



**JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP  
MERCER COUNTY**

**REGULAR AUDIT**

**FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1999-1998**



**JIM PETRO**  
**AUDITOR OF STATE**  

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**STATE OF OHIO**



JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP  
MERCER COUNTY

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## REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

Jefferson Township  
Mercer County  
532 East Wayne Street  
PO Box 259  
Celina, OH 45822

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Jefferson Township, Mercer County, Ohio, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 1999 and December 31, 1998. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Township's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As discussed in Note 1, the Township prepares its financial statements on the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances of the Township as of December 31, 1999 and December 31, 1998, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 28, 2000 on our consideration of the Township's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the management, the Board and other officials authorized to receive this report under § 117.26, Ohio Revised Code, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Petro".

**Jim Petro**  
Auditor of State

June 28, 2000



**JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP  
MERCER COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND  
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES  
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1999**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		<b>Totals (Memorandum Only)</b>
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	
<b>Cash Receipts:</b>			
Local Taxes	\$35,314	\$124,621	\$159,935
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	10,508		10,508
Intergovernmental	95,119	89,034	184,153
Licenses, Permits, and Fees		21,393	21,393
Earnings on Investments	5,645	1,411	7,056
Other Revenue	630	11,375	12,005
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Cash Receipts	147,216	247,834	395,050
<b>Cash Disbursements:</b>			
Current:			
General Government	121,875		121,875
Public Safety		53,689	53,689
Public Works		126,494	126,494
Health	10,468	24,955	35,423
Capital Outlay	2,450		2,450
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Cash Disbursements	134,793	205,138	339,931
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	12,423	42,696	55,119
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	108,967	154,827	263,794
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<b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</b>	<u>\$121,390</u>	<u>\$197,523</u>	<u>\$318,913</u>

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

**JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP  
MERCER COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND  
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES  
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1998**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>			<b>Totals (Memorandum Only)</b>
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Capital Projects</u>	
<b>Cash Receipts:</b>				
Local Taxes	\$34,352	\$119,224		\$153,576
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	5,434			5,434
Intergovernmental	43,139	87,321	29,640	160,100
Licenses, Permits, and Fees		22,723		22,723
Earnings on Investments	8,197	2,309		10,506
Other Revenue	1,138	9,910		11,048
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Cash Receipts	92,260	241,487	29,640	363,387
<b>Cash Disbursements:</b>				
Current:				
General Government	108,803			108,803
Public Safety		7,100		7,100
Public Works		133,496		133,496
Health	14,621	27,865		42,486
Capital Outlay	5,000	3,005	29,640	37,645
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Cash Disbursements	128,424	171,466	29,640	329,530
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(36,164)	70,021	0	33,857
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	145,131	84,806	0	229,937
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</b>	<u>\$108,967</u>	<u>\$154,827</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$263,794</u>

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



**JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP  
MERCER COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 1999 AND 1998**

**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**A. Description of the Entity**

Jefferson Township, Mercer County, (the Township) is a body corporate and politic established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The Township is directed by a publicly-elected three-member Board of Trustees. The Township provides general governmental services, including road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance, fire protection and emergency medical services. The Township contracts with the City of Celina to provide fire services and Mercer County to provide ambulance services.

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

**B. Basis of Accounting**

These financial statements follow the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. Receipts are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned, and disbursements are recognized 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 prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State.

**C. Cash and Investments**

Certificates of deposit are valued at cost.

**D. Fund Accounting**

The Township uses fund accounting to segregate cash and investments that are restricted as to use. The Township classifies its funds into the following types:

**1. General Fund**

The General Fund is the general operating fund. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

**2. Special Revenue Funds**

These funds are used to account for proceeds from specific sources (other than from trusts or for capital projects) that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Township had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

Road and Bridge Fund - This fund receives property tax money for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads and bridges.

Gasoline Tax Fund - This fund receives gasoline tax money to pay for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads.

Fire Levy Fund - This fund receives tax levy monies to provide for fire protection services to the Township.

**JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP  
MERCER COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 1999 AND 1998  
(Continued)**

**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

**D. Fund Accounting (Continued)**

**3. Capital Project Funds**

These funds are used to account for receipts that are restricted for the acquisition or construction of major capital projects (except those financed through enterprise or trust funds). The Township had the following significant capital project funds:

Issue II Fund - The Township received a grant from the State of Ohio to resurface Township roads.

**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 Trustees must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. The County Budget Commission must also approve the annual appropriation measure. Unencumbered 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 also approve estimated resources.

**3. Encumbrances**

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

A summary of 1999 and 1998 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

**F. Property, Plant and Equipment**

Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements.

**2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS**

The Township maintains a cash and investments pool used by all funds. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of cash and investments at December 31 was as follows:

**JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP  
MERCER COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 1999 AND 1998  
(Continued)**

**2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS (Continued)**

	<u>1999</u>	<u>1998</u>
Demand deposits	\$318,913	\$263,794
Total deposits	<u>\$318,913</u>	<u>\$263,794</u>

**Deposits:** Deposits are either (1) insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation or (2) collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool.

