



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



**JEFFERSON EMERGENCY RESCUE DISTRICT
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Jefferson Emergency Rescue District
Ashtabula County
P.O. Box 294
Jefferson, Ohio 44047

To the Board of Directors:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the cash balances, receipts and disbursements by fund type, and related notes of the Jefferson Emergency Rescue District, Ashtabula County, Ohio (the District) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for preparing and fairly presenting these financial statements in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit; this responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to preparing and fairly presenting financial statements free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to opine on these financial statements based on our audit. We audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the financial audit standards in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require us to plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit requires obtaining evidence about financial statement amounts and disclosures. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including assessing the risks of material financial statement misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In assessing those risks, we consider internal control relevant to the District's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not to the extent needed to opine on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of management's accounting policies and the reasonableness of their significant accounting estimates, as well as our evaluation of the overall financial statement presentation.

We believe the audit evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to support our audit opinions.

Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

As described in Note 2 of the financial statements, the District prepared these financial statements using the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D), which is an accounting basis other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP), to satisfy these requirements.

Although the effects on the financial statements of the variances between the regulatory accounting basis and GAAP are not reasonably determinable, we presume they are material.

Though the District does not intend these statements to conform to GAAP, auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America require us to include an adverse opinion on GAAP. However, the adverse opinion does not imply the amounts reported are materially misstated under the accounting basis Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit. Our opinion on this accounting basis is in the *Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting* paragraph below.

Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the *Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles* paragraph, the financial statements referred to above do not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the District as of December 31, 2018 and 2017, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the years then ended.

Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the cash balances, receipts and disbursements by fund type, and related notes of the Jefferson Emergency Rescue District, Ashtabula County as of December 31, 2018 and 2017, for the years then ended in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit, described in Note 2.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated October 30, 2019, on our consideration of the District'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. That report describes the scope of our internal control testing over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing, and does not opine on 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 District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

October 30, 2019

Jefferson Emergency Rescue District
Ashtabula County
Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and
Changes In Fund Balance (Regulatory Cash Basis)
General Fund
For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

	General
Cash Receipts	
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 344,972
Charges for Services	249,837
Intergovernmental	210,741
Contributions and Donations	33,103
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	838,653
Cash Disbursements	
Current Disbursements:	
Security of Persons and Property:	
Salaries	381,708
Fringe Benefits	65,360
Materials and Supplies	17,134
Repairs and Maintenance	18,310
Equipment	103,937
Contractual Services	102,041
Administrative Expense	65,026
Capital Outlay	9,918
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	763,434
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balance</i>	75,219
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	399,882
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	
Assigned	104,400
Unassigned	370,701
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	\$ 475,101

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

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Jefferson Emergency Rescue District
Ashtabula County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

Note 1 – Reporting Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of Jefferson Emergency Rescue District, Ashtabula County, Ohio (the District) as a body corporate and politic. A three-member Board of Trustees governs the District. Each political subdivision within the District appoints one member. Those subdivisions are Jefferson Township, and the Village of Jefferson. The two members appointed by the political subdivisions choose the third member of the Board. The District provides rescue services within the District and by contract to areas outside the District.

Public Entity Risk Pool

The District belongs to the Public Entities Pool of Ohio (PEP), a public entity risk pool. Note 6 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity.

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

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

The District's financial statements consist of a statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balance (regulatory cash basis) for the General Fund.

Fund Accounting

The District 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 fund of the District is presented below:

General Fund The General Fund accounts for and reports all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund. The general fund balance is available to the District for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (D). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Board recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary disbursements when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (D) permit.

Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund be budgeted annually.

Jefferson Emergency Rescue District
Ashtabula County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Appropriations Budgetary disbursements (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the object level of control and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Board of Trustees must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. Appropriations lapse at year end.

Estimated Resources Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus cash as of January 1. The County Budget Commission must approve estimated resources.

Encumbrances The Ohio Revised Code requires the District to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are canceled, and re-appropriated in the subsequent year.

A summary of 2018 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

Deposits and Investments

The District'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.

Capital Assets

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

Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. The financial statements do not include a liability for unpaid leave.

Fund Balance

Fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the District must observe constraints imposed upon the use of its governmental-fund resources. The classifications are as follows:

Nonspendable The District classifies assets as nonspendable when legally or contractually required to maintain the amounts intact.

Restricted Fund balance is 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.

Jefferson Emergency Rescue District
Ashtabula County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Committed The Trustees can commit amounts via formal action (resolution). The District must adhere to these commitments unless the Trustees amend the resolution. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed to satisfy contractual requirements.

Assigned Assigned fund balances are intended for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. Governmental funds other than the general fund report all fund balances as assigned unless they are restricted or committed. In the general fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by the Trustees or a District official delegated that authority by resolution, or by State Statute. The Board may also assign fund balance as it does when appropriating fund balance to cover a gap between estimated revenues and appropriations in the subsequent year's appropriated budget in the General Fund.

Unassigned Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund and includes amounts not included in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is used only to report a deficit balance.

The District 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.

Note 3 - Budgetary

Budgetary activity for the year ended December 31, 2018 follows:

2018 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 669,395	\$ 838,653	\$ 169,258

2018 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Disbursements			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Disbursements	Variance
General	\$ 791,200	\$ 763,434	\$ 27,766

Note 4 – Deposits

The District maintains a deposit pool used by the general fund. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of deposits at December 31 was as follows:

Demand deposits	2018 \$ 475,101
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Jefferson Emergency Rescue District
Ashtabula County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

Note 4 – Deposits and Investments (continued)

Deposits

Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation, collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the District, or collateralized through 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.

Note 5 - Property Taxes

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Trustees adopted tax rates. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. The financial statements include homestead and rollback amounts the State pays as Intergovernmental receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to pay semiannually, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

Public utilities are also taxed on personal and real property located within the District. The County is responsible for assessing property, and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on behalf of the District.

Note 6 - Risk Management

The District is exposed to various risks of property and casualty losses, and injuries to employees. The District insures against injuries to employees through the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation.

The District belongs to the Public Entities Pool of Ohio (PEP), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio local governments. PEP provides property and casualty coverage for its members. York Insurance Services Group, Inc. (York) functions as the administrator of PEP and provides underwriting, claims, loss control, risk management, and reinsurance services for PEP. PEP is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP), which is also administered by York. Member governments pay annual contributions to fund PEP. PEP pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

Casualty and Property Coverage

APEEP provides PEP with an excess risk-sharing program. Under this arrangement, PEP retains insured risks up to an amount specified in the contracts. At December 31, 2018, PEP retained \$500,000 for casualty claims and \$250,000 for property claims.

The aforementioned casualty and property reinsurance agreement does not discharge PEP's primary liability for claims payments on covered losses. Claims exceeding coverage limits are the obligation of the respective government.

Jefferson Emergency Rescue District
Ashtabula County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

Note 6 - Risk Management (continued)

Financial Position

PEP's financial statements (audited by other auditor's) conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and net position at December 31, 2018.

	<u>2018</u>
Assets	\$49,921,998
Liabilities	(14,676,199)
Net Position	\$35,245,799

At December 31, 2018 the liabilities above include approximately \$12.9 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets above also include approximately \$11.7 million of unpaid claims to be billed. The Pool's membership increased to 538 members in 2018. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. As of December 31, 2018, the District's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$12,000.

Based on discussions with PEP, the expected rates PEP charges to compute member contributions, which are used to pay claims as they become due, are not expected to change significantly from those used to determine the historical contributions detailed below. By contract, the annual liability of each member is limited to the amount of financial contributions required to be made to PEP for each year of membership.

<u>2018 Contributions to PEP</u> \$18,608

After one year of membership, a member may withdraw on the anniversary of the date of joining PEP, if the member notifies PEP in writing 60 days prior to the anniversary date. Upon withdrawal, members are eligible for a full or partial refund of their capital contributions, minus the subsequent year's contribution. Withdrawing members have no other future obligation to PEP. Also upon withdrawal, payments for all casualty claims and claim expenses become the sole responsibility of the withdrawing member, regardless of whether a claim occurred or was reported prior to the withdrawal.

Note 7 – Defined Benefit Pension Plan

All of the District's employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) which is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes this plan's benefits, which include postretirement healthcare and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. OPERS members contributed 10% of their gross salaries and the District contributed an amount equaling 14% of participants' gross salaries. The District has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2018.

Jefferson Emergency Rescue District
Ashtabula County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

Note 8 – Postemployment Benefits

OPERS offers cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plans, which include multiple health care plans including medical coverage, prescription drug coverage, deposits to a Health Reimbursement Arrangement and Medicare Part B premium reimbursements, to qualifying benefit recipients of both the traditional pension and the combined plans. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the traditional pension plan and combined plan was 0% during calendar year 2018.

