



Dave Yost • Auditor of State





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## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

Short Creek Township  
Harrison County  
48880 Cadiz-Harrisville Road  
Cadiz, Ohio 43907

To the Board of Trustees:

We have performed the procedures enumerated below, with which the Board of Trustees and the management of Short Creek Township (the Township) agreed, solely to assist the Board in evaluating receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in their cash-basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances. Management is responsible for recording transactions; and management and the Board are responsible for complying with the compliance requirements. This agreed-upon procedures engagement was conducted in accordance with the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants' attestation standards and applicable attestation engagement standards included in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. The sufficiency of the procedures is solely the responsibility of the parties specified in this report. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose. The Township processes its financial transactions with the Auditor of State's Uniform Accounting Network (UAN). *Government Auditing Standards* considers this service to impair the independence of the Auditor of State to provide attest services to the Township because the Auditor of State designed, developed, implemented, and as requested, operates UAN. However, *Government Auditing Standards* permits the Auditor of State to perform this engagement, because Ohio Revised Code § 117.101 requires the Auditor of State to provide UAN services, and Ohio Revised Code § 117.11(A) mandates the Auditor of State to perform attest services for Ohio governments.

This report only describes exceptions exceeding \$10.

### Cash and Investments

1. We tested the mathematical accuracy of the December 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010 bank reconciliations. We found no exceptions.
2. We agreed the January 1, 2010 beginning fund balances recorded in the Fund Ledger Report to the December 31, 2009 balances in the prior year documentation in the prior year Agreed-Upon Procedures working papers. We found no exceptions.
3. We agreed the totals per the bank reconciliations to the total of the December 31, 2011 and 2010 fund cash balances reported in the Fund Status Reports. The amounts agreed.
4. We confirmed the December 31, 2011 bank account balances with the Township's financial institution. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the confirmed balances to the amounts appearing in the December 31, 2011 bank reconciliation without exception.

5. We selected five reconciling debits (such as outstanding checks) haphazardly from the December 31, 2011 bank reconciliation:
  - a. We traced each debit to the subsequent January bank statement. We found no exceptions.
  - b. We traced the amounts and dates to the check register, to determine the debits were dated prior to December 31. We noted no exceptions.
  
6. We tested investments held at December 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010 to determine that they:
  - a. Were of a type authorized by Ohio Rev. Code Sections 135.13, 135.14 or 135.144. We found no exceptions.
  
  - b. Mature within the prescribed time limits noted in Ohio Rev. Code Section 135.13 or 135.14. We noted no exceptions.

**Property Taxes, Intergovernmental and Other Confirmable Cash Receipts**

1. We selected a property tax receipt from one *Statement of Semiannual Apportionment of Taxes* (the Statement) for 2011 and one from 2010:
  - a. We traced the gross receipts from the *Statement* to the amount recorded in the Revenue Ledger. The amounts agreed.
  - b. We determined whether the receipt was allocated to the proper fund(s) as required by Ohio Rev. Code Sections 5705.05-.06 and 5705.10. We found no exceptions.
  - c. We determined whether the receipt was recorded in the proper year. The receipt was recorded in the proper year.
  
2. We scanned the Revenue Ledger to determine whether it included two real estate tax receipts for 2011 and 2010. We noted the Revenue Ledger included the proper number of tax receipts for each year.
  
3. We selected all four receipts from the State Distribution Transaction Lists (DTL) from 2011 and all four from 2010. We also selected five receipts from the County Auditor's Cross Reference Report printed by Vendor Number from 2011 and five from 2010.
  - a. We compared the amount from the above report to the amount recorded in the Revenue Ledger. The amounts agreed.
  - b. We determined whether these receipts were allocated to the proper fund(s). We found no exceptions.
  - c. We determined whether the receipts were recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.

**Debt**

1. From the prior agreed-upon procedures documentation, we noted the following loan outstanding as of December 31, 2009. These amounts agreed to the Townships January 1, 2010 balances on the summary we used in step 3.

