.

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). The basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The District recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred.

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.

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

Lawrence County Transportation Improvement District

*Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2016*

Note 1 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Special Revenue Fund

These funds account for proceeds from specific sources (other than those from private-purpose trusts or for capital projects) that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The District had the following Special Revenue Fund:

Special Revenue Fund – This fund accounts for grant funds from the Ohio Department of Transportation that are restricted for use.

Deposits and Investments

The District's assets are held in Lawrence County's cash and investment pool and are valued at the County Treasurer's reported carrying value. All risks associated with deposits and investments held at the Treasurer's office are the responsibility of Lawrence County.

Fund Balance

The 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

The Board can commit amounts via formal action (resolution). The District must adhere to these commitments unless the Board amends 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 the Board 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.

Lawrence County Transportation Improvement District

*Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2016*

Note 1 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Fund Balance (Continued)

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.

Capital Assets

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

Note 2 – Deposits and Investments

The District’s fiscal agent, Lawrence County, is the custodian for the District’s cash. The District’s assets are held in the County’s cash and investment pool, and are valued at the County Treasurer’s reported carrying amount of \$14,074. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments.

Deposits: The County is responsible for maintaining adequate depository collateral for all funds in the County’s deposit and investment pool. All risks associated with the above deposits are the responsibility of the County.

Note 3 – Debt

In 2015, Lawrence County provided an interest-free loan to the District in the amount of \$500,000 in anticipation of grant revenue. This amount was paid in full during 2016.

Note 4 - Risk Management

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, theft or damage to, and destruction of assets, errors and omissions, injuries to employees and natural disasters. During 2016, the District was covered through Lawrence County who contracted with the Ohio Plan for liability insurance.

Coverages provided by the program are as follows:

	<u>Aggregate</u>	<u>Each Occurrence</u>
General Liability	\$3,000,000	\$1,000,000
Employee Blanket Dishonesty		250,000

Note 5 – Contingent Liabilities

Amounts grantor agencies pay to the District are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor, principally the federal government. Grants may require refunding any disallowed costs. Management cannot presently determine amounts grantors may disallow. However, based on prior experience, management believes any refunds would be immaterial.

The District is not currently party to legal proceedings.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance With *Government Auditing Standards*

Independent Auditor's Report

Board of Trustees
Lawrence County Transportation Improvement District
111 South 4th Street
Ironton, Ohio 45638

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the Lawrence County Transportation Improvement District, Lawrence County, Ohio (the District) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated February 24, 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

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. 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 District's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. 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 deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the District's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on 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 such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



Natalie Millhuff-Stang, CPA, CITP
President/Owner
Millhuff-Stang, CPA, Inc.
Portsmouth, Ohio

February 24, 2017



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

LAWRENCE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

LAWRENCE 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 6, 2017**