



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

Springfield Conservancy District
Clark County
515 North Fountain Avenue
Springfield, Ohio 45504

We have performed the procedures enumerated below on the Springfield Conservancy District's (the District) 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 management of the District. The District is responsible for 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 District.

The Board of Directors and the management of the District have agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of providing 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, 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

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 balance recorded in the Manual Ledger to the December 31, 2021 balances in the prior year agreed-upon procedures working papers. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the January 1, 2023 beginning fund balance recorded in the Manual Ledger to the December 31, 2022 balances in the Manual Ledger. We found no exceptions.
3. We agreed the 2023 and 2022 bank reconciliation as of December 31, 2023 and 2022 to the total fund cash balances reported in the Manual Ledger and the financial statements filed by the District in the Hinkle System. The amounts agreed.

Cash (Continued)

4. We confirmed the December 31, 2023 bank account balances with the Ohio Pooled Collateral System. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the confirmed balances to the amounts appearing in the December 31, 2023 bank reconciliation without exception.
5. We selected all four 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 no exceptions.
 - b. We traced the amounts and dates to the Manual Ledger, 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.

Other Confirmable Cash Receipts

We confirmed the individual amounts paid from the City of Springfield to the District during 2023 and 2022 with the City of Springfield. We found no exceptions.

- a. We inspected the Manual Ledger to determine whether these receipts were allocated to the proper fund. We found no exceptions.
- b. We inspected the Manual Ledger to determine whether the receipts were recorded in the proper year. 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 Manual Ledger 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 the only payroll check for the sole employee from 2023 and the only payroll check for the sole employee from 2022 from the Manual Ledger and:
 - a. We compared the salary recorded in the Manual Ledger to supporting documentation (legislatively approved salary).
We found no exceptions.
 - b. We recomputed gross and net pay and agreed it to the amount recorded in the Manual Ledger. We found no exceptions.
 - c. 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 minute record. We found no exceptions.
 - d. 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, 2023 to confirm remittances were timely paid, and that the amounts paid agreed to the amounts withheld, plus the employer's share where applicable, during the final withholding period during 2023. We observed the following:

Payroll Cash Disbursements (Continued)

Withholding (plus employer share, where applicable)	Date Due	Date Paid	Amount Due	Amount Paid
Federal income taxes & Medicare	January 31, 2024	December 7, 2023	\$1,372	\$1,372
City income tax	January 31, 2024	December 7, 2023	\$576	\$576
OPERS retirement	January 30, 2024	December 7, 2023	\$960	\$960

We found no exceptions.

Non-Payroll Cash Disbursements

1. From the Manual Ledger, we re-footed checks recorded as General Fund disbursements for *Miscellaneous Maintenance and Administration*, and checks recorded as General Fund *Salary and Benefits* for 2023. We found no exceptions.
2. We selected 10 disbursements from the Manual Ledger for the year ended December 31, 2023 and 10 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 Manual Ledger and to the names and amounts on the supporting invoices. We identified 1 instance in 2023 and 3 instances in 2022 in which the actual check date did not agree to the check date posted in the District's Manual Ledger.
 - 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 §§ 5705.28(B)(2), 5705.41(D) and 6101.44. We found 1 instance in 2023 and 1 instance in 2022 where disbursements requiring certification were not certified and 3 instances in 2023 and 3 instances in 2022 where the certification date was after the vendor invoice date and there was also no evidence that a *Then and Now Certificate* was issued. Ohio Rev. Code §§ 5705.28(B)(2), 5705.41(D) and 6101.44 require certifying at the time of a commitment, which should be on or before the invoice date, unless a *Then and Now Certificate* is used. Because we did not inspect all disbursements requiring certification, our report provides no assurance whether or not additional similar errors occurred.

Compliance – Budgetary

1. Ohio Rev. Code § 6101.44 prohibits expenditures (disbursements plus certified commitments including outstanding encumbrances) from exceeding appropriations. We compared total expenditures to total approved appropriations plus any carryover appropriations for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022 for the General Fund. Expenditures did not exceed appropriations.
2. We inspected the Manual Ledger for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022 for negative cash fund balance. 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. There were no funds having negative cash fund balances.

Sunshine Law Compliance

1. We obtained and inspected the District'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 inquired with District management and determined that the District did not have any completed public records requests during the engagement period.
3. We inquired whether the District 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 inspected written evidence that the Public Records Policy was provided to the records custodian/manager as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2). We found no exceptions.
5. We observed whether a District poster describing its Public Records Policy was displayed conspicuously in all branches of the District. We found no such poster that described the District's Public Records Policy. Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2) requires, in part, the public office shall create a poster that describes its public records policy and shall post the poster in a conspicuous place in the public office and in all locations where the public office has branch offices.
6. We inquired with District management and determined that the District did not have any applications for record disposal submitted to the Records Commission during the engagement period.
7. We inquired with District management and determined that the District 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).
8. We inspected the public notices for the public meetings held during the engagement period and determined the District 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.
9. 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.
10. 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.

Other Compliance

Ohio Rev. Code § 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, regarding the filing of complete financial statements, as defined in AOS Bulletin 2015-007 in the Hinkle System. 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, 2023 and 2022 in the Hinkle System. We found no exceptions.

Related Party Transaction

1. We inquired with management and identified the following Related Party Transaction:
 - a. Rental of building from Charles Swaney, Treasurer of Springfield Conservancy District. We found no exceptions.
2. We confirmed the transaction with the other party. We found no exceptions.
3. We obtained supporting evidence for the Related Party Transaction identified in procedure 1. We found no exceptions.

We were engaged by the District 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 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.

We are required to be independent of the District 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 8, 2024

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



SPRINGFIELD CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

CLARK 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 12/3/2024

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This report is a matter of public record and is available online at
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