



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

**NORTHWEST AMBULANCE DISTRICT
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

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Dave Yost • Auditor of State

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Northwest Ambulance District
Ashtabula County
1480 South Broadway
Geneva, Ohio 44041

To the Board of Trustees:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the cash balances, receipts and disbursements, and related notes of the Northwest Ambulance District, Ashtabula County, (the District) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014.

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, 2015 and 2014, 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 cash balances of the Northwest Ambulance District, Ashtabula County, as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and its 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 1.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated February 16, 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.



Dave Yost
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

February 16, 2017

**NORTHWEST AMBULANCE DISTRICT
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS,
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE (CASH BASIS)
GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015**

	General
Cash Receipts:	
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$955,677
Charges for Services	331,982
Intergovernmental	104,023
Earnings on Investments	540
Miscellaneous	17,441
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<i>1,409,663</i>
Cash Disbursements:	
Security of Persons and Property:	
Salaries	610,603
Fringe Benefits	121,006
Materials and Supplies	96,115
Contract - Repairs	39,424
Contract - Services	125,258
Equipment	22,056
Insurance	128,863
Other	123,478
Capital Outlay	48,641
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<i>1,315,444</i>
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balance</i>	<i>94,219</i>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<i>584,875</i>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	
Unassigned (Deficit)	679,094
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<i>\$679,094</i>

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

**NORTHWEST AMBULANCE DISTRICT
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS,
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE (CASH BASIS)
GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014**

	General
Cash Receipts:	
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$806,113
Charges for Services	311,203
Intergovernmental	111,605
Earnings on Investments	698
Miscellaneous	26,331
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	1,255,950
Cash Disbursements:	
Security of Persons and Property:	
Salaries	572,274
Fringe Benefits	120,570
Materials and Supplies	92,839
Contracts - Repairs	47,743
Contracts - Services	104,415
Equipment	24,765
Insurance	143,306
Other	70,765
Capital Outlay	48,446
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	1,225,123
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balance</i>	30,827
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	554,048
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	
Unassigned (Deficit)	584,875
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	\$584,875

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

**NORTHWEST AMBULANCE DISTRICT
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014**

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 Northwest Ambulance District, Ashtabula County, (the District) as a body corporate and politic. A five-member Board of Directors governs the District. Each political subdivision within the District appoints one member. Those subdivisions are Geneva Township, Harpersfield Township, Austinburg Township, Trumbull Township and the City of Geneva.

The Township participates in a public entity risk pool. Note 6 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity.

Public Entity Risk Pool:
Public Entities Pool of Ohio (PEP) - Note 6

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

B. Accounting Basis

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.

C. Deposits and Investments

The District'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.

The District values its money market savings account at cost.

D. Fund Accounting

The District uses fund accounting to segregate cash and investments that are restricted as to use. The District 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.

**NORTHWEST AMBULANCE DISTRICT
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014
(Continued)**

E. Budgetary Process

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

1. Appropriations

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function or object level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Board of Directors must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. Appropriations lapse at year end.

2. Estimated Resources

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

3. Encumbrances

The Ohio Revised Code requires the District to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are canceled, and re-appropriated in the subsequent year.

A summary of 2015 and 2014 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

F. 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:

1. Nonspendable

The District 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 District 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.

**NORTHWEST AMBULANCE DISTRICT
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014
(Continued)**

F. Fund Balance (Continued)

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 District Trustees or a District 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 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.

G. Property, Plant, and Equipment

The District 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 District 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:

	2015	2014
Demand deposits	\$494,602	\$400,664
Other time deposits (NOW account)	184,492	184,211
Total deposits	\$679,094	\$584,875

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

**NORTHWEST AMBULANCE DISTRICT
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014
(Continued)**

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2015 and 2014 follows:

2015 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$1,280,400	\$1,409,663	\$129,263

2015 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$1,320,000	\$1,315,444	\$4,556

2014 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$1,224,418	\$1,255,950	\$31,532

2014 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$1,263,300	\$1,225,123	\$38,177

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 District.

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

**NORTHWEST AMBULANCE DISTRICT
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014
(Continued)**

5. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

Employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS are cost-sharing, multiple-employer plans. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes these plans' benefits, which include postretirement healthcare and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2015 and 2014, OPERS members contributed 10%, respectively, of their gross salaries and the District contributed an amount equaling 14%, respectively, of participants' gross salaries. The District has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2015.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

The District is exposed to various risks of property and casualty losses, and injuries to employees. The District insures against injuries to employees through the Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation.

The District belongs to the Public Entities Pool of Ohio (PEP), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio local governments. PEP provides property and casualty coverage for its members. York Insurance Services Group, Inc. (York) functions as the administrator of PEP and provides underwriting, claims, loss control, risk management, and reinsurance services for PEP. PEP is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP), which is also administered by York. Member governments pay annual contributions to fund PEP. PEP pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

Casualty and Property Coverage

APEEP provides PEP with an excess risk-sharing program. Under this arrangement, PEP retains insured risks up to an amount specified in the contracts. At December 31, 2015, PEP retained \$350,000 for casualty claims and \$100,000 for property claims.

The aforementioned casualty and property reinsurance agreement does not discharge PEP's primary liability for claims payments on covered losses. Claims exceeding coverage limits are the obligation of the respective government.

Financial Position

PEP's financial statements (audited by other auditor's) conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and net position at December 31, 2014 and 2015

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
Assets	\$35,402,177	\$38,307,677
Liabilities	<u>(12,363,257)</u>	<u>(12,759,127)</u>
Net Position	<u>\$23,038,920</u>	<u>\$25,548,550</u>

**NORTHWEST AMBULANCE DISTRICT
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014
(Continued)**

6. RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)

At December 31, 2014 and 2015, respectively, the liabilities above include approximately 11.1 million and \$11.5 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets above also include approximately \$10.8 million and \$11.0 million of unpaid claims to be billed. The Pool's membership increased from 488 members in 2014 to 499 members in 2015. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. As of December 31, 2015, the District's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$16,000.

Based on discussions with PEP, the expected rates PEP charges to compute member contributions, which are used to pay claims as they become due, are not expected to change significantly from those used to determine the historical contributions detailed below. By contract, the annual liability of each member is limited to the amount of financial contributions required to be made to PEP for each year of membership.

<u>Contributions to PEP</u>	
<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
25,643	25,787

After one year of membership, a member may withdraw on the anniversary of the date of joining PEP, if the member notifies PEP in writing 60 days prior to the anniversary date. Upon withdrawal, members are eligible for a full or partial refund of their capital contributions, minus the subsequent year's contribution. Withdrawing members have no other future obligation to PEP. Also upon withdrawal, payments for all casualty claims and claim expenses become the sole responsibility of the withdrawing member, regardless of whether a claim occurred or was reported prior to the withdrawal.



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

Northwest Ambulance District
Ashtabula County
1480 S. Broadway
Geneva, Ohio 44041

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 the cash balances, receipts and disbursements of the Northwest Ambulance District, Ashtabula County, (the District) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the related notes to the financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated February 16, 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

February 16, 2017

**NORTHWEST AMBULANCE DISTRICT
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014**

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <i>Explain</i>
2014-001	Finding for Recovery of overpayment to an employee	Yes	Finding fully repaid.
2014-002	Inadequate control over review of timesheets for accuracy.	Partially Corrected	Repeat as Management Letter comment.

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NORTHWEST AMBULANCE DISTRICT

ASHTABULA 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
MARCH 7, 2017**