



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER





65 East State Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
ContactUs@ohioauditor.gov
800-282-0370

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

Adams Township
Guernsey County
4752 College Hill Road
Cambridge, Ohio 43725

We have performed the procedures enumerated below on the Adams Township's (the Township) receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the cash-based accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2024, and 2023 and certain compliance requirements related to those transactions and balances, included in the information provided to us by the management of the Township. The Township is responsible for the receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the cash basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2024, and 2023, and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances included in the information provided to us by the Township.

The Board of Trustees and the management of the Township have agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of providing assistance in the evaluation of the Township's receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in their cash-basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2024, and 2023, and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances. No other party acknowledged the appropriateness of the procedures. This report may not be suitable for any other purpose. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of the report and may not meet the needs of all users of the report and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes. The sufficiency of the procedures is solely the responsibility of the parties specified in the report. 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.

For the purposes of performing these procedures, this report only describes exceptions exceeding \$10.

The procedures and the associated findings are as follows:

Cash and Investments

1. We recalculated the December 31, 2024, and December 31, 2023 bank reconciliations. We found no exceptions.
2. We agreed the January 1, 2023, beginning fund balances for each opinion unit recorded in the Fund Ledger Report to the December 31, 2022, balances in the prior year audited statements. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the January 1, 2024, beginning fund balances for each fund recorded in the Fund Ledger Report to the December 31, 2023, balances in the Fund Ledger Report. We found no exceptions.
3. We agreed the 2024 and 2023 Bank Reconciliation as of December 31, 2024, and 2023 to the total fund cash balances reported in the Fund Status Report and the financial statements filed by the Township in the Hinkle System. The amounts agreed.

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Cash and Investments (Continued)

4. We confirmed the December 31, 2024, bank account balances with Ohio Pooled Collateral System,. We found no exceptions. We also agreed with the confirmed balances to the amounts appearing in the December 31, 2024, bank reconciliation without exception.
5. We selected 5 reconciling debits (such as outstanding checks) from December 31, 2024 bank reconciliation:
 - a. We traced each debit to the subsequent January and March bank statements. We found no exceptions.
 - b. We traced the amounts and dates to the check register, and determined the debits were dated prior to December 31. We found no exceptions.
6. We inspected the Fund Status Report to determine whether the Finding for Adjustment identified in the prior audit report, due from the General fund, payable to the Gasoline Tax fund, was properly posted to the ledgers and reflected in the fund balances in Procedure 2. We found no exceptions.
7. We inspected investments held at December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023 to determine that they:
 - a. Were of a type authorized by Ohio Rev. Code §§ 135.13, 135.14, 135.144 or 135.145. We found no exceptions
 - b. Mature within the prescribed time limits noted in Ohio Rev. Code § 135.13 or 135.14. We found no exceptions.

Property Taxes and Intergovernmental Cash Receipts

1. We selected a total of 5 receipts from the *Statement of Semiannual Apportionment of Taxes*, State Distribution Transaction Lists (DTL), and the County DITA GL report for 2024 and a total of 5 from 2023:
 - a. We compared the amount from the above-named reports to the amount recorded in the Receipt Register Report. The amounts agreed.
 - b. We inspected the Receipt Register Report to determine these receipts were allocated to the proper funds as required by Ohio Rev. Code §§ 5705.05 and 5705.10. We found no exceptions.
 - c. We inspected the Receipt Register Report to determine whether the receipt was recorded in the proper year. The receipt was recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.
2. We inspected the Receipt Register Report to determine whether it included 2 real estate tax receipts for 2024 and 2023. The Receipt Register Report included the proper number of tax receipts for each year. We found no exceptions.

Debt

1. From the prior audit report, we observed a note was outstanding as of December 31, 2022. The outstanding balance is included in the "Summary Debt Table - Carry Forward Balance" column in the summary chart in procedure 3.
2. We inquired of management and inspected the Receipt Register Report and Payment Register Detail Report for evidence of debt issued during 2024 or 2023 or debt payment activity during 2024 or 2023. There were no new debt issuances during 2024 or 2023. We included debt payment activity during 2023 in the Summary Debt table below.

