

**BROWN TOWNSHIP  
KNOX COUNTY**

**AUDIT REPORT**

**JANUARY 1, 2014 - DECEMBER 31, 2015**





# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

Township Trustees  
Brown Township  
17681 Workman Road  
Danville, Ohio 43014

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of Brown Township, Knox County, prepared by Wilson, Phillips & Agin, CPA's, Inc., for the audit period January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2015. 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.

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. Brown Township is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

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

Dave Yost  
Auditor of State

September 22, 2016

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**BROWN TOWNSHIP  
KNOX COUNTY  
JANUARY 1, 2014 - DECEMBER 31, 2015**

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**WILSON, PHILLIPS & AGIN, CPA'S, INC.  
1100 BRANDYWINE BLVD. BUILDING G  
ZANESVILLE, OHIO 43701**

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT**

Brown Township  
Knox County  
17681 Workman Road  
Danville, Ohio 43014

To the Township Trustees:

**Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the cash balances, receipts, disbursements by fund type and related notes of the Brown Township, Knox County, as of and for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014.

**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 Note 1 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 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D), which is an accounting basis other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States, 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 permitted 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 Brown Township, Knox County as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, 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 Brown Township, Knox County as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, 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 Note 1.

#### **Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards**

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued a report dated June 30, 2016, on our consideration of Brown 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.

***Wilson, Phillips & Agin, CPA's, Inc.***  
Zanesville, Ohio  
June 30, 2016

**BROWN TOWNSHIP  
KNOX COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND  
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES  
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>			<b>Totals (Memorandum Only)</b>
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Debt Service</u>	
<b>Cash Receipts:</b>				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 39,376	\$ 147,226	\$ -	\$ 186,602
Licenses, Permits and Fees	2,100	-	-	2,100
Intergovernmental	26,296	107,890	-	134,186
Earnings on Investments	50	56	-	106
Miscellaneous	660	825	-	1,485
<b>Total Cash Receipts</b>	<u>68,482</u>	<u>255,997</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>324,479</u>
<b>Cash Disbursements:</b>				
Current:				
General Government	50,938	-	-	50,938
Public Works	969	308,029	-	308,998
Health	3,947	-	-	3,947
Capital Outlay	200	1,500	-	1,700
<b>Total Cash Disbursements</b>	<u>56,054</u>	<u>309,529</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>365,583</u>
<b>Net Change in Fund cash Balance</b>	12,428	(53,532)	-	(41,104)
<b>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</b>	<u>10,120</u>	<u>116,025</u>	<u>497</u>	<u>126,642</u>
<b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</b>				
Restricted	-	62,493	497	62,990
Unassigned (Deficit)	22,548	-	-	22,548
<b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</b>	<u>\$ 22,548</u>	<u>\$ 62,493</u>	<u>\$ 497</u>	<u>\$ 85,538</u>

See notes to financial statements.



**BROWN TOWNSHIP  
KNOX COUNTY**

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

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>			<b>Totals (Memorandum Only)</b>
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Debt Service</u>	
<b>Cash Receipts:</b>				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 33,749	\$ 137,058	\$ -	\$ 170,807
Licenses, Permits and Fees	3,400	-	-	3,400
Intergovernmental	15,978	127,983	-	143,961
Earnings on Investments	44	43	-	87
Miscellaneous	2,198	524	-	2,722
<b>Total Cash Receipts</b>	<u>55,369</u>	<u>265,608</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>320,977</u>
<b>Cash Disbursements:</b>				
Current:				
General Government	57,186	-	-	57,186
Public Works	1,408	189,407	-	190,815
Health	3,921	-	-	3,921
Capital Outlay	-	4,335	-	4,335
<b>Total Cash Disbursements</b>	<u>62,515</u>	<u>193,742</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>256,257</u>
<b>Excess of Cash Receipts Over (Under) Cash Disbursements</b>	(7,146)	71,866	-	64,720
<b>Other Financing Receipts</b>				
Other Financing Sources	2,559	-	-	2,559
<b>Total Other Financing Receipts</b>	<u>2,559</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,559</u>
<b>Net Change in Fund cash Balance</b>	(4,587)	71,866	-	67,279
<b>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</b>	<u>14,707</u>	<u>44,159</u>	<u>497</u>	<u>59,363</u>
<b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</b>				
Restricted	-	116,025	497	116,522
Unassigned (Deficit)	10,120	-	-	10,120
<b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</b>	<u>\$ 10,120</u>	<u>\$ 116,025</u>	<u>\$ 497</u>	<u>\$ 126,642</u>

See notes to financial statements.

**BROWN TOWNSHIP  
KNOX COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**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 Brown Township, Knox County, (the Township) as a body corporate and politic. A publically-elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides general government services, road and bridge maintenance, and cemetery maintenance. The Knox County Sheriff provides police protection.

The Township participates in a jointly governed organization and a public entity risk pool. Notes 6 and 7 to the financial statements provide additional information for these entities. These organizations are:

Public Entity Risk Pool:  
*Ohio Government Risk Management Plan*

Jointly Governed Organization  
*Eastern Knox County Joint Fire District*

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

**B. Basis of Accounting**

These financial statements follow the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code 117-2-03(D). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Township recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code 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:

**General Fund**

The General Fund accounts for and reports all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund.

