

***MOHICAN CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU***

**ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES**

**For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015**







# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

Board of Trustees  
Mohican Convention and Visitors Bureau  
131 W. Main St.  
Loudonville, OH 44842

We have reviewed the *Agreed Upon-Procedure* of the Mohican Convention and Visitors Bureau, Ashland County, prepared by Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc., for the period January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2016. Based upon this review, we have accepted this report in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code.

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 Mohican Convention and Visitors Bureau is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

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

Dave Yost  
Auditor of State

June 7, 2017

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**MOHICAN CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU  
ASHLAND COUNTY  
Agreed Upon Procedures  
For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015**

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**INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES**

Board of Trustees  
Mohican Convention and Visitors Bureau  
Ashland County  
131 West Main Street  
Loudonville, Ohio 44842

We have performed the procedures enumerated below, to which the management of the Mohican Convention and Visitors Bureau (the Bureau) agreed, solely to assist the Bureau in evaluating whether it recorded all lodging taxes it received from Ashland County, and to help evaluate whether the Bureau disbursed these lodging taxes for allowable purposes described below for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015. The Bureau is responsible for disbursing lodging taxes for allowable purposes. This agreed-upon procedures engagement was conducted in accordance with the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants' attestation standards and applicable attestation engagement standards included in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. The sufficiency of the procedures is solely the responsibility of the Bureau. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

**Cash**

1. We tested the mathematical accuracy of the December 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015 bank reconciliations. We found no exceptions.
2. We agreed the January 1, 2015 beginning fund balances recorded in the Trial Balance Report to the December 31, 2014 balances in the prior year Agreed-Upon Procedures working papers. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the January 1, 2016 beginning fund balances recorded in the Trial Balance Report to the December 31, 2015 balances in the Trial Balance Report. We found no exceptions.
3. We agreed the totals per the bank reconciliations to the total of the December 31, 2016 and 2015 fund cash balances reported in the Trial Balance Reports. The amounts agreed.
4. We confirmed the December 31, 2016 bank account balances with the Bureau's financial institution. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the confirmed balances to the amounts appearing in the December 31, 2016 bank reconciliation without exception.
5. We selected all reconciling debits (such as outstanding checks) haphazardly from the December 31, 2016 bank reconciliation:
  - a. We traced each debit to the subsequent January bank statements. We found two checks that were still outstanding as of the date of this report, which is not an exception.
  - b. We traced the amounts and dates to the check register, to determine the debits were dated prior to December 31. We noted no exceptions.

### Cash Receipts

1. We confirmed with Ashland County the lodging taxes it paid to the Bureau during the years ending December 31, 2016 and 2015. The County confirmed the following amounts:

Year Ended	Amount
December 31, 2016	\$107,189
December 31, 2015	\$95,226

2. We compared the amounts from step 1 to amounts recorded as lodging tax receipts on the Bureau's Transaction Detail by Account Report. We found no exceptions.

### Cash Disbursements

1. We inquired of management regarding sources describing allowable purposes or restrictions related to the Bureau's disbursements of lodging taxes. We listed these sources and summarized significant related restrictions below:

#### Source of Restrictions

- a. The Bureau's Articles of Incorporation
- b. The Bureau's 501(c)(6) Tax Exemption
- c. Agreement with Ashland County
- d. Ohio Rev. Code Section 5739.09(A)(2)

The Bureau's tax exemption prohibits it from disbursements supporting a candidate's election.

Ohio Rev. Code Section 5739.09(A)(2) restricts the Bureau to spending lodging tax "specifically for promotion, advertising, and marketing of the region in which the county is located."

Auditor of State Bulletin 2003-005 deems any disbursement of public funds (e.g. lodging taxes) for alcohol to be improper.

The Bureau's By-Laws permit the Bureau to spend lodging taxes to promote, encourage tourism, overnight stays and their associated economic benefits in southern Ashland County.

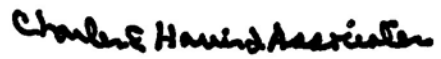
The Agreement with Ashland County permits the Bureau to spend lodging taxes only for the proper purpose of fostering and promoting tourism, visitors, and conventions within Ashland County, Ohio.

2. We haphazardly selected forty disbursements of lodging taxes from the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015 in addition to all disbursements exceeding \$1,500, and compared the purpose for these disbursements as documented on vendor invoices or other supporting documentation to the sources of restrictions listed in *Cash Disbursements Step 1* above. We found no instances where the purpose described on the invoice or other supporting documentation described a violation the restrictions listed above.

We were not engaged to, and did not examine the Bureau's lodging tax receipts and disbursements for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, the objective of which would have been to opine on lodging tax receipts and disbursements. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that we would have reported to you.



This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Bureau and is not intended to be, and should not be used by anyone other than the specified party.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charles E. Harris" followed by a stylized flourish.

**Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc.**  
April 7, 2017

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# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

**LOUDONVILLE-MOHICAN CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU**

**ASHLAND 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 20, 2017**