Debt (Continued)

3. From the summary of outstanding debt for 2024 and 2023 below:
 - a. We agreed the principal and interest payments from the related debt amortization schedule to debt service fund payments reported in the Payment Register Detail Report and included the total principal payments for both years in the table below. We noted a payment in the amount of \$534 posted to the Road Maintenance and Improvement Levy Fund instead of the Debt Service Fund in 2023. We brought this to management's attention. They corrected the Road Maintenance and Improvement Levy and Debt Service Funds' balances for this.
 - b. We compared the date the debt service payments were due to the date the Township made the payments. We noted the Township paid a late fee for the debt in the amount of \$28 in 2023.
 - c. Based on the principal payments made, we agreed the outstanding balance to debt amortization schedule and included the outstanding balance in the summary table below. We found no exceptions.
 - d. For any outstanding debt listed in the table below, we obtained the debt agreements and confirmed the Township was in compliance with its debt covenants. We found no exceptions.

Summary Debt Table					
Debt Issued	Carry Forward Balance 1/1/2023	New Issue 2023	New Issue 2024	Total Principal Payments 2023/2024	Outstanding Balance 12/31/2024
Truck Loan	\$6,308	\$0	\$0	\$6,308	\$0

Payroll Cash Disbursements

1. We selected 1 payroll check for all employees from 2024 and 1 payroll check for all employees from 2023 from the Wage Withholdings Detail Report and:
 - a. We compared the hours and pay rate, or salary recorded in the Wage Detail Report to supporting documentation (timecard, legislatively or approved rate or salary). We found 2 instances where an employee was paid for a total of 3.5 hours more than the hours recorded on his timesheets for a total overpayment of \$92. Because we did not compare all timecards, our report provides no assurance whether or not other similar errors occurred.
 - b. We inspected the fund and account codes to which the check was posted to determine the posting was allowable based on the employees' duties as documented in the minutes. We found no exceptions.
 - c. We confirmed the payment was posted to the proper year. We found no exceptions.
2. We inspected the last remittance of tax and retirement withholdings for the year ended December 31, 2024, to confirm remittances were timely paid, and if the amounts paid agreed to the amounts withheld, plus the employer's share where applicable, during the final payment of 2024. We observed the following:

Payroll Cash Disbursements (Continued)

Withholding (plus employer share, where applicable)	Date Due	Date Paid	Amount Due	Amount Paid
Federal income taxes & Medicare (and social security, for employees not enrolled in pension system)	January 31, 2025	December 31, 2024	\$1,275	\$1,275
State income taxes	January 15, 2025	December 31, 2024	\$248	\$248
OPERS retirement	January 30, 2025	December 31, 2024	\$2,543	\$2,543

We found no exceptions.

3. For the pay periods ended August 31, 2024 and January 31, 2023, we
 - a. Recomputed the allocation of the Boards of Trustees' salary, per diem amounts and employer share withholding to the General and Gasoline Tax funds per the Wage Detail Report
 - b. Traced the Board of Trustees' pay for time or services performed to supporting certifications the Revised Code requires.

We found no exceptions.

4. We compared total gross pay for the Fiscal Officer and each Township Trustee for 2024 and 2023 to the compensation permitted by Ohio Rev. Code §§ 507.09 and 505.24, respectively. We found one Trustee was undercompensated by \$18 and one Trustee was undercompensated by \$549 in 2023. We also found health insurance reimbursements were incorrectly included as wages and therefore taxes were withheld from the reimbursements in 2023. Per IRS notice 2013-54, employers would need to withhold taxes before making insurance reimbursement to the employees.

Non-Payroll Cash Disbursements

We selected 10 disbursements from the Payment Register Detail Report for the year ended December 31, 2024, and 10 from the year ended 2023 and determined whether:

- a. The disbursements were for a proper public purpose. We found no exceptions.
- b. The check number, date, payee name and amount recorded on the returned, canceled check, and *EFT/ACH* agreed to the check number, date, payee name and amount recorded in the Payment Register Detail Report and to the names and amounts on the supporting invoices. We found two instances where the check number on the returned, canceled check did not agree to the check number recorded in the Payment Register Detail Report.
- c. The payment was posted to a fund consistent with the restricted purpose for which the fund's cash can be used. We found no exceptions.
- d. The Fiscal Officer certified disbursements requiring certification or issued a *Then and Now Certificate*, as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(D). We found two instances where the certification date was after the vendor invoice date, and there was also no evidence that a *Then and Now Certificate* was issued. Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(D) requires certifying at the time of a commitment, which should be on or before the invoice date, unless a *Then and Now Certificate* is used. Because we did not inspect all disbursements requiring certification, our report provides no assurance whether or not additional similar errors occurred.

