

CLERMONT COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
CLERMONT COUNTY  
REGULAR AUDIT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024



*Millhuff-Stang*

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

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Board of Trustees  
Clermont County Public Library  
5920 Buckwheat Road  
Milford, OH 45150

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Clermont County Public Library, Clermont County, prepared by Millhuff-Stang, CPA, Inc., for the audit period January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports 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. The Clermont County Public Library is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

KEITH FABER  
Ohio Auditor of State

Tiffany L. Ridenbaugh, CPA, CFE, CGFM  
Chief Deputy Auditor

December 12, 2025

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**Clermont County Public Library**  
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*For the Year Ended December 31, 2024*

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### **Independent Auditor's Report**

Board of Trustees  
Clermont County Public Library  
5920 Buckwheat Road  
Milford, Ohio 45150

#### ***Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements***

##### ***Opinions***

We have audited the cash-basis financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Clermont County Public Library, Clermont County, Ohio (the Library) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Library's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective cash-basis financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Clermont County Public Library, as of December 31, 2024, and the respective changes in cash-basis financial position and the budgetary comparison for the General Fund for the year then ended in accordance with the cash-basis of accounting described in Note 2.

##### ***Basis for Opinions***

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Library, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

##### ***Emphasis of Matter - Accounting Basis***

We draw attention to Note 2 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

***Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements***

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting described in Note 2, and for determining that the cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Library's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we

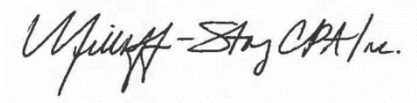
- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Library's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Library's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.



***Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated July 30, 2025 on our consideration of the Library'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. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Library's 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 Library's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Millhuff-Stang CPA, Inc.", is written over a light gray rectangular background.

Millhuff-Stang, CPA, Inc.  
Wheelersburg, Ohio

July 30, 2025

**Clermont County Public Library**  
*Statement of Net Position - Cash Basis*  
*As of December 31, 2024*

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	Governmental Activities
<b>Assets</b>	
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$21,330,217
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u><u>\$21,330,217</u></u>
 <b>Net Position</b>	
Restricted for Grants	\$38,559
Unrestricted	<u>21,291,658</u>
<i>Total Net Position</i>	<u><u>\$21,330,217</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**Clermont County Public Library**  
*Statement of Activities - Cash Basis*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2024*

	Program Cash Receipts			Net (Disbursements) Receipts and Changes in Net Position
	Cash Disbursements	Charges for Services and Sales	Operating Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities
<b>Governmental Activities</b>				
Current:				
Library Services:				
Public Services and Programs	\$4,134,659	\$43,561	\$7,815	(\$4,083,283)
Collection Development and Processing	1,719,272	0	0	(1,719,272)
Support Services:				
Facilities Operation and Maintenance	945,907	0	0	(945,907)
Information Services	889,592	0	0	(889,592)
Business Administration	1,023,883	0	0	(1,023,883)
Capital Outlay	534,643	0	0	(534,643)
Debt Service:				
Principal	345,000	0	0	(345,000)
Interest	160,800	0	0	(160,800)
<i>Total Governmental Activities</i>	<u>\$9,753,756</u>	<u>\$43,561</u>	<u>\$7,815</u>	<u>(9,702,380)</u>
<b>General Receipts:</b>				
Property Taxes Levied for General Purposes				3,543,803
Public Library Fund				6,667,265
Payments in Lieu of Taxes				591
Grants/Entitlements not Restricted to Specific Programs				412,076
Unrestricted Gifts and Contributions				23,007
Proceeds from Sale of Assets				50,000
Earnings on Investments				845,156
Miscellaneous				<u>45,786</u>
<i>Total General Receipts</i>				<u>11,587,684</u>
Change in Net Position				1,885,304
<i>Net Position Beginning of Year</i>				<u>19,444,913</u>
<i>Net Position End of Year</i>				<u><u>\$21,330,217</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**Clermont County Public Library**  
*Statement of Assets and Fund Balances- Cash Basis*  
*Governmental Funds*  
*As of December 31, 2024*

	General	Debt Service	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Assets</b>				
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$16,746,016	\$4,035,351	\$548,850	\$21,330,217
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u>\$16,746,016</u>	<u>\$4,035,351</u>	<u>\$548,850</u>	<u>\$21,330,217</u>
<b>Fund Balances</b>				
Nonspendable	\$3,493	\$0	\$0	\$3,493
Restricted	0	0	38,559	38,559
Committed	849,340	4,035,351	510,291	5,394,982
Assigned	1,061,870	0	0	1,061,870
Unassigned	14,831,313	0	0	14,831,313
<i>Total Fund Balances</i>	<u>\$16,746,016</u>	<u>\$4,035,351</u>	<u>\$548,850</u>	<u>\$21,330,217</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**Clermont County Public Library**  
*Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balances - Cash Basis*  
*Governmental Funds*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2024*

	General	Debt Service	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Receipts</b>				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$3,543,803	\$0	\$0	\$3,543,803
Public Library	6,667,265	0	0	6,667,265
Intergovernmental	412,076	0	7,815	419,891
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	591	0	0	591
Patron Fines and Fees	43,561	0	0	43,561
Contributions, Gifts and Donations	23,007	0	0	23,007
Earnings on Investments	845,156	0	0	845,156
Miscellaneous	45,786	0	0	45,786
<i>Total Receipts</i>	11,581,245	0	7,815	11,589,060
<b>Disbursements</b>				
Current:				
Library Services:				
Public Services and Programs	4,127,673	0	6,986	4,134,659
Collection Development and Processing	1,719,272	0	0	1,719,272
Support Services:				
Facilities Operation and Maintenance	945,907	0	0	945,907
Information Services	762,161	0	127,431	889,592
Business Administration	1,023,883	0	0	1,023,883
Capital Outlay	8,389	0	526,254	534,643
Debt Service:				
Principal	0	345,000	0	345,000
Interest	0	160,800	0	160,800
<i>Total Disbursements</i>	8,587,285	505,800	660,671	9,753,756
<i>Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>	2,993,960	(505,800)	(652,856)	1,835,304
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>				
Proceeds from Sale of Assets	50,000	0	0	50,000
Transfers In	0	600,000	334,000	934,000
Transfers Out	(934,000)	0	0	(934,000)
<i>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</i>	(884,000)	600,000	334,000	50,000
<i>Net Change in Fund Balances</i>	2,109,960	94,200	(318,856)	1,885,304
<i>Fund Balances Beginning of Year</i>	14,636,056	3,941,151	867,706	19,444,913
<i>Fund Balances End of Year</i>	\$16,746,016	\$4,035,351	\$548,850	\$21,330,217

