



Dave Yost • Auditor of State



**DORSET TOWNSHIP  
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

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# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

Dorset Township  
Ashtabula County  
2561 SR 193  
Dorset, Ohio 44032

To the Board of Trustees:

As you are aware, the Auditor of State's Office (AOS) must modify the *Independent Accountants' Report* we provide on your financial statements due to an interpretation from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). While AOS 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. Our Report includes an adverse opinion relating to GAAP presentation and measurement requirements, but does not imply the amounts the statements present are misstated under the non-GAAP basis you follow. The AOS report also includes an opinion on the financial statements you prepared using the cash basis and financial statement format the AOS permits.

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**Dave Yost**  
Auditor of State

May 13, 2011

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# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Dorset Township  
Ashtabula County  
2561 SR 193  
Dorset, Ohio 44032

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Dorset Township, Ashtabula County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009. 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 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 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 our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described more fully in Note 1, the Township 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 (GAAP). Although we cannot reasonably determine the effects on the financial statements of the variances between these regulatory accounting practices and GAAP, we presume they are material.

Instead of the combined funds the accompanying financial statements present, GAAP require presenting entity wide statements and also presenting the Township's larger (i.e. major) funds separately. While the Township 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 townships to reformat their statements. The Township 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 statements referred to above for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009 do not present fairly, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Township as of December 31, 2010 and 2009, or its changes in financial position for the years then ended.

Also, in our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances of Dorset Township, Ashtabula County, as of December 31, 2010 and 2009, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the accounting basis Note 1 describes.

The Township 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 May 13, 2011, 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 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 black ink that reads "Dave Yost". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping "Y" and "O".

**Dave Yost**  
Auditor of State

May 13, 2011



**DORSET TOWNSHIP  
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND  
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES  
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		<b>Totals (Memorandum Only)</b>
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	
<b>Cash Receipts:</b>			
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$41,954	\$108,905	\$150,859
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	50	3,288	3,338
Intergovernmental	18,888	107,630	126,518
Earnings on Investments	1,448	8	1,456
Miscellaneous	3,563	9,993	13,556
	<u>65,903</u>	<u>229,824</u>	<u>295,727</u>
<b>Cash Disbursements:</b>			
Current:			
General Government	55,155		55,155
Public Safety	240	11,385	11,625
Public Works		62,969	62,969
Health	7,077	7,743	14,820
Other		15,197	15,197
Capital Outlay	2,699	31,960	34,659
Debt Service:			
Redemption of Principal		26,356	26,356
Interest and Other Fiscal Charges		2,526	2,526
	<u>65,171</u>	<u>158,136</u>	<u>223,307</u>
Total Cash Disbursements	<u>65,171</u>	<u>158,136</u>	<u>223,307</u>
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	<u>732</u>	<u>71,688</u>	<u>72,420</u>
<b>Other Financing Receipts / (Disbursements):</b>			
Transfers-In		6,100	6,100
Transfers-Out	(6,100)		(6,100)
	<u>(6,100)</u>	<u>6,100</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Other Financing Receipts / (Disbursements)	<u>(6,100)</u>	<u>6,100</u>	<u>0</u>
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over / (Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements	(5,368)	77,788	72,420
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>63,367</u>	<u>469,157</u>	<u>532,524</u>
<b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</b>	<b><u>\$57,999</u></b>	<b><u>\$546,945</u></b>	<b><u>\$604,944</u></b>