**BROWN TOWNSHIP  
KNOX COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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

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

**Gasoline Tax Fund** – This fund receives gasoline tax monies to pay for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads.

**Road District Fund** – This fund receives property tax monies to pay for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads and bridges.

**Debt Service Funds**

These funds account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for principal and interest. The Township had the following significant Debt Service Fund:

**General Note Retirement Fund** – This fund receives property tax money for the retirement of debt principal and interest related to a maintenance equipment purchase.

**E. Budgetary Process**

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

**Appropriations**

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function and object level of control and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Trustees must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end.

**Estimated Resources**

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

**Encumbrances**

The Ohio Revised Code requires the Township to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. The Township did not use the encumbrance method of accounting which includes prior certification of expenditures as outlined in Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41(D).

A summary of 2015 and 2014 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

**BROWN TOWNSHIP  
KNOX COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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

**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.

**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.

**BROWN TOWNSHIP  
KNOX COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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

**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 CASH AND INVESTMENTS**

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

	2015	2014
Demand Deposits	\$ 85,538	\$ 126,642
	\$ 85,538	\$ 126,642

**Deposits:** Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation.

**3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY**

Budgetary activity for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014 follows:

2015 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 52,780	\$ 68,482	\$ 15,702
Special Revenue	258,390	255,997	(2,393)
Total	\$ 311,170	\$ 324,479	\$ 13,309

2015 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 62,899	\$ 56,054	\$ 6,845
Special Revenue	374,415	309,529	64,886
Total	\$ 437,314	\$ 365,583	\$ 71,731

2014 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 52,496	\$ 57,928	\$ 5,432
Special Revenue	250,394	265,608	15,214
Total	\$ 302,890	\$ 323,536	\$ 20,646

**BROWN TOWNSHIP  
KNOX COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY (Continued)**

2014 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 67,203	\$ 62,515	\$ 4,688
Special Revenue	294,551	193,742	100,809
Total	\$ 361,754	\$ 256,257	\$ 105,497

Contrary to ORC 5705.41 (D), the township made expenditures prior to certification.

**4. PROPERTY TAX**

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which rates are adopted by Township Trustees. 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 SYSTEMS**

The Township’s full-time employees and elected officials belong to the Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) of Ohio. OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple employer plan. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes the plan benefits, which include postretirement healthcare, and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2015 and 2014, OPERS members contributed 10.00% of their gross wages and the Township contributed an amount equal to 14.00% of participant’s gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2015.

**6. RISK MANAGEMENT**

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

The Township pays the State Workers’ Compensation System a premium based on a rate of per \$100 of salaries. This rate is calculated based on accident history and administrative costs. The System administers and pays all claims.

The Township belongs to the Ohio Plan Risk Management, Inc. (OPRM) – formerly known as the Ohio Government Risk Management Plan, (The Plan), a non-assessable, unincorporated non-profit association providing a formalized, jointly administered self-insurance risk management program and other administrative services to Ohio governments (“Members”). The Plan is legally separate from its member governments.

**BROWN TOWNSHIP  
KNOX COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**6. RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)**

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.

OPRM coverage programs 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 41.5% (effective November 1, 2011) of the premium and losses of the first \$250,000 casualty treaty and 10% of the first \$1,000,000 property treaty. Effective November 1, 2012 (and through October 2014) the plan increased its retention to 50% of the first \$250,000 casualty treaty. The Plan's property retention remained unchanged from prior years. This change was made to balance the reinsurance market conditions. Members are only responsible for their self-retention (deductible) amounts, which vary from member to member. OPRM had 774 and 783 members as of December 31, 2013 and 2014, respectively.

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.

Settlement amounts did not exceed insurance coverage for the past three years.

The Pools audited financial statements conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and retained earnings at December 31, 2013 and 2014 the latest information available.

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
Assets	\$ 13,774,304	\$ 14,830,185
Liabilities	<u>(7,968,395)</u>	<u>(8,942,504)</u>
Retained Earnings	<u>\$ 5,805,909</u>	<u>\$ 5,887,681</u>

You can read the complete audited financial statements for OPRM at the Plan's website, [www.ohioplan.org](http://www.ohioplan.org).

**7. JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATION**

The Eastern Knox County Joint Fire District (the District) is a jointly governed organization pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 505.3371. The District was formed in 2001 and consists of Brown, Butler, Harrison, Howard, Jefferson and Union Townships and the Villages of Brinkhaven and Danville. The Board consists of a trustee/councilperson from each township and village and an at large member appointed by the vote of the District Board. Revenues are generated by a 5 mil operating levy.

**WILSON, PHILLIPS & AGIN, CPA'S, INC.  
1100 BRANDYWINE BLVD. BUILDING G  
ZANESVILLE, OHIO 43701**

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

Brown Township  
Knox County  
17681 Workman Road  
Danville, Ohio 43014

To the Township Trustees:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards general accepted in the United States and the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*, the financial statements of Brown Township, Knox County as of and for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the related notes to the financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated June 30, 2016, 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 Brown 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 opinions 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.