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**Clermont County Public Library**  
*Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes*  
*In Fund Balance - Budget and Actual - Budget Basis*  
*General Fund*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2024*

	Budgeted Amounts			Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final	Actual	
<b>Receipts</b>				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$3,300,000	\$3,300,000	\$3,543,803	\$243,803
Public Library	5,660,927	6,650,000	6,667,265	17,265
Intergovernmental	340,507	400,000	412,076	12,076
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	0	0	591	591
Patron Fines and Fees	23,410	27,500	43,561	16,061
Contributions, Gifts and Donations	0	0	23,007	23,007
Earnings on Investments	42,563	50,000	845,156	795,156
Miscellaneous	1,468	1,725	45,786	44,061
<i>Total Receipts</i>	9,368,875	10,429,225	11,581,245	1,152,020
<b>Disbursements</b>				
Current:				
Library Services:				
Public Services and Programs	4,150,474	4,392,572	4,344,078	48,494
Collection Development and Processing	1,811,295	1,829,340	1,794,454	34,886
Support Services:				
Facilities Operation and Maintenance	1,279,433	1,239,125	1,150,253	88,872
Information Services	927,924	952,224	923,835	28,389
Business Administration	1,685,191	1,672,327	1,344,556	327,771
Capital Outlay	43,072	37,389	36,289	1,100
<i>Total Disbursements</i>	9,897,389	10,122,977	9,593,465	529,512
<i>Excess of Receipts Over Disbursements</i>	(528,514)	306,248	1,987,780	1,681,532
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>				
Proceeds from Sale of Assets	0	0	50,000	50,000
Transfers Out	(977,712)	(1,054,000)	(1,054,000)	0
<i>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</i>	(977,712)	(1,054,000)	(1,004,000)	50,000
<i>Net Change in Fund Balance</i>	(1,506,226)	(747,752)	983,780	1,731,532
<i>Unencumbered Fund Balance Beginning of Year</i>	13,343,923	13,343,923	13,343,923	0
<i>Prior Year Encumbrances Appropriated</i>	507,103	507,103	507,103	0
<i>Unencumbered Fund Balance End of Year</i>	\$12,344,800	\$13,103,274	\$14,834,806	\$1,731,532

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**Clermont County Public Library**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2024*

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**Note 1 – Description of the Library and Reporting Entity**

The Clermont County Public Library was organized as a free public library in 1955 under the laws of the State of Ohio. The Library has its own Board of Trustees of seven members who are appointed by the Clermont County Commissioners and the Clermont County Common Pleas Court. Appointments are for seven-year terms and members serve without compensation. Under Ohio statutes, the Library is a body politic and corporate capable of suing and being sued, contracting, acquiring, holding, possessing, and disposing of real property, and of exercising such other powers and privileges conferred upon it by law. The Library also determines and operates under its own budget. Control and management of the Library is governed by sections 3375.33 to 3375.41 of the Ohio Revised Code with the administration of the day-to-day operations of the Library being the responsibility of the Director and financial accountability being solely that of the Fiscal Officer.

There is no potential for the Library to provide a financial benefit to or to impose a financial burden on the County Commissioners, nor can the County Commissioners significantly influence the programs, activities, or level of service performed or provided by the Library. The Library is fiscally independent of the County, although the County Commissioners serve in a ministerial capacity as the taxing authority. The determination to request approval of a tax, the rate, and the purpose(s) of the levy are discretionary decisions made solely by the Board of Library Trustees. Once these decisions are made, the County Commissioners must place the levy on the ballot.

A reporting entity is comprised of the primary government, component units and other organizations included to assure that the basic financial statements are not misleading. The primary government of the Library consists of all funds, departments, boards and agencies that are not legally separate from the library.

Component units are legally separate organizations for which the Library is financially accountable. The Library is financially accountable for an organization if the Library appoints a voting majority of the organization's governing board and (1) the Library is able to significantly influence the programs or services performed or provided by the organization; or (2) the Library is legally entitled to or can otherwise access the organization's resources; the Library is legally obligated or has otherwise assumed the responsibility to finance the deficits of, or provide financial support to, the organization; or the Library is obligated for the debt of the organization. The Library is also financially accountable for any organizations for which the Library approves the budget, the issuance of debt or the levying of taxes. Component units also include legally separate, tax-exempt entities whose resources are for the direct benefit of the Library, are accessible to the Library and are significant in amount to the Library. The Library has no component units as described in GASB Statements No. 14, 39, and 61.

The Library's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Library is financially accountable.

**Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

As discussed further in the Basis of Accounting section of this note, these financial statements are presented on a cash basis of accounting. This cash basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Generally accepted accounting principles include all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements, which have been applied to the extent they are applicable to the cash basis of accounting. Following are the more significant of the Library's accounting policies.

**Basis of Presentation**

The Library's basic financial statements consist of government-wide statements, including a statement of net position and a statement of activities, and fund financial statements, which provide a more detailed level of financial information.

**Clermont County Public Library**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2024*

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**Government-wide Financial Statements**

The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the Library as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental receipts and other nonexchange transactions.

The statement of net position presents the cash balances of the governmental activities of the Library at year end. The statement of activities compares disbursements with program receipts for each of the Library's governmental activities. Disbursements are reported by function. A function is a group of related activities designed to accomplish a major service or regulatory program for which the Library is responsible. Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the program's goods or services, grants and contributions restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program, and receipts of interest earned on grants that are required to be used to support a particular program. General receipts are all receipts not classified as program receipts, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct disbursements with program receipts identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing on a cash basis or draws from the Library's general receipts.