Issue	Principal outstanding as of December 31, 2009:
USDA Loan	\$18,000

2. We inquired of management, and scanned the Revenue Ledger and Appropriation Ledger for evidence of debt issued during 2011 or 2010 or debt payment activity during 2011 or 2010. All debt noted agreed to the summary we used in step 3.
3. We obtained a summary of bonded and note debt activity for 2011 and 2010 noting that the Township had two debt issuances, a promissory note from Peoples National Bank and bonded debt from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). We agreed principal and interest payments from the USDA debt amortization schedules to payments made from the General Fund in FY10 and from the Road & Bridge Fund (principal payment) and Gas Tax Fund (interest payment) in FY11 as reported in the Appropriation Ledger. The payments made to Peoples National Bank (all principal and interest payments were made from the General Fund) were verified per debt confirmation with the bank and reported in the Appropriation Ledger. The Township does not have an amortization schedule for this debt issuance. We also compared the date the debt service payments were due to the date the Township made the payments. We found no exceptions.

However, the following exceptions were noted:

Ohio Rev. Code Chapter 133 allows various methods for subdivisions to incur debt. Section 133.22 allows a subdivision to issue anticipatory securities; Section 133.10 allows anticipation securities in anticipation of current property tax revenues or in anticipation of current revenues in and for any fiscal year from any source or combination of sources, including distributions of any federal or state monies, other than the proceeds of property taxes levied by the subdivision; Section 133.14 allows the issuance of securities for the purpose of paying all or any portion of the costs of any permanent improvement that the subdivision is authorized, alone or in cooperation with other persons, to acquire, improve, or construct; and Section 133.18 allows the taxing authority of a subdivision by legislation to submit to the electors of the subdivision the question of issuing any general obligation bonds, for one purpose, that the subdivision has power or authority to issue. In 2011 and 2010, the Board of Trustees and Fiscal Officer signed a promissory note with Peoples National Bank for Township Road 79 Paving Project. Due to the fact this debt is a promissory note between a banking institution and the Township, the note does not meet the requirements set forth in Ohio Revised Code Chapter 133.

Ohio Rev. Code Section 505.262 (A) states, in part, that board of township trustees of any township, by unanimous vote, may adopt a resolution allowing the township to contract for the purchase of equipment, buildings, and sites, or for the construction of buildings, for any lawful township purpose. The board may issue, by resolution adopted by unanimous vote, securities of the township to finance purchases and construction made pursuant to this division. The securities shall be signed by the board and attested by the signature of the township fiscal officer, and the maximum maturity of those securities is subject to the limitations in section 133.20 of the Revised Code. The securities shall bear interest not to exceed the rate determined as provided in section 9.95 of the Revised Code and shall not be subject to Chapter 133. of the Revised Code. The resolution authorizing the issuance of the securities shall provide for levying and collecting annually by taxation, amounts sufficient to pay the interest on and principal of the securities. The securities may contain a clause permitting prepayment at the option of the board. Securities shall be offered for sale on the open market or given to the vendor or contractor if no sale is made. The Township obtained USDA bonded debt and did not levy or collect annually by taxation, amounts sufficient to pay the interest on the principal of the securities.

4. We agreed the amount of debt proceeds from the debt documents to amounts recorded in the General fund per the Revenue Ledger. The amounts agreed.
5. For new debt issued during 2010, we inspected the debt legislation, noting the Township must use the proceeds to finance Township Road 79 Paving Project. We scanned the Appropriation Ledger and noted the Township paid vendors for services provided for the paving project in 2010 and 2011.

**Payroll Cash Disbursements**

1. We haphazardly selected one payroll check for five employees from 2011 and one payroll check for five employees from 2010 from the Employee Payroll Register and:
  - a. We compared the hours and pay rate, or salary recorded in the Employee Payroll Register to supporting documentation (timecard, legislatively or statutorily-approved rate or salary). We found no exceptions.
  - b. We recomputed gross and net pay and agreed it to the amount recorded in the payroll register. We found no exceptions.
  - c. We determined whether the fund and account codes to which the check was posted were reasonable based on the employees' duties as documented in the minute record or as required by statute. We also determined whether the payment was posted to the proper year. We noted an exception as no portion of the Trustees salaries were posted to the General Fund.
2. We scanned the last remittance of tax and retirement withholdings for the year ended December 31, 2011 to determine whether remittances were timely paid, and if the amounts paid agreed to the amounts withheld, plus the employer's share where applicable, during the final withholding period of 2011. We noted the following:

<b>Withholding (plus employer share, where applicable)</b>	<b>Date Due</b>	<b>Date Paid</b>	<b>Amount Due</b>	<b>Amount Paid</b>
Federal income taxes & Medicare	January 31, 2012	11/10/11, 12/19/11, 01/03/12	1,188.66	409.02 391.12 388.52
State income taxes	January 15, 2012	01/27/12	298.09	298.09
OPERS retirement	January 30, 2012	01/27/12	1,110.79	1,110.79

3. For the pay periods ended July 31, 2011 and March 31, 2010, we compared documentation and the recomputation supporting the allocation of the Boards' salaries to the Motor Vehicle & License Tax Fund, Gas Tax Fund, and Road & Bridge Fund per the Employee Payroll Register. We discovered the Trustees salaries were paid entirely from special funds, which is contrary to Ohio Revised Code section 505.24 (C).

Ohio Rev. Code Section 505.24 (C) sets forth the method by which Township trustees' compensation should be allocated. This section states that the amount of the annual salary approved by the board shall be no more than the maximum amount that could be received annually by a trustee if the trustee were paid on a salary basis as specified in this division, and shall be paid only from the Township general fund or from funds in proportions as the Board may specify by resolution. In addition, 2004 Op. Att'y Gen. No. 2004-036 requires the trustees to establish administrative procedures to document the proportionate amount chargeable to other Township funds based on the kinds of services rendered when trustee salaries are not paid from the general fund. The "administrative procedures" can be timesheets or a similar method of record keeping, as long as the Trustees document all time spent on Township business and the type of service performed, in a manner similar to trustees' paid per diem compensation. If trustees do not document their time, then no part of salaries may be paid from these other funds. During 2010 and 2011, the Township paid 100% of the Trustee's salaries from special funds (Motor Vehicle & License Tax Fund, Gas Tax Fund, and the Road & Bridge Fund). The Township did pass a resolution as required on December 28, 2009 and December 27, 2010 which only stated that the Trustees' salaries are to be paid from the General Fund or any other Township Fund. The Trustees did maintain day planners documenting how their time was spent on Township business. AOS reviewed the day planners and calculated that \$2,192 in 2011 and \$2,221 in 2010 should have been paid from the General Fund. As a result, expenditures in the special funds (Motor Vehicle & License Tax Fund, Gas Tax Fund, and the Road Fund) and General Fund are overstated and understated, respectively. Lastly, the Township has properly posted the adjustment to the UAN system.

4. For the pay periods described in the preceding step, we traced Board time or services performed to time or activity sheets. We found no exceptions.

#### **Non-Payroll Cash Disbursements**

1. We haphazardly selected ten disbursements from the Payment Register for the year ended December 31, 2011 and ten from the year ended 2010 and determined whether:
  - a. The disbursements were for a proper public purpose. We found no exceptions.
  - b. The check number, date, payee name and amount recorded on the returned, canceled check agreed to the check number, date, payee name and amount recorded in the Payment Register and to the names and amounts on the supporting invoices. We found no exceptions.
  - c. The payment was posted to a fund consistent with the restricted purpose for which the fund's cash can be used. We found no exceptions.
  - d. The fiscal officer certified disbursements requiring certification or issued a *Then and Now Certificate*, as required by Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D). We found one instance where the certification date was after the vendor invoice date, and there was also no evidence that a *Then and Now Certificate* was issued. Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D) requires certifying at the time of a commitment, which should be on or before the invoice date, unless a *Then and Now Certificate* is used. Because we did not test all disbursements requiring certification, our report provides no assurance whether or not additional similar errors occurred.

#### **Compliance – Budgetary**

1. We compared the total estimated receipts from the *Amended Official Certificate of the Estimated Resources*, required by Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.36(A)(1), to the amounts recorded in the Revenue Status Report for the General, Gas Tax and Road & Bridge funds for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010. The amounts agreed.

