



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

**NOBLE COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
NOBLE COUNTY
DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

Noble County Soil and Water Conservation District
Noble County
46049 Marietta Road, Suite 5
Caldwell, Ohio 43724

We have performed the procedures enumerated below, which were agreed to by the Board of Supervisors (the Board) and the management of the Noble County Soil and Water Conservation District (the District) on the receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the District's cash-basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances, included in the information provided to us by the management of the District. The District is responsible for the receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the cash basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016 and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances included in the information provided to us by the District. 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.

This report only describes exceptions exceeding \$10.

Cash and Investments

1. We recalculated the December 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016 bank reconciliations. We found the reconciliation at December 31, 2017, did not foot properly. There was \$50 in cash on hand that was included on the reconciliation; however, it was not included in the grand total.
2. We agreed the January 1, 2016 beginning fund balances recorded in the District's Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances to the December 31, 2015 balances in the prior year documentation in the prior year Agreed-Upon Procedures working papers. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the January 1, 2017 beginning fund balances recorded in the District's Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances to the December 31, 2016 balances in the District's Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances. We found no exceptions.
3. We agreed the totals per the District Fund bank reconciliations to the total of the December 31, 2017 and 2016 fund cash balances reported in the District's Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances for the District Fund. No exceptions noted.
4. We confirmed the December 31, 2017 bank account depository balances for the District Fund with the District's financial institutions. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the confirmed balances to the amounts appearing in the December 31, 2017 bank reconciliation without exception.

Cash and Investments (Continued)

5. We compared the December 31, 2017 Special Fund depository balance from the Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances to the amount reported in the Noble County Cash Balance Report. We found no exceptions.
6. We inspected investments held at December 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016 to determine that they:
 - a. Were of a type authorized by Ohio Rev. Code §§ 135.13, 135.14 or 135.144. We found no exceptions
 - b. Mature within the prescribed time limits noted in Ohio Rev. Code § 135.13 or 135.14. We noted no exceptions.

Intergovernmental

We applied the following procedures for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016:

We traced the total of the receipts from the State Distribution Transaction Lists (DTL) and the total of the receipts from the County Auditor's Transaction History Report to the total amounts recorded in the respective receipt classification in the Special Fund in the Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances. The amounts agreed.

All Other Cash Receipts

We haphazardly selected 10 other cash receipts from the year ended December 31, 2017 and 10 other cash receipts from the year ended 2016 recorded in the duplicate cash receipts book and:

1. Agreed the receipt amount to the amount recorded in the General Ledger. The amounts agreed.
2. Confirmed the amount charged complied with rates in force during the period, if applicable. We could not agree the amounts charged for two receipts tested in 2016 to the rates in force during the period. Because we did not inspect all receipts, our report provides no assurance regarding whether or not similar errors occurred.
3. Inspected the General Ledger to determine the receipt was posted to the proper funds, and was recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.

Payroll Cash Disbursements

1. We haphazardly selected one payroll check for all employee from 2017 and one payroll check for all employee from 2016 from the Noble County Distribution Report and:
 - a. We compared the hours and pay rate, or salary recorded in the Noble County Distribution Report to supporting documentation (timecard, legislatively or statutorily-approved rate). We found no exceptions.
 - b. We inspected the Noble County Distribution Report to determine whether salaries and benefits were paid only from the *Special Fund*, as required by the SWCD Administrative Handbook Chapter 5. We found no exceptions.
 - c. We inspected the Noble County Distribution Report to determine whether the check was classified as *salaries* and was posted to the proper year. We found no exceptions.

Non-Payroll Cash Disbursements

We haphazardly selected five disbursements from the *Special Fund* and five disbursements from the *District Fund* from the General Ledger for the year ended December 31, 2017 and five from the *Special Fund* and five from the *District Fund* for the year ended 2016 and determined whether:

- a. The disbursements were for a proper public purpose. We found no exceptions.
- b. For *District Fund* disbursements, we determined whether:
 - i. The check number, date, payee name and amount recorded on the returned, canceled check agreed to the similar data recorded in the General Ledger and to the names and amounts on the supporting invoices. We found no exceptions.
 - ii. The payment was posted to a fund consistent with the purpose for which the fund's cash can be used. We found no exceptions.
- c. For *Special Fund* disbursements, we determined whether:
 - i. The payee name and amount recorded on the voucher submitted to the County Auditor agreed to the payee name and amount recorded in the General Ledger and County Ledgers. We found no exceptions.
 - ii. The voucher was signed by the Board Chairman and approved by a majority of the Board of Supervisors. We found no exceptions.

