



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

**COLUMBIANA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
COLUMBIANA COUNTY**

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Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

Columbiana County Agricultural Society
Columbiana County
PO Box 356
Lisbon, Ohio 44432

To the Board of Directors:

As you are aware, the Auditor of State's Office (AOS) must modify the *Independent Accountants' Report* we provide on your financial statements due to an interpretation from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). While AOS does not legally require your government to prepare financial statements pursuant to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), the AICPA interpretation requires auditors to formally acknowledge that you did not prepare your financial statements in accordance with GAAP. Our Report includes an adverse opinion relating to GAAP presentation and measurement requirements, but does not imply the amounts the statements present are misstated under the non-GAAP basis you follow. The AOS report also includes an opinion on the financial statements you prepared using the cash basis and financial statement format the AOS permits.

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Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

February 5, 2009

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Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Columbiana County Agricultural Society
Columbiana County
PO Box 356
Lisbon, Ohio 44432

To the Board of Directors:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Columbiana County Agricultural Society, Columbiana County, (the Society) as of and for the years ended November 30, 2007 and 2006. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Society's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described more fully in Note 1, the Society has prepared these financial statements using accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. These practices differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Although we cannot reasonably determine the effects on the financial statements of the variances between these regulatory accounting practices and GAAP, we presume they are material.

While the Society does not follow GAAP, generally accepted auditing standards requires us to include the following paragraph if the statements do not substantially conform to GAAP presentation requirements. The Auditor of State permits, but does not require societies to reformat their statements. The Society has elected not to follow GAAP statement formatting requirements. The following paragraph does not imply the amounts reported are materially misstated under the accounting basis the Auditor of State permits. Our opinion on the fair presentation of the amounts reported pursuant to its non-GAAP basis is in the second following paragraph.

In our opinion, because of the effects of the matter discussed in the preceding two paragraphs, the financial statements referred to above for the years ended November 30, 2007 and 2006, do not present fairly, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Society as of November 30, 2007 and 2006, or its changes in financial position for the years then ended.

Also, in our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the cash balances of Columbiana County Agricultural Society, Columbiana County, as of November 30, 2007 and 2006, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the accounting basis Note 1 describes.

The Society has not presented Management's Discussion and Analysis, which accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America has determined is necessary to supplement, although not required to be part of, the financial statements.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated February 5, 2009, on our consideration of the Society'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. While we did not opine on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance, that report describes the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. You should read it in conjunction with this report in assessing the results of our audit.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Taylor". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

February 5, 2009

**COLUMBIANA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
COLUMBIANA COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGE IN CASH BALANCE
FOR THE YEARS ENDED NOVEMBER 30, 2007 AND 2006**

	2007	2006
Operating Receipts:		
Admissions	\$239,105	\$198,910
Privilege Fees	38,754	39,594
Rentals	25,569	30,431
Sustaining and Entry Fees	13,355	17,050
Parimutuel Wagering Commission		1,572
Other Operating Receipts	54,540	44,633
 Total Operating Receipts	 371,323	 332,190
Operating Disbursements:		
Wages and Benefits	34,535	32,364
Utilities	20,521	27,675
Professional Services	77,325	88,014
Equipment and Grounds Maintenance	48,020	44,716
Race Purse	38,846	45,078
Senior Fair	17,337	16,182
Junior Fair	12,787	15,010
Capital Outlay	2,359	141
Other Operating Disbursements	98,975	112,679
 Total Operating Disbursements	 350,705	 381,859
 Excess (Deficiency) of Operating Receipts Over (Under) Operating Disbursements	 20,618	 (49,669)
Non-Operating Receipts (Disbursements):		
State Support	29,044	29,155
Line of Credit	52,250	33,300
Investment Income	8,880	174
Debt Service	(99,707)	(49,081)
 Net Non-Operating Receipts (Disbursements)	 (9,533)	 13,548
 Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements	 11,085	 (36,121)
 Cash Balance, Beginning of Year	 157,725	 193,846
 Cash Balance, End of Year	 \$168,810	 \$157,725

The notes to the financial statement are an integral part of this statement.

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**COLUMBIANA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
COLUMBIANA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
NOVEMBER 30, 2007 AND 2006**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of the Columbiana County Agricultural Society, Columbiana County, (the Society) as a body corporate and politic. The Society is a county agricultural society corporation formed under Chapter 1711 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Society was founded in 1845 to operate an annual agricultural fair. The Society sponsors the week-long Columbiana County Fair during July/August. During the fair, harness races are held, culminating in the running of the Home Talent Colt Stakes. Columbiana County is not financially accountable for the Society. The Board of Directors manages the Society. The Board is made up of twelve directors serving staggered three-year terms. Society members elect Board members from its membership. Members of the Society must be residents of Columbiana County and pay an annual membership fee to the Society.

