# **AUDIT REPORT**

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011 & 2010

Charles E. Harris and Associates, Inc.
Certified Public Accountants and Government Consultants



Board of Trustees Bethlehem Township 42541 Township Road 1192 Warsaw, Ohio 43844

We have reviewed the *Report of Independent Accountants* of Bethlehem Township, Coshocton County, prepared by Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc., for the audit period January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2011. 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 *Report of Independent Accountants* 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 *Report of Independent Accountants* 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. Bethlehem Township is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

Dave Yost Auditor of State

October 25, 2012



# **Audit Report**

# For the Years Ended December 31, 2011 & 2010

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# Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc.

Certified Public Accountants

#### REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

Bethlehem Township Coshocton County 42541 Township Road 1192 Warsaw, Ohio 43844

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Bethlehem Township, Coshocton County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010. 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 that 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 governments 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, 2011 and 2010, 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, 2011 and 2010, 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 as of December 31, 2011 and 2010 of Bethlehem Township, Coshocton County, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements and changes in fund cash balances for the years then ended on the accounting basis Note 1 describes.

As described in Note 8, during 2010 the Township adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54, Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated August 17, 2012, 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.

Charles Having Assarciation

Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc.

August 17, 2012

# BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP COSHOCTON COUNTY COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES

All Governmental Fund Types
For the Year Ended December 31, 2011

		Gov	ernn	nental Fund	Туре	s		Totals-
	_			Special			(M	emorandum
	_	General	_	Revenue	_	Permanent	_	Only)
Receipts:								
Property Taxes	\$	39,929	\$	29,667		-	\$	69,596
Charges for Services		-		9,250		-		9,250
Intergovernmental		12,275		101,586		-		113,861
Earnings on Investment		40		-	\$	1		41
Other	_	12	_	3,200	_	-		3,212
Total Receipts		52,256		143,703		1		195,960
Disbursements:								
General Government		67,521		48,308		-		115,829
Public Works		23		109,579		-		109,602
Health		-		3,719		-		3,719
Capital Outlay		-		2,532		-		2,532
Debt Service:								
Principal Retirement		-		10,405		-		10,405
Interest	_		_	2,405	_			2,405
Total Disbursements	_	67,544	_	176,948	_			244,492
Total Receipts Over/(Under)								
Disbursements		(15,288)		(33,245)		1		(48,532)
Fund Cash Balance, January 1, 2011	_	72,804	_	102,272	_	23,565		198,641
Fund Balances:								
Nonspendable		-		-		20,000		20,000
Restricted		-		69,027		3,566		72,593
Unassigned	-	57,516	_	-	_			57,516
Fund Cash Balance, December 31, 2011	\$_	57,516	\$_	69,027	\$_	23,566	\$	150,109

See Accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements.

# COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES

# All Governmental Fund Types

For the Year Ended December 31, 2010

	Governmental Fund Types			Totals-				
	_			Special			(M	emorandum
	_	General	_	Revenue		Permanent		Only)
Passinto								
Receipts:	\$	55,920	\$	43,003			\$	00 022
Property Taxes	Ф	55,920	Ф			-	Ф	98,923
Charges for Services		- 4E 046		4,300		-		4,300
Intergovernmental		15,846		105,329	•	400		121,175
Earnings on Investment		16		-	\$	400		416
Other	_	454	_	502			_	956
Total Receipts		72,236		153,134		400		225,770
Disbursements:								
General Government		59,275		42,881		-		102,156
Public Safety		-		-		2,000		2,000
Public Works		2,310		43,105		-		45,415
Health		5,385		7,629		-		13,014
Capital Outlay		15,000		68,150		-		83,150
Debt Service:								
Principal Retirement		-		29,475		-		29,475
Interest	_		_	2,252	,	-		2,252
Total Disbursements		81,970	_	193,492		2,000		277,462
Total Receipts Over/(Under)								
Disbursements		(9,734)		(40,358)		(1,600)		(51,692)
Other Financing Receipts/(Disburstments):								
Sale of Fixed Assets		15,000		_		_		15,000
Loan Proceeds	_	-	_	62,438		_		62,438
Total Financing Receipts/(Disburstments)		15,000	_	62,438				77,438
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing								
Receipts Over/ (Under) Cash Disburstments and								
Other Financing Disbursements		5,266		22,080		(1,600)		25,746
Fund Cash Balance, January 1, 2010		67,538	_	80,192		25,165		172,895
Fund Balances:								
Nonspendable						20,000		20,000
Restricted		_		102,272		3,565		105,837
Unassigned	_	72,804	_	-		-		72,804
Fund Cash Balance, December 31, 2010	\$_	72,804	\$	102,272	\$	23,565	\$	198,641

See Accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements.