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

**DORSET TOWNSHIP  
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND  
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES  
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2009**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		<u>Totals (Memorandum Only)</u>
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	
<b>Cash Receipts:</b>			
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$43,158	\$113,466	\$156,624
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	70	3,967	4,037
Intergovernmental	51,525	105,910	157,435
Earnings on Investments	16,352	15	16,367
Miscellaneous	3,838	15,367	19,205
	<u>114,943</u>	<u>238,725</u>	<u>353,668</u>
<b>Cash Disbursements:</b>			
Current:			
General Government	54,589		54,589
Public Safety	240	10,676	10,916
Public Works		73,762	73,762
Health	7,207	8,501	15,708
Other		14,317	14,317
Capital Outlay	13,220	43,272	56,492
Debt Service:			
Redemption of Principal		25,157	25,157
Interest and Other Fiscal Charges		3,725	3,725
	<u>75,256</u>	<u>179,410</u>	<u>254,666</u>
Total Cash Disbursements	<u>75,256</u>	<u>179,410</u>	<u>254,666</u>
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	<u>39,687</u>	<u>59,315</u>	<u>99,002</u>
<b>Other Financing Receipts / (Disbursements):</b>			
Transfers-In		7,000	7,000
Transfers-Out	(7,000)		(7,000)
	<u>(7,000)</u>	<u>7,000</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Other Financing Receipts / (Disbursements)	<u>(7,000)</u>	<u>7,000</u>	<u>0</u>
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over / (Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements	32,687	66,315	99,002
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>30,680</u>	<u>402,842</u>	<u>433,522</u>
<b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</b>	<u><b>\$63,367</b></u>	<u><b>\$469,157</b></u>	<u><b>\$532,524</b></u>

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

**DORSET TOWNSHIP  
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2010 AND 2009**

**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 of the Dorset Township, Ashtabula County, (the Township) as a body corporate and politic. A publicly-elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance, fire protection and emergency medical services. The Township contracts with Dorset Volunteer Fire Department to provide fire services and South Central Ambulance District (SCAD), to provide ambulance services.

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

**B. Accounting Basis**

These financial statements follow the accounting basis the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Township 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).

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as the Auditor of State prescribes or permits.

**C. Deposits and Investments**

The Township's accounting basis includes investments as assets. This basis does not record disbursements for investment purchases or receipts for investment sales. This basis records gains or losses at the time of sale as receipts or disbursements, respectively.

The Township values certificates of deposit at cost.

**D. Fund Accounting**

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

**1. General Fund**

The General Fund reports all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

**2. Special Revenue Funds**

These funds account for proceeds from specific sources (other than from private-purpose 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.

**DORSET TOWNSHIP  
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2010 AND 2009  
(Continued)**

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

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

Fire Levy Funds – These funds receive property tax money for covering costs for maintaining and purchasing equipment and covering costs for providing fire protection services.

Community Center Fund – This fund receives property tax money for covering costs for maintaining and purchasing equipment and covering costs for the upkeep of the community center.

**E. Budgetary Process**

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund be budgeted annually.

**1. Appropriations**

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function or object level of control and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Board of Trustees must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. The County Budget Commission must also approve the annual appropriation measure. Appropriations lapse at year end.

**2. Estimated Resources**

Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus cash as of January 1. The County Budget Commission must also approve estimated resources.

**3. Encumbrances**

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

A summary of 2010 and 2009 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

**F. Property, Plant, and Equipment**

The Township records disbursements for acquisitions of property, plant, and equipment when paid. The accompanying financial statements do not report these items as assets.

**DORSET TOWNSHIP  
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2010 AND 2009  
(Continued)**

**2. EQUITY IN POOLED DEPOSITS**

The Township maintains a deposit pool all funds use. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits. The carrying amount of deposits at December 31 was as follows:

	2010	2009
Demand deposits	\$313,877	\$213,033
Certificates of deposit	62,152	61,144
Other time deposits (savings and NOW accounts)	228,915	258,347
Total deposits	604,944	532,524

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

**3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY**

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2010 and 2009 follows:

2010 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$131,130	\$65,903	(\$65,227)
Special Revenue	699,687	235,924	(463,763)
Total	\$830,817	\$301,827	(\$528,990)

2010 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$100,786	\$71,271	\$29,515
Special Revenue	263,236	158,136	105,100
Total	\$364,022	\$229,407	\$134,615

2009 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$100,892	\$114,943	\$14,051
Special Revenue	619,021	245,725	(373,296)
Total	\$719,913	\$360,668	(\$359,245)

**DORSET TOWNSHIP  
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2010 AND 2009  
(Continued)**

**3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY – (Continued)**

2009 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$88,703	\$82,256	\$6,447
Special Revenue	205,710	179,410	26,300
Total	\$294,413	\$261,666	\$32,747

**4. PROPERTY TAX**

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Trustees adopted tax rates. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. The financial statements include homestead and rollback amounts the State pays as Intergovernmental Receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to pay semiannually, 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 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. DEBT**

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2010 was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
Fire Truck Note	\$27,032	4.75%
Total	\$27,032	

The Township issued general obligation notes to finance the purchase of a new fire truck. The Township's taxing authority collateralized the note.

