Village of Felicity

Clermont County

Regular Audit

January 1, 2007 Through December 31, 2008

Fiscal Years Audited Under GAGAS: 2008 and 2007

BALESTRA, HARR & SCHERER, CPAs, INC. 528 South West Street, P.O. Box 687 Piketon, Ohio 45661

Telephone (740) 289-4131 Fax (740) 289-3639, www.bhscpas.com



# Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

Members of Council Village of Felicity 415 Walnut Street Felicity, Ohio 45120

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Village of Felicity, Clermont County, prepared by Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs, Inc., for the audit period January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2008. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

The financial statements in the attached report are presented in accordance with a regulatory basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State. Due to a February 2, 2005 interpretation from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), modifications were required to the *Independent Auditor's Report* on your financial statements. While the Auditor of State does not legally require your government 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 statements in accordance with GAAP. The attached report includes an opinion relating to GAAP presentation and measurement requirements, but does not imply the statements are misstated under the non-GAAP regulatory basis. The *Independent Auditor's Report* also includes an opinion on the financial statements using the regulatory format the Auditor of State permits.

Our review was made in reference to the applicable sections of legislative criteria, as reflected by the Ohio Constitution, and the Revised Code, policies, procedures and guidelines of the Auditor of State, regulations and grant requirements. The Village of Felicity is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

Mary Taylor

March 19, 2010



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> Telephone (740) 289-4131 Fax (740) 289-3639 www.bhscpas.com

Member American Institute of Certified Public Accountants

Ohio Society of Certified Public Accountants

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Members of Council Village of Felicity 415 Walnut Street Felicity, Ohio 45120

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Village of Felicity, Clermont County, Ohio, (the Village) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Village of Felicity's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements 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 *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure 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 more fully in Note 1, the Village has prepared these financial statements using accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. These practices differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Although we cannot reasonably determine the effects on the financial statements of the variances between these regulatory accounting practices and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, we presume they are material.

Revisions to GAAP would require the Village to reformat its financial statement presentation and make other changes effective for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007. Instead of the combined funds the accompanying financial statements present for 2008 and 2007, the revisions require presenting entity wide statements and also to present its larger (i.e. major) funds separately for 2008 and 2007. While the Village does not follow GAAP, generally accepted auditing standards requires us to include the following paragraph if the statements do not substantially conform to the new GAAP presentation requirements. The Auditor of State permits, but does not require Villages to reformat their statements. The Village has elected not to reformat its statements. Since this Village does not use GAAP to measure financial statement amounts, 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 statements referred to above do not present fairly, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Village as of December 31, 2008 and 2007, or its changes in financial position or cash flows, where applicable, for the year then ended.

Also, in our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances and reserve for encumbrances of the Village of Felicity as of December 31, 2008 and 2007, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the year then ended on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

Village of Felicity Clermont County Independent Auditor's Report Page 2

The aforementioned revision to generally accepted accounting principles also requires the Village to include Management's Discussion and Analysis for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007. The Village 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 statements.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 31, 2009 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 grant agreements and other matters. That report describes the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing. It does not opine on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. 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.

Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs, Inc.

Balistra, Harr & Scheru

December 31, 2009

# COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

	Governmenta			
	General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)	
Cash Receipts:				
Property Tax and Other Local Taxes	\$ 49,116	93089	\$ 142,205	
Intergovernmental Receipts	101,683	45332	147,015	
Charges for Services	2,146	-	2,146	
Fines, Licenses, and Permits	5,860	915	6,775	
Earnings on Investments	3,566	719	4,285	
Miscellaneous	4,994	228	5,222	
Total Cash Receipts	\$167,365	\$140,283	307,648	
Cash Disbursements:				
Current:				
Security of Persons and Property	66,832	83,477	150,309	
Community Environment	1 200	5,161	5,161	
Public Health Services	1,399	25.605	1,399	
Transportation Leisure Time Activities	9,176 240	35,605	44,781 240	
Basic Utility Services	240	2,727	2,727	
General Government	50,684	7,443	58,127	
Capital Outlay	-	21,677	21,677	
Total Cash Disbursements	128,331	156,090	284,421	
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	39,034	(15,807)	23,227	
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	43,846	100,872	144,718	
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$ 82,880	\$ 85,065	\$ 167,945	
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	\$8,902	\$15,441	\$24,343	

# COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL PROPRIETARY FUND TYPESAND SIMILAR FIDUCIARY FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

	Proprietary Fund Type	Fiduciary Fund Type			
	Enterprise	Agency	Totals (Memorandum Only)		
Operating Cash Receipts: Charges for Services	\$ 280,218	\$ -	\$ 280,218		
Total Operating Cash Receipts	280,218		280,218		
Operating Cash Disbursements:			00.403		
Personal Services	89,403	-	89,403		
Contractual Services	68,180	_	68,180		
Supplies and Materials	52,507	-	52,507		
Travel Transportation	73	-	73		
Capital Outlay	16,675	_	16,675		
Other	15,000		15,000		
Total Operating Cash Disbursements	241,838		241,838		
Operating Cash Receipts Over (Under)					
Operating Cash Disbursements	38,380		38,380		
Non-Operating Cash Receipts:					
Other Non-Operating Cash Receipts		11,074	11,074		
Total Non-Operating Cash Receipts		11,074	11,074		
Non-Operating Cash Disbursements:					
Debt Service:					
Principal	20,000	-	20,000		
Interest	20,105	-	20,105		
Other Non-Operating Cash Disbursements		11,229	11,229		
Total Non-Operating Cash Disbursements	40,105	11,229	51,334		
Net Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	(1,725)	(155)	(1,880)		
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	598,603	1,104	599,707		
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$ 596,878	\$ 949	\$ 597,827		
Reserves for Encumbrances, December 31	\$ 16,058	\$ -	\$ 16,058		

# COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

	Governmental Fund Types				_	
	General			Special Levenue	Totals (Memorandun Only)	
Cash Receipts: Property Tax and Other Local Taxes Intergovernmental Receipts Charges for Services Fines, Licenses, and Permits Earnings on Investments Miscellaneous	7	1,926 4,684 4,185 8,351 5,552 0,259	\$	120,794 27,078 - 1,319 446 551	\$	162,720 101,762 4,185 9,670 5,998 10,810
Total Cash Receipts	14	4,957		150,188		295,145
Cash Disbursements: Current: Security of Persons and Property Community Environment Public Health Services Transportation Leisure Time Activities Basic Utility Services General Government Capital Outlay  Total Cash Disbursements	6	0,655 1,387 918 324 3,261 		76,615 5,106 - 40,982 - 1,031 8,557 39,746 172,037		167,270 5,106 1,387 41,900 324 1,031 71,818 39,746
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	(1	1,588)		(21,849)		(33,437)
Other Financing Receipts and (Disbursements): Other Financing Uses Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)		<u>-</u> -		(798) (798)		(798) (798)
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements	(1	1,588)		(22,647)		(34,235)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	5	5,434		123,519		178,953
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$ 4	3,846	\$	100,872	\$	144,718
Reserves for Encumbrances, December 31	\$	9,867	\$	11,008	\$	20,875

# COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL PROPRIETARY FUND TYPES AND SIMILAR FIDUCIARY FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

	Proprietary Fund Type	Fiduciary Fund Type	
	<u>Enterprise</u>	Agency	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Operating Cash Receipts: Charges for Services	\$ 270,597	\$ -	\$ 270,597
Total Operating Cash Receipts	270,597		270,597
Operating Cash Disbursements: Personal Services Contractual Services Supplies and Materials Transportation Capital Outlay	88,838 78,705 43,751 46 1,564	- - - -	88,838 78,705 43,751 46 1,564
Total Operating Cash Disbursements	212,904		212,904
Operating Cash Receipts Over (Under) Operating Cash Disbursements	57,693		57,693
Non-Operating Cash Receipts: Earnings on Investments Other Non-Operating Receipts	1,686 253	14,093	1,686 14,346
Total Non-Operating Cash Receipts	1,939	14,093	16,032
Non-Operating Cash Disbursements: Debt Service: Principal Interest Other Non-Operating Cash Disbursements	20,000 19,690	- - 14,216	20,000 19,690 14,216
Total Non-Operating Cash Disbursements	39,690	14,216	53,906
Excess of Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements Before Interfund Transfers	19,942	(123)	19,819
Transfers-In Transfers-Out	46,496 (46,496)		46,496 (46,496)
Net Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	19,942	(123)	19,819
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	578,661	1,227	579,888
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$ 598,603	\$ 1,104	\$ 599,707
Reserves for Encumbrances, December 31	\$ 16,741	\$ -	\$ 16,741

## 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

## A. Description of the Entity

The Village of Felicity, Clermont 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, public safety, and maintenance of streets, water and police services.