# Notes to the Financial Statements For the Years Ended December 31, 2011 and 2010

#### 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### A. <u>DESCRIPTION OF THE ENTITY</u>

Bethlehem Township, Coshocton County (the Township) is a body corporate and politic established for the purpose of exercising 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 road and bridge maintenance and cemetery maintenance. The Township contracts with the Walhonding Valley Fire District for fire services.

The Township's management believes these financial statements included in this report represent all of the funds of the Township over which the Township has the ability to exercise direct operating control.

#### B. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The Township prepares its financial statements following 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.)

The statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State.

#### C. CASH

Investments are included in the fund cash balances. 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 Township maintains its accounting records in accordance with the principles of "Fund" accounting. Fund accounting is a concept developed to meet the needs of governmental entities in which legal or other restraints require the recording of

# Notes to the Financial Statements For the Years Ended December 31, 2011 and 2010

#### 1. <u>SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES</u> - (Continued)

#### D. FUND ACCOUNTING - (Continued)

specific receipts and disbursements. The transactions of each fund are reflected in a self-balancing group of accounts, an accounting entity, which stands separate from the activities reported in other funds. The restrictions associated with each class of funds are as follows:

# **Governmental Fund Types:**

<u>General Fund</u>: The general operating fund of the Township. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required by law or contract to be accounted for in another fund.

<u>Special Revenue Funds</u>: These funds are used to account for proceeds from special sources (other than from trusts or for capital projects) that are restricted to expenditures for specific purposes. The Township has the following significant Special Revenue fund:

• Gasoline Tax Fund-Receives gasoline excise taxes to pay for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads and bridges.

<u>Permanent Funds</u>: These funds account for assets held under a trust agreement that are legally restricted to the extent that earnings, not principal, are available to support the Township's programs. The Township has the following significant Permanent Fund:

 Prairie Chapel Cemetery Endowment Fund-This fund receives interest on the nonexpendable corpus from a trust agreement. These funds are used for the maintenance and upkeep of the Township's cemetery.

#### E. BUDGETARY PROCESS

A budget of estimated cash receipts and disbursements is prepared by the Fiscal Officer, approved by the Township Board of Trustees, and submitted to the county auditor, as secretary of the County Budget Commission, by July 20 of each year, for the period January 1 to December 31 of the following year.

# Notes to the Financial Statements For the Years Ended December 31, 2011 and 2010

#### 1. <u>SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES</u> - (Continued)

# E. <u>BUDGETARY PROCESS</u> - (Continued)

# 1. <u>Estimated Resources</u>

The county auditor calculates the estimated revenues available to the Township. He prepares a certificate of estimated resources based upon this calculation and upon the other financial information supplied in the budget sent by the Township. The certificate is approved by the county budget commission and sent to the Township Fiscal Officer by September 1.

Prior to December 31, the Township must revise its budget so that the total budgeted expenditures for a fund will not exceed the amount of estimated resources stated in the certificate of estimated resources. The revised budget serves as the basis for the annual appropriation measure.

On or about January 1, the Fiscal Officer sends the county auditor a certificate which includes the actual unencumbered balances from the preceding year. The county auditor prepares an amended certificate, submits it to the county budget commission for approval. This amended certificate may be further amended during the year if projected revenue increases or the Fiscal Officer identifies decreases in revenue.

Budgeted receipts, as shown in Note 4, do not include the unencumbered fund balances as of January 1, 2010 and 2011. However, those fund balances are available for appropriation.

# 2. Appropriations

A temporary appropriation measure to control cash expenditures may be passed on or about January 1 of each year for the period January 1 to March 31. An annual appropriation measure must be passed by March 31 of each year for the period January 1 to December 31. The appropriation measure may be amended or supplemented during the year as new information becomes available. Appropriations may not exceed estimated resources.

#### 3. Encumbrances

The Township is required to use the encumbrance method of accounting by virtue of Ohio law. Under this system, purchase orders, contracts and other commitments for the expenditure of funds are recorded in order to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation and to determine and maintain legal compliance.

# Notes to the Financial Statements For the Years Ended December 31, 2011 and 2010

#### 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

#### E. <u>BUDGETARY PROCESS</u>- (Continued)

The sum of expenditures and encumbrances may not exceed appropriated totals at any level of budgetary control. The legal level of control is the object level.

Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year-end. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are cancelled and re-appropriated in the subsequent year.

# F. FUND BALANCE

Fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the Township must observe constraints imposed upon the use of its governmental-fund resources.