**Fund Financial Statements**

During the year, the Library segregates transactions related to certain Library functions or activities in separate funds in order to aid financial management and to demonstrate legal compliance. Fund financial statements are designed to present financial information of the Library at this more detailed level. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds. Each major fund is presented in a separate column. Nonmajor funds are aggregated and presented in a single column.

**Fund Accounting**

The Library uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. The Library's funds are all classified as governmental.

**Governmental Funds**

Governmental funds are financed primarily from taxes, intergovernmental receipts (e.g. grants), and other nonexchange transactions. Monies are assigned to the various governmental funds according to the purposes for which they may or must be used. The following are the Library's major governmental funds:

*General Fund* – The general fund accounts for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund. The general fund balance is available to the Library for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

*Debt Service Fund* – The debt service fund accounts for the principal and interest payments for the debt issued by the Library.

The other governmental funds of the Library account for grants and other resources whose use is restricted, committed or assigned to a particular purpose.

**Basis of Accounting**

The Clermont County Public Library's financial statements are prepared using the cash basis of accounting. Receipts are recorded in the Library's financial records and reported in the financial statements when cash is received rather than when earned and disbursements are recorded when cash is paid rather than when a liability is incurred.

As a result of the use of this cash basis of accounting, certain assets and their related revenues (such as accounts



**Clermont County Public Library**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2024*

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receivable and revenue for billed or provided services not yet collected) and certain liabilities and their related expenses (such as accounts payable and expenses for goods or services received but not yet paid, and accrued liabilities and the related expenses) are not recorded in these financial statements.

### **Budgetary Process**

All funds are legally required to be appropriated. The appropriations resolution is the Trustees' authorization to spend resources and sets limits on cash disbursements plus encumbrances at the level of control selected by the Trustees. The legal level of control has been established at the fund level for all funds. Budgetary modifications at the legal level of control may only be made by resolution of the Library Board of Trustees.

For control purposes, the Library estimates cash receipts for the year. These estimated receipts, together with the unencumbered carry-over balances from the prior year, set a limit on the amount the Trustees may appropriate. The estimated receipts may be revised during the year if projected increases or decreases in receipts are identified by the Fiscal Officer. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts on the budgetary statement reflects the amounts of estimated resources when the original appropriations were adopted. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts on the budgetary statement reflects the amounts of estimated resources at the time final appropriations were enacted by the Trustees.

The appropriations resolution is subject to amendment throughout the year with the restriction that appropriations should not exceed estimated resources. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts reflect the first appropriation resolution for that fund that covered the entire year, including amounts automatically carried forward from prior years. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts represent the final appropriation amounts passed by the Trustees during the year.

### **Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Library records identify the purchase of specific investments by specific funds.

Investments are reported as assets. Accordingly, purchases of investments are not recorded as disbursements, and sales of investments are not recorded as receipts. Gains or losses at the time of sale are recorded as receipts or negative receipts, respectively.

During 2024, investments were made in money market funds, U.S. Treasury securities, U.S. Government Agency securities, Commercial Paper, STAR Ohio, and negotiable certificates of deposit. All investments are recorded at cost.

STAR Ohio (the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio), is an investment pool managed by the State Treasurer's Office which allows governments within the State to pool their funds for investment purposes. STAR Ohio is not registered with the SEC as an investment company, but has adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), Statement No. 79, "Certain External Investment Pools and Pool Participants." The Library measures their investment in STAR Ohio at the net asset value (NAV) per share provided by STAR Ohio. The NAV per share is calculated on an amortized cost basis that provides an NAV per share that approximates fair value.

STAR Ohio reserves the right to limit participant transactions to \$250 million per day. Transactions in all of a participant's accounts will be combined for this purpose. Twenty-four hours advance notice to STAR Ohio is appreciated for purchases or redemptions of \$100 million or more. For fiscal year 2024, there were no limitations or restrictions on any participant withdrawals due to redemption notice periods, liquidity fees, or redemption gates.

Investment procedures are restricted by the provisions of the Ohio Revised Code. Earnings on investments credited to the General Fund during 2024 amounted to \$845,156.

### **Inventory and Prepaid Items**

The Library reports disbursements for inventories and prepaid items when paid. These items are not reflected as assets in the accompanying financial statements.

### **Capital Assets**

Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets in the accompanying financial statements.

### **Accumulated Leave**

For 2024, GASB Statement No. 101, “Compensated Absences”, was effective. GASB 101 defines a compensated absence as leave for which employees may receive cash payments when the leave is used for time off or receive cash payments for unused leave upon termination of employment. These payments could occur during employment or upon termination of employment. Compensated absences generally do not have a set payment schedule. The Library does not offer noncash settlements.

Library employees earn sick and vacation time that can be used for time off. In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment or retirement, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave.

This GASB pronouncement had no effect on beginning net position/fund balance as unpaid leave is not reflected as a liability under the Library’s cash basis of accounting.

### **Employer Contributions to Cost-Sharing Pension Plans**

The Library recognizes the disbursement for their employer contributions to cost-sharing pension plans when they are paid. As described in Notes 8 and 9, the employer contributions include portions for pension benefits and for postretirement health care benefits.

### **Long-Term Obligations**

The Library’s cash basis financial statements do not report liabilities for long-term obligations. Proceeds of debt are reported when the cash is received and principal and interest payments are reported when paid. Since recording a capital asset (including the intangible right to use) when entering into a lease or Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITA) is not the result of a cash transaction, neither an other financing source nor a capital outlay expenditure is reported at inception. Lease payments and SBITA payments are reported when paid.

### **Leases and SBITAs**

The Library is the lessee (as defined by GASB 87) in various leases related to equipment under noncancelable leases. Leases payable are not reflected under the Library’s cash basis of accounting. Lease disbursements are recognized when they are paid.

The Library has entered into noncancelable Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITA) contracts (as defined by GASB 96) for several types of software including contracts related to financial systems and various other software. Subscription liabilities are not reflected under the Library’s cash basis of accounting. Subscription disbursements are recognized when they are paid.