Jefferson Emergency Rescue District
Ashtabula County
Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and
Changes In Fund Balance (Regulatory Cash Basis)
General Fund
For the Year Ended December 31, 2017

	General
Cash Receipts	
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 335,713
Charges for Services	285,285
Intergovernmental	41,806
Contributions and Donations	38,836
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	701,640
Cash Disbursements	
Current Disbursements:	
Security of Persons and Property:	
Salaries	345,548
Fringe Benefits	121,595
Materials and Supplies	16,752
Repairs and Maintenance	8,071
Equipment	107,640
Contractual Services	18,040
Administrative Expense	53,526
Capital Outlay	8,182
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	679,354
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balance</i>	22,286
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	377,596
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	
Unassigned	399,882
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	\$ 399,882

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

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Jefferson Emergency Rescue District
Ashtabula County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2017

Note 1 – Reporting Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of Jefferson Emergency Rescue District, Ashtabula County, Ohio (the District) as a body corporate and politic. A three-member Board of Trustees governs the District. Each political subdivision within the District appoints one member. Those subdivisions are Jefferson Township, and the Village of Jefferson. The two members appointed by the political subdivisions choose the third member of the Board. The District provides rescue services within the District and by contract to areas outside the District.

Public Entity Risk Pool

The District belongs to the Public Entities Pool of Ohio (PEP), a public entity risk pool. Note 6 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity.

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

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

The District's financial statements consist of a statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balance (regulatory cash basis) for the General Fund.

Fund Accounting

The District 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 fund of the District is presented below:

General Fund The General Fund accounts for and reports all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund. The general fund balance is available to the District for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (D). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Board recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary disbursements when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (D) permit.

Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund be budgeted annually.

Jefferson Emergency Rescue District
Ashtabula County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2017

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies – (continued)

Appropriations Budgetary disbursements (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the object level of control and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Board of Trustees must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. Appropriations lapse at year end.

Estimated Resources Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus cash as of January 1. The County Budget Commission must approve estimated resources.

Encumbrances The Ohio Revised Code requires the District to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are canceled, and re-appropriated in the subsequent year.

A summary of 2017 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

Deposits and Investments

The District'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.

Capital Assets

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

Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. The financial statements do not include a liability for unpaid leave.

Fund Balance

Fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the District must observe constraints imposed upon the use of its governmental-fund resources. The classifications are as follows:

Nonspendable The District classifies assets as *nonspendable* when legally or contractually required to maintain the amounts intact.

Restricted Fund balance is *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.

Jefferson Emergency Rescue District
Ashtabula County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2017

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies – (continued)

Committed The Trustees can *commit* amounts via formal action (resolution). The District must adhere to these commitments unless the Trustees amend the resolution. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed to satisfy contractual requirements.

Assigned Assigned fund balances are intended for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as *restricted* or *committed*. Governmental funds other than the general fund report all fund balances as *assigned* unless they are restricted or committed. In the general fund, *assigned* amounts represent intended uses established by the Trustees or a District official delegated that authority by resolution, or by State Statute. The Board may also assign fund balance as it does when appropriating fund balance to cover a gap between estimated revenues and appropriations in the subsequent year’s appropriated budget in the General Fund.

Unassigned Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund and includes amounts not included in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is used only to report a deficit balance.

The District 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.

Note 3 – Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the year ended December 31, 2017 follows:

2017 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ -	\$ 701,640	\$ 701,640

2017 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Disbursements			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Disbursements	Variance
General	\$ -	\$ 679,354	\$ (679,354)

Contrary to Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.36(A)(1), the District did not certify the estimated resource to the Ashtabula County Auditor for 2017.

Contrary to Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.38(A), the District did not pass a resolution approving a permanent appropriation measure for fiscal year 2017.

Jefferson Emergency Rescue District
Ashtabula County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2017

Note 3 – Budgetary Activity (continued)

Contrary to Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41(B), the District’s General Fund had expenditures which exceeded appropriations due to the lack of an approved appropriation resolution.

Note 4 – Deposits and Investments

The District maintains a deposit pool used by the general fund. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of deposits and investments at December 31 was as follows:

	<u>2017</u>
Demand deposits	\$ 399,882

Deposits

Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation, collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the District, or collateralized through 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.

Note 5 - Property Taxes

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Trustees adopted tax rates. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. The financial statements include homestead and rollback amounts the State pays as Intergovernmental receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to pay semiannually, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

Public utilities are also taxed on personal and real property located within the District. The County is responsible for assessing property, and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on behalf of the District.

Note 6 - Risk Management

The District is exposed to various risks of property and casualty losses, and injuries to employees. The District insures against injuries to employees through the Ohio Bureau of Workers’ Compensation.

