



Dave Yost • Auditor of State



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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

Stark County Soil and Water Conservation District
Stark County
2650 Richville Drive SE, Suite 100
Massillon, Ohio 44646

We have performed the procedures enumerated below, which were agreed to by the Board of Supervisors (the Board) and the management of the Stark 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 no exceptions.
2. We agreed the January 1, 2016 beginning fund balances recorded in the District's Annual Report to the December 31, 2015 balances in the 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 Annual Report to the December 31, 2016 balances in the District's Annual Report. 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 Fund Check Registry for the District Fund. The amounts agreed in 2017. Noted a variance of \$3,583 in 2016.
4. We observed the December 31, 2017 balances for the District Fund on the financial institutions' websites. The balances agreed. We also agreed the confirmed balances to the amounts appearing in the December 31, 2017 bank reconciliation without exception.
5. We compared the December 31, 2017 Special Fund depository balance from the *Cash Basis Annual Financial Report* to the amount reported in the Stark County Month End Fund Balance Report. We found no exceptions.

6. We selected the one reconciling debit (such as an outstanding check) from the December 31, 2017 bank reconciliation:
 - a. We footed the supporting outstanding check list and compared it to the cash reconciliation. We found no exceptions.
 - b. We traced the check to the subsequent February bank statement. We found no exceptions.
 - c. We traced the amounts and dates to the check register, to determine the debits were dated prior to December 31. There were no exceptions.
7. 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 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.

Intergovernmental and Other Confirmable Cash Receipts

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

- 1 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 Journal Entries transferring funds to the total amounts recorded in the respective receipt classification in the Special Fund in the County Revenue Transaction Report. The amounts agreed.
- 2 We haphazardly selected five other confirmable receipts from the year ended December 31, 2017 and five other confirmable receipts from the year ended December 31, 2016 in the Detail of Revenue Transaction Report from funds other than the *Special Fund* such as grants, municipal and district funds.
 - a. We agreed to Memorandum of Understanding Agreements with the subdivisions the amounts paid from the municipalities and districts to the District. We found no exceptions.
 - b. We inspected the Revenue Transaction Report to determine whether these receipts were allocated to the proper fund. We found no exceptions.

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 Revenue Transaction Report. We found 1 of the 10 receipts in 2017 was entered as a negative expenditure in the Expenditure Transaction Report instead of the Revenue Transaction Report. The amounts agreed for 2016.
2. Confirmed the amount charged complied with rates in force during the period, if applicable. We found no exceptions in 2017. We noted 2 of the 10 receipts in 2016 did not have proper supporting documentation to confirm to the rates in force.
3. Inspected the Revenue Transaction Report to determine the receipt was posted to the proper fund, and was recorded in the proper year. We found 1 of the 10 receipts in 2017 was entered as a negative expenditure in the Expenditure Transaction Report instead of the Revenue Transaction Report. No exceptions were noted in 2016.

Payroll Cash Disbursements

1. We haphazardly selected one payroll check for five employees from 2017 and one payroll check for five employees from 2016 from the County Payroll Register and:
 - a. We compared the hours and pay rate, or salary recorded in the County Payroll Register to signed Payroll Expense Authorization Reports. We found no exceptions.
 - b. We inspected the County Payroll Register 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 County Payroll Register to determine whether the check was classified as *salaries* and was posted to the proper year. We found no exceptions.
2. For any new employees selected in procedure 1, we inspected the following information in the employees' personnel files to determine it was consistent with the information used to compute gross and net pay related to the check:
 - a. Name
 - b. Authorized salary or pay rate
 - c. Retirement system participation and payroll withholding
 - d. Federal, State & Local income tax withholding authorization and withholding
 - e. Any other deduction authorizations (insurance, deferred compensation, etc.)

We found no exceptions related to procedures a. – e. above.

3. We haphazardly selected and recomputed one termination payment (unused vacation, etc.) using the following information, and agreed the computation to the amount paid as recorded in the County Payroll Register:
 - a. Accumulated leave records
 - b. The employee's pay rate in effect as of the termination date
 - c. The District's payout policy.

The amount paid was consistent with the information recorded in a. through c. above.

Non-Payroll Cash Disbursements

1. We haphazardly selected five disbursements from the *Special Fund* and five disbursements from the *District Fund* from the Check Registry Report 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* and other funds 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 Check Registry Report and to the names and amounts on the supporting invoices. No exceptions were noted for 2017. We found 1 of the 5 checks in 2016 was for reimbursement of travel and exceeding the meal allowance in the policy manual by \$30.35.
 - 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 invoice submitted to the County Auditor agreed to the payee name and amount recorded in the County Expenditure Ledger. We found no exceptions.
 - ii. The names and amounts on the voucher agreed to supporting invoices. We found no exceptions.

- iii. The invoice was signed by the District Administrator or Administrative Assistant and approved by a majority of the Board of Supervisors as evidenced through inclusion in the listing for the approval to pay bills at the Board meetings. 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. The request included the Special Fund's *Needs, 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 Cash Basis Annual Financial Report. The amounts agreed.
2. We compared the total estimated receipts reported on the Special Fund Budgetary Activity footnote of the Cash Basis Annual Financial Report to the *Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources*, required by Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.36(A)(1), and to the amounts recorded in the County Revenue BVA Report for the Special Fund for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016. The amounts agreed.
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 Section 5705.38(C). We found no exceptions.
4. We compared total appropriations required by Ohio Rev. Code Sections 5705.38 and 5705.40, to the amounts recorded in the County Expense BVA Report for the Special Fund for 2017 and 2016, and to the appropriations reported on the Special Fund Budgetary Activity footnote of the Cash Basis Annual Financial Report. The amounts agreed in 2017. We noted the Board approved appropriations were less than reported in the annual report and on the County Expense BVA report by \$2,000 in 2016.
5. Ohio Rev. Code Sections 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 Section 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 Annual Cash Basis Financial Report. Expenditures did not exceed appropriations for the Special Fund.
7. We compared interfund transfers-in to transfers-out to ensure the agreed and inspected the transfer activity to determine they were approved by the Board of Supervisors. We found no exceptions.
8. We inspected the Annual Cash Basis Financial Report for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016 for negative cash fund balances. Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.10 (I) 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 District Check Registry and County Expenditure Ledger for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016 to determine if the District purchased equipment and services allowed by ORC 1515.09 or purchased goods or services allowed by ORC 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 Section 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 was no exception for 2017. Financial information for 2016 was filed on March 6, 2017 which was not within the allotted timeframe.

The District has responded to issues discussed in this report. You may obtain a copy of their responses from John Weedon at (330) 451-7646.

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.

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.



Dave Yost
Auditor of State

Columbus, Ohio

September 13, 2018

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STARK COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

STARK 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**