### **Net Position**

Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through enabling legislation

**Clermont County Public Library**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2024*

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or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws or regulations of other governments. The Library's policy is to first apply restricted resources when an obligation is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position are available.

### **Fund Balance**

Fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the Library is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources in the governmental funds. The classifications are as follows:

*Nonspendable* – The nonspendable fund balance category includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form, or are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The “not in spendable form” criterion includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash. It also includes the long-term amount of interfund loans.

*Restricted* – Fund balance is reported as 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.

*Committed* – The committed fund balance classification includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes imposed by formal action (resolution) of Library Trustees. Those committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the Library Trustees remove or change the specified use by taking the same type of action (resolution) it employed to previously commit those amounts. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed for use in satisfying those contractual requirements.

*Assigned* – Amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the Library for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. In governmental funds other than the General Fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. In the General Fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by the Library Trustees or a Library official delegated that authority by resolution, or by State Statute. State Statute authorized the Library Clerk to assign fund balance for purchases on order provided such amounts have been lawfully appropriated.

*Unassigned* – Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the General Fund and includes amounts not contained in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is used only to report a deficit balance.

The Library 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.

### **Interfund Activity**

Exchange transactions between funds are reported as receipts in the seller funds and as disbursements in the purchaser funds. Subsidies from one fund to another without a requirement for repayment are reported as interfund transfers. Interfund transfers are reported as other financing sources/uses in governmental funds. Repayments from funds responsible for particular disbursements to the funds that initially paid for them are not presented in the financial statements.

### **New Accounting Pronouncements**

For 2024, GASB Statement No. 100, “Accounting Changes and Error Corrections” was effective. This GASB

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pronouncement had no effect on beginning net position/fund balance as the Library had no accounting changes or error corrections related to 2024. See the Accumulated Leave section of Note 2 for discussion of the implementation of GASB Statement No. 101, "Compensated Absences".

**Note 3 – Budgetary Basis of Accounting**

The budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on the basis of cash receipts, disbursements, and encumbrances. The Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual – Budget Basis presented for the General Fund is prepared on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. The major differences between the budgetary basis and the cash basis are that outstanding year end encumbrances are treated as disbursements (budgetary basis) rather than as a commitment or assignment of fund balance (cash basis) and receipts and disbursements of certain funds that are accounted for as separate funds internally but reported within the General Fund for financial reporting purposes. The following table summarizes the adjustments necessary to reconcile the cash basis statements to the budgetary basis statement for the General Fund:

	<u>Net Change in Fund Balance</u>
Cash Basis	\$2,109,960
Encumbrances	(1,061,863)
Perspective Differences	<u>(64,317)</u>
Budget Basis	<u><u>\$983,780</u></u>

**Note 4 – Deposits and Investments**

Monies held by the Library are classified by State statute into three categories.

Active monies are public monies determined to be necessary to meet current demands upon the Library treasury. Active monies must be maintained either as cash in the Library treasury, in commercial accounts payable or withdraw able on demand, including negotiable order of withdrawal (NOW) accounts, or in money market deposit accounts.

Inactive deposits are public deposits that the Board has identified as not required for use within the current five-year period of designation of depositories. Inactive deposits must either be evidenced by certificates of deposit maturing not later than the end of the current period of designation of depositories, or by savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts.

Interim deposits are deposits of interim monies. Interim monies are those monies which are not needed for immediate use but which will be needed before the end of the current period of designation of depositories. Interim deposits must be evidenced by time certificates of deposit maturing not more than one year from the date of deposit or by savings or deposit accounts, including passbook accounts.

Protection of the Library's deposits is provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), by eligible securities pledged by the financial institution as security for repayment, or by the financial institution's participation in the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution.

Interim monies held by the Library can be deposited or invested in the following securities:

1. United States Treasury bills, bonds, notes, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury, or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligations or securities issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality, including, but not limited to, Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan

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Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, and Government National Mortgage Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;

3. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in (1) or (2) and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions;
4. Time certificates of deposit or savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts;
5. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio, and, with certain limitations including a requirement for maturity within ten years from the date of settlement, bonds and other obligations of political subdivisions of the State of Ohio, if training requirements have been met;
6. The State Treasurer's investment pool (STAR Ohio);
7. Certain bankers' acceptances (for a period not to exceed one hundred eighty days) and commercial paper notes (for a period not to exceed two hundred seventy days) in an amount not to exceed 40 percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time if training requirements have been met; and
8. Written repurchase agreements in the securities described in (1) or (2) provided the market value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least two percent and be marked to market daily, and the term of the agreement must not exceed thirty days.

Investments in stripped principal or interest obligations, reverse repurchase agreements, and derivatives are prohibited. The issuance of taxable notes for the purpose of arbitrage, the use of leverage, and short selling are also prohibited. Except as noted above, an investment must mature within five years from the date of purchase, unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the Library, and must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity.

Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions. Payment for investments may be made only upon delivery of the securities representing the investments to the Treasurer or, if the securities are not represented by a certificate, upon receipt of confirmation of transfer from the custodian.

### **Investments**

As of December 31, 2024, the Library had the following investments:

	Less than One Year	One to Two Years	Three to Five Years	Total	Moody's Rating	S&P Rating	% of Total
STAR Ohio	\$4,442,336	\$0	\$0	\$4,442,336	Aaamf	AAAm	28.69%
First America MMF	1,179,906	0	0	1,179,906	Aaamf	AAAm	7.62%
Commercial Paper	2,355,971	0	0	2,355,971	P-1	A-1/A-1+	15.21%
US Treasury Notes	0	598,986	1,250,354	1,849,340	Aaa	AA+	11.94%
US Treasury Bills	469,494	0	0	469,494	P-1	A-1+	3.03%
Federal Home Loan Bank	219,534	0	200,000	419,534	Aaa	AA+	2.71%
Certificates of Deposit	2,412,572	1,521,294	836,643	4,770,509	N/A	N/A	30.80%
Total	<u>\$11,079,813</u>	<u>\$2,120,280</u>	<u>\$2,286,997</u>	<u>\$15,487,090</u>			<u>100.00%</u>

### **Interest Rate Risk**

Interest rate risk arises because potential purchasers of debt securities will not agree to pay face value for those securities if interest rates subsequently increase. The Library's investment policy addresses interest rate risk by requiring that the Library's investment portfolio be structured so that securities mature to meet cash requirements for ongoing operations and/or long-term debt payments, thereby avoiding that need to sell securities on the open market prior to maturity, and by investing operating funds primarily in short-term investments.