The Village's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Village is financially accountable, except debt service funds maintained by outside custodians are not included in these financial statements. Assets held by custodians are described in Note 10 to the financial statements.

## 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 in Note 3 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

U.S. Treasury Notes and the money market account are valued at cost.

Investments are reported as assets. Accordingly, purchases of investments are not recorded as disbursements, and sales of investments are not recorded as receipts. Gains or losses at the time of sale are recorded as receipts or disbursements, respectively.

## 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:

### **GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES:**

#### 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.

### **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 Funds:

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

# 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

**Police Levy Fund** – This fund receives levied tax money from the Village of Felicity to equip, maintain and provide service to the Village.

**Veterans Walk Fund** – This fund receives state tax monies to fund the Veterans' park project.

#### PROPRIETARY AND SIMILAR FIDUCIARY FUND TYPE:

# **Enterprise Funds**

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

## **Fiduciary Funds**

Fiduciary fund reporting focuses on net assets and changes in net assets. The fiduciary fund category is split into four classifications: pension trust funds, investment trust funds, private-purpose trust funds, and agency funds. Trust funds are used to account for assets held by the government under a trust agreement for individuals, private organizations, or other governments and are therefore not available to support the government's own programs. Agency funds are custodial in nature (assets equal liabilities) and do no involve measurement of results of operations. The Village's only fiduciary fund is an agency fund which accounts for monies received by the Mayor's Court held for the Village and the State of Ohio.

# E. Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund (except certain agency funds) be budgeted annually.

# **Appropriations**

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund and object level of 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. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end.

### **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.

## **Encumbrances**

The Ohio Revised Code requires the Village to reserve (encumber) appropriations when commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over, and need not be re-appropriated.

# 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

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused vacation and sick leave. Unpaid vacation and sick leave is not reflected as a liability under the Village's basis of accounting.

# 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

## H. Total Columns on Financial Statements

Total columns on the financial statements are captioned "Memorandum Only" to indicate that they are presented only to facilitate financial analysis. This data is not comparable to a consolidation. Interfund-type eliminations have not been made in the aggregation of this data.

# 2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS

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:

	2008	2007
Demand deposits	\$ 438,768	\$ 420,421
Savings Account	292,792	290,329
Total deposits	731,560	710,750
U.S. Treasury Notes	34,212	33,675
Total investments	34,212	33,675
Total deposits and investments	\$765,772	\$744,425

**Deposits:** Deposits are either (1) insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation, or (2) collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the Village, or (3) collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool.

**Investments:** U.S. Treasury Notes are held in book-entry form by the Federal Reserve, in the name of the Village's financial institution. The financial institution maintains records identifying the Village as owner of these securities.

# 3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2008 and 2007 follows:

2008 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Receipts

Fund Type	Budg	geted Receipts	Actual Receipts		 Variance
General	\$	166,800	\$	167,365	\$ 565
Special Revenue		139,467		140,283	816
Enterprise		303,128		280,218	(22,910)
	\$	609,395	\$	587,867	\$ (21,529)
		, ,			

# 2008 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Fund Type	Approp	riation Authority_	Budgetary Expenditures V		Variance	
General	\$	175,087	\$	137,233	\$	37,854
Special Revenue		228,371		171,531		56,840
Enterprise		766,650		298,001		468,649
	\$	1,170,108	\$	606,765	\$	563,343

## 3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY (Continued)

2007 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Receipts

Fund Type	Budg	geted Receipts	Actual Receipts		 Variance
General	\$	143,962	\$	144,957	\$ 995
Special Revenue		150,109		150,188	79
Enterprise		318,975		319,032	 57
	\$	613,046	\$	614,177	\$ 1,131

2007 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Fund Type	Approp	riation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures		 /ariance
General	\$	188,109	\$	166,412	\$ 21,697
Special Revenue		252,014		183,843	68,171
Enterprise		812,349		315,831	 496,518
	\$	1,252,472	\$	666,086	\$ 586,386

#### 4. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 proceeding 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 payments, 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. LOCAL INCOME TAX

The Village levies a municipal income tax of 1% percent on substantially all earned income arising from employment, residency, or business activities within the Village as well as certain income of residents earned outside of the Village.

