



bhm cpa group, inc.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

UNION TOWNSHIP
HIGHLAND COUNTY

REGULAR AUDIT

For the Years Ended December 31, 2017 and 2016
Fiscal Years Audited Under GAGAS: 2017 and 2016

One East Campus View Blvd. Suite 300 • Columbus, OH 43235 • (614) 430-0590 • FAX (614) 448-4519
PO Box 875 • 129 Pinckney Street • Circleville, OH 43113 • (740) 474-5210 • FAX (740) 474-7319
PO Box 687 • 528 S. West Street • Piketon, OH 45661 • (740) 289-4131 • FAX (740) 289-3639

www.bhmcpgroup.com



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

Board of Trustees
Union Township
9219 Fawley Road
Lynchburg, Ohio 45142

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of Union Township, Highland County, prepared by BHM CPA Group, Inc., for the period January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2017. Based upon this review, we have accepted this report 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. Union 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

October 14, 2018

This page intentionally left blank.

Union Township
Highland County
Table of Contents

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
Independent Auditor’s Report.....	1
Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes In Fund Balances (Cash Basis) – All Governmental Fund Types For the Year Ended December 31, 2017.....	3
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year Ended December 31, 2017.....	4
Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes In Fund Balances (Cash Basis) – All Governmental Fund Types For the Year Ended December 31, 2016.....	10
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year Ended December 31, 2016.....	11
Independent Auditor’s Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>	17
Schedule of Findings	19
Schedule of Prior Findings.....	21

This page intentionally left blank.



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Union Township
Highland County
9219 Fawley Road
Lynchburg, Ohio 45142

To the Board of Trustees:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the cash balances, receipts and disbursements by fund type, and related notes of the Union Township, Highland County, Ohio (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016.

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 such 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 opinions.

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 of America (GAAP), 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, 2017 and 2016, and the respective 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 cash balances, receipts and disbursements by fund type, and related notes of the Union Township, Highland County as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, 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 our report dated August 24, 2018, 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.



BHM CPA Group, Inc.
Piketon, Ohio
August 24, 2018

**UNION TOWNSHIP
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (CASH BASIS)
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		Totals (Memorandum Only)
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	
Cash Receipts:			
Property Taxes	\$ 37,390	\$ 21,354	\$ 58,744
Intergovernmental	17,579	107,315	124,894
Earnings on Investments	86	151	237
Miscellaneous	-	1,126	1,126
	<u>55,055</u>	<u>129,946</u>	<u>185,001</u>
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	62,174	-	62,174
Public Works	6,135	81,889	88,024
Health	-	7,326	7,326
Capital Outlay	-	131,145	131,145
	<u>68,309</u>	<u>220,360</u>	<u>288,669</u>
Excess of Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(13,254)	(90,414)	(103,668)
Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements):			
Other Sources	-	1,120	1,120
Total Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)	<u>-</u>	<u>1,120</u>	<u>1,120</u>
Net Change in Fund Cash Balances	(13,254)	(89,294)	(102,548)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>95,398</u>	<u>254,590</u>	<u>349,988</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31			
Restricted	-	165,296	165,296
Unassigned (Deficit)	<u>82,144</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>82,144</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$ 82,144</u>	<u>\$ 165,296</u>	<u>\$ 247,440</u>

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

**UNION TOWNSHIP
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2017**

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 Union Township, Highland County (the Township), as a body corporate and politic. A publicly-elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides general government services, road maintenance and cemetery maintenance.

The Township participates in a public entity risk pool. Note 6 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity.

Public Entity Risk Pool:

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.

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 the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. The 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 Auditor of State prescribes or permits.

C. Cash and Deposits

The township deposits all available funds in an interest earning checking account and certificates of deposit at a local commercial bank. All deposits are valued at cost.

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 an reported in another fund.

**UNION TOWNSHIP
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2017**

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

D. Fund Accounting (Continued)

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

Gasoline Tax Fund – This fund receives gasoline tax money to pay for constructing, maintaining, and repairing township roads.

Cemetery Levy Fund – This fund receives property tax money from the levy for providing cemetery maintenance.

The Township's expendable trust funds are used to account for money bequeath to the Township for the care and up-keep of Cedar Chapel Cemetery and Beaver's Cemetery.

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, function or object 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 also 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. The Township did not encumber all commitments required by Ohio law.

