AUDITOR AMIIII

VILLAGE OF BETTSVILLE SENECA COUNTY

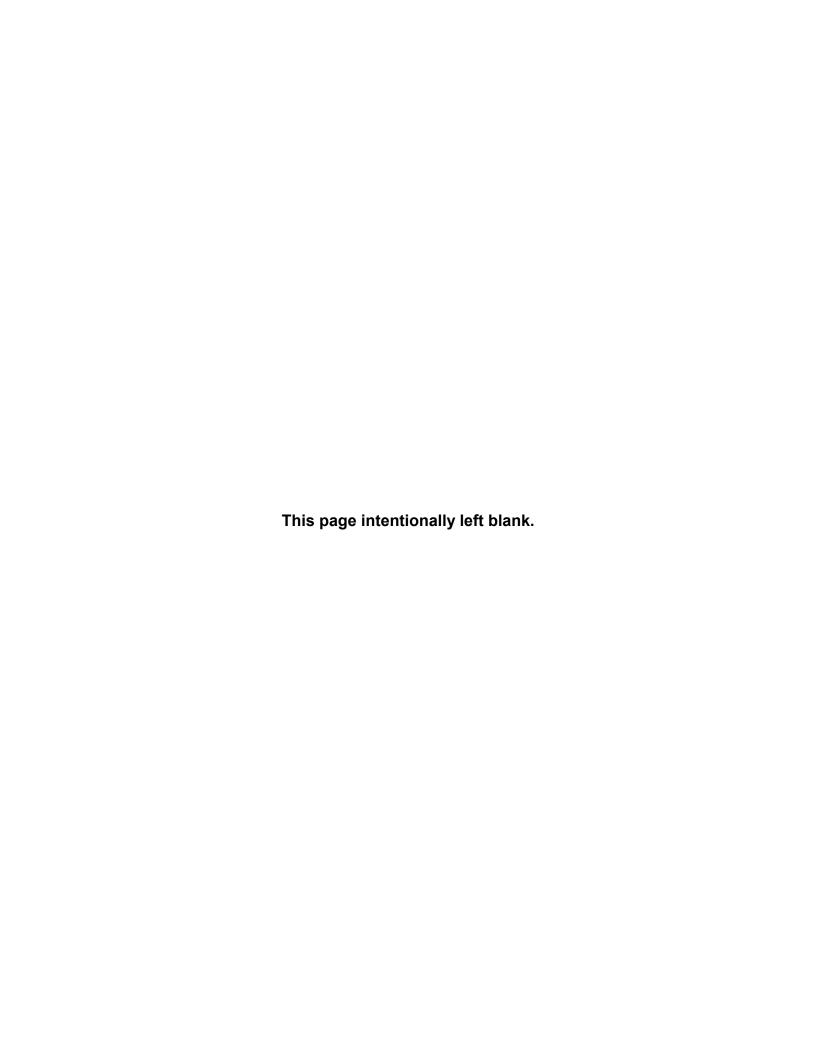
REGULAR AUDIT

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1999-1998



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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

Village of Bettsville Seneca County 308 Emma Street PO Box 485 Bettsville, Ohio 44815-0485

To the Village Council:

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

We conducted our audits 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 audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As discussed in Note 1, the Village 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 Village as of December 31, 1999 and 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 May 17, 2000 on our consideration of the Village'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 management, the Village Council, 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.

Jim Petro Auditor of State

May 17, 2000

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

	Governmental Fund Types			
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:				
Property Tax and Other Local Taxes Intergovernmental Receipts	\$53,299 171,865	\$28,385		\$53,299 200,250
Charges for Services	19,178		\$38,288	57,466
Fines, Licenses, and Permits Miscellaneous	12,696 5,613			12,696 5,613
Total Cash Receipts	262,651	28,385	38,288	329,324
Cash Disbursements: Current:				
Security of Persons and Property	88,404			88,404
Public Health Services	1,152			1,152
Transportation		55,725		55,725
General Government	37,838			37,838
Debt Service:	24.044			24.044
Principal Payments	21,014 5,852			21,014 5,852
Interest Payments Capital Outlay	95,721			95,721
Capital Outlay	95,721	-		95,721
Total Disbursements	249,981	55,725		305,706
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	12,670	(27,340)	38,288	23,618
Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements):				
Sale of Fixed Assets	7,726			7,726
Transfers-In	.,0	27,366		27,366
Transfers-Out	(27,366)	,		(27,366)
Other Financing Sources	16,076			16,076
Other Financing Uses	(15,347)		(3,618)	(18,965)
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)	(18,911)	27,366	(3,618)	4,837
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements				
and Other Financing Disbursements	(6,241)	26	34,670	28,455
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	67,073	863		67,936
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$60,832	\$889	\$34,670	\$96,391