Employers within the Village withhold income tax on employee compensation and remit the tax to the Village either monthly or quarterly, as required. Corporations and other individual taxpayers pay estimated taxes quarterly and file a declaration annually. Proceeds of the tax are credited to the General Fund and the following Special Revenue Funds: Street Maintenance and Repair, Income Tax and Police Levy.

#### 6. DEBT

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2008 was as follows:

	<u>Principal</u>	Interest Rate
Refunding and Improvement Bonds	290,000	4.5% - 6.875%
Ohio Public Works Commission OPWC	<u>105,000</u>	0%
Total	\$395,000	

The Water System 1<sup>st</sup> Mortgage Revenue Refunding and Improvement Bonds, Series 1994, relates to the improvement of the Village's owned water system. The 1994 issued dated August 1, 1994, bears an interest rate of 4.5% to 6.875% and matures August 1, 2024. This series 1994 Bond combines two other outstanding Water System Revenue Bonds issued in 1980 and 1994.

The Ohio Public Works Commission Loan relates to water system improvements for the Village. The original loan amount was \$200,000, dated August 1, 1998, bears 0% interest rate, and matures on January 1 and July 1 of each year until final maturity on July 2019.

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

	Refunding and	Ohio Public
Year ending	Improvement	Works
December 31:	Bonds	Commission
2009	\$29,900	\$10,000
2010	29,250	10,000
2011	28,563	10,000
2012	32,875	10,000
2013	31,844	10,000
2014 - 2018	153,406	50,000
2019 - 2023	150,063	5,000
2024	32,063	0
Total	\$487,864	\$105,000

### 7. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

The Village's law enforcement officers and firefighters belong to the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Funds (OP&F). Other full-time employees belong to the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) of Ohio. OP&F and PERS are cost-sharing, multiple-employer plans. 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 2007 and 2008, OP&F participants contributed 10% of their wages. The Village contributed an amount equal to 19.5% of police participant and 24% of fire participant wages. PERS members contributed 10% of their wages. The Village contributed an amount equal to 14% of participants' gross salaries for 2007 and 2008. The Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2008.

#### 8. RISK POOL MEMBERSHIP

The Village belongs to the Ohio Government Risk Management Plan (the "Plan"), an unincorporated non-profit association providing a formalized, jointly administered self-insurance risk management program and other administrative services to approximately 460 Ohio governments ("Members").

Pursuant to Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Plan is a separate legal entity. The Plan provides property, liability, errors and omissions, law enforcement, automobile, excess liability, crime, surety and bond, inland marine and other coverage, modified for each Member's needs. The Plan pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the member's deductible.

The Plan issues its own policies and reinsures the Plan with A-VII of better rated carriers, except for the 15% casualty and the 10% property portions the Plan retains. The Plan pays the lesser of 15% or \$37,500 of casualty losses and the lesser of 10% or \$100,000 of property losses. Individual Members are only responsible for their self-retention (deductible) amounts, which vary from member to member.

Settlement amounts did not exceed insurance coverage for the past three fiscal years. The Village did not incur any significant reduction in coverage from the prior year.

Plan member are responsible to notify the Plan of their intent to renew coverage by their renewal date. If a member chooses not to renew with the Plan, they have no other obligation to the Plan. The former member's covered claims, which occurred during their membership period, remain the responsibility of the Plan.

The Plan's audited financial statements conform to generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and retained earnings at December 31:

Assets	<b>2008</b> 10,471,000	<b>2007</b> \$11,136,000
Liabilities	5,287,000	4,273,000
Members' Equity	\$5,184,000	\$5,470,791

## 9. CONTINGENCIES

#### Grants

The Village received financial assistance from federal and state agencies in the form of grants. The expenditure of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the General Fund or other applicable funds. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material adverse effect on the overall financial position of the Village at December 31, 2006.

## 10. DEBT SERVICE TRUSTEED FUNDS

The 1994 Water System First Mortgage Revenue Refunding and Improvement Bonds Trust agreement required the Village to establish various funds to be maintained by a custodian bank. The Village has established these funds. At December 31, 2008 and 2007, the custodian held \$14,064 and \$14,316 respectively in Village assets. These assets, and the related receipts and disbursements, are not reflected in the accompanying financial statements.