The District belongs to the Public Entities Pool of Ohio (PEP), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio local governments. PEP provides property and casualty coverage for its members. York Insurance Services Group, Inc. (York) functions as the administrator of PEP and provides underwriting, claims, loss control, risk management, and reinsurance services for PEP. PEP is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP), which is also administered by York. Member governments pay annual contributions to fund PEP. PEP pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members’ deductibles.

Jefferson Emergency Rescue District
Ashtabula County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2017

Note 6 - Risk Management (continued)

Casualty and Property Coverage

APEEP provides PEP with an excess risk-sharing program. Under this arrangement, PEP retains insured risks up to an amount specified in the contracts. At December 31, 2017, PEP retained \$350,000 for casualty claims and \$100,000 for property claims.

The aforementioned casualty and property reinsurance agreement does not discharge PEP's primary liability for claims payments on covered losses. Claims exceeding coverage limits are the obligation of the respective government.

Financial Position

PEP's financial statements (audited by other auditor's) conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and net position at December 31, 2017.

	<u>2017</u>
Assets	\$44,452,326
Liabilities	(13,004,011)
Net Position	<u>\$31,448,315</u>

At December 31, 2017 the liabilities above include approximately \$11.8 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets above also include approximately \$11.2 million of unpaid claims to be billed. The Pool's membership increased to 527 members in 2017. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. As of December 31, 2017, the District's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$11,000.

Based on discussions with PEP, the expected rates PEP charges to compute member contributions, which are used to pay claims as they become due, are not expected to change significantly from those used to determine the historical contributions detailed below. By contract, the annual liability of each member is limited to the amount of financial contributions required to be made to PEP for each year of membership.

<u>2017 Contributions to PEP</u>
\$17,838

After one year of membership, a member may withdraw on the anniversary of the date of joining PEP, if the member notifies PEP in writing 60 days prior to the anniversary date. Upon withdrawal, members are eligible for a full or partial refund of their capital contributions, minus the subsequent year's contribution. Withdrawing members have no other future obligation to PEP. Also upon withdrawal, payments for all casualty claims and claim expenses become the sole responsibility of the withdrawing member, regardless of whether a claim occurred or was reported prior to the withdrawal.

Note 7 - Retirement System

All of the District's employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) which is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes this plan's benefits, which include postretirement healthcare and survivor and disability benefits.

Jefferson Emergency Rescue District
Ashtabula County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2017

Note 7 - Retirement System (continued)

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. OPERS members contributed 10% of their gross salaries and the District contributed an amount equaling 14% of participants' gross salaries. The District has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2017.

Note 8 – Postemployment Benefits

OPERS offers cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plans, which include multiple health care plans including medical coverage, prescription drug coverage, deposits to a Health Reimbursement Arrangement and Medicare Part B premium reimbursements, to qualifying benefit recipients of both the traditional pension and the combined plans. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the Traditional Pension Plan and Combined Plan was 1% during calendar year 2017.

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



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

Jefferson Emergency Rescue District
Ashtabula County
P.O. Box 294
Jefferson, Ohio 44047

To the Board of Directors:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States and the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*, the financial statements of the cash balances, receipts, and disbursements by fund type of the Jefferson Emergency Rescue District, Ashtabula County, Ohio (the District) as of and for the ended December 31, 2018 and 2017, and the related notes to the financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated October 30, 2019 wherein we noted the District followed financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

As part of our financial statement audit, we considered the District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures appropriate in the circumstances to the extent necessary to support our opinions on the financial statements, but not to the extent necessary to opine on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we have not opined on it.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, when performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and timely correct misstatements. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or combination of internal control deficiencies resulting in a reasonable possibility that internal control will not prevent or detect and timely correct a material misstatement of the District's financial statements. 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 internal control deficiencies that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider material weaknesses. However, unidentified material weaknesses may exist.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of reasonably assuring whether the District'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, opining 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*.

Purpose of this Report

This report only describes the scope of our internal control and compliance testing and our testing results, and does not opine on the effectiveness of the District's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed under *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

October 30, 2019



Jefferson Emergency Rescue

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SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS

DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Status	Additional Information
2016-001	Annual Appropriation Measure: The District did not adopt an annual appropriation measure.	Corrected	The finding was not fully corrected until 2018. Comment was repeated in the management letter for 2017.
2016-002	Annual Certification of Annual Revenue to County Auditor: The District did not certify the total amount from all sources available for expenditure to the county auditor.	Corrected	The finding was not fully corrected until 2018. Comment was repeated in the management letter for 2017.

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



JEFFERSON EMERGENCY RESCUE DISTRICT

ASHTABULA 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
DECEMBER 3, 2019**