Compliance – Budgetary

1. Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(B) prohibits expenditures (disbursements plus contract commitments including outstanding encumbrances) from exceeding appropriations. We compared total expenditures to total approved appropriations (Ohio Rev. Code §§ 5705.38 and 5705.40) plus any carryover appropriations for the years ended December 31, 2024, and 2023 for the General, Road Maintenance & Improvement Levy, and Permissive Motor Vehicle License Tax funds as recorded in the Appropriation Status Report. Expenditures did not exceed appropriations.
2. We inspected the Cash Summary by Fund Report for the years ended December 31, 2024, and 2023 for negative cash fund balances. Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.10 (I) provides that money paid into a fund must be used for the purposes for which such fund is established. As a result, a negative fund cash balance indicates that money from one fund was used to cover the expenses of another. No funds had a negative cash fund balances.

Sunshine Law Compliance

1. We obtained and inspected the Township's Public Records Policy to determine the policy was in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code §§ 149.43(E)(2) and 149.43(B)(7)(c) and did not limit the number of responses that may be made to a particular person, limit the number of responses during a specified period of time, or establish a fixed period of time before it will respond unless that period is less than eight hours. We found no exceptions.
2. We inquired with management and determined the following:
 - a. The Township did not have any completed public records requests during the engagement period.
 - b. The Township did not have any denied public records requests during the engagement period.
 - c. The Township did not have any public records requests with redactions during the engagement period.
3. We inquired whether the Township had a records retention schedule and observed that it was readily available to the public as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(B)(2). We found no exceptions.
4. We inspected written evidence that the Public Records Policy was provided to the records custodian/manager as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2). We found no exceptions.
5. We inspected the Township's policy manual and determined the public records policy was included as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2). We found no exceptions.
6. We observed that the Township's poster describing their Public Records Policy was displayed conspicuously in all branches of the Township as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2). We found no exceptions.
7. We inquired with Township management and determined that the Township did not have any applications for record disposal submitted to the Records Commission during the engagement period.
8. We found one Trustee did not attend a certified three-hour Public Records Training for his term ended December 31, 2023, as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 109.43(B).

Sunshine Law Compliance (Continued)

9. We inspected the public notices for the public meetings held during the engagement period and determined the Township notified the general public and news media of when and where meetings during the engagement period were to be held as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 121.22(F). We found no exceptions.
10. We inspected the minutes of public meetings during the engagement period in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code § 121.22(C) and determined whether they were:
 - a. Prepared – a file is created following the date of the meeting
 - b. Filed – placed with similar documents in an organized manner
 - c. Maintained - retained, at a minimum, for the engagement period
 - d. Open to public inspection – available for public viewing or request.We found no exceptions.
11. We inspected the minutes from the engagement period in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code § 121.22(G) and determined the following:
 - a. Formal governing board actions were adopted in open meetings.We found no exceptions.

Contract Compliance

1. We inspected the Appropriation Ledger and identified the Township had expenditures subject to competitive bidding. We found no exceptions.
2. We selected 1 contract subject to competitive bidding requirements for 2024 and 1 for 2023 and
 - a. We inspected the contract and other bids for the contracted expenditure and determined:
 - i. The Township accepted the lowest bid and met the requirements of Ohio Rev. Code §§ 5549.21 and 5575.01.
 - ii. No bid splitting occurred
 - iii. No deliberate attempts to evade bid limitations occurred, such as successive contracts just under the bid amount, occurred.
 - iv. No apparent interest in the contract by a public official occurred.We noted the Township did not utilize competitive bidding for the purchase of a Ford F-600 in 2023.