A summary of 2017 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

**UNION TOWNSHIP
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2017**

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.

**UNION TOWNSHIP
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2017**

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

G. Property, Plant and Equipment

The Township records disbursements for acquisition 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 Cash

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

	<u>2017</u>
Demand Deposits	<u>\$ 247,440</u>

Deposits: Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation; or collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the Township.

3. Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2017 as follows:

2017 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 45,105	\$ 55,055	\$ 9,950
Special Revenue	138,763	131,066	(7,697)
Total	\$ 183,868	\$ 186,121	\$ 2,253

2017 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 84,333	\$ 68,309	\$ 16,024
Special Revenue	202,091	220,360	(18,269)
Total	\$ 286,424	\$ 288,669	\$ (2,245)

**UNION TOWNSHIP
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2017**

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 property owner elects to pay semiannually, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due to 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 elected officials belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes the plan's benefits, which include postretirement healthcare and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2016, 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, 2016.

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. 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, 2017, 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.

**UNION TOWNSHIP
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2017**

6. Risk Management (Continued)

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, 2017:

	2017
Assets	\$40,010,732
Liabilities	8,675,465
Net Position	\$31,335,267

At December 31, 2017 the liabilities above include approximately \$8.0 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets above also include approximately \$6.9 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 1,016 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2017. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. As of December 31, 2017, the Township's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$1,000.

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.

<u>2017 Contributions to OTARMA</u>
\$3,385

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 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

**UNION TOWNSHIP
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (CASH BASIS)
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		Totals (Memorandum Only)
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	
Cash Receipts:			
Property Taxes	\$ 31,934	\$ 19,929	\$ 51,863
Intergovernmental	21,513	108,845	130,358
Charges for Services	-	520	520
Earnings on Investments	-	174	174
Miscellaneous	83	7,517	7,600
Total Cash Receipts	<u>53,530</u>	<u>136,985</u>	<u>190,515</u>
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	36,033	-	36,033
Public Works	-	77,386	77,386
Health	-	5,580	5,580
Total Cash Disbursements	<u>36,033</u>	<u>82,966</u>	<u>118,999</u>
Net Change in Fund Cash Balances	17,497	54,019	71,516
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>77,901</u>	<u>200,571</u>	<u>278,472</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31			
Restricted	-	254,590	254,590
Unassigned (Deficit)	<u>95,398</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>95,398</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$ 95,398</u>	<u>\$ 254,590</u>	<u>\$ 349,988</u>

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

**UNION TOWNSHIP
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2016**

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 Union Township, Highland County (the Township), as a body corporate and politic. A publicly-elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides general government services, road maintenance and cemetery maintenance.

The Township participates in a public entity risk pool. Note 6 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity. This organization is:

Public Entity Risk Pool:

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.

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 the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. The 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 Auditor of State prescribes or permits.

C. Cash and Deposits

The township deposits all available funds in an interest earning checking account and certificates of deposit at a local commercial bank. All deposits are valued at cost.

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 an reported in another fund.

**UNION TOWNSHIP
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2016**

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

D. Fund Accounting (Continued)

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

Gasoline Tax Fund – This fund receives gasoline tax money to pay for constructing, maintaining, and repairing township roads.

Cemetery Levy Fund – This fund receives property tax money from the levy for providing cemetery maintenance.

The Township's expendable trust funds are used to account for money bequeath to the Township for the care and up-keep of Cedar Chapel Cemetery and Beaver's Cemetery.

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, function or object 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 also 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. The Township did not encumber all commitments required by Ohio law.

A summary of 2016 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

**UNION TOWNSHIP
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2016**

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.

**UNION TOWNSHIP
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2016**

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

G. Property, Plant and Equipment

The Township records disbursements for acquisition 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 Cash

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

	<u>2016</u>
Demand Deposits	<u>\$ 349,988</u>

Deposits: Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation; or collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the Township.

3. Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2016 as follows:

2016 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 38,715	\$ 53,530	\$ 14,815
Special Revenue	127,211	136,985	9,774
Total	\$ 165,926	\$ 190,515	\$ 24,589

2016 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 58,439	\$ 36,033	\$ 22,406
Special Revenue	172,634	82,966	89,668
Total	\$ 231,073	\$ 118,999	\$ 112,074

**UNION TOWNSHIP
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2016**

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 property owner elects to pay semiannually, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due to 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 elected officials belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes the plan's benefits, which include postretirement healthcare and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2016, 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, 2016.