- 1. Nonspendable- The Township classifies assets as nonspendable when legally or contractually required to maintain the amounts intact.
- 2. Restricted- Fund balance is restricted when constraints placed on the use of resources are either externally imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or is imposed by law through constitutional provisions.
- 3. Committed- The Board of Trustees can commit amounts via formal action (resolution). The Township must adhere to these commitments unless the Board amends the resolution. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed to satisfy contractual requirements.
- 4. Assigned-Assigned fund balances are intended for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restrict or committed. Governmental funds other than the general fund report all fund balances as assigned unless they are restricted or committed. In the general fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by the Board of Trustees.
- 5. Unassigned-Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund and includes amounts not included in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is used only to report a deficit balance.

# Notes to the Financial Statements For the Years Ended December 31, 2011 and 2010

#### 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (continued)

#### F. FUND BALANCE - (continued)

The Township applies restricted resources first when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which either restricted or unrestricted (committed, assigned, and unassigned) amounts are available. Similarly, within unrestricted fund balance, committed amounts are reduced first followed by assigned, and then unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

# G. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment are recorded as capital outlay disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements.

#### H. ACCUMULATED LEAVE

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

#### 2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

The Township maintains a cash and investment pool used by all funds. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of cash and investments at December 31 was as follows:

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
Demand Deposits	\$129,109	\$177,641
Certificates of Deposit	21,000	21,000
Total	\$150,109	\$198,641

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

# Notes to the Financial Statements For the Years Ended December 31, 2011 and 2010

#### 3. <u>PROPERTY TAXES</u>

Real property taxes are levied on assessed values, which equal 35% of appraised value. The county auditor reappraises all real property every six years with a triennial update.

Real property taxes become a lien on all non-exempt real property located in the county on January 1. Real property taxes are payable annually or semiannually. If paid annually, payment is due December 31; if paid semiannually, the first payment is due December 31 with the remainder payable by June 20 of the following year. Under certain circumstances, state statute permits later payment dates to be established.

The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts the tax rates for inflation. Real property owners' tax bills are further reduced by homestead and rollback deductions when applicable. The amount of these homestead and rollback reductions is reimbursed to the Township by the State of Ohio. The amounts reimbursed by the State of Ohio are reflected in the accompanying financial statements as intergovernmental receipts.

Public utilities are also taxed on personal and real property located within the Township. Tangible personal property tax is assessed on the property owners, who must file a list of such property to the County by each April 30.

The County Treasurer collects property tax on behalf of all taxing authorities within the county. The County Auditor periodically remits to the taxing authorities their portions of the taxes collected.

#### 4. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2011 and 2010 follows:

#### 2011 Budgeted vs Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund:	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General Fund	\$ 69,144	\$ 52,256	\$ (16,888)
Special Revenue Funds	150,096	143,703	(6,393)
Permanent Fund	450	1	(449)

# 2011 Budgeted vs Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund:	Authority	Disbursements	Variance
General Fund	\$ 141,946	\$ 67,544	\$ 74,402
Special Revenue Funds	252,367	176,948	75,419
Permanent Fund	2,965	-	2,965

# Notes to the Financial Statements For the Years Ended December 31, 2011 and 2010

# 4. <u>BUDGETARY ACTIVITY</u> – (Continued)

# 2010 Budgeted vs Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund:	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General Fund	\$ 73,424	\$ 87,236	\$ 13,812
Special Revenue Funds	215,297	215,572	275
Permanent Fund	726	400	(326)

# 2010 Budgeted vs Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund:	Authority	Disbursements	Variance
General Fund	\$ 140,962	\$ 81,970	\$ 58,992
Special Revenue Funds	292,032	193,492	98,540
Permanent Fund	25,812	2,000	23,812

#### 5. RETIREMENT SYSTEM

The Township's employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS), a state operated, cost sharing, multiple employer plan. The plan provides retirement benefits, including postretirement healthcare, and survivor and disability benefits to participants as prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code.

Contribution rates are prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code. OPERS members contributed 10.0% of their gross pay while the Township contributed an amount equal to 14.00% of covered payroll for both years.

The Township paid all required contributions through 2011.

# Notes to the Financial Statements For the Years Ended December 31, 2011 and 2010

#### 6. RISK MANAGEMENT

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

#### RISK POOL MEMBERSHIP

The Township belongs to the Ohio Plan Risk Management, Inc., formerly known as the Ohio Risk Management Plan (the Plan).

On January 1, 2009, through an internal reorganization, the Plan created three separate non-profit corporations including:

- Ohio Plan Risk Management, Inc. (OPRM) formerly known as the Ohio Risk Management Plan;
- Ohio Plan Healthcare Consortium, Inc. (OPHC) formerly known as the Ohio Healthcare Consortium; and
- Ohio Plan, Inc. mirrors the oversight function previously performed by the Board of Directors. The Board of Trustees consists of eleven (11) members that include appointed and elected officials from member organizations.