### Credit Risk

The Library also invests in negotiable certificates of deposit, these items are not rated. The Library has no investment policy dealing with investment credit risk beyond the requirements in state statutes. Ohio law requires that STAR Ohio maintain the highest rating provided by at least one nationally recognized standard rating service and that the money market fund be rated in the highest category at the time of purchase by at least one nationally recognized standard rating service.

### Custodial Credit Risk

For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the Library will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The Library has no investment policy dealing with investment custodial risk beyond the requirements in ORC 135.14(M)(2) which states, "Payment for investments shall be made only upon the delivery of securities representing such investments to the treasurer, governing board, or qualified trustee. If the securities transferred are not represented by a certificate, payment shall be made only upon receipt of confirmation of transfer from the custodian by the treasurer, governing board, or qualified trustee."

### Concentration of Credit Risk

The Library places no limit on the amount it may invest in any one issuer.

## **Note 5 – Grants in Aid and Property Taxes**

### **Grants in Aid**

The primary source of revenue for Ohio public libraries is the Public Library Fund (PLF). The State allocates PLF to each county based on the total tax revenue credited to the State's general revenue fund during the preceding month using the statutory allocation method. Estimated entitlement figures were issued to County Auditors. The actual current year entitlements were computed in December of the current year. The difference between the estimate and actual will be adjusted evenly in the PLF distributions made from January through June of the subsequent year.

### **Property Taxes**

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real and public utility property located in the Library. Property tax revenue received during 2024 for real and public utility property taxes represents collections of 2023 taxes.

2024 real property taxes are levied after October 1, 2024, on the assessed value as of January 1, 2024, the lien date. Assessed values are established by State law at 35 percent of appraised market value. 2024 real property taxes are collected in and intended to finance 2025.

Real property taxes are payable annually or semi-annually. If paid annually, payment is due December 31; if paid semi-annually, the first payment is due December 31, with the remainder payable by June 20. Under certain circumstances, State statute permits later payment dates to be established.

Public utility tangible personal property currently is assessed at varying percentages of true value; public utility real property is assessed at 35 percent of true value. 2024 public utility property taxes which became a lien December 31, 2023, are levied after October 1, 2024, and are collected in 2025 with real property taxes.

The full tax rate for all Library operations for the year ended December 31, 2024, was \$0.90 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The assessed values of real property and public utility tangible property upon which 2024 property tax receipts were based are as follows:

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Real Property	\$6,566,319,490
Public Utility Personal Property	308,376,420
Total	<u>\$6,874,695,910</u>

The County Treasurer collects property taxes on behalf of all taxing districts in the county, including the Library. The County Auditor periodically remits to the Library its portion of the taxes collected.

**Note 6 – Interfund Balances and Transfers**

The Library reports advances-in and advances-out for interfund loans. These items are not reflected as assets and liabilities in the accompanying financial statements. As of December 31, 2024, there were no outstanding advances due to the General Fund.

During 2024, the General Fund made transfers of \$10,000 to the Non-Major Grants Special Revenue Fund, \$600,000 to the Debt Service Fund, and \$324,000 to the Non-Major Capital Projects Fund.

Transfers are used to (1) move revenues from the fund that statute or budget requires to collect them, to the fund that statute or budget requires to expend them, (2) use unrestricted revenues collected in the General Fund to finance various programs accounted for in other funds in accordance with budgetary authorizations.

**Note 7 - Risk Management**

The Library is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. During 2024, the Library contracted with several companies for various types of insurance coverage as follows:

<u>Company</u>	<u>Type of Coverage</u>	<u>Limit</u>
Ohio Plan	Property - Building and Contents	\$34,616,953
Ohio Plan	Library Materials	10,977,347
Ohio Plan	Earthquake	10,000,000
Ohio Plan	Inland Marine (EDP Blanket)	996,991
Ohio Plan	Crime (Employee Theft)	100,000
Ohio Plan	General Liability Aggregate	6,000,000
Ohio Plan	General Liability Per Occurrence	4,000,000
Ohio Plan	Business Auto Combined Single Limit	4,000,000
Ohio Plan	Directors' & Officers' Liability	4,000,000
Ohio Plan	Employment Practices Liability	4,000,000
Ohio Plan	Workplace Violence	1,000,000
Ohio Plan	Cyber Liability	1,000,000
Liberty Mutual	Public Officials Bond	500,000
Auto Owners	Flood - 103 River View Blvd	500,000

The Library's claims did not exceed coverage in any of the past three fiscal years. There were no significant reductions in coverage from the prior year.

The Library pays the State Workers' Compensation System a premium based on a rate per \$100 of salaries. This rate is calculated based on accident history and administrative costs. The System administers and pays all claims.

**Note 8 – Defined Benefit Pension Plan**

The Statewide retirement systems provide both pension benefits and other postemployment benefits (OPEB).

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**Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS)**

Plan Description – Library employees participate in the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple employer public employee retirement system which administers three separate pension plans. The traditional pension plan is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan. The member-directed plan is a defined contribution plan and the combined plan is a combination cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit/defined contribution pension plan. Effective January 1, 2022, new members may no longer select the Combined Plan, and current members may no longer make a plan change to this plan. Participating employers are divided into state, local, law enforcement and public safety divisions. While members in the state and local divisions may participate in all three plans, law enforcement and public safety divisions exist only within the traditional plan.

OPERS provides retirement, disability, survivor and death benefits, and annual cost of living adjustments to members of the traditional and combined plans. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by Chapter 145 of the Ohio Revised Code. OPERS issues a stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements, required supplementary information and detailed information about OPERS' fiduciary net position that may be obtained by visiting <https://www.opers.org/financial/reports.shtml>, by writing to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System, 277 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-4642, or by calling 800-222-7377.

