



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



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Noble Township – City of Defiance Joint Economic Development District
Defiance County
22485 Mill Street
Defiance, Ohio 43512-1211

We have completed certain procedures in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code Section 117.01(G) to the accounting records and related documents of Noble Township – City of Defiance Joint Economic Development District, Defiance County, Ohio (the District) for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018.

Our procedures were designed solely to satisfy the audit requirements of Ohio Rev. Code Section 117.11(A). Because our procedures were not designed to opine on the District's financial statements, we did not follow *generally accepted auditing standards*. We do not provide any assurance on the District's financial statements, transactions or balances for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018.

The District's management is responsible for preparing and maintaining its accounting records and related documents. Our responsibility under Ohio Rev. Code Section 117.11(A) is to examine, analyze and inspect these records and documents.

Based on the results of our procedures, we found the following significant compliance or accounting issues to report.

Current Year Observations

1. We noted that the District has not adopted a public records policy. Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43 (E)(2) requires all public offices to adopt a public records policy. In adopting a public records policy under this division, a public office may obtain guidance from the model public records policy developed and provided to the public office by the attorney general under Ohio Rev. Code § 109.43. Failure to adopt a public records policy could lead to noncompliance with the Open Records Laws when handling public records requests. The District should adopt a public records policy that is modeled after the example published by the Ohio Attorney General.
2. We noted the District does not have an adopted records retention schedule policy. Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(B)(2) states, in part, a public office also "shall have available a copy of its current records retention schedule at a location readily available to the public." Failure to have and follow a records retention schedule could result in public records being disposed of prematurely. The District should implement procedures to provide the appropriate policy is approved to help avoid issues with public records requests.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Keith Faber".

Keith Faber
Auditor of State

Columbus, Ohio

September 3, 2020

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**NOBLE TOWNSHIP – CITY OF DEFIANCE JOINT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION

This is a true and correct copy of the report, which is required to be filed pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in the Office of the Ohio Auditor of State in Columbus, Ohio.



Certified for Release 9/15/2020

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This report is a matter of public record and is available online at
www.ohioauditor.gov