Pursuant to Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code, the plan provides property, liability, errors and omissions, law enforcement, automobile, excess liability, crime, surety and bond, inland marine and other coverages to its members sold through fourteen appointed independent agents in the State of Ohio. These coverage programs, referred to as Ohio Plan Risk management ("OPRM"), are developed specific to each member's risk management needs and the related premiums for coverage are determined through the application of uniform underwriting criteria addressing the member's exposure to loss, except OPRM retains 40% (17.5% through October 31, 2010 and 15% through October 31, 2009) of the premium and losses on the first \$250,000 casualty treaty and 10% of the first \$1,000,000 property treaty. Members are only responsible for their self-retention (deductible) amounts, which vary from member to member. OPRM had 761 and 725 members as of December 31, 2010 and 2009 respectively. The Township participates in this coverage.

The Plan formed the Ohio Plan Healthcare Consortium ("OPHC"), as authorized by Section 9.833 of the Ohio Revised Code. The OPHC was established to provide cost effective employee benefit programs for Ohio political subdivisions and is a self-funded, group purchasing consortium that offers medical, dental, vision and prescription drug coverage as well as life insurance for its members. The OPHC is sold through seventeen appointed independent agents in the State of Ohio. Coverage programs are developed specific to each member's healthcare needs and the related premiums for coverage are

# Notes to the Financial Statements For the Years Ended December 31, 2011 and 2010

#### 6. RISK MANAGEMENT - (Continued)

determined through the application of uniform underwriting criteria. Variable plan options are available to members. These plans vary primarily by deductibles, coinsurance levels, office visit co-pays and out-of-pocket maximums. OPHC had 65 and 60 members as of December 31, 2010 and 2009 respectively. The Township does not participate in this coverage.

Plan members 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 financial obligation to the Plan, but still need to promptly notify the Plan of any potential claims occurring during their membership period. The former member's covered claims, which occurred during their membership period, remain the responsibility of the Plan.

The Pool's audited financial statements conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and retained earnings at December 31, 2011 and 2010 (the latest information available):

	2011	2010
	OPRM	OPRM
Assets	\$12,051,280	\$12,036,541
Liabilities	(5,328,761)	(4,845,056)
Members'		
Equity	\$7,172,519	\$7,191,485

You can read the complete audited financial statements for OPRM at the Plan's website, www.ohioplan.org.

There have been no significant reductions in insurance coverage from the prior fiscal years and settled claims have not exceeded this commercial coverage in any of the last three years. The Township pays the State Worker's Compensation System a premium based on a rate per \$100 of salaries. The rate is calculated based on accident history and administrative costs.

# Notes to the Financial Statements For the Years Ended December 31, 2011 and 2010

#### 7. DEBT

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2011 is as follows:

Description:	<b>Principal</b>	Interest Rate
Ohio Heritage Bank	\$52,025	5.05%

Principal and interest requirements for debt outstanding at December 31, 2011 is as follows:

	Ohio Heritage
Year Ended	Bank
2012	\$12,810
2013	12,810
2014	12,810
2015	12,810
2016	12,810
Total	\$64,050

# 8. CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLE

For 2010, the Township implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 54, "Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions." GASB Statement No. 54 enhances the usefulness of fund balance information by providing clearer fund balance classifications that can be more consistently applied and by clarifying the existing governmental fund type definitions. This statement establishes fund balance classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which a government is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources reported in governmental funds. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 54 had no effect on the fund balances as previously reported.

#### 9. CONTINGENT LIABILITES/SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Management believes there are no pending claims or lawsuits.

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# Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc.

 $Certified\ Public\ Accountants$ 

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRED BY  $\underline{GOVERNMENT\ AUDITING\ STANDARDS}$ 

Bethlehem Township Coshocton County 42541 Township Road 1192 Warsaw, Ohio 43844

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of Bethlehem Township, Coshocton County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, and have issued our report thereon dated August 17, 2012, 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 and implemented GASB Statement No. 54. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

#### Internal Controls 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 opinions 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 to be 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*.

However, we noted certain matters not requiring inclusion in this report that we reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated August 17, 2012.

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

Charles Having Assaciation

Charles E. Harris and Associates, Inc.

August 17, 2012

# BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP COSHOCTON COUNTY, OHIO SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS For the Years Ended December 31, 2011 and 2010

			Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action
Finding	Finding	Fully	Taken; or Finding No
Number	Summary	Corrected?	Longer Valid;
	,		Explain:
2009-BETH-01	ORC 5705.39-appropriations exceeded estimated resources	Yes	
2009-BETH-02	ORC 5705.36(A)-	No	Partially corrected.
	nonexpendable principal		Moved to
	appropriated		management letter.





#### **BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP**

#### **COSHOCTON 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 NOVEMBER 8, 2012