



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE  
**KEITH FABER**





# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



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## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

Salem Township  
Warren County  
PO Box 171  
Morrow, Ohio 45152

We have performed the procedures enumerated below on Salem Township's (the Township) receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the cash basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019 and certain compliance requirements related to those transactions and balances, included in the information provided to us by the management of the Township. The Township is responsible for the receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the cash basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019 and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances included in the information provided to us by the Township.

The Board of Trustees and the management of the Township have agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of providing assistance in the evaluation of the Township's receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in their cash-basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019, and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances. No other party acknowledged the appropriateness of the procedures. This report may not be suitable for any other purpose. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of the report and may not meet the needs of all users of the report and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes. The sufficiency of the procedures is solely the responsibility of the parties specified in the 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.

For the purposes of performing these procedures, this report only describes exceptions exceeding \$10.

The procedures and the associated findings are as follows:

### Cash and Investments

1. We recalculated the December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2019 bank reconciliations. We found no exceptions.
2. We agreed the January 1, 2019 beginning fund balances recorded in the Fund Ledger Report to the December 31, 2018 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, 2020 beginning fund balances for each fund recorded in the Fund Ledger Report to the December 31, 2019 balances in the Fund Ledger Report. We found no exceptions.
3. We agreed the totals per the bank reconciliations to the total of the December 31, 2020 and 2019 fund cash balances reported in the Fund Status Report and the financial statements filed by the Township in the Hinkle System. The amounts agreed.

4. We confirmed the December 31, 2020 bank account balances with the Township's financial institutions. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the confirmed balances to the amounts appearing in the December 31, 2020 bank reconciliation. The confirmed balance for Star Ohio did not agree to the amount in the bank reconciliation. Star Ohio confirmed \$3,077 more than what was included in the December 31, 2020 bank reconciliation.
5. We selected five reconciling debits (such as outstanding checks) from the December 31, 2020 bank reconciliation:
  - a. We traced each debit to the subsequent January bank statement. We found no exceptions.
  - b. We traced the amounts and dates to the check register, and determined the debits were dated prior to December 31. There were no exceptions.
6. We inspected investments held at December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2019 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.

#### **Property Taxes, Intergovernmental and Other Confirmable Cash Receipts**

1. We selected a total of five receipts from the *Statement of Semiannual Apportionment of Taxes*, State Distribution Transaction Lists (DTL), and the County Auditor DTL for 2020 and a total of five from 2019:
  - a. We compared the amount from the above named reports to the amount recorded in the Receipt Register Report. The amounts agreed.
  - b. We inspected the Receipt Register Report to determine these receipts were allocated to the proper funds as required by Ohio Rev. Code §§ 5705.05-.06 and 5705.10. We found no exceptions.
  - c. We inspected the Receipt Register Report to determine whether the receipt was recorded in the proper year. The receipt was recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.
2. We inspected the Receipt Register Report to determine whether it included two real estate tax receipts for 2020 and 2019. The Receipt Register Report included the proper number of tax receipts for each year.

#### **Other Receipts**

We selected 10 other receipts from the year ended December 31, 2020 and 10 other receipts from the year ended 2019 and:

- a. Agreed the receipt amount recorded in the Receipt Register Report to supporting documentation. The amounts agreed.
- b. Confirmed the amounts charged complied with rates in force during the period. We found no exceptions.
- c. Inspected the Receipt Register Report to determine the receipt was posted to the proper funds, and was recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.

#### **Debt**

1. From the prior agreed-upon procedures documentation, we observed the following bonds and leases were outstanding as of December 31, 2018. These amounts agreed to the Townships January 1, 2019 balances on the summary we used in procedure 3.

Issue	Principal outstanding as of December 31, 2018:
Township Truck	\$106,211
2016 Fire Station Bonds – Refunded	\$1,541,000

2. We inquired of management, and inspected the Receipt Register Report and Payment Register Detail Report for evidence of debt issued during 2020 or 2019 or debt payment activity during 2020 or 2019. All debt agreed to the summary we used in procedure 3.
3. We obtained a summary of bonds, loans and leases debt activity for 2020 and 2019 and agreed principal and interest payments from the related debt amortization schedules to the debt service fund and permissive motor vehicle license tax fund payments reported in the Payment Register Detail Report. We also compared the date the debt service payments were due to the date the Township made the payments. The Township Truck and the Fire Station Bonds were each paid 14 days late in 2020. Payments were due June 1, 2020 but were paid on June 14, 2020. The Township Truck issue is a master installment purchase agreement and the backhoe issue is a government obligation contract with a bank which are not statutorily permitted forms of debt for townships.
4. We observed the amount of debt proceeds from the debt documents. The District did not record the proceeds of the backhoe loan in 2020 or a related capital outlay expenditure totaling \$87,542.77. The proceeds were paid directly from the bank to vendor.
5. For new debt issued during 2020, we inspected the debt legislation, which stated the Township must use the proceeds to purchase a backhoe. The loan proceeds were disbursed by the bank directly to the vendor to purchase the backhoe.