2. We scanned the appropriation measures adopted for 2011 and 2010 to determine whether, for the General, Gas Tax and Road & Bridge funds, the Trustees appropriated separately for "each office, department, and division, and within each, the amount appropriated for personal services," as is required by Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.38(C). We found no exceptions.
3. We compared total appropriations required by Ohio Rev. Code Sections 5705.38 and 5705.40, to the amounts recorded in the Appropriation Status Report for 2011 and 2010 for the following funds: General, Gas Tax, and Road & Bridge. The amounts on the appropriation resolutions agreed to the amounts recorded in the Appropriation Status report.
4. Ohio Rev. Code Sections 5705.36(A)(5) and 5705.39 prohibits appropriations from exceeding the certified resources. We compared total appropriations to total certified resources for the General, Gas Tax and Road & Bridge funds for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010. We noted that Gas Tax Fund appropriations for 2010 exceeded certified resources by \$4,216, contrary to Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.39. The Trustees should not pass appropriations exceeding certified resources. Allowing this to occur could cause the Township to incur fund balance deficits.
5. Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(B) prohibits expenditures (disbursements plus certified commitments) from exceeding appropriations. We compared total expenditures to total appropriations for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 for the General, Gas Tax and Road & Bridge funds, as recorded in the Appropriation Status Report. We noted no funds for which expenditures exceeded appropriations.
6. Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.09 requires establishing separate funds to segregate externally-restricted resources. We scanned the Receipt Register Report for evidence of new restricted receipts requiring a new fund during December 31, 2011 and 2010. We also inquired of management regarding whether the Township received new restricted receipts. We noted no evidence of new restricted receipts for which Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.09 would require the Township to establish a new fund.
7. We scanned the 2011 and 2010 Revenue Status Reports and Appropriation Status Reports for evidence of interfund transfers which Ohio Rev. Code Sections 5705.14 -- .16 restrict. We found no evidence of transfers these Sections prohibit, or for which Section 5705.16 would require approval by the Tax Commissioner and Court of Common Pleas.
8. We inquired of management and scanned the Appropriation Status Reports to determine whether the Township elected to establish reserve accounts permitted by Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.13. We noted the Township did not establish these reserves.

#### **Compliance – Contracts & Expenditures**

1. We inquired of management and scanned the Payment Register report for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 for procurements requiring competitive bidding under the following statutes:
  - a. Materials, machinery and tools used in constructing, maintaining and repairing roads and culverts, where costs exceeded \$25,000 (\$50,000 effective September 29, 2011) (Ohio Rev. Code Section 5549.21)
  - b. Construction and erection of a memorial building or monument costs exceeding \$25,000 (\$50,000 effective September 29, 2011) (Ohio Rev. Code Section 511.12)



- c. Equipment for fire protection and communication costs exceeding \$50,000 (Ohio Rev. Code Sections 505.37 to 505.42)
- d. Street lighting systems or improvement costs exceeding \$25,000 (\$50,000 effective September 29, 2011) (Ohio Rev. Code Section 515.01 & 515.07)
- e. Building modification costs exceeding \$25,000 (\$50,000 effective September 29, 2011) to achieve energy savings (Ohio Rev. Code Section 505.264)
- f. Private sewage collection tile costs exceeding \$25,000 (\$50,000 effective September 29, 2011) (Ohio Rev. Code Sections 521.02 to 521.05)
- g. Fire apparatus, mechanical resuscitators, other fire equipment, appliances, materials, fire hydrants, buildings, or fire-alarm communications equipment or service costs exceeding \$50,000 (Ohio Rev. Code Section 505.37(A))
- h. Maintenance and repair of roads exceeding \$45,000 (Ohio Rev. Code Section 5575.01)
- i. Construction or reconstruction of a township road exceeding \$15,000/per mile (Ohio Rev. Code Section 5575.01)

We identified a paving project in which the Township needed to purchase 840 tons of hot mix asphalt exceeding \$25,000 (\$50,000 effective September 29, 2011), subject to Ohio Rev. Code Section 515.07. For this project, we noted that the Board advertised the project in a local newspaper, and selected the lowest responsive and responsible bidder.

2. We inquired of management and scanned the Payment Register Report for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 to determine if the township proceeded by force account (i.e. used its own employees) to maintain or repair roads (cost of project \$15,000-\$45,000) or to construct or reconstruct township roads (cost of project \$5,000-\$15,000/per mile) for which Ohio Rev. Code Section 5575.01 requires the county engineer to complete a force account project assessment form (i.e., cost estimate). We identified no projects requiring the county engineer to complete a force account cost estimate.

We did not receive a response from Officials to the exceptions reported above.

We were not engaged to, and did not conduct an examination, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion on the Township's receipts, disbursements, balances and compliance with certain laws and regulations. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, those charged with governance, and others within the Township, and is not intended to be, and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.



**Dave Yost**  
Auditor of State

August 16, 2012

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# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

**SHORT CREEK TOWNSHIP**

**HARRISON 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  
SEPTEMBER 25, 2012**