VILLAGE OF BETTSVILLE COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES PROPRIETARY AND SIMILAR FIDUCIARY FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1999

	Proprietary Fund Type	Fiduciary Fund Type	
	Enterprise	Nonexpendable Trust	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Operating Cash Receipts:			
Charges for Services	\$73,472		\$73,472
Miscellaneous	3,255	\$8,268	11,523
Total Operating Cash Receipts	76,727	8,268	84,995
Operating Cash Disbursements:			
Personal Services	36,135		36,135
Supplies and Materials	32,668		32,668
Total Operating Cash Disbursements	68,803		68,803
Operating Income	7,924	8,268	16,192
Non-Operating Cash Disbursements:			
Other Non-Operating Cash Disbursements		10,500	10,500
Net Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	7,924	(2,232)	5,692
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	39,985	164,191	204,176
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$47,909	\$161,959	\$209,868

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

	Governmental	Fund Types		
	General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)	
Cash Receipts:				
Property Tax and Other Local Taxes	\$52,652		\$52,652	
Intergovernmental Receipts	111,213	\$27,170	138,383	
Charges for Services	17,577		17,577	
Fines, Licenses, and Permits	8,617		8,617	
Miscellaneous	6,373		6,373	
Total Cash Receipts	196,432	27,170	223,602	
Cash Disbursements:				
Current:				
Security of Persons and Property	79,939		79,939	
Public Health Services	1,152		1,152	
Basic Utility Services	360	40.470	360	
Transportation General Government	60.055	43,470	43,470	
Debt Service:	60,055		60,055	
Principal Payments	2,997		2,997	
Interest Payments	472		472	
Capital Outlay	133,925		133,925	
Total Disbursements	278,900	43,470	322,370	
Total Receipts (Under) Disbursements	(82,468)	(16,300)	(98,768)	
Other Financing Passints //Dishurasments)				
Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements): Proceeds from Notes	98,930		98,930	
Transfers-In	90,930	13,000	13,000	
Transfers-Out	(13,000)	10,000	(13,000)	
Other Financing Sources	14,800		14,800	
Other Financing Uses	(18,270)		(18,270)	
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)	82,460	13,000	95,460	
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing				
Receipts Under Cash Disbursements				
and Other Financing Disbursements	(8)	(3,300)	(3,308)	
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	67,081	4,163	71,244	
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$67,073	\$863	\$67,936	

VILLAGE OF BETTSVILLE COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES PROPRIETARY AND SIMILAR FIDUCIARY FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1998

	Proprietary Fund Type	Fiduciary Fund Type	
	Enterprise	Nonexpendable Trust	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Operating Cash Receipts: Charges for Services Miscellaneous	\$60,504 2,431	\$7,942	\$60,504 10,373
Total Operating Cash Receipts	62,935	7,942	70,877
Operating Cash Disbursements: Personal Services Supplies and Materials	33,710 32,396		33,710 32,396
Total Operating Cash Disbursements	66,106		66,106
Operating Income/(Loss)	(3,171)	7,942	4,771
Non-Operating Cash Receipts: Other Non-Operating Receipts		972	972
Non-Operating Cash Disbursements: Other Non-Operating Cash Disbursements		8,508	8,508
Net Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(3,171)	406	(2,765)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	43,156	163,785	206,941
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$39,985	\$164,191	\$204,176

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

The Village of Bettsville, Seneca County, (the Village) 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 Village is directed by a publicly-elected six-member Council. The Village provides general governmental services, including water and sewer utilities, and police services.

The Village's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Village 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

Certificates of deposits are valued at cost.

D. Fund Accounting

The Village uses fund accounting to segregate cash and investments that are restricted as to use. The Village 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 Village had the following significant Special Revenue Fund:

Street Construction, Maintenance and Repair Fund - This fund receives gasoline tax and motor vehicle tax money for constructing, maintaining and repairing Village streets.

3. Capital Project Fund

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 Village had the following significant capital project fund:

Sewer Special Assessment Fund - This fund receives money from the assessment of a monthly sewer charge for a future sewer project.

4. Enterprise Fund

These funds account for operations that are similar to private business enterprises where management intends that the significant costs of providing certain goods or services will be recovered through user charges. The Village had the following significant Enterprise Fund:

Water Fund - This fund receives charges for services from residents to cover the cost of providing this utility.

5. Fiduciary Funds (Trust Funds)

Trust funds are used to account for resources restricted by legally binding trust agreements. If the agreement requires the Village to maintain the corpus of the trust, the fund is classified as a nonexpendable trust fund.

Grace Frankhouser Trust and Sadie Grimes Trust - Both funds use investment revenue to give scholarships to students in the Village.

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 and object level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Council must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. The County Budget Commission must also approve the annual appropriation measure. 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 Village to reserve (encumber) appropriations when commitments are made. The Village did not encumber all commitments required by Ohio law.

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.

G. Unpaid Vacation and Sick Leave

Employees are entitled to cash payments for unused vacation and sick leave in certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment. Unpaid vacation leave is not reflected as liabilities under the cash basis of accounting used by the Village.

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH

The Village 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:

	<u>1999</u>	<u>1998</u>
Demand deposits	\$110,410	\$105,765
Certificates of deposit	195,849_	166,347
Total deposits	\$306,259	\$272,112

Deposits are either (1) insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation, (2) collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the Village.

At December 31, 1999, \$7,304 of deposits were not insured or collateralized, contrary to Chapter 135, Ohio Revised Code.

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

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

1999 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

Fund Type		Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General Special Revenue		\$322,843 60,323	\$286,453 55,751	(\$36,390) (4,572)
Capital Projects Enterprise		67,715 8,900	38,288 76,727 8,268	38,288 9,012
Fiduciary	Total	\$459,781	\$465,487	(632) \$5,706

1999 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Fund Type		Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General Special Revenue Capital Projects Enterprise Fiduciary		\$247,801 60,663 104,300 17,000	\$292,694 55,725 3,618 68,803 10,500	(\$44,893) 4,938 (3,618) 35,497 6,500
,	Total	\$429,764	\$431,340	(\$1,576)

1998 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

		Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type		Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General		\$172,361	\$310,162	\$137,801
Special Revenue		40,200	40,170	(30)
Enterprise		65,900	62,935	(2,965)
Fiduciary		8,600	8,914	314
	Total	\$287,061	\$422,181	\$135,120

1998 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

		Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type		Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General		\$225,558	\$310,170	(\$84,612)
Special Revenue		44,015	43,470	545
Enterprise		105,250	66,106	39,144
Fiduciary		18,000	8,508	9,492
	Total	\$392,823	\$428,254	(\$35,431)

4. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which rates are adopted by Village Council. 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.

Public utilities are also taxed on personal and real property located within the Village.

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 Village.

5. DEBT

Debt outstanding at December 31, 1999 was as follows:

		Principal	Interest Rate
Police Vehicle Note Fire Truck Note		\$3,303 81,062	5% 6%
	Total	\$84,365	

The notes relate to the purchases of a police vehicle and a fire truck.

Amortization of the above debt, including interest, is scheduled as follows:

Year ending December 31:	Police Vehicle	Fire Truck
2000 2001 2002 2003	\$3,469	\$23,397 23,397 23,397 23,397
Total	\$3,469	\$93,588

In 1998, the Village entered into a loan agreement with Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) in the amount of \$350,000 to cover the cost of preliminary engineering services for the Village's sewer project. In 1999, the Village received \$94,521 from OWDA. The Village is to start repayment of the loan in January 1, 2002.

6. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

The Village's 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, members of PERS contributed 8.5% of their gross salaries. The Village contributed an amount equal to 13.55% of participants' gross salaries. The Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 1999.

7. NONCOMPLIANCE

The Village did not comply with several sections of the Ohio Revised Code relating to the budgetary process.

