



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

**MARION REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
MARION COUNTY**

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Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

Marion Regional Planning Commission
Marion County
222 West Center Street
Marion, Ohio 43302

To the Board of Commissioners:

As you are aware, the Auditor of State's Office (AOS) must modify the *Independent Accountants' Report* we provide on your financial statement due to an interpretation from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). While AOS does not legally require your Commission to prepare financial statements pursuant to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), the AICPA interpretation requires auditors to formally acknowledge that you did not prepare your financial statement in accordance with GAAP. Our Report includes an adverse opinion relating to GAAP presentation and measurement requirements, but does not imply the amounts the statement presents are misstated under the non-GAAP basis you follow. The AOS report also includes an opinion on the financial statement you prepared using the cash basis and financial statement format the AOS permits.

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Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

June 13, 2008

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Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Marion Regional Planning Commission
Marion County
222 West Center Street
Marion, Ohio 43302

To the Board of Commissioners:

We have audited the accompanying financial statement of the Regional Planning Commission, Marion County, Ohio, (the Commission) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2007, and December 31, 2006. This financial statement is the responsibility of the Commission's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial statement based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure whether the financial statement is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. 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 our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described more fully in Note 1, the Commission has prepared the financial statement using accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. These practices differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Although we cannot reasonably determine the effects on the financial statement of the variances between these regulatory accounting practices and GAAP, we presume they are material.

GAAP requires presenting entity wide statements and also presenting the Commission's larger (i.e. major) funds separately. While the Commission does not follow GAAP, generally accepted auditing standards requires us to include the following paragraph if the statements do not substantially conform to GAAP presentation requirements. The Auditor of State permits, but does not require Commissions to reformat their statements. The Commission has elected not to follow GAAP statement formatting requirements. The following paragraph does not imply the amounts reported are materially misstated under the accounting basis the Auditor of State permits. Our opinion on the fair presentation of the amounts reported pursuant to its non-GAAP basis is in the second following paragraph.

In our opinion, because of the effects of the matter discussed in the preceding two paragraphs, the financial statement referred to above for the years ended December 31, 2007, and December 31, 2006, does not present fairly, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Commission as of December 31, 2007, and December 31, 2006, or its changes in financial position for the years then ended.

Also, in our opinion, the financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the cash balance and reserve for encumbrances of Regional Planning Commission, Marion County, Ohio, as of December 31, 2007, and December 31, 2006, and its cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the accounting basis Note 1 describes.

The Commission has not presented Management's Discussion and Analysis, which accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America has determined is necessary to supplement, although not required to be part of, the financial statement.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 13, 2008, on our consideration of the Commission'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. While we did not opine on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance, that report describes the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. You should read it in conjunction with this report in assessing the results of our audit.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Taylor".

Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

June 13, 2008

**MARION REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
MARION COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN CASH BALANCE
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007, AND DECEMBER 31, 2006**

	2007	2006
Cash Receipts:		
Fees Charged to Subdivisions	\$ 124,330	\$ 124,055
Contractual Services	82,496	86,588
Transfer Tax	18,000	18,000
Transfer Tax - CANDO	103,628	78,628
Economic Development - City of Marion	18,000	18,000
Other Receipts	1,051	4,055
 Total Cash Receipts	 347,505	 329,326
Cash Disbursements:		
Salaries	168,026	160,727
Supplies	4,647	4,287
Equipment	1,337	976
Insurance	22,707	22,060
Contracts - Services	3,707	3,643
Rentals	18,870	18,870
Travel	1,486	1,371
Public Employee's Retirement	23,175	21,952
Worker's Compensation	391	557
Social Security/Medicare	1,504	1,422
Transfer Tax - CANDO	108,096	78,378
Other	860	2,509
 Total Cash Disbursements	 354,806	 316,752
 Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	 (7,301)	 12,574
 Fund Cash Balances, January 1	 53,528	 40,954
 Fund Cash Balances, December 31	 \$ 46,227	 \$ 53,528
 Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	 \$ -	 \$ 4,469

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

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**MARION REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
MARION COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT
DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006**

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 for the Regional Planning Commission, Marion County, Ohio, (the Commission) as a body corporate and politic. A thirty-five member Board governs the Commission. The Board consists of representatives from Marion County, Marion City, Villages and Townships within Marion County, and an attorney member. The Commission formulates and reviews plans affecting long and short term social, economic, and governmental development within the region.

The Commission's management believes this financial statement presents all activities for which the Commission is financially accountable.

B. Accounting Basis

This financial statement follows the accounting basis the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Commission 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).

This statement includes adequate disclosure of material matters, as the Auditor of State prescribes or permits.

C. Cash and Investments

As the Ohio Revised Code permits, the Marion County Treasurer holds the Commission's cash as the Commission's custodian. The County holds the Commission's assets in its investment pool, valued at the Treasurer's reported carrying amount.

D. Property, Plant, and Equipment

The Commission records disbursements for acquisitions of property, plant, and equipment when paid. The accompanying financial statement does not report these items as assets.

E. Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. The financial statement does not include a liability for unpaid leave.

F. Budgetary Process

The Commission budgets annually.

**MARION REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
MARION COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT
DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006
(Continued)**

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

F. Budgetary Process (Continued)

1. Appropriations

The Board annually approves appropriations and subsequent amendments. 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.

3. Encumbrances

The Commission reserves (encumbers) appropriations when commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over, and need not be reappropriated.

A summary of 2007 and 2006 budgetary activity appears in Note 2.

2. Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2007, and December 31, 2006 follows:

<u>2007 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts</u>		
Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
\$392,883	\$347,505	(\$45,378)

<u>2007 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures</u>		
Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
\$379,349	\$354,806	\$24,543

<u>2006 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts</u>		
Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
\$343,458	\$329,326	(\$14,132)

<u>2006 Budgeted vs. Actual Expenditures</u>		
Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
\$343,158	\$321,221	\$21,937

3. Retirement System

The Commission's employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes this plan's benefits, which include postretirement healthcare and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2007 and 2006, OPERS members contributed 9.5% and 9%, respectively, of their gross salaries and the Commission contributed an amount equaling 13.85% and 13.7%, respectively, of participants' gross salaries. The Commission has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2007.

**MARION REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
MARION COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT
DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006
(Continued)**

4. Risk Management

Commercial Insurance

The Commission has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

- Comprehensive property and general liability

The Commission also provides health insurance and dental and vision coverage to full-time employees through the County's provider.

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Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

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

Marion Regional Planning Commission
Marion County
222 West Center Street
Marion, Ohio 43302

To the Board of Commissioners:

We have audited the financial statement of the Regional Planning Commission, Marion County, Ohio, (the Commission) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2007, and December 31, 2006, and have issued our report thereon dated June 13, 2008, wherein we noted the Commission followed accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes rather than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Commission's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our audit procedures for expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not to opine on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we have not opined on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control over financial reporting.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the Commission's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with its applicable accounting basis, such that there is more than a remote likelihood that the Commission's internal control will not prevent or detect a more-than-inconsequential financial statement misstatement.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies resulting in more than a remote likelihood that the Commission's internal control will not prevent or detect a material financial statement misstatement.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all internal control deficiencies that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider material weaknesses, as defined above.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of reasonably assuring whether the Commission's financial statement is 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, providing an opinion 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*.

We intend this report solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management, and the Board of Commissioners. We intend it for no one other than these specified parties.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Taylor".

Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

June 13, 2008



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

MARION REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

MARION 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 14, 2008**