



**WELLS TOWNSHIP  
JEFFERSON COUNTY**

**REGULAR AUDIT**

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



**JIM PETRO  
AUDITOR OF STATE**

**STATE OF OHIO**



**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
Report of Independent Accountants .....	1
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Cash Balances – All Governmental Fund Types – For the Year Ended December 31, 1999 .....	3
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Cash Balances – All Governmental Fund Types – For the Year Ended December 31, 1998 .....	4
Notes to the Financial Statements .....	5
Report of Independent Accountants on Compliance and on Internal Control Required by <i>Government Auditing Standards</i> .....	9

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## REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

Wells Township  
Jefferson County  
409 Prospect Avenue  
Brilliant, Ohio 43913

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Wells Township, Jefferson 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 and reserves for encumbrances of Wells 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 2, 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 management, the Board of Trustees 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 2, 2000



**WELLS TOWNSHIP**  
**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>		<u>Totals (Memorandum Only)</u>
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	
<b>Cash Receipts:</b>			
Local Taxes	\$203,416	\$762,475	\$965,891
Intergovernmental	96,225	81,458	177,683
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	7,033		7,033
Fines, Forfeitures, and Penalties	1,775		1,775
Earnings on Investments	11,949	346	12,295
Other Revenue	27,888	6,175	34,063
	<u>348,286</u>	<u>850,454</u>	<u>1,198,740</u>
<b>Total Cash Receipts</b>			
	<u>348,286</u>	<u>850,454</u>	<u>1,198,740</u>
<b>Cash Disbursements:</b>			
Current:			
General Government	137,772	305,448	443,220
Public Safety	9,151	6,061	15,212
Public Works	49,706	487,705	537,411
Health	30,687		30,687
Conservation - Recreation	32,778		32,778
Debt Service:			
Redemption of Principal		75,000	75,000
Interest and Fiscal Charges		3,436	3,436
Capital Outlay	15,291	45,912	61,203
	<u>275,385</u>	<u>923,562</u>	<u>1,198,947</u>
<b>Total Cash Disbursements</b>			
	<u>275,385</u>	<u>923,562</u>	<u>1,198,947</u>
<b>Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements</b>	<u>72,901</u>	<u>(73,108)</u>	<u>(207)</u>
<b>Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements):</b>			
Sale of Fixed Assets		25,300	25,300
Other Sources	8,742		8,742
	<u>8,742</u>	<u>25,300</u>	<u>34,042</u>
<b>Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)</b>			
	<u>8,742</u>	<u>25,300</u>	<u>34,042</u>
<b>Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements</b>	<u>81,643</u>	<u>(47,808)</u>	<u>33,835</u>
<b>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</b>	<u>142,493</u>	<u>299,174</u>	<u>441,667</u>
<b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</b>	<u><u>\$224,136</u></u>	<u><u>\$251,366</u></u>	<u><u>\$475,502</u></u>
<b>Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31</b>		<u><u>\$72,718</u></u>	<u><u>\$72,718</u></u>

