



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

Public Library of Steubenville and Jefferson County  
Jefferson County  
407 South 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Steubenville, Ohio 43952

We have performed the procedures enumerated below on the Public Library of Steubenville and Jefferson County's (the Library) receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the cash basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022 and certain compliance requirements related to those transactions and balances, included in the information provided to us by the management of the Library. The Library is responsible for the receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the cash basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022 and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances included in the information provided to us by the Library.

The Board of Trustees and the management of the Library have agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of providing assistance in the evaluation of the Library's receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in their cash-basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, 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, 2023 and December 31, 2022 bank reconciliations. We found no exceptions.
2. We agreed the January 1, 2022 beginning fund balances for each opinion unit recorded in the Fund Ledger Report to the December 31, 2021 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, 2023 beginning fund balances for each fund recorded in the Fund Ledger Report to the December 31, 2022 balances in the Fund Ledger Report. We found no exceptions.

3. We agreed the 2023 and 2022 bank reconciliation adjusted UAN Balances and Adjusted Bank Balances as of December 31, 2023 and 2022 to the total fund cash balances reported in the Fund Status Report and the financial statements filed by the Library in the Hinkle System. The amounts agreed.
4. We confirmed the December 31, 2023 bank account balances with the Ohio Pooled Collateral System. We found no exceptions. We also observed the year-end bank balances on the financial institution's website. The balances agreed. We also agreed the confirmed balances to the amounts appearing in the December 31, 2023 bank reconciliation, where we noted a variance of \$35 for petty cash.
5. We selected five reconciling debits (such as outstanding checks) from the December 31, 2023 bank reconciliation:
  - a. We traced each debit to the subsequent January bank statement. We found three checks outstanding longer than one year, including two checks issued in 2018.
  - b. We traced the amounts and dates to the check register and determined the debits were dated prior to December 31. We found no exceptions.
6. We traced interbank account transfers occurring in December of 2023 and 2022 to the accounting records and bank statements to determine if they were properly recorded. We found no exceptions.
7. We inspected investments held at December 31, 2023 and December 31, 2022 to determine that they:
  - a. Were of a type authorized by Ohio Rev. Code §§ 135.13, 135.14, 135.144 or 135.145. We found no exceptions.
  - b. Mature within the prescribed time limits noted in Ohio Rev. Code § 135.13 or 135.14. We found 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*, the State Distribution Transaction Lists (DTL) and the County Auditor's DTLs from 2023 and a total of five from 2022:
  - 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. 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 2023 and 2022. The Receipt Register Report included the proper number of tax receipts for each year. We found no exceptions.
3. We inspected the Receipt Register Report to determine whether it included one Public Library Fund receipt per month for 2023 and 2022. We found no exceptions.

#### **Debt**

1. The prior agreed-upon procedures documentation disclosed no debt outstanding as of December 31, 2021.

2. We inquired of management and inspected the Receipt Register Report and Payment Register Detail Report for evidence of debt issued during 2023 or 2022 or debt payment activity during 2023 or 2022. There were no new debt issuances, nor any debt payment activity during 2023 or 2022.

**Payroll Cash Disbursements**

1. We selected one payroll check for five employees from 2023 and one payroll check for five employees from 2022 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). In 2023, we found one instance where an employee was paid \$150 as a bonus, but the amount approved in the minutes by the Board of Trustees was \$200. We brought this to management's attention, and this amount will be added to a subsequent payment to this employee. Because we did not compare all timecards, our report provides no assurance whether or not other similar errors occurred.
  - b. We inspected the fund and account code 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 minute record. We found no exceptions.
  - c. We confirmed the payment was posted to the proper year. We found no exceptions.
2. We selected three new employees from 2023 and three new employees from 2022 and:
  - a. We inspected the employees' personnel files for the Retirement system, Federal, State & Local income tax withholding authorization.
  - b. We agreed the items in a above to the Employee General Information Report  
 We found no exceptions.
3. We inspected the last remittance of tax and retirement withholdings for the year ended December 31, 2023 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 2023. 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, 2024	December 28, 2023	\$5,365.27	\$5,365.27
State income taxes	January 15, 2024	December 28, 2023	\$2,215.74	\$2,215.74
City of Steubenville Local income tax	February 6, 2024	December 28, 2023	\$1,982.91	\$1,982.91
City of Toronto Local income tax	February 6, 2024	December 28, 2023	\$315.36	\$315.36
OPERS retirement	January 30, 2024	December 23, 2023	\$44,518.97	\$44,518.97

We found no exceptions.