# BALESTRA, HARR & SCHERER CPAs, INC.

528 South West Street, P.O. Box 687 Piketon, Ohio 45661

> Telephone (740) 289-4131 Fax (740) 289-3639 www.bhscpas.com

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# Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by Government Auditing Standards

Village of Felicity Clermont County, Ohio 415 Walnut Street Felicity, Ohio 45120

To the Village Council:

We have audited the financial statements of the Village of Felicity, Clermont County, Ohio, (the Village) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007, and have issued our report thereon dated December 31, 2009 wherein we noted the Village prepared its financial statements using accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits 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 Village'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 Village's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we have not opined on the effectiveness of the Village's internal control over financial reporting.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. However, as discussed below, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider significant deficiencies.

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 Village'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 Village's internal control will not prevent or detect a more-than-inconsequential financial statement misstatement.

We consider findings 2007/2008 - 001 and 2007/2008 - 002 described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses to be significant deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting.

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

Village of Felicity Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by Government Auditing Standards Page 2

Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies and accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all significant deficiencies that are also material weaknesses. However, we believe finding numbers 2007/2008-001 and 2007/2008-002 are also material weaknesses.

## **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of reasonably assuring whether the Village's financial statements are 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 such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed an instance of noncompliance or other matters that we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which is descried in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses as item 2007/2008-002.

We noted other matters that have been reported to the Village's management in a letter dated December 31, 2009.

The Village's responses to the findings identified in our audit are described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses. We did not audit the Village's responses and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

We intend this report solely for the information and use of management and the Village Council. We intend it for no one other than these specified parties.

Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs, Inc.

Balistra, Harr & Scherur

December 31, 2009

# Village of Felicity Clermont County, Ohio

# SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007

#### **FINDING NUMBER 2007/2008-001**

**Significant Deficiency/Material Weakness,** During testing, it was noted that the Village is not in compliance with all the debt covenants required by the Water System First Mortgage Revenue and Refunding and Improvements Bonds. These include:

The debt service reserve fund balance is in excess of the required reserve balance. Excess amounts should be paid to the bond account: The Village has not established a System Reserve Account;

The Village's Net Income Available for Debt Service is not in conformity with the covenant;

The Village is not submitting annual reports of operation to the trustee by June 30<sup>th</sup>.

We recommend the Village review the debt agreement for the Water System First Mortgage Revenue and Refunding and Improvement Bonds. We also recommend that the Village take the necessary action to be in compliance with all covenants.

Client Response: The covenants will be reviewed for compliance as requested.

#### **FINDING NUMBER 2007/2008-002**

Significant Deficiency/Material Weakness/Noncompliance, Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-02A directs all public offices to maintain an accounting system and accounting records sufficient to enable the public office to identify, assemble, and analyze, classify, record and report its transactions, maintain accountability for the related assets, and prepare financial statements required by t Rule 117-2-03 of the OAC. OAC Section 117-2-02D allows the records to be maintained manually or in a computerized format and requires the following: 1) Cash journal with the amount, date, receipts number, check number, account code and any other information necessary to properly classify the transaction; 2) Receipts ledger to assemble and classify receipts into separate accounts for each type of receipt of each fund consisting of the amount, date, name of the payer, purpose, receipt number rand other information necessary to record the transaction on this ledger, and; 3) Appropriation ledger to assemble and classify disbursements into separate accounts for, at a minimum, each account listed in the appropriations resolution. The amount, date, fund, check number, purchase order number, encumbrance amount, unencumbered balance, amount of disbursements, uncommitted balance of appropriations and any other information required may be inter in the appropriate columns

Several receipt and disbursement transactions were incorrectly posted to the proper fund and/or account in both 2008 and 2007. This did no tallow the Fiscal Officer to accurately reflect the financial transactions for the Village.

The fact that the posting errors resulting in reclassification and adjusting entries occurred indicates a significant deficiency in the internal controls of financial record keeping and reporting and resulted in the inaccurate reflection of the receipts and disbursements of the Village for 2008 and 2007.

We recommend the Fiscal Officer review the requirements of OAC Section 117-2-02 and the description of the accounts maintain the receipt ledger in the manner prescribed therein.

Client Response: The clerk was inexperienced and had not yet received training. The financial statements were all hand written and did not correspond directly with the software in use. They have or are in the process of addressing all of the issues indicated. The Village is moving to the UAN system starting in 2010.



# Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

### **VILLAGE OF FELICITY**

## **CLERMONT 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 APRIL 1, 2010