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

**WELLS TOWNSHIP  
 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>		<u>Totals (Memorandum Only)</u>
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	
<b>Cash Receipts:</b>			
Local Taxes	\$199,847	\$750,222	\$950,069
Intergovernmental	65,061	80,664	145,725
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	6,550		6,550
Fines, Forfeitures, and Penalties	1,717		1,717
Earnings on Investments	6,697	556	7,253
Other Revenue	24,429	9,120	33,549
	<u>304,301</u>	<u>840,562</u>	<u>1,144,863</u>
<b>Total Cash Receipts</b>			
	<u>304,301</u>	<u>840,562</u>	<u>1,144,863</u>
<b>Cash Disbursements:</b>			
Current:			
General Government	137,941	238,301	376,242
Public Safety	9,014	5,459	14,473
Public Works	35,147	374,811	409,958
Health	22,911		22,911
Conservation - Recreation	30,614		30,614
Debt Service:			
Redemption of Principal		75,000	75,000
Interest and Fiscal Charges		7,961	7,961
Capital Outlay	25,396	422	25,818
	<u>261,023</u>	<u>701,954</u>	<u>962,977</u>
<b>Total Cash Disbursements</b>			
	<u>261,023</u>	<u>701,954</u>	<u>962,977</u>
<b>Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements</b>	<u>43,278</u>	<u>138,608</u>	<u>181,886</u>
<b>Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements):</b>			
Proceeds from Sale of Public Debt:			
Other Sources	12,981		12,981
	<u>12,981</u>		<u>12,981</u>
<b>Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)</b>			
	<u>12,981</u>		<u>12,981</u>
<b>Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements</b>	<u>56,259</u>	<u>138,608</u>	<u>194,867</u>
<b>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</b>	<u>86,234</u>	<u>160,566</u>	<u>246,800</u>
<b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</b>	<u><u>\$142,493</u></u>	<u><u>\$299,174</u></u>	<u><u>\$441,667</u></u>
<b>Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31</b>		<u><u>\$8,920</u></u>	<u><u>\$8,920</u></u>

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



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

**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**A. Description of the Entity**

Wells Township, Jefferson 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 Brilliant Volunteer Fire Department, Smithfield Volunteer Fire Department, New Alexandria Volunteer Fire Department and Rayland Volunteer Fire Department to provide fire services and emergency medical 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. 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.

*Special Fire Levy Fund* - This fund receives tax money to pay for fire and emergency medical services.

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

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

**D. 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 unencumbered 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 carried over and need not be reappropriated in the subsequent year.

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

**E. 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.

**F. 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 and sick leave are not reflected as liabilities under the basis of accounting used by the Township.

**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:

	<b>1999</b>	<b>1998</b>
Demand deposits	<u>\$475,502</u>	<u>\$441,667</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.

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

**3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY**

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

1999 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$282,306	\$357,028	\$74,722
Special Revenue	836,502	875,754	39,252
Total	<u>\$1,118,808</u>	<u>\$1,232,782</u>	<u>\$113,974</u>

1999 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$339,403	\$275,385	\$64,018
Special Revenue	1,037,495	996,280	41,215
Total	<u>\$1,376,898</u>	<u>\$1,271,665</u>	<u>\$105,233</u>

1998 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$276,733	\$317,282	\$40,549
Special Revenue	796,724	840,562	43,838
Total	<u>\$1,073,457</u>	<u>\$1,157,844</u>	<u>\$84,387</u>

1998 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$300,000	\$261,023	\$38,977
Special Revenue	817,859	710,874	106,985
Total	<u>\$1,117,859</u>	<u>\$971,897</u>	<u>\$145,962</u>

**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.

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

**4. PROPERTY TAX (Continued)**

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

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 employees belong to the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) of Ohio. PERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. These plans provide 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 the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (the Authority). The Authority assumes the risk of loss up to the limits of the Township's policy. The Authority may assess supplemental premiums. The following risks are covered by the Authority:

- General liability and casualty
- Public official's liability
- Vehicle

The Township also provides health insurance coverage to full-time employees through a private carrier.



STATE OF OHIO  
OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR  

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

Wells Township  
Jefferson County  
409 Prospect Avenue  
Brilliant, Ohio 43913

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Wells Township, Jefferson County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 1999 and December 31, 1999, and have issued our report thereon dated June 2, 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 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 no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*. However, we noted certain immaterial instances of noncompliance, which we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated June 2, 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 a matter involving the internal control over financial reporting that does not require inclusion in this report, that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated June 2, 2000.

This report is intended for the information and use of 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 2, 2000



STATE OF OHIO  
OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR

JIM PETRO, AUDITOR OF STATE

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**WELLS TOWNSHIP**

**JEFFERSON COUNTY**

**CLERK'S CERTIFICATION**

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

*Susan Babbitt*

**CLERK OF THE BUREAU**

**CERTIFIED  
JUNE 27, 2000**