



**JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP  
PREBLE COUNTY**

**REGULAR AUDIT**

**FOR THE FISCAL YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND 2018**



JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP  
PREBLE COUNTY

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Jefferson Township  
Preble County  
6954 Cedar Springs Road  
New Paris, Ohio 45347

To the Board of Trustees:

### ***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 Jefferson Township, Preble County, Ohio (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018.

### ***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 Township'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 Township'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 Township 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.

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Efficient • Effective • Transparent

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 Township 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 Township as of December 31, 2019 and 2018, 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 Jefferson Township, Preble County as of December 31, 2019 and 2018, 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.

***Emphasis of Matter***

As discussed in Note 9 to the financial statements, during 2018, the Township restated its beginning fund balances due to an improper fund classification. Also, as discussed in Note 10 (for the year ended December 31, 2018) and Note 9 (for the year ended December 31, 2019) to the financial statements, the financial impact of COVID-19 and the ensuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Township. We did not modify our opinion regarding these matters.

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

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated May 28, 2020, on our consideration of the Township'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 Township's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Keith Faber  
Auditor of State

Columbus, Ohio

May 28, 2020

**Jefferson Township**  
*Preble County, Ohio*  
*Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements*  
*and Changes in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis)*  
*All Governmental Fund Types*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2019*

	General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)
<b>Cash Receipts</b>			
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$123,568	\$89,445	\$213,013
Licenses, Permits and Fees	76	28,540	28,616
Intergovernmental	18,820	128,635	147,455
Earnings on Investments	644	269	913
Miscellaneous	4,233	9,500	13,733
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>147,341</u>	<u>256,389</u>	<u>403,730</u>
<b>Cash Disbursements</b>			
Current:			
General Government	109,962	0	109,962
Public Works	0	185,819	185,819
Health	15,809	25,828	41,637
Capital Outlay	25,878	2,870	28,748
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>151,649</u>	<u>214,517</u>	<u>366,166</u>
<i>Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>	<u>(4,308)</u>	<u>41,872</u>	<u>37,564</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	(4,308)	41,872	37,564
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>169,128</u>	<u>222,704</u>	<u>391,832</u>
<b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</b>			
Nonspendable	0	0	0
Restricted	0	264,576	264,576
Committed	0	0	0
Assigned	164,820	0	164,820
Unassigned (Deficit)	0	0	0
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u>\$164,820</u>	<u>\$264,576</u>	<u>\$429,396</u>

*See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.*

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**Jefferson Township**  
*Preble County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2019*

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**Note 1 – Reporting Entity**

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of Jefferson Township, Preble County, (the Township) as a body corporate and politic. A publicly elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides road and bridge maintenance and cemetery maintenance.

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

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

***Basis of Presentation***

The Township's financial statements consist of a combined statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balances (regulatory cash basis) for all governmental fund types.

***Fund Accounting***

The Township 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 funds of the Township are 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 Township for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

***Special Revenue Funds*** These funds account for and report the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditure for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects. The Township had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

***Gas Tax Fund*** The gas tax fund accounts for and reports that portion of the State gasoline tax restricted for maintenance and repair of roads within the Township.

***Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund*** The motor vehicle license tax fund accounts for and reports that portion of motor vehicle license registration fees restricted for maintenance and repair of roads within the Township.

***Road and Bridge Fund*** The road and bridge fund receives property tax money for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads and bridges.

***Cemetery Fund*** The cemetery fund receives levy money and proceeds from the sale of cemetery lots and opening and closing charges for maintaining the Township's Cemetery.

**Jefferson Township**  
*Preble County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2019*

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***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 expenditures 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.

***Appropriations*** Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function or 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 Township to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are canceled, and reappropriated in the subsequent year.

A summary of 2019 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

***Deposits and Investments***

The Township'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.

Investment in STAR Ohio is measured 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.

***Capital Assets***

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

**Jefferson Township**  
*Preble County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2019*

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**Fund Balance**

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

***Nonspendable*** The Township 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.

***Committed*** Trustees can *commit* amounts via formal action (resolution). The Township 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 Township Trustees or a Township official delegated that authority by resolution, or by State Statute.

***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 Township 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 ending December 31, 2019 follows:

2019 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$136,000	\$147,341	\$11,341
Special Revenue	227,040	256,389	29,349
Total	\$363,040	\$403,730	\$40,690

**Jefferson Township**  
*Preble County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2019*

2019 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$305,128	\$151,649	\$153,479
Special Revenue	449,744	214,517	235,227
Total	\$754,872	\$366,166	\$388,706

**Note 4 – Deposits and Investments**

The Township maintains a deposits and investments pool all funds use. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of deposits and investments at December 31 was as follows:

	2019
Demand deposits	\$152,440
Certificates of deposit	1,438
Other time deposits (savings and NOW accounts)	274,427
Total deposits	428,305
STAR Ohio	1,091
Total investments	1,091
Total deposits and investments	\$429,396

***Deposits***

Deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; or collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the Township; 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.

***Investments***

Investments in STAR Ohio are not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book-entry form.

**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 non-business, owner occupancy, and homestead exemption credits and/or homestead and rollback deductions. The financial statements include these credits and/or deduction 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.

The County is responsible for assessing property and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on behalf of the Township.

**Jefferson Township**  
*Preble County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2019*

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**Note 6 – Risk Management**

***Workers' Compensation***

Workers' Compensation coverage is provided by the State of Ohio. The Township 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.

***Risk Pool Membership***

The Township is a member of the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (the Pool). The Pool assumes the risk of loss up to the limits of the Township's policy. The Pool covers the following risks:

- General liability and casualty
- Public official's liability
- Cyber
- