

**UNION COUNTY CONVENTION
AND VISITORS BUREAU**

AGREED UPON PROCEDURES

DECEMBER 31, 2013 and 2012



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

Members of the Board
Union County Convention and Visitors Bureau
227 East Fifth Street
Marysville, Ohio 43040

We have reviewed the *Independent Accountants' Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures* of the Union County Convention and Visitors Bureau, Union County, prepared by Maloney + Novotny LLC, for the period January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2013. Based upon this review, we have accepted this report in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code.

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 Union County Convention and Visitors Bureau is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

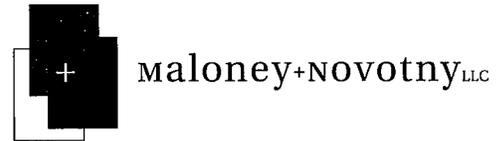
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Yost".

Dave Yost
Auditor of State

July 24, 2014

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Independent Accountants' Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures

Members of the Board
Union County Convention and Visitors Bureau
Union County, Ohio
227 East Fifth Street
Marysville, Ohio 43040

We have performed the procedures enumerated below, to which the management of the Union County Convention and Visitors Bureau (the Bureau) agreed, solely to assist the Bureau in evaluating whether it recorded all lodging taxes it received from Union County and to help evaluate whether the Bureau disbursed these lodging taxes for allowable purposes described below for the years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012. The Bureau is a division of the Union County Chamber of Commerce, Inc. The Bureau is responsible for disbursing lodging taxes for allowable purposes. 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 Bureau. 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.

Cash Receipts

1. We confirmed with the City of Marysville and Union County Auditor the lodging taxes it paid to the Bureau during the years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012. The City and County confirmed the following amounts:

<u>Year Ended</u>	<u>Amount</u>
City of Marysville:	
December 31, 2013	\$ 10,000
December 31, 2012	10,000
Union County:	
December 31, 2013	\$ 115,000
December 31, 2012	115,000

2. We compared the amounts from Step 1 to amounts recorded as lodging tax receipts on the Bureau's general ledger. We found no exceptions.

Cash Disbursements

1. We inquired of management regarding sources describing allowable purposes or restrictions related to the Bureau's disbursements of lodging taxes. We listed these sources and summarized significant related restrictions on the next page:

Cash Disbursements, continued

Sources of Restrictions:

- a. The Bureau's Articles of Incorporation
- b. The Bureau's By-Laws
- c. The Bureau's 501(c)(6) Tax Exemption
- d. City of Marysville's Ordinance 1755, Section 1
- e. Contractual Agreement dated April 30, 2007 between Union County and the Bureau
- f. Ohio Revised Code Section 5739.09(A)(2)
- g. Auditor of State of Ohio Bulletin 2003-005

The Bureau's tax exemption prohibits it from disbursements supporting a candidate's election.

Ohio Revised Code Section 5739.09(A)(2) restricts the Bureau to spending lodging tax "specifically for promotion, advertising, and marketing of the region in which the county is located."

Auditor of State Bulletin 2003-005 deems any disbursement of public funds (e.g. lodging taxes) for alcohol to be improper.

City of Marysville's Ordinance 1755 permits the Bureau to spend lodging taxes for advertising, publicizing or otherwise distributing information for the purpose of attracting visitors and encouraging tourist expansion of the Union County.

The Contract Agreement with Union County permits the Bureau to spend lodging taxes to provide a comprehensive public relations and marketing program to inform the traveling public of the tourist attractions and facilities within Union County, attract meetings, organizations, bus tours and visitors to Union County and its facilities, and perform activities necessary to promote tourism, convention and other related activities for the general benefit of the County's citizens and businesses.

The Bureau's By-Laws permits the Bureau to spend the lodging taxes for the promotion of Union County, Ohio, as a tourist destination.

2. We haphazardly selected forty disbursements of lodging taxes from the years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012 in addition to all disbursements exceeding \$2,000, and compared the purpose for these disbursements as documented on vendor invoices or other supporting documentation to the sources of restrictions listed in Cash Disbursements Step 1 above. We found no instances where the purpose described on the invoice or other supporting documentation violated the restrictions listed above.

We were not engaged to, and did not examine the Bureau's lodging tax receipts and disbursements for the years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012, the objective of which would have been to opine on lodging tax receipts and disbursements. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that we would have reported to you.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Bureau and is not intended to be, and should not be used by anyone else.



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

UNION COUNTY CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU

UNION COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

This is a true and correct copy of the report which is required to be filed in the Office of the Auditor of State pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in Columbus, Ohio.

Susan Babbitt

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

**CERTIFIED
AUGUST 5, 2014**