Reporting Entity

The reporting entity includes all activity occurring on the fairgrounds. This includes the annual fair and harness racing during fair week. Other year round activities at the fairgrounds including facility rental, track and stall rental. The reporting entity does not include any other activities or entities of Columbiana County, Ohio.

Notes 7 and 8, respectively, summarizes the Junior Fair Board's and Junior Livestock Sale Committee's financial activity.

The Society's management believes this financial statement presents all activities for which the Society is financially accountable.

B. Accounting Basis

These financial statements follow the accounting basis the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Society recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred.

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as the Auditor of State prescribes or permits.

C. Cash and Investments

The Society's accounting basis includes investments as assets. This basis does not record disbursements for investment purchases or receipts for investment sales. This basis records gains or losses at the time of sale as receipts or disbursements, respectively.

The Society values certificates of deposit at cost.

D. Property, Plant, and Equipment

The Society records disbursements for acquisitions of property, plant, and equipment when paid. The accompanying financial statements do not report these items as assets.

**COLUMBIANA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
COLUMBIANA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
NOVEMBER 30, 2007 AND 2006
(Continued)**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

E. Restricted Support

Restricted support includes amounts that donors restrict for specific uses.

F. Income Tax Status

The Society is a not-for-profit organization, exempt from income taxes under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Society is not a private foundation within the meaning of Section 509 (a). Contributions to the Society are deductible per Section 170(b)(1)(A)(v1). Management is unaware of any actions or events that would jeopardize the Society's tax status.

G. Race Purse

Home Talent Colt stake races are held during the Columbiana County Fair. The Society pays all Sustaining and Entry fees and the required portion of the cash received from the Ohio Fairs Fund as Race Purse to winning horses.

Sustaining and Entry Fees

Horse owners and Northeast Ohio Horseman's Association pay fees to the Society to qualify horses for entry into stake races. They must make payment before a horse can participate in a stake race. The accompanying financial statement report these fees as Sustaining and Entry Fees.

Ohio Fairs Fund

The State of Ohio contributes money to the Society from the Ohio Fairs Fund to supplement the race purse. See Note 3 for additional information.

H. Pari-mutuel Wagering

A wagering system totals the amounts wagered and adjusts the payoff to reflect the relative amount bet on different horses and various odds. The total amount bet (also known as the "handle"), less commission, is paid to bettors in accordance with the payoffs, as the pari-mutuel wagering system determines. The Society contracts with a totalizer service to collect bets and provide the pari-mutuel wagering system. The Society had pari-mutuel wagering in 2006 but not in 2007.

Pari-mutuel wagering commission (the commission) is the Society's share of total pari-mutuel wagers after payment of amounts to winning bettors. The commission is determined by applying a statutory percentage to the total amount bet and is reflected in the accompanying financial statement as Pari-mutuel Wagering Commission. See Note 3 for additional information.

**COLUMBIANA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
COLUMBIANA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
NOVEMBER 30, 2007 AND 2006
(Continued)**

2. CASH AND INVESTMENTS

The carrying amount of cash and investments at November 30, 2007 and 2006 follows:

	2007	2006
Demand deposits	\$387	(\$660)
Certificates of deposit	\$168,423	\$158,385
Total deposits	\$168,810	\$157,725

Deposits: Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation; or collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool.

3. HORSE RACING

State Support Portion of Purse

The financial statements report Ohio Fairs Fund money, received to supplement purse for the years ended November 30, 2007 and 2006 was \$21,696 and \$22,704, respectively, as State Support.

Pari-mutuel Wagering

The Society does not record the Total Amount Bet or the Payoff to Bettors in the accompany financial statement, rather, it records the Pari-mutuel Wagering Commission (commission) which is the Society's share of total pari-mutuel wagers after paying winning bettors. The expenses of providing the pari-mutuel wagering system are called Tote Services, and these expenses are included in Professional Service Disbursements, State taxes, which are also paid from Pari-mutuel Wagering Commission, are reflected in Other Operating Disbursements, and the amount remaining is the Society's net portion. The Society did not have pari-mutuel wagering in 2007.