Other Compliance

1. Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 requires townships to file their financial information in the HINKLE system within 60 days after the close of the fiscal year. This statute also permits the Auditor of State to extend the deadline for filing a financial report and establish terms and conditions for any such extension. Auditor of State established policies regarding the filing of complete financial statements, as defined in AOS Bulletin 2015-007 in the Hinkle System. We confirmed the Township filed their complete financial statements, as defined by AOS Bulletin 2015-007 and Auditor of State established policy, within the allotted timeframe for the years ended December 31, 2024, and 2023 in the Hinkle system. We found no exceptions.
2. We inspected the Fiscal Integrity Act Portal (<http://www.ohioauditor.gov/fiscalintegrity/default.html>) to determine whether the fiscal officer obtained the training required by Ohio Rev. Code §§ 507.12 and 733.81. The Fiscal Officer obtained the required training.

Other Compliance (Continued)

3. The Township provided out-of-pocket insurance reimbursements in lieu of providing coverage to all employees.
 - a. We inspected the resolution authorizing reimbursements and determined it met the following documentation requirements for Ohio Rev. Code § 505.601.
 1. The Township has not chosen to procure a health plan,
 2. The Township has chosen to reimburse its officers and employees for each out-of-pocket premium,
 3. It provides for a maximum uniform monthly or yearly payment amount for each officer and employee, and
 4. It lists only the specific benefits allowed under Ohio Rev. Code § 505.60A that will be reimbursed.We found no exceptions.

Related Party Transactions

1. We inquired with management in order to identify any related party transactions and confirm if the required elected officials abstained from voting. We identified the following:
 - a. Ace Truck EquipmentTrustee Mourer is an employee for Ace Truck Equipment. The Township paid Ace Truck Equipment \$40,236 during 2024 and 2023. We found the Trustee approved the bills that included the three Ace Truck Equipment bills, and the Trustee signed two of the three checks written to Ace Truck Equipment in the total amount of \$40,197.

Ohio Revised Code § 2921.42(A)(1) provides that no public official shall knowingly "authorize or employ the authority or influence of" the official's office to secure authorization of the employment of a family member. Ohio Revised Code § 2921.42(A)(4) provides that no public official shall "have an interest in the profits or benefits of a public contract entered into by or for the use of the political subdivision or governmental agency or instrumentality with which the public official is connected." Ohio Revised Code § 102.03(D) prohibits a public official or employee from using or authorizing the "authority or influence of office or employment to secure anything of value or the promise or offer of anything of value that is of such a character as to manifest a substantial and improper influence upon the public official or employee with respect to that person's duties".


Ohio Rev. Code Section 2921.42(C)(4) provides that this section does not apply to a public contract in which a public official, member of a public official's family, or one of a public official's business associates has an interest, when all of the following apply:

1. The subject of the public contract is necessary supplies or services for the political subdivision or governmental agency or instrumentality involved;
2. The supplies or services are unobtainable elsewhere for the same or lower cost, or are being furnished to the political subdivision or governmental agency or instrumentality as part of a continuing course of dealing established prior to the public official's becoming associated with the political subdivision or governmental agency or instrumentality involved;
3. The treatment accorded the political subdivision or governmental agency or instrumentality is either preferential to or the same as that accorded other customers or clients in similar transactions;
4. The entire transaction is conducted at arm's length, with full knowledge by the political subdivision or governmental agency or instrumentality involved, of the interest of the public official, member of the public official's family, or business associate, and the public official takes no part in the deliberations or decision of the political subdivision or governmental agency or instrumentality with respect to the public contract.

We were engaged by the Township to perform this agreed-upon procedures engagement and conducted our engagement in accordance with the attestation standards established by the AICPA and the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. We were not engaged to, and did not conduct an examination or review engagement, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on the Township's receipts, disbursements, balances and compliance with certain laws and regulations. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

We are required to be independent of the Township and to meet our ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the ethical requirements established by the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards* related to our agreed upon procedures engagement.

KEITH FABER
Ohio Auditor of State

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Tiffany L. Ridenbaugh". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tiffany L. Ridenbaugh, CPA, CFE, CGFM
Chief Deputy Auditor

September 2, 2025

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



ADAMS TOWNSHIP

GUERNSEY COUNTY

AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION

This is a true and correct copy of the report, which is required to be filed pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in the Office of the Ohio Auditor of State in Columbus, Ohio.



Certified for Release 9/18/2025

65 East State Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215
Phone: 614-466-4514 or 800-282-0370

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