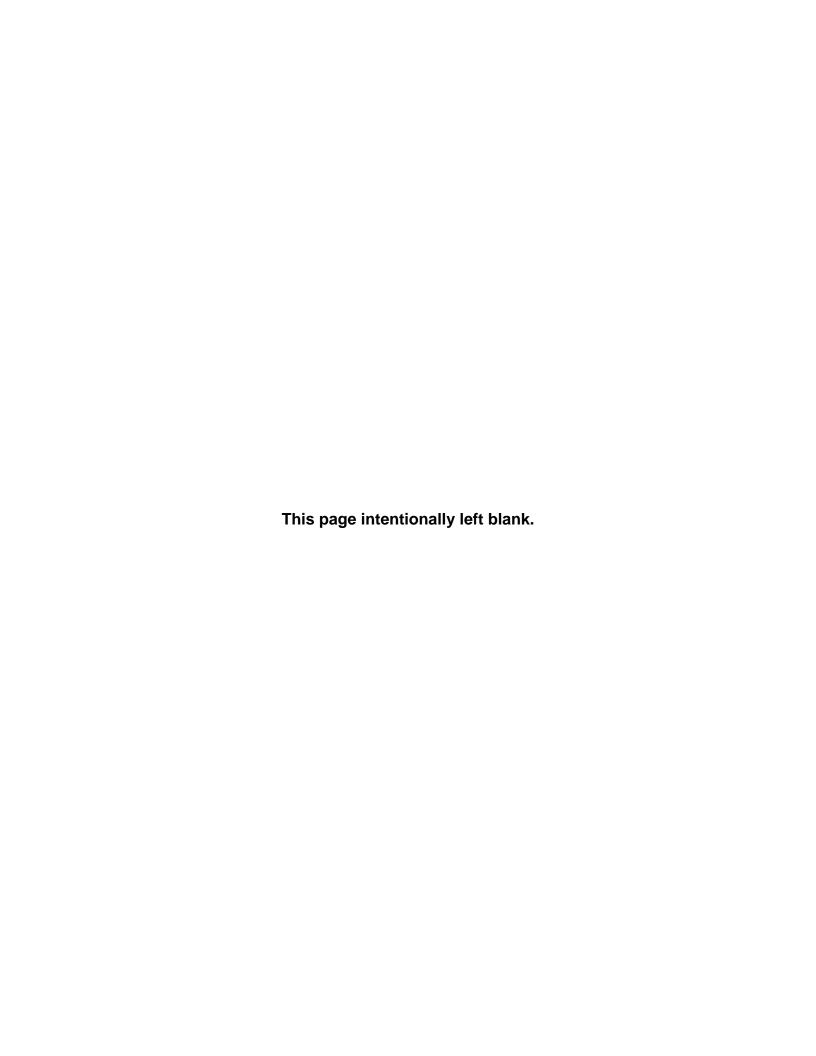




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#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Pleasant Township
Putnam County
217 South Main Street
Columbus Grove, Ohio 45830-1041

To the Board of Trustees:

#### Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements and related notes of Pleasant Township, Putnam County, Ohio (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013.

#### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for preparing and fairly presenting these financial statements in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit; this responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to preparing and fairly presenting financial statements free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to opine on these financial statements based on our audit. We audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the financial audit standards in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require us to plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit requires obtaining evidence about financial statement amounts and disclosures. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including assessing the risks of material financial statement misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In assessing those risks, we consider internal control relevant to the Township's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not to the extent needed to opine on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control. Accordingly, we express no opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of management's accounting policies and the reasonableness of their significant accounting estimates, as well as our evaluation of the overall financial statement presentation.

We believe the audit evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to support our audit opinion.

#### Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

As described in 1B of the financial statements, the Township prepared these financial statements using the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38

Pleasant Township Putnam County Independent Auditor's Report Page 2

and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D), which is an accounting basis other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, to satisfy these requirements.

Although the effects on the financial statements of the variances between the regulatory accounting basis and GAAP are not reasonably determinable, we presume they are material.

Though the Township does not intend these statements to conform to GAAP, auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America require us to include an adverse opinion on GAAP. However, the adverse opinion does not imply the amounts reported are materially misstated under the accounting basis Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit. Our opinion on this accounting basis is in the *Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting* paragraph below.

#### Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the *Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles* paragraph, the financial statements referred to above do not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Township as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, or changes in financial position thereof for the years then ended.

#### Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined cash balances of Pleasant Township, Putnam County, Ohio as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit, described in Note1B.

#### Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 22, 2015, 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. That report describes the scope of our internal control testing over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing, and does not opine on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Township's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Dave Yost Auditor of State

Columbus, Ohio

June 22, 2015

# COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (CASH BASIS) ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

Cook Receipts	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts Property and Other Local Taxes	\$34,973	\$128,739		\$163,712
Charges for Services	φ34,973	1,190		1,190
Licenses, Permits and Fees	53	9,070		9,123
Intergovernmental	19,858	121,396	\$8,500	149,754
Earnings on Investments	173	48	+-,	221
Miscellaneous	5,000	10,571		15,571
Total Cash Receipts	60,057	271,014	8,500	339,571
Cash Disbursements				
Current:				
General Government	45,764	6,545		52,309
Public Safety		14,140		14,140
Public Works		148,440		148,440
Health		28,898		28,898
Human Services	48,245			48,245
Capital Outlay		25,446	8,500	33,946
Total Cash Disbursements	94,009	223,469	\$8,500	325,978
Net Change in Fund Cash Balances	(33,952)	47,545		13,593
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	58,697	339,515		398,212
Fund Cash Balances, December 31				
Restricted		387,060		387,060
Unassigned	24,745			24,745
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$24,745	\$387,060		\$411,805

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

# COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (CASH BASIS) ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2013

	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$35,057	\$126,570		\$161,627
Charges for Services		8,771		8,771
Licenses, Permits and Fees	52	10,985		11,037
Intergovernmental	65,463	119,729	\$5,100	190,292
Insurance Proceeds		16,550		16,550
Earnings on Investments	168	55		223
Miscellaneous	3,029	5,555		8,584
Total Cash Receipts	103,769	288,215	5,100	397,084
Cash Disbursements				
Current:				
General Government	50,550	4,884		55,434
Public Safety	00,000	11,554		11,554
Public Works		179,843		179,843
Health		45,010		45,010
Human Services	43,572	·		43,572
Capital Outlay		58,496	5,100	63,596
Total Cash Disbursements	94,122	299,787	\$5,100	399,009
Net Change in Fund Cash Balances	9,647	(11,572)		(1,925)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	49,050	351,087		400,137
Fund Cash Balances, December 31				
Restricted		339,515		339,515
Unassigned	58,697	338,313		58,697
Onassigned	50,097			50,097
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$58,697	\$339,515		\$398,212

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

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

#### 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 Pleasant Township, Putnam 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. The Township contracts with the Villages of Columbus Grove, Ottawa, and Glandorf to provide fire services.

The Township participates in the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a public entity risk pool. OTARMA provides property and casualty coverage for its members. Note 6 to the financial statements provide additional information for this entity.

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 permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Board 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 financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit.

#### 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.

#### 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 accounts for and reports all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund.

#### 2. Special Revenue Funds

These funds account for and report the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditure for specified purposes other than debt service or

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013 (Continued)

capital projects. The Township had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

<u>Road and Bridge Fund</u> - This fund receives property tax money for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads and bridges.

<u>Gasoline Tax Fund</u> – This fund receives gasoline tax money to pay for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads.

#### 3. Capital Project Fund

This fund accounts for and reports financial resources that are restricted to expenditure for capital outlays, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets. The Township had the following significant Capital Project Fund:

<u>Issue II Fund</u> – The Township received a grant from the State of Ohio to resurface Township roads.

#### 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 level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Board of Trustees must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. 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 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 reappropriated in the subsequent year.

A summary of 2014 and 2013 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

#### 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. The classifications are as follows:

#### 1. Nonspendable

The Township classifies assets as nonspendable when legally or contractually required to maintain the amounts intact.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013 (Continued)

#### 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

Trustees can commit amounts via formal action (resolution). The Township must adhere to these commitments unless the Trustees amend 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 restricted 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 Township Trustees or a Township official delegated that authority by resolution, or by State Statute.

#### 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.

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

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

#### H. Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. The financial statements do not include a liability for unpaid leave.

#### 2. Equity in Pooled Deposits

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

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013 (Continued)

	2014	2013
Demand Deposits	\$411,805	\$398,212

**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, 2014 and 2013 follows:

2014 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$60,570	\$60,057	(\$513)
Special Revenue	262,455	271,014	8,559
Capital Projects	8,500	8,500	
Total	\$331,525	\$339,571	\$8,046

2014 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$119,267	\$94,009	\$25,258
Special Revenue	601,970	223,469	378,501
Capital Projects	8,500	8,500	
Total	\$729,737	\$325,978	\$403,759

2013 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted Actual				
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance		
General	\$66,217	\$103,769	\$37,552		
Special Revenue	264,502	288,215	23,713		
Capital Projects	5,100	5,100			
Total	\$335,819	\$397,084	\$61,265		

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013 (Continued)

2013 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$111,750	\$94,122	\$17,628
Special Revenue	600,604	299,787	300,817
Capital Projects	5,100	5,100	
Total	\$717,454	\$399,009	\$318,445

Contrary to Ohio law, the Township did not post appropriations for on-behalf activity through the Ohio Public Works Commission.

#### 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.

The County is responsible for assessing property, and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on behalf of the Township.

#### 5. Retirement System

The Township's employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is 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 2014 and 2013, 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, 2014.

#### 6. 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. York Risk Pooling Services, Inc. (formally known as American Risk Pooling Consultants, Inc.) (York or Management), functions as the administrator of the Pool and provides underwriting claims, loss control, risk management, and reinsurance services for the Pool.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013 (Continued)

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

The Pool is a member of American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP), which is also administered by York. APEEP provides the Pool with an excess risk-sharing program. Under this arrangement, OTARMA retains insured risks up to an amount specified in the contracts. At December 31, 2013, OTARMA retained \$350,000 for casualty claims and \$250,000 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 government.

#### 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, 2013 and 2012 (the latest information available):

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Assets	\$34,954,286	\$34,771,270
Liabilities	8,486,363	9,355,082
Net Position	\$26,467,923	\$25,416,188

At December 31, 2013 and 2012, respectively, the liabilities above include approximately \$7.9 and \$8.7 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets above also include approximately \$7.4 and \$7.8 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 948 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2013 and 2012, respectively. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. As of December 31, 2013, the Township's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$3.000.

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.

Contributions to OTARMA	
<u>2013</u>	2012
\$5,985	\$5,958

After one year of membership, a member may withdraw on the anniversary of the date of joining OTARMA, if the member notifies OTARMA in writing 60 days prior to the anniversary date. Upon

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013 (Continued)

withdrawal, members are eligible for a full or partial refund of their capital contributions, minus the subsequent year's 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.

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

Pleasant Township
Putnam County
217 South Main Street
Columbus Grove, Ohio 45830-1041

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States and the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*, the financial statements of Pleasant Township, Putnam County, Ohio (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon June 22, 2015 wherein we noted the Township followed financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit.

#### Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

As part of our financial statement audit, we considered the Township's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures appropriate in the circumstances to the extent necessary to support our opinion on the financial statements, but not to the extent necessary to opine on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control. Accordingly, we have not opined on it.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Therefore, unidentified material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist. However, as described in the accompanying schedule of findings we identified certain deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting, that we consider material weaknesses.

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 a combination of internal control deficiencies resulting in a reasonable possibility that internal control will not prevent or detect and timely correct a material misstatement of the Township's financial statements. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance. We consider findings 2014-001 through 2014-003 described in the accompanying schedule of findings to be material weaknesses.

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Pleasant Township
Putnam County
Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over
Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters
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Page 2

#### **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, opining 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 instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which are described in the accompanying schedule of findings as items 2014-003 and 2014-004.

#### Purpose of this Report

This report only describes the scope of our internal control and compliance testing and our testing results, and does not opine on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed under *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Township's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

**Dave Yost** Auditor of State

Columbus, Ohio

June 22, 2015

#### SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

## FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS

#### **FINDING NUMBER 2014-001**

#### **Material Weakness**

#### **Monitoring of Financial Statements**

Inaccurate posting of transactions impedes the ability of the Trustees to accurately assess the financial status of the Township. We noted examples such as the following during our audit:

- \$16,550 of Insurance Proceeds Revenue in the General Fund was posted improperly to the Licenses, Permits, and Fees Revenue line rather than the Insurance Proceeds line item, during 2013.
- As of December 31, 2014 and 2013, unassigned General Fund balances of \$24,745 and \$58,697, respectively, were misclassified as assigned fund balances.

These errors were not identified and corrected prior to the audit due to deficiencies in the Township's financial statement monitoring.

As a result, the Township's financial statements did not correctly reflect the financial activity of the Township. The accompanying financial statements have been adjusted to correct these and other errors ranging from \$5,100 to \$58,697.

We recommend that the Fiscal Officer post all transactions in accordance with the guidance established by the Uniform Accounting Network manual. Further, the Township should adopt policies and procedures including a final review of the financial statements by the Fiscal Officer and Trustees to ensure that errors and omissions are detected and corrected.

#### **FINDING NUMBER 2014-002**

#### **Material Weakness**

#### **Budgeted Receipts Posted**

The Fiscal Officer did not always post budgeted receipts as listed on the Certificate of Estimated Resources. Failure to post correct budget amounts could inhibit the Township's ability to monitor revenue activity. We noted differences between amounts per the certificate of estimated resources and the posted amounts in the following funds:

Fund	Estimated Receipts	Posted Budgeted Receipts	Variance
As of December 31, 2014:			
General Fund	\$66,217	\$62,700	(\$3,517)
Special Revenue Funds: Road and Bridge Fund	101,585	86,600	(14,965)
As of December 31, 2013:			
Capital Projects Fund	8,500		8,500

Pleasant Township Putnam County Schedule of Findings Page 2

These errors were not identified and corrected prior to the audit due to deficiencies in the Township's financial statement monitoring.

As a result, the Township's notes to the financial statements did not correctly reflect the amounts on the certificate of estimated resources. The accompanying notes to the financial statements have been adjusted to correct these errors.

The Township should develop policies and implement procedures to assure that all budgeted receipts posted agree to the certificate of estimated resources.

#### **FINDING NUMBER 2014-003**

#### **Material Weakness and Material Noncompliance**

#### **Recording and Budgeting On Behalf Grants**

Sound accounting practices require money spent on behalf of the Township by other governments be posted to the Township's ledgers. Furthermore, **Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.42** deems the funds appropriated, eliminating the need for the Township to approve a formal appropriation for these monies, however, this section does require the Township to record the appropriation.

In 2014 and 2013 the Township was the beneficiary of \$8,500 and \$5,100, respectively, of Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) money sent directly to the vendor. The Fiscal Officer did not record this activity in the accounting system in 2014 and 2013. In addition, appropriations for this activity were not recorded in 2013. Since the Township is required to record the appropriation they should also request the amount be included on the certificate of estimated resources received from the county budget commission to enhance the Township's monitoring of financial activity. These errors were not identified and corrected prior to the audit due to deficiencies in the Township's financial statement monitoring. The accompanying financial statements and notes to the financial statements were adjusted to reflect the amounts in the Capital Projects Fund.

To account for the appropriations for the OPWC funds, we recommend the Township record the appropriation on the appropriations ledger and request the amount be included on the certificate of estimated resources.

#### **FINDING NUMBER 2014-004**

#### **Finding for Recovery Repaid Under Audit**

Provisions of the Ohio Revised Code address circumstances in which a public official or employee is prohibited from using the authority or influence of his office or employment to secure anything of value which substantially and improperly influences the official or employee in the exercise of his duties, and from having an interest in a public contract.

Ohio Rev. Code § 102.03(D) provides no public official or employee shall use or authorize the use of the authority or influence of his office or employment to secure anything of value or the promise or offer of anything of value which is of such a character as to manifest a substantial and improper influence upon the public official or employee with respect to the person's duties.

Pleasant Township Putnam County Schedule of Findings Page 3

Ohio Rev. Code § 2921.42(A)(1) provides no public official shall knowingly authorize or employ the authority or influence of his office to secure authorization of any public contract in which he, a member of his family, or any of his business associates has an interest.

Ohio Rev. Code § 2921.42(H) provides that any public contract in which a public official, a member of the public official's family, or any of the public official's business associates has an interest in violation of this section is void and unenforceable.

David Tabler, in his capacity as a trustee of Pleasant Township, made a motion and voted to have the Township contract with his son, Alex Tabler, to trim weeds at the cemetery. The Township also contracted with David Tabler's son, Ryan Tabler, to trim weeds at the cemetery, though there was no approval of the Trustees documented in the minutes of the Trustee meetings. The Township paid Alex Tabler \$798 in 2013 and \$620 in 2014 and Ryan Tabler \$232 in 2013 and \$24 in 2014.

In accordance with the foregoing facts and pursuant to Ohio Revised Code § 117.28, a Finding for Recovery for public money illegally expended is hereby issued against Alex Tabler in the amount of \$1,418 and Ryan Tabler in the amount of \$256 and in favor of the Pleasant Township Cemetery Fund.

Additionally, under Ohio law, any public official who either authorizes an illegal expenditure of public funds or supervises the accounts of a public office from which such illegal expenditures is made is liable for the amount of the expenditure. Seward v. National Surety Corp., 120 Ohio St. 47 (1929); 1980 Op. Atty Gen. No. 80-074: Ohio Revised Code § 9.39; State, ex. rel. Village of Linndale v. Masten, 18 Ohio St. 3d 228 (1985). Public officials controlling public funds or property are liable for the loss incurred should such funds or property be fraudulently obtained by another, converted, misappropriated, lost or stolen to the extent recovery or restitution is not obtained from the persons who unlawfully obtained such funds or property. 1980 Op. Atty Gen. No. 80-074.

David Tabler and his bonding company, Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority are jointly and severally liable in the amount of \$1,674, and in favor of the Pleasant Township's Cemetery Fund to the extent recovery is not obtained from Alex Tabler and Ryan Tabler.

This matter will be referred to the Ohio Ethics Commission for their consideration

The finding for recovery was repaid in full on June 18, 2015 by David Tabler.

#### Officials' Response:

We did not receive a response from Officials to these findings.





#### **PLEASANT TOWNSHIP**

#### **PUTNAM 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 JULY 7, 2015