Special Fund Budgetary Compliance

1. We inspected the District's Special Fund Budget Request submitted to the County Commissioners for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016. We noted the request only included the Special Fund's *Needs* and did not address the *Income* and *Balances* anticipated for carry over from the current year, as required by the SWCD Administrative Handbook, Chapter 5. We also compared the budget amounts to the Special Fund Budgetary Activity footnote of the Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances financial report. The amounts agreed.
2. We compared the total estimated receipts reported on the Special Fund Budgetary Activity footnote of the Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances to the *Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources*, required by Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.36(A)(1), and to the amounts recorded in the Noble County Transaction History Report for the Special Fund for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016. The Noble County Transaction History Report and the final Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources recorded budgeted (i.e.) certified resources for the Special Fund of \$176,500 for 2017 and \$135,988 for 2016. The Special Fund Budgetary Activity footnote 3 of the Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances reflected \$130,920 for both 2017 and 2016. The fiscal officer should periodically compare amounts recorded in the Noble County Transaction History Report and Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources to amounts recorded in the Special Fund Budgetary Activity footnote 3 of the Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances. If the amounts don't agree, the Board of Supervisors may be using inaccurate information for budgeting and monitoring purposes.
3. We inspected the appropriation measures adopted for 2017 and 2016 to determine whether the Supervisors appropriated separate amounts within the Special Fund for "each office, department, and division, and within each, the amount appropriated for personal services," as is required by Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.38(C). We found no exceptions.
4. We compared total appropriations required by Ohio Rev. Code §§ 5705.38 and 5705.40, to the amounts recorded in the Noble County Transaction History Report for the Special Fund for 2017 and 2016, and to the appropriations reported on the Special Fund Budgetary Activity footnote of the Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances. The amounts agreed.

Special Fund Budgetary Compliance (Continued)

5. Ohio Rev. Code §§ 5705.36(A)(5) and 5705.28(B)(2)(C) prohibit appropriations from exceeding estimated resources. We compared total appropriations to total estimated resources for the Special Fund for the year ended December 31, 2017 and 2016. Appropriations did not exceed estimated resources for the Special Fund.
6. Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(B) prohibits expenditures (disbursements plus year-end certified commitments (i.e. encumbrances)) from exceeding appropriations. We compared total disbursements plus outstanding year-end encumbrances to total appropriations for the year ended December 31, 2017 and 2016 for the "Special" Fund, as recorded in the Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances. Expenditures did not exceed appropriations for the Special Fund.
7. We inspected the Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016 for negative cash fund balances. Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.10(l) provides that money paid into a fund must be used for the purposes for which such fund is established. As a result, a negative fund cash balance indicates that money from one fund was used to cover the expenses of another. No funds had negative cash fund balances.

Compliance – Contracts & Expenditures

We inquired of management and inspected the General Ledger for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016 to determine if the District purchased equipment and services allowed by Ohio Rev. Code § 1515.09 or purchased goods or services allowed by Ohio Rev. Code § 1515.08(H)(1) whose cost, other than personal service compensation or office space rent, exceeded \$50,000. There were no purchases exceeding \$50,000.

Other Compliance

Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 requires Districts to file their financial information in the HINKLE system within 60 days after the close of the fiscal year. This statute also permits the Auditor of State to extend the deadline for filing a financial report and establish terms and conditions for any such extension. Auditor of State established policies, in addition to filing extensions granted for extenuating circumstances, allow for refiling complete financial statements, as defined in AOS Bulletin 2015-007 in the Hinkle System for December 31, 2017 and 2016 fiscal year ends included in 2015-2016 or 2016-2017 agreed up on procedure engagements, subsequent to the District's deadline where the initial filing was filed on time but incomplete. We confirmed the District filed their complete financial statements, as defined by AOS Bulletin 2015-007 and Auditor of State established policy, within the allotted timeframe for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016 in the Hinkle system. There were no exceptions.

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

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This report is to provide assistance in the evaluation of the District's receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in their cash-basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances and is not suitable for any other purpose.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Yost". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "D".

Dave Yost
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

October 17, 2018

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NOBLE COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

NOBLE 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
NOVEMBER 8, 2018**