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. 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, 2016, 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.

**UNION TOWNSHIP
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2016**

6. Risk Management (Continued)

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, 2016 (the latest information available).

	2016
Assets	\$38,473,283
Liabilities	8,244,140
Net Position	\$30,229,143

At December 31, 2016 the liabilities above include approximately \$7.4 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets above also include approximately \$6.9 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 1,010 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2016. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. As of December 31, 2016, the Township's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$1,000.

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.

<u>2016 Contributions to OTARMA</u>
\$3,289

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 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.



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

Union Township
Highland County
9219 Fawley Road
Lynchburg, Ohio 45142

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 the cash balances, receipts, and disbursements by fund type of the Union Township, Highland County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated August 24, 2018 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.

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 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 of this section and was not designed to identify all internal control deficiencies that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Therefore, unidentified material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist. We did identify a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings that we consider a material weakness. We consider finding 2017-003 to be a material weakness.

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 is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as items 2017-001 and 2017-002.

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 report is not suitable for any other purpose.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "BHM CPA Group". The letters are cursive and somewhat stylized.

BHM CPA Group, Inc.
Piketon, Ohio
August 24, 2018

**UNION TOWNSHIP
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

FINDING NUMBER 2017-001

Material Noncompliance – 5705.41B

Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41B states that no subdivision or taxing unit is to expend money unless it has been appropriated.

Upon comparison of disbursements to appropriations we noted that the General and Gasoline Tax Funds had expenditures in excess of appropriations in the amount of \$2,226 and \$25,251, respectfully in 2017.

The Township should take due care to monitor the budget throughout the year and amend appropriations when necessary.

Client Response:

The Client did not provide a response for the above finding.

FINDING NUMBER 2017-002

Material Noncompliance – 5705.41(D)(1)

5705.41(D)(1) provides, in part, that no subdivision or taxing unit shall make any contract or give any order involving the expenditure of money unless there is attached thereto a certificate of the fiscal officer of the subdivision that the amount required for the order or contract has been lawfully appropriated for such purpose and is in the treasury or in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrances. Every such contract made without such a certificate shall be void, and no warrant shall be issued in payment of any amount due thereon.

There are several exceptions to the requirement state above where a fiscal officer’s certificate must be obtained prior to a subdivision or taxing authority entering into a contract or order involving the expenditures of money. The main exceptions are “then and now” certificates , blanket certificates, and super blanket certificates, each of which are provided in sections 5705.41(D)(1) and 5705.41(D)(3), respectively, of the Ohio Revised Code.

Contrary to the Ohio Revised Code section 5705.41D, the township didn’t have purchase orders for several of the expenditures tested in both the General Fund and the Special Revenue Funds for 2016 and 2017.

We recommend, the Fiscal Officer certify purchases to which section 5705.41(D) applies. The most convenient certification method is to use purchase orders which include the certification language 5705.41(D) requires to authorize disbursements. The Fiscal Officer should sign the certification at the time the Fiscal Officer incurs a commitment, and only when the requirements of 5705.41D are satisfied.

Client Response:

The Client did not provide a response for the above finding.

**UNION TOWNSHIP
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

FINDING NUMBER 2017-003

Material Weakness- *Financial Reporting*

Sound financial reporting is the responsibility of the fiscal officer and Board of Trustees and is essential to ensure information provided to the readers of the financial statements is complete and accurate.

Material and immaterial misstatements were identified during the course of the audit which have not been prevented or detected by the Township's internal controls over financial reporting. Misstatements were identified in the following areas:

- Intergovernmental Receipts
- Property Tax Receipts
- Restricted Fund Balances

To ensure the Township's financial statements and notes to the financial statements are complete and accurate, we recommend the Fiscal Officer review the Ohio Township Manual for guidance on the correct line item to post various receipts and expenditures of the Township.

Client Response:

The Client did not provide a response for the above finding.

**UNION TOWNSHIP
HIGHLAND COUNTY
DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; Explain:
2015-001	Material Noncompliance – ORC 5705.41B	No	Reissued as Finding 2017-001
2015-002	Material Noncompliance – ORC 5705.41(D)(1)	No	Reissued as Finding 2017-002

This page intentionally left blank.



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

UNION TOWNSHIP

HIGHLAND 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