**3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY**

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 1999 and December 31, 1998 follows:

1999 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

<u>Fund Type</u>	<u>Budgeted Receipts</u>	<u>Actual Receipts</u>	<u>Variance</u>
General	\$75,462	\$147,216	\$71,754
Special Revenue	241,658	247,834	6,176
Total	<u>\$317,120</u>	<u>\$395,050</u>	<u>\$77,930</u>

1999 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

<u>Fund Type</u>	<u>Appropriation Authority</u>	<u>Budgetary Expenditures</u>	<u>Variance</u>
General	\$184,429	\$134,793	\$49,636
Special Revenue	395,483	205,138	190,345
Total	<u>\$579,912</u>	<u>\$339,931</u>	<u>\$239,981</u>

1998 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

<u>Fund Type</u>	<u>Budgeted Receipts</u>	<u>Actual Receipts</u>	<u>Variance</u>
General	\$74,460	\$92,260	\$17,800
Special Revenue	213,652	241,487	27,835
Capital Projects	36,000	29,640	(6,360)
Total	<u>\$324,112</u>	<u>\$363,387</u>	<u>\$39,275</u>

1998 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

<u>Fund Type</u>	<u>Appropriation Authority</u>	<u>Budgetary Expenditures</u>	<u>Variance</u>
General	\$213,730	\$128,424	\$85,306
Special Revenue	304,310	171,466	132,844
Capital Projects	36,000	29,640	6,360
Total	<u>\$554,040</u>	<u>\$329,530</u>	<u>\$224,510</u>

**JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP  
MERCER COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 1999 AND 1998  
(Continued)**

**4. PROPERTY TAX**

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which rates are adopted by Board of Trustees. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. Homestead and rollback amounts are then paid by the State, and are reflected in the accompanying financial statements as Intergovernmental Receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to make semiannual payment, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

Tangible personal property tax is assessed by the property owners, who must file a list of such property to the County by each April 30.

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

**5. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS**

The Township's elected officials and employees belong to the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) of Ohio. PERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. This plan provides retirement benefits, including postretirement healthcare, and survivor and disability benefits to participants as prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code.

Contribution rates are also prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code. For 1999 and 1998, PERS members contributed 8.5% of their gross salaries. The Township contributed an amount equal to 13.55% of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 1999.

**6. RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Township is a member of a pooled insurance group that provides coverage for real property, building contents and vehicles under the terms and conditions required by the pool. Risk sharing certificates are provided in the form of intergovernmental contracts between the Township and the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA). OTARMA administers the pool and upon execution of the contract, the Township pays the annual membership contribution fee. Real property and contents were inspected by OTARMA and are covered for the amount of the repair or replacement within the limits outlined on the statement of value provided as part of the risk sharing certificate.

The Township also provides health insurance, life insurance, cancer, and dental and vision coverage to the elected officials through a private carrier.



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**REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL  
REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

Jefferson Township  
Mercer County  
532 East Wayne Street  
PO Box 259  
Celina, OH 45822

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Jefferson Township, Mercer County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 1999 and December 31, 1998, and have issued our report thereon dated June 28, 2000. We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

**Compliance**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Township's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, 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 an instance of noncompliance that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 1999-40254-001. We also noted certain immaterial instances of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated June 28, 2000.

**Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Township's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, we noted other matters involving the internal control over financial reporting that do not require inclusion in this report, that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated June 28, 2000.

This report is intended for the information and use of the management and the Board of Trustees, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Petro". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

**Jim Petro**  
Auditor of State

June 28, 2000

**JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP  
MERCER COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
DECEMBER 31, 1999 AND 1998**

<b>FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS</b>
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<b>Finding Number</b>	1999-40254-001
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Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D) states that no subdivision shall make any contract or order any expenditure of money unless the certificate of the fiscal officer is attached. The fiscal officer must certify that the amount required to meet such a commitment has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury or in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrance. Further, contracts and orders for expenditures lacking prior certificate should be considered null and void. If no certificate is issued at the time the contract or order is entered into, the fiscal officer may later certify that there were funds properly appropriated and in the treasury or in the process of collection and such funds are free from previous encumbrance both at the time the contract or order was entered into and at the time of payment. After certifying this, the fiscal officer may proceed to pay for such order or contract. If the amount involved is over \$1,000, the taxing authority must approve of such payment within 30 days of the date of the fiscal officer's certification.

Twenty-six out of sixty transactions were not properly certified during the audit period. The twenty-six transactions were in the amount of \$300,087, or 44.17% of total expenditures.

The Township should review Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D) and implement procedures for certification of funds.







STATE OF OHIO  
OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR  

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**JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP**

**MERCER 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  
AUGUST 24, 2000**