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

Year ending December 31:	Fire Truck Note
2011	\$28,882

**DORSET TOWNSHIP  
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2010 AND 2009  
(Continued)**

**6. RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

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 2010 and 2009, OPERS members contributed 10% of their gross salaries and the Township contributed an amount equaling 14% of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2010.

**7. RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Township is exposed to various risks of property and casualty losses, and injuries to employees.

The Township insures against injuries to employees through the Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation.

The Township belongs to the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio townships. OTARMA provides property and casualty coverage for its members. American Risk Pooling Consultants, Inc. (ARPCO), a division of York Insurance Services Group, Inc. (York), functions as the administrator of OTARMA and provides underwriting, claims, loss control, risk management, and reinsurance services for OTARMA. OTARMA is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP), which is also administered by ARPCO. Member governments pay annual contributions to fund OTARMA. OTARMA pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

Casualty and Property Coverage

APEEP provides OTARMA with an excess risk-sharing program. Under this arrangement, OTARMA retains insured risks up to an amount specified in the contracts. At December 31, 2009, OTARMA retained \$350,000 for casualty claims and \$150,000 for property claims.

The aforementioned casualty and property reinsurance agreement does not discharge OTARMA's primary liability for claims payments on covered losses. Claims exceeding coverage limits are the obligation of the respective township.

Financial Position

OTARMA's financial statements (audited by other accountants) conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and retained earnings at December 31, 2009 and 2008 (the latest information available):

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
Assets	\$38,982,088	\$40,737,740
Liabilities	<u>(12,880,766)</u>	<u>(12,981,818)</u>
Net Assets	<u>\$26,101,322</u>	<u>\$27,755,922</u>

**DORSET TOWNSHIP  
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2010 AND 2009  
(Continued)**

**7. RISK MANAGEMENT – (Continued)**

At December 31, 2009 and 2008, respectively, liabilities above include approximately \$12.0 and \$12.1 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets above also include approximately \$11.5 and \$10.9 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 950 member townships in the future, as of December 31, 2009 and 2008, respectively. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. As of December 31, 2009, the Township's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$5,000.

Based on discussions with OTARMA, the expected rates OTARMA charges to compute member contributions, which are used to pay claims as they become due, are not expected to change significantly from those used to determine the historical contributions detailed below. By contract, the annual liability of each member is limited to the amount of financial contributions required to be made to OTARMA for each year of membership.

<b><u>Contributions to OTARMA</u></b>	
2009	\$8,968
2010	\$ 10,880

After completing one year of membership, members may withdraw on each anniversary of the date they joined OTARMA provided they give written notice to OTARMA 60 days in advance of the anniversary date. Upon withdrawal, members are eligible for a full or partial refund of their capital contributions, minus the subsequent year's budgetary contribution. Withdrawing members have no other future obligation to the pool. Also upon withdrawal, payments for all casualty claims and claim expenses become the sole responsibility of the withdrawing member, regardless of whether a claim occurred or was reported prior to the withdrawal.





# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

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

Dorset Township  
Ashtabula County  
2561 SR 193  
Dorset, Ohio 44032

To The Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of Dorset Township, Ashtabula County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009 and have issued our report thereon dated May 13, 2011 wherein we noted the Township 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 *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

### Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, when performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and timely correct misstatements. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or combination of internal control deficiencies resulting in more than a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Township's financial statements will not be prevented or detected and timely corrected.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be deficiencies, 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 Township'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 an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards*.

We did note certain matters not requiring inclusion in this report that we reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated May 13, 2011.

We intend this report solely for the information and use of management, Board of Trustees, and others within the Township. We intend it for no one other than these specified parties.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Yost". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping "D" and "Y".

**Dave Yost**  
Auditor of State

May 13, 2011



# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

**DORSET TOWNSHIP**

**ASHTABULA 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 21, 2011**