**Payroll Cash Disbursements**

1. We selected one payroll check for five employees from 2020 and one payroll check for five employees from 2019 from the Wage Withholdings Detail Report and:
  - a. We compared the hours and pay rate, or salary recorded in the Wage Detail Report to supporting documentation (timecard, legislatively or statutorily-approved rate or salary).
    - i. We inspected the employees' personnel files and/or minute record for the Retirement system, Federal, State & Local income tax withholding authorization.
    - ii. We agreed these items to the information used to compute gross and net pay related to this check.  
 We found no exceptions.
  - b. We inspected the fund and account codes to which the check was posted to determine the posting was allowable based on the employees' duties as documented in the employees' personnel files and/or minute record. We found no exceptions.
  - c. We confirmed the payment was posted to the proper year. We found no exceptions.
2. We inspected the last remittance of tax and retirement withholdings for the year ended December 31, 2020 to confirm remittances were timely paid, and if the amounts paid agreed to the amounts withheld, plus the employer's share where applicable, during the final withholding period of 2020. We observed the following:

<b>Withholding (plus employer share, where applicable)</b>	<b>Date Due</b>	<b>Date Paid</b>	<b>Amount Due</b>	<b>Amount Paid</b>
Federal income taxes & Medicare (and social security, for employees not enrolled in pension system)	January 31, 2021	1/4/2021	\$7,254.10	\$7,254.10
State income taxes	January 15, 2021	1/3/2021	\$2,859	\$2,859
Local income tax Village of Clarksville	January 31, 2021	12/30/2020	\$129.77	\$129.77
Village of Morrow	January 31, 2021	12/30/2020	\$123.25	\$123.25
OPERS retirement	January 30, 2021	1/7/2021	\$3,192.09	\$3,192.09
OP&F retirement	January 31, 2021	1/29/2021	\$13,277.47	\$13,277.47

3. For the pay periods ended July 2020 and July 2019, we
  - a. Recomputed the allocation of the Boards' salary amounts to the General, Gasoline Tax, and Road & Bridge funds per the Wage Detail Report.
  - b. Traced the Boards' pay for time or services performed to supporting certifications the Revised Code requires.
 We found no exceptions.
4. We compared total gross pay for the fiscal officer and each board member for 2020 and 2019 to the compensation permitted by Ohio Revised Code §§ 507.09 and 505.24, respectively. We found no exceptions.
5. We inquired of management and inspected the Payment Register Detail Report for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019 to determine if township employees and/or trustees were reimbursed for out-of-pocket insurance premiums. No such reimbursements occurred.

**Non-Payroll Cash Disbursements**

1. We selected 10 disbursements from the Payment Register Detail Report for the year ended December 31, 2020 and 10 from the year ended 2019 and determined whether:
  - a. The disbursements were for a proper public purpose. We found no exceptions.
  - b. The check number, date, payee name and amount recorded on the returned, canceled check agreed to the check number, date, payee name and amount recorded in the Payment Register Detail Report and to the names and amounts on the supporting invoices. We found no exceptions.
  - c. The payment was posted to a fund consistent with the restricted purpose for which the fund's cash can be used. We found no exceptions.
  - d. The fiscal officer certified disbursements requiring certification or issued a *Then and Now Certificate*, as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(D). We found no exceptions.

**Compliance – Budgetary**

1. Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(B) prohibits expenditures (disbursements plus certified commitments) from exceeding appropriations. We compared total expenditures to total approved appropriations (Ohio Rev. Code §§ 5705.38 and 5705.40) plus any carryover appropriations for the year ended December 31, 2020 for the General, Road and Bridge and Permissive Motor Vehicle License Tax fund and for the year ended December 31, 2019 for the General, Road and Bridge and Cemetery Bequest Fund, as recorded in the Appropriation Status Report. There were no funds for which expenditures exceeded appropriations.

2. We inspected the Appropriation Ledger Report for the AJ Scheurer Trust Fund. Not more than 5% of non-spendable monies were released, spent, or otherwise modified during the engagement period.
3. We inspected interfund transfers from 2020 and 2019 Revenue Status Reports and Appropriation Status Reports for compliance with Ohio Rev. Code §§ 5705.14 - .16. We found no evidence of transfers these Sections prohibit, or for which Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.16 would require approval by the Tax Commissioner.
4. We inspected the Cash Summary by Fund Report for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019 for negative cash fund balances. Ohio Rev. Code § 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 a negative cash fund balances.