Senate Bill (SB) 343 was enacted into law with an effective date of January 7, 2013. In the legislation, members in the traditional and combined plans were categorized into three groups with varying provisions of the law applicable to each group. The following table provides age and service requirements for retirement and the retirement formula applied to final average salary (FAS) for the three member groups under the traditional and combined plans as per the reduced benefits adopted by SB 343 (see OPERS Annual Comprehensive Financial Report referenced above for additional information, including requirements for reduced and unreduced benefits):

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Group A</b> Eligible to retire prior to January 7, 2013 or five years after January 7, 2013</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Group B</b> 20 years of service credit prior to January 7, 2013 or eligible to retire ten years after January 7, 2013</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Group C</b> Members not in other Groups and members hired on or after January 7, 2013</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>State and Local</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>State and Local</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>State and Local</b></p>
<p><b>Age and Service Requirements:</b> Age 60 with 60 months of service credit or Age 55 with 25 years of service credit</p>	<p><b>Age and Service Requirements:</b> Age 60 with 60 months of service credit or Age 55 with 25 years of service credit</p>	<p><b>Age and Service Requirements:</b> Age 57 with 25 years of service credit or Age 62 with 5 years of service credit</p>
<p><b>Traditional Plan Formula:</b> 2.2% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 30 years and 2.5% for service years in excess of 30</p>	<p><b>Traditional Plan Formula:</b> 2.2% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 30 years and 2.5% for service years in excess of 30</p>	<p><b>Traditional Plan Formula:</b> 2.2% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 35 years and 2.5% for service years in excess of 35</p>
<p><b>Combined Plan Formula:</b> 1% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 30 years and 1.25% for service years in excess of 30</p>	<p><b>Combined Plan Formula:</b> 1% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 30 years and 1.25% for service years in excess of 30</p>	<p><b>Combined Plan Formula:</b> 1% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 35 years and 1.25% for service years in excess of 35</p>

Traditional plan state and local members who retire before meeting the age-and-years of service credit requirement for unreduced benefits receive a percentage reduction in the benefit amount. The amount of a member's pension benefit vests at retirement.

Law enforcement and public safety members who retire before meeting the age-and-years of service credit requirement for unreduced benefits receive a percentage reduction in the benefit amount.

Combined plan members retiring before age 65 with less than 30 years of service credit receive a percentage reduction in benefit.



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Final average Salary (FAS) represents the average of the three highest years of earnings over a member's career for Groups A and B. Group C is based on the average of the five highest years of earnings over a member's career.

When a traditional plan benefit recipient has received benefits for 12 months, the member is eligible for an annual cost of living adjustment (COLA). This COLA is calculated on the member's original base retirement benefit at the date of retirement and is not compounded. Members retiring under the combined plan receive a cost-of-living adjustment on the defined benefit portion of their pension benefit. For those who retired prior to January 7, 2013, the cost-of-living adjustment is 3 percent. For those retiring on or after January 7, 2013, beginning in calendar year 2019, the adjustment is based on the average percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index, capped at 3 percent.

Defined contribution plan benefits are established in the plan documents, which may be amended by the Board. Member-directed plan and combined plan members who have met the retirement eligibility requirements may apply for retirement benefits. The amount available for defined contribution benefits in the combined plan consists of the member's contributions plus or minus the investment gains or losses resulting from the member's investment selections. Combined plan members wishing to receive benefits must meet the requirements for both the defined benefit and defined contribution plans. Member-directed participants must have attained the age of 55, have money on deposit in the defined contribution plan and have terminated public service to apply for retirement benefits. The amount available for defined contribution benefits in the member-directed plan consists of the members' contributions, vested employer contributions and investment gains or losses resulting from the members' investment selections. Employer contributions and associated investment earnings vest over a five-year period, at a rate of 20 percent each year. At retirement, members may select one of several distribution options for payment of the vested balance in their individual OPERS accounts. Options include the annuitization of the benefit (which includes joint and survivor options and will continue to be administered by OPERS), partial lump-sum payments (subject to limitations), a rollover of the vested account balance to another financial institution, receipt of entire account balance, net of taxes withheld, or a combination of these options. When members choose to annuitize their defined contribution benefit, the annuitized portion of the benefit is reclassified to a defined benefit.

Funding Policy – The Ohio Revised Code (ORC) provides statutory authority for member and employer contributions as follows:

	State and Local	
	Traditional	Combined
<b>2024 Statutory Maximum Contribution Rates</b>		
Employer	14.0 %	14.0 %
Employee *	10.0 %	10.0 %
<b>2024 Actual Contribution Rates</b>		
Employer:		
Pension **	14.0 %	12.0 %
Post-employment Health Care Benefits **	0.0	2.0
Total Employer	14.0 %	14.0 %
Employee	10.0 %	10.0 %

\*Member contributions within the combined plan are not used to fund the defined benefit retirement allowance.

\*\*These pension and employer health care rates are for the traditional and combined plans. The employer contributions rate for the member-directed plan is allocated 4% for health care with the remainder going to pension; however, effective July 1, 2022, a portion of the health care rate is funded with reserves.

Employer contribution rates are actuarially determined and are expressed as a percentage of covered payroll. The Library's contractually required contribution was \$594,117 for the year 2024.

**Note 9 – Postemployment Benefits**

**Ohio Public Employees Retirement System**

Plan Description – The Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) administers three separate pension plans: the traditional pension plan, a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan; the member-directed plan, a defined contribution plan; and the combined plan, a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan that has elements of both a defined benefit and defined contribution plan.

OPERS maintains a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit post-employment health care trust. The 115 Health Care Trust (115 Trust or Health Care Trust) was established in 2014, under Section 115 of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC). The purpose of the 115 Trust is to fund health care for the Traditional Pension, Combined and Member-Directed plans. The Ohio Revised Code permits, but does not require, OPERS to provide health care to its eligible benefit recipients. Authority to establish and amend health care coverage is provided to the Board in Chapter 145 of the Ohio Revised Code. Retirees in the Traditional Pension and Combined plans may have an allowance deposited into a health reimbursement arrangement (HRA) account to be used toward the health care program of their choice and other eligible expenses. An OPERS vendor is available to assist with the selection of a health care program.