**Non-Payroll Cash Disbursements**

1. We selected ten disbursements from the Payment Register Detail Report for the year ended December 31, 2023 and ten from the year ended 2022 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.
2. We inspected the Payment Register Detail Report for the year ended December 31, 2023 and 2022 and determined that the proceeds from the levy passed under Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.23, were used for the purposes stated in the resolution.

### **Transfers**

1. We inspected the interfund transfer from 2023 and from 2022 Revenue Status Reports and Appropriation Status Reports and the transfers
  - a. Were properly authorized. We found no exceptions.
  - b. Were transferred to the correct fund. We found no exceptions.
  - c. Were recorded at the correct amounts. We found no exceptions.

### **Compliance – Budgetary**

1. Ohio Admin. Code 117-8-02 prohibits spending in excess of budgeted amounts. We compared total expenditures to total approved appropriations plus any carryover appropriations for the year ended December 31, 2022 for the General, Pugliese Foundation, and Capital Projects funds and for the year ended December 31, 2023 for the General, Pugliese Foundation, and J.C. Williams Makerspace funds. Expenditures did not exceed appropriations.

### **Sunshine Law Compliance**

1. We obtained and inspected the Library'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. We selected the total population of public records requests from the engagement period and inspected each request to determine the following:
  - a. The Library was compliant and responded to the request in accordance with their adopted policy as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(B)(1). We found no exceptions.
  - b. The Library did not have any denied public records requests during the engagement period.
  - c. The Library did not have any public records requests with redactions during the engagement period.
3. We inquired with Library management and determined that the Library did not have a records retention schedule during the engagement period and therefore could not make it readily available to the public as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(B)(2).
4. We inquired with Library management and determined that, even though the Library did have a public records policy during the engagement period, there is no written evidence that it was provided to the records custodian/manager as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2).
5. We inspected the Library's policy manual and determined the public records policy was included as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2). We found no exceptions.

6. We inquired with Library management and determined that, even though the Library did have a public records policy during the engagement period, it was not displayed in all the branches of the Library as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2).
7. We inquired with Library management and determined that the Library did not have any applications for record disposal submitted to the Records Commission during the engagement period
8. We inquired with Library management and determined that the Library did not have any elected officials subject to the Public Records Training requirements during the engagement period as required by Ohio Rev. Code §§ 149.43(E)(1) and 109.43(B).
9. We inspected the public notices for the public meetings held during the engagement period and determined the Library 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.

**Contract Compliance:**

1. We inspected the Expenditures Report and identified the Library had expenditures subject to competitive bidding. There were two expenditures that exceeded the threshold. However, only one was opened for competitive bidding. The contract for the new bookmobile was not put out for bid as required.
2. We selected 1 contract subject to competitive bidding requirements for construction and repairs expenditures for 2023 and:
  - a. We inspected the sealed bids and board minutes for the contracted expenditure and determined the sealed bids were:
    - i. Opened at the next meeting of the board
    - ii. Publicly read by the fiscal officer
    - iii. Entered into the board's recordsWe found no exceptions.
  - b. We inspected the advertisements of the proposals for bids on the Ohio News Media Association website, the Steubenville Herald Star, and the Wheeling Intelligencer and determined they were made as required by Ohio Rev. Code §§ 3375.41 and 7.16. We found no exceptions.

### Other Compliance

1. Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 requires libraries 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 Library 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, 2023 and 2022 in the Hinkle system. We found no exceptions.

We were engaged by the Library 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 Library'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 Library 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

October 28, 2024



# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



**PUBLIC LIBRARY OF STEUBENVILLE AND JEFFERSON COUNTY**

**JEFFERSON 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 11/19/2024**

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