	2006
Total Amount Bet (Handle)	\$ 1,572
Less: Payoff to Bettors	(1,246)
Parimutuel Wagering Commission	326
Tote Service Set Up Fee	-
Tote Service Commission	(277)
Refunds	
State Tax	(49)
Society Portion	\$ -

**COLUMBIANA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
COLUMBIANA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
NOVEMBER 30, 2007 AND 2006
(Continued)**

4. DEBT

Debt outstanding at November 30, 2007 was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
Promissory Note	\$32,691	5.00%
Rice Property Loan	8,902	5.00%
Line of Credit	38,000	6.225%
Total	\$79,593	

The \$150,000 Promissory Note bears an interest rate of 5.0 percent and is due to the National City Bank. The note was entered into on November 25, 2003. Proceeds of the note were used to consolidate the loan on the horse barn, replacement of the grandstand fund money, pay off the line of credit and roof replacement. The loan is collateralized with the Society's Certificate of Deposit.

Mary Rice sold property to the Agricultural Society. The Society must repay the loan to Mary Rice at a rate of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) per year plus interest at a rate of 5 percent per annum.

The Line of Credit was utilized during the audit period and monthly interest payments are made. The line of credit was established in 2004 and is utilized when needed by the Society.

Year ending November 30:	Promissory Note	Rice Property Loan	Interest
2008	\$32,691	\$8,902	\$1,327
Total	\$32,691	\$8,902	\$1,327

5. RETIREMENT SYSTEM

All employees contribute to Social Security. This plan provides retirement benefits, including survivor and disability benefits to participants. For 2007 and 2006 employees contributed 6.2% of their gross salaries. The Society contributed an amount equal to 6.2% of the participants' gross salaries through November 30, 2007.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Columbiana County Commissioners provide general insurance coverage for all the buildings on the Columbiana County Fairgrounds pursuant to Ohio Revised Code § 1711.24. A private company provides general liability and vehicle insurance, with limits of \$5,000,000 aggregate. The Society's treasurer is bonded with coverage of \$500,000.

The Society provides workers compensation coverage on all employees through the State of Ohio workers compensation fund. Coverage is currently in effect through August 2008.

**COLUMBIANA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
COLUMBIANA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
NOVEMBER 30, 2007 AND 2006
(Continued)**

7. JUNIOR FAIR BOARD

The Junior Fair Board, which is comprised of 4-H, FFA, Boy Scout, Girl Scout, and Farm Bureau Youth organization representatives, is responsible for the Junior Fair Division activities of the Columbiana County Fair. The Society disbursed \$12,787 and \$15,010 directly to vendors to support Junior Fair activities in 2007 and 2006, respectively. These expenses are reflected as a disbursement in the accompanying financial statement as Junior Fair Disbursement. The Junior Fair Board accounts for its activities separately. These accompanying financial statements do not include this activity. The Junior Fair Board's financial activity for the year ended November 30 follows:

	2007	2006
Beginning Cash Balance	\$ 4,169	\$ 5,503
Receipts	4,618	4,406
Disbursements	(4,658)	(5,740)
Ending Cash Balance	\$ 4,129	\$ 4,169

8. JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SALE COMMITTEE

The Junior Livestock Committee is a separate committee charged with running the Junior Livestock Auction. This auction is held during fair week. Children may sell their animals directly to market or through the Columbiana County's auction. A commission of 3 percent on auction sales per head covers auction costs. The Junior Livestock Committee retains this money. The accompanying financial statement does not include the Junior Livestock Committee's activities. The Junior Livestock Committee's financial activity for the years ended November 30, 2007 and 2006 follows:

	2007	2006
Beginning Cash Balance	\$ 15,091	\$ 10,742
Receipts	272,883	282,421
Disbursements	(277,730)	(278,072)
Ending Cash Balance	\$ 10,244	\$ 15,091

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Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRED BY *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

Columbiana County Agricultural Society
PO Box 356
Lisbon, Ohio 44432

To the Board of Directors:

We have audited the financial statements of the Columbiana County Agricultural Society, Columbiana County, (the Society) as of and for the years ended November 30, 2007 and 2006, and have issued our report thereon dated February 5, 2009, wherein we noted the Society followed accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes rather than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Society's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our audit procedures for expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not to opine on the effectiveness of the Society's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we have not opined on the effectiveness of the Society's internal control over financial reporting.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the Society's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with its applicable accounting basis, such that there is more than a remote likelihood that the Society's internal control will not prevent or detect a more-than-inconsequential financial statement misstatement.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies resulting in more than a remote likelihood that the Society's internal control will not prevent or detect a material financial statement misstatement.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all internal control deficiencies that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider material weaknesses, as defined above.

We noted certain matters that we reported to the Society's management in a separate letter dated February 5, 2009.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of reasonably assuring whether the Society's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards*.

We did note certain noncompliance or other matters that we reported to the Society's management in a separate letter dated February 5, 2009.

We intend this report solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management, Board of Directors. We intend it for no one other than these specified parties.



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

February 5, 2009



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

COLUMBIANA COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

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

Susan Babbitt

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

**CERTIFIED
MARCH 3, 2009**