With one exception, OPERS-provided health care coverage is neither guaranteed nor statutorily required. Ohio law currently requires Medicare Part A equivalent coverage or Medicare Part A premium reimbursement for eligible retirees and their eligible dependents.

OPERS offers a health reimbursement arrangement (HRA) allowance to benefit recipients meeting certain age and service credit requirements. The HRA is an account funded by OPERS that provides tax free reimbursement for qualified medical expenses such as monthly post-tax insurance premiums, deductibles, co-insurance, and co-pays incurred by eligible benefit recipients and their dependents.

OPERS members enrolled in the Traditional Pension Plan or Combined Plan retiring with an effective date of January 1, 2022, or after must meet the following health care eligibility requirements to receive an HRA allowance:

Age 65 or older Retirees Minimum of 20 years of qualifying service credit

Age 60 to 64 Retirees Based on the following age-and-service criteria:

Group A 30 years of total service with at least 20 years of qualified health care service credit;

Group B 31 years of total service credit with at least 20 years of qualified health care service credit;

Group C 32 years of total service cred with at least 20 years of qualified health care service credit.

Age 59 or younger Based on the following age-and-service criteria:

Group A 30 years of qualified health care service credit;

Group B 32 years of qualified health care service credit at any age or 31 years of qualified health care service credit and at least age 52;

Group C 32 years of qualified health care service credit and at least page 55.

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Retirees who do not meet the requirement for coverage as a non-Medicare participant can become eligible for coverage at age 65 if they have at least 20 years of qualifying service.

Members with a retirement date prior to January 1, 2022, who were eligible to participate in the OPERS health care program will continue to be eligible after January 1, 2022, as summarized in the following table:

<b>Group A</b>	<b>Group B</b>	<b>Group C</b>
<b>Age and Service Requirements</b> <b><i>December 1, 2014 or Prior</i></b>	<b>Age and Service Requirements</b> <b><i>December 1, 2014 or Prior</i></b>	<b>Age and Service Requirements</b> <b><i>December 1, 2014 or Prior</i></b>
Any Age with 10 years of service credit	Any Age with 10 years of service credit	Any Age with 10 years of service credit
<b><i>January 1, 2015 through</i></b> <b><i>December 31, 2021</i></b>	<b><i>January 1, 2015 through</i></b> <b><i>December 31, 2021</i></b>	<b><i>January 1, 2015 through</i></b> <b><i>December 31, 2021</i></b>
Age 60 with 20 years of service credit or Any Age with 30 years of service credit	Age 52 with 31 years of service credit or Age 60 with 20 years of service credit or Any Age with 32 years of service credit	Age 55 with 32 years of service credit or Age 60 with 20 years of service credit

See the Age and Service Retirement section of the OPERS ACFR for a description of Groups A, B and C.

Eligible retirees may receive a monthly HRA allowance for reimbursement of health care coverage premiums and other qualified medical expenses. Monthly allowances, based on years of service and the age at which the retiree first enrolled in OPERS coverage, are provided to eligible retirees, and are deposited into their HRA account.

The base allowance is determined by OPERS and is currently \$1,200 per month for non-Medicare retirees and \$350 per month for Medicare retirees. The retiree receives a percentage of the base allowance, calculated based on years of qualifying service credit and age when the retiree first enrolled in OPERS health care. Monthly allowances range between 51 percent and 90 percent of the base allowance for both non-Medicare and Medicare retirees.

Retirees will have access to the OPERS Connector, which is a relationship with a vendor selected by OPERS to assist retirees participating in the health care program. The OPERS Connector may assist retirees in selecting and enrolling in the appropriate health care plan.

When members become Medicare-eligible, recipients enrolled in OPERS health care programs must enroll in Medicare Part A (hospitalization) and Medicare Part B (medical).

OPERS reimburses retirees who are not eligible for premium-free Medicare Part A (hospitalization) for their Part A premiums as well as any applicable surcharges (late-enrollment fees). Retirees within this group must enroll in Medicare Part A and select medical coverage, and may select prescription coverage, through the OPERS Connector. OPERS also will reimburse 50 percent of the Medicare Part A premium and any applicable surcharges for eligible spouses. Proof of enrollment in Medicare Part A and confirmation that the retiree is not receiving reimbursement or payment from another source must be submitted. The premium reimbursement is added to the monthly pension benefit.

Participants in the Member-Directed Plan have access to the Connector and have a separate health care funding mechanism. A portion of employer contributions for these participants is allocated to a retiree medical account (RMA). Members who elect the Member-Directed Plan after July 1, 2015, will vest in the RMA over 15 years at a rate of 10 percent each year starting with the sixth year of participation. Members who elected the Member-Directed Plan prior to July 1, 2015, vest in the RMA over a five-year period at a rate of 20 percent per year. Upon separation or retirement, participants may use vested RMA funds for reimbursement of qualified medical expenses.

Disclosures for the health care plan are presented separately in the OPERS financial report. Interested parties may obtain a copy by visiting <https://www.opers.org/financial/reports.shtml>, by writing to OPERS, 277 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-4642, or by calling (614) 222-5601 or 800-222-7377.

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Funding Policy – The Ohio Revised Code provides the statutory authority allowing public employers to fund postemployment health care through their contributions to OPERS. When funding is approved by OPERS Board of Trustees, a portion of each employer’s contribution to OPERS is set aside to fund OPERS health care plans. Beginning in 2018, OPERS no longer allocated a portion of its employer contributions to health care for the traditional plan.

Employer contribution rates are expressed as a percentage of the earnable salary of active members. For fiscal year 2024, state and local employers contributed at a rate of 14.0 percent of earnable salary. These are the maximum employer contribution rates permitted by the Ohio Revised Code. Active member contributions do not fund health care.

Each year, the OPERS Board determines the portion of the employer contribution rate that will be set aside to fund health care plans. For 2024, OPERS did not allocate any employer contribution to health care for members in the Traditional Pension Plan. Beginning July 1, 2022, there was a two percent allocation to health care for the Combined Plan which has continued through 2024. The OPERS Board is also authorized to establish rules for the retiree or their surviving beneficiaries to pay a portion of the health care provided. Payment amounts vary depending on the number of covered dependents and the coverage selected. The employer contribution as a percentage of covered payroll deposited into the RMA for participants in the member-directed plan for 2024 was 4.0 percent. Effective July 1, 2022, a portion of the health care rate was funded with reserves which has continued through 2024.

Employer contribution rates are actuarially determined and are expressed as a percentage of covered payroll. The Library’s contractually required contribution was \$7,506 for the year 2024.

**Note 10 – Debt**

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2024 was as follows:

	Balance			Balance	Due
	12/31/23	Additions	Payments	12/31/24	Within
					One Year
Library Series 2016	\$5,360,000	\$0	(\$345,000)	\$5,015,000	\$355,000

During November of 2016, the Library issued \$7,500,000 in Series 2016 Bonds to finance a portion of the costs of Construction of the New Miami Township Library Branch. These bonds are special obligation debt of the Library and are payable solely from money received by the Library. These bonds have a maturity of 20 years, with the final payment occurring in 2036. The Library has pledged future Library Fund receipts for payment of this debt.

The Library’s debt service requirements are paid from the debt service fund.

Amortization of the above debt, including interest, is scheduled as follows:

Year Ended		
December 31:	Principal	Interest
2025	\$355,000	\$150,450
2026	365,000	139,800
2027	375,000	128,850
2028	385,000	117,600
2029	400,000	106,050
2030-2034	2,170,000	343,800
2035-2036	965,000	43,650
Total	\$5,015,000	\$1,030,200

**Clermont County Public Library**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2024*

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**Note 11 – Fund Balances**

Fund balance is classified as nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned and/or unassigned based primarily on the extent to which the Library is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources in the government funds. The constraints placed on fund balance for the major governmental Funds and all other governmental funds are presented below:

Fund Balances	General	Debt Service	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total
<b>Nonspendable</b>				
Escheated Funds	\$3,493	\$0	\$0	\$3,493
<i>Total Nonspendable</i>	<u>3,493</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,493</u>
<b>Restricted for</b>				
Grants	0	0	38,559	38,559
<i>Total Restricted</i>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>38,559</u>	<u>38,559</u>
<b>Committed to</b>				
27th Pay Accrued Leave	849,340	0	0	849,340
Capital Projects	0	0	510,291	510,291
Debt Service	0	4,035,351	0	4,035,351
<i>Total Committed</i>	<u>849,340</u>	<u>4,035,351</u>	<u>510,291</u>	<u>5,394,982</u>
<b>Assigned to</b>				
Other Purposes	7	0	0	7
Encumbrances	1,061,863	0	0	1,061,863
<i>Total Assigned</i>	<u>1,061,870</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,061,870</u>
<b>Unassigned</b>	<u>14,831,313</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>14,831,313</u>
<i>Total Fund Balances</i>	<u>\$16,746,016</u>	<u>\$4,035,351</u>	<u>\$548,850</u>	<u>\$21,330,217</u>

In addition to the above fund balance constraints, the Library has a General Fund budget stabilization arrangement that does not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted, committed or assigned. Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.13, the Library established a budget stabilization by resolution to provide options to respond to unexpected issues and afford a buffer against shocks and other forms of risk such as revenue volatility, unexpected infrastructure failure, or disaster situations. Expenditures of a recurring nature are not addressed through the use of this arrangement. The Library Trustees authorized the funding of this arrangement as resources become available in the General Fund. The fund balance should not exceed 5 percent of General Fund revenues of the preceding fiscal year. The balance in the reserve at December 31, 2024 is \$581,562.

**Note 12 – Significant Commitments**

The Library had significant encumbrances of \$1,061,863 and \$106,162 outstanding in the General Fund and Non-Major Capital Projects Fund at year end. Amounts reported in the General Fund are assigned fund balances and amounts reported in the Non-Major Capital Projects Fund are committed to capital projects.

**Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance With *Government Auditing Standards***

Independent Auditor's Report

Board of Trustees  
Clermont County Public Library  
5920 Buckwheat Road  
Milford, Ohio 45150

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*), the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Clermont County Public Library, Clermont County, Ohio (the Library) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Library's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated July 30, 2025, wherein we noted the Library uses a special purpose framework other than generally accepted accounting principles.

**Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Library's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Library's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Library's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. 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 deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We identified a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses as item 2024-001 that we consider to be a material weakness.

Clermont County Public Library

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance With *Government Auditing Standards*

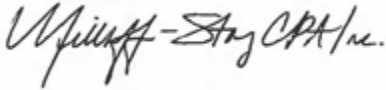
Page 2

### **Report on Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Library's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

### **Purpose of this Report**

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



Millhuff-Stang, CPA, Inc.  
Wheelersburg, Ohio

July 30, 2025

**Clermont County Public Library**  
Clermont County  
*Schedule of Findings and Responses*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2024*

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**Finding Number 2024-001**

**Material Weakness – Budgetary Information Within Accounting System**

Accurate budgetary information within the Library's accounting system is pertinent to ensure that the Library has accurate and complete information for decision-making processes. During testing, we noted that estimated receipts per the final amended certificate of estimated resources did not agree to estimated receipts in the accounting system for the General fund and Capital Projects fund. Further, we noted that beginning balances per the final amended certificate of estimated resources did not agree to beginning balances in the accounting system for the General fund.

To effectively control the budgetary cycle and to maintain accountability over receipts and expenditures, the Library should post to the ledgers, on a timely basis, estimated receipts as certified by the budget commission and approved by the Board. The Library should then monitor budget versus actual reports to help ensure amended certificates of resources have been properly posted to the ledgers.

**Client Response:**

Client has elected not to provide a response to the finding.



# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



**CLERMONT COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**CLERMONT 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 12/30/2025**

65 East State Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215  
Phone: 614-466-4514 or 800-282-0370

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