### **Sunshine Law Compliance**

1. We obtained and inspected the Township's Public Records Policy to determine the policy was in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code §§ 149.43(E)(2) and 149.43(B)(7(c)) and did not limit the number of responses that may be made to a particular person, limit the number of responses during a specified period of time, or establish a fixed period of time before it will respond unless that period is less than eight hours. We found no exceptions.
2.
  - a. We inquired with Township management and determined that the Township did not have any completed public records requests during the engagement period.
  - b. The Township did not have any denied public records requests during the engagement period.
  - c. The Township did not have any public records requests with redactions during the engagement period.
3. We inquired whether the Township had a records retention schedule, and observed that it was readily available to the public as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(B)(2). We found no exceptions.
4. We inquired with Township management and determined there was no written evidence that the Public Records Policy was provided to the records custodian/manager as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2).
5. We inspected the Township's policy manual and determined the public records policy was not included as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2).
6. We observed that the Township's poster describing their Public Records Policy was displayed conspicuously in all branches of the Township as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2). We found no exceptions.
7. We inquired with Township management and determined that the Township did not have any applications for record disposal submitted to the Records Commission during the engagement period.
8. We inspected individual training certificates and determined whether each elected official in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(1) (or his/her designee) successfully attended a certified three-hour Public Records Training for each term of office as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 109.43(B). We found no exceptions.

9. We inspected the public notices for the public meetings held during the engagement period and determined the Township notified the general public and news media of when and where meetings during the engagement period were to be held as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 121.22(F). We found no exceptions.
10. We inspected the minutes of public meetings during the engagement period in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code § 121.22(C) and determined whether they were:
  - a. Prepared – a file is created following the date of the meeting
  - b. Filed – placed with similar documents in an organized manner
  - c. Maintained - retained, at a minimum, for the engagement period
  - d. Open to public inspection – available for public viewing or request.We found no exceptions.
11. We inspected the minutes from the engagement period in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code § 121.22(G) and determined the following:
  - a. Executive sessions were only held at regular or special meetings.
  - b. The purpose for the meetings and going into an executive session (when applicable) correlated with one of the matters listed in Ohio Rev. Code § 121.22(G).
  - c. Formal governing board actions were adopted in open meetings.We found no exceptions.

#### **HB 481 / HB 614 Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) Compliance**

1. We inquired of management and those charged with governance and documented how the Township decided to spend their CRF allocations and how the Township evaluated and documented their compliance with the CARES Act three-prong test. We then selected five payroll, non-payroll, or subgrant/subloan transactions. and determined the Township:
  - a. Spent the CRF money (including additional distributions or redistributions) in accordance with use of funds requirements and
  - b. Maintained appropriate supporting documentation.We found no exceptions.
2. We inquired with management and inspected the Appropriation Ledgers Report to determine the local government did not have an unencumbered balance of money to pay back to the county treasurer. We found no exceptions.

#### **Other Compliance**

1. Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 requires townships 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 regarding the filing of complete financial statements, as defined in AOS Bulletin 2015-007 in the Hinkle System. We confirmed the Township 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, 2020 and 2019 in the Hinkle system. There were no exceptions.
2. We inspected the Fiscal Integrity Act Portal (<http://www.ohioauditor.gov/fiscalintegrity/default.html>) to determine whether the fiscal officer obtained the training required by Ohio Rev. Code §§ 507.12 and 733.81. The Fiscal Officer did not obtain the 2 hours of ethics training required for the term ended March 31, 2020.



3. For all credit card accounts we obtained:
  - copies of existing internal control policies,
  - a list(s) of authorized users, and
  - a list of all credit card account transactions.
- a. We inspected the established policy obtained above and determined it is:
  - i. in compliance with the HB 312 statutory requirements, and
  - ii. implemented by the entity.We found no exceptions.
- b. We selected 1 credit card transaction from each credit card account for testing. For selected transactions we inspected documentation to determine that:
  - i. Use was by an authorized user within the guidelines established in the policy, and
  - ii. Each transaction was supported with original invoices and for a proper public purpose.The Sam's Club credit card purchase of \$51 on May 5, 2020 was for interest and a late fee. This is not a proper public purpose.
- c. We selected all credit card statements from each credit card account for testing. We inspected documentation to determine that:
  - i. No unpaid beginning balance was carried forward to the current billing cycle,
  - ii. Ending statement balance was paid in full, and
  - iii. Statement contained no interest or late fees.Two credit card statements had an unpaid beginning balance. Five statements contained fees and interest totaling \$236 and \$115 respectively.

We were engaged by the Township to perform this agreed-upon procedures engagement and conducted our engagement in accordance with the attestation standards established by the AICPA and the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. We were not engaged to, and did not conduct an examination or review engagement, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on the Township'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.

We are required to be independent of the Township and to meet our ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the ethical requirements established by the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards* related to our agreed upon procedures engagement.



Keith Faber  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio  
November 23, 2021



# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



**SALEM TOWNSHIP**

**WARREN 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 12/14/2021**

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This report is a matter of public record and is available online at  
[www.ohioauditor.gov](http://www.ohioauditor.gov)