- A. Ohio Revised Code § 5705.36 The Village did not obtain an amended certificate of estimated resources when it was determined that total revenues were greater than the amounts officially certified.
- B. Ohio Revised Code § 5705.41(B) Expenditures exceeded appropriations in two funds during 1999.
- C. Ohio Revised Code § 5705.41(D) The Village did not properly encumber all commitments.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Village has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

- Comprehensive property and general liability
- Vehicles
- Errors and omissions



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

Village of Bettsville Seneca County 308 Emma Street PO Box 485 Bettsville, Ohio 44815-0485

To the Village Council:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Village of Bettsville, Seneca County, Ohio, (the Village) as of and for the years ended December 31, 1999 and 1998, and have issued our report thereon dated May 17, 2000. We conducted our audits 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 Village'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 four instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* which are described in the accompanying schedule of findings as items 1999-30574-001, 1999-30574-002, and 1999-30574-003. We also noted certain immaterial instances of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the Village in a separate letter dated May 17, 2000.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered Village'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 Village in a separate letter dated May 17, 2000.

Village of Bettsville Seneca County Report of Independent Accountants on Compliance and on Internal Control Required by *Government Auditing Standards* Page 2

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

Jim Petro Auditor of State

May 17, 2000

VILLAGE OF BETTSVILLE SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 1999 AND 1998

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS

FINDING NUMBER 1999-30574-001

Ohio Revised Code § 5705.36 allows all subdivisions to request an increased amended certificate of estimated resources and a reduced amended certificate upon determination by the fiscal officer that revenue to be collected will be greater or less than the amount in the official certificate of estimated resources.

As of December 31, 1999 the following funds should have received an amended certificate:

Fund Name	<u>Variance</u>
General Fund	\$(36,390)
Sewer Special Assessment	38,288

As of December 31, 1998 the following funds should have received an amended certificate:

Fund Name	<u>Variance</u>
General Fund	\$137,801

The Village had sufficient revenue to obtain the amended certificates in some funds and on others funds the actual receipts were not sufficient to cover expenditures. For the funds listed above, the failure to amend the certificate contributed to the budgetary violation cited in finding 1999-30574-002. We recommend the Village approve amended certificates.

FINDING NUMBER 1999-30574-002

Ohio Revised Code § 5705.41 (B) states that no taxing unit shall make any expenditure of money unless it has been appropriated. Expenditures exceeded appropriations in the General Fund and the Sewer Special Assessment Fund during 1999 and the General Fund in 1998. This could result is deficit spending. We recommend appropriation measures be compared to the latest amended certificate of estimated resources and appropriation modifications be made prior to submitting to the County Auditor.

FINDING NUMBER 1999-30574-003

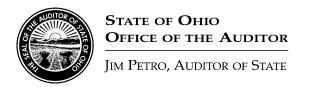
Ohio Revised Code § 5705.41(D) states that no subdivision or taxing unit shall make any expenditure of money unless it has been appropriated. Also, no orders or contracts involving the expenditure of money is to be made unless there is attached thereto a certificate of the fiscal officer certifying that the amount required for the order or contract has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasurer or in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrances. Every such contract made without such a certificate shall be null and void and no warrant shall be issued in payment of any amount due thereon.

Village of Bettsville Seneca County Schedule of Findings Page 2

This section also provides two "exceptions" to the above requirement:

- Then an Now Certificate If no certificate is furnished as required, upon receipt of the fiscal
 officer's certificate that a sufficient sum was appropriated and free of any encumbrances, the
 Board may authorize the issuance of a warrant in payment of the amount due upon such contract
 or order by resolution within thirty days from the receipts of such certificate, if such certificate is
 otherwise valid.
- 2. If the amount involved is less than one thousand dollars, the fiscal officer may authorize it to be paid without the affirmation of the Board.

The Clerk/Treasurer did not sign certificates prior to expenditure and then and now certificates were not used in thirty-eight percent of the items tested. We recommend the Village Clerk/Treasurer certify the amount required to meet a commitment has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury or in the process of collection to the appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrance prior to placing an order. In instances where prior certification is not practical, we recommend the issuance of a "then and now" certificate.



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VILLAGE OF BETTSVILLE SENECA 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.

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

Susan Babbitt

CERTIFIED JUNE 20, 2000