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.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider material weaknesses. However, unidentified material weaknesses may exist.



***Compliance and Other Matters***

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Brown 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 was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed two instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as items 2015-001 and 2015-002.

***Entity's Response to Finding***

The Township's response to the findings identified in our audit is described in the accompanying schedule of findings. We did not audit the Township's response and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

***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.

***Wilson, Phillips & Agin, CPA's, Inc.***  
Zanesville, Ohio  
June 30, 2016

**BROWN TOWNSHIP  
KNOX COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014**

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

**FINDING NUMBER 2015-001**

**Noncompliance – Certification of Funds**

Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41(D) prohibits a subdivision or taxing authority from making any contract or ordering any expenditure of money unless a certificate signed by the fiscal officer is attached thereto. The fiscal officer must certify that the amount required to meet any such contract or expenditure has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury, or is in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrance.

There are several exceptions to the standard requirement stated above that a fiscal officer's certificate must be obtained prior to a subdivision or taxing authority entering into a contract or order involving the expenditure of money. The main exceptions are: "then and now" certificates, blanket certificates and super blanket certificates, which are provided for in Sections 5705.41(D)(1) and 5705.41(D)(3), respectively, of the Ohio Revised Code.

- If the fiscal officer can certify that both at the time that the contract or order was made ("then") and at the time that the fiscal officer is completing the certification ("now"), that sufficient funds were available or in the process of collection, to the credit of a proper fund, properly appropriated and free from any previous encumbrance, the Township can authorize the drawing of a warrant for the payment of the amount due. The Township has 30 days from the receipt of the "then and now" certificate to approve payment by ordinance or resolution.. Amounts less than \$3,000 may be paid by the fiscal officer without a resolution or ordinance upon completion of the "then and now" certificate, provided that the expenditure is otherwise lawful. This does not eliminate any otherwise applicable requirement for approval of the expenditures by the Township.
- Blanket Certificates. Fiscal officers may prepare "blanket" certificates if the Township has approved their use and established maximum amounts.
- Super Blanket Certificates. The Township may also make expenditures and contracts for any amount from a specific line item appropriation account in a specified fund upon certification of the fiscal officer for most professional services, fuel, oil, food items, and any other specific recurring and reasonable predictable operation expense. This certification is not to extend beyond the current year. More than one so-called "super blanket" certificate may be outstanding at a particular time for any line item appropriation.

**BROWN TOWNSHIP  
KNOX COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014**

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

**FINDING NUMBER 2015-001 (Continued)**

The Township did not certify the availability of funds prior to the purchase commitment for 100% of expenditures tested in 2015 and 2014. For these item the Township also did not prepare blanket certificates, super blankets certificates or then and now certificates in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code. Failure to properly certify the availability of funds can result in overspending funds and negative cash fund balances.

We recommend the Township certify purchases to which Section 5705.41(D) applies. The most convenient certification method is to use purchase orders that include the certification language 5705.41(D) requires to authorize disbursements. The Fiscal Officer should sign the certification at the time the Township incurs a commitment and only when the requirements of 5705.41(D) are satisfied. The Fiscal Officer should post approved purchase commitments to the proper code, to reduce available appropriations.

Client Response: We have not received an response from the client.

**FINDING NUMBER 2015-002**

**Noncompliance**

Ohio Administrative Code 117-2-03 (B) and 126:3-1-01(A)(2)(a) and Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and 1724.05, and AOS Bulletin 2015-07 states that the Auditor of State has implemented the Hinkle Annual Financial Data Reporting System (Hinkle System). The Hinkle System is an internet based application that allows certain financial statement, debt, and demographic data to be entered, uploaded and transmitted to the AOS to satisfy the filing requirements prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) and Ohio Administrative Code (OAC). All township's, were required to report via the Hinkle System for periods ended December 31, 2014 and thereafter.

Per Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38, entities filing on a cash basis must file annual reports with the Auditor of State within 60 days of the fiscal year-end. The Auditor of State may prescribe by rule or guidelines the forms for these reports. However, if the Auditor of State has not prescribed a reporting form, the public office shall submit its report on the form used by the public office. Any public office not filing the report by the required date shall pay a penalty of \$25 for each day the report remains unfiled, not to exceed \$750. The AOS may waive these penalties, upon filing of the past due financial report.

In 2014, the Township did not enter the required data via the Hinkle System and filed 2015 late. We recommend the Township file its year end required report via the Hinkle System as soon as possible.

Client Response: We have not received a response from client.

**BROWN TOWNSHIP  
KNOX COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS  
DECEMBER 31, 2015**

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <b>Explain:</b>
2013-001	ORC 5705.41 (D) Expenditures prior to certification	No	Not Corrected - Refer to Findng 2015-001
2013-002	ORC 5705.41(B) Expenditures exceeding appropriations	Yes	Finding No Longer Valid



# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

**BROWN TOWNSHIP**

**KNOX 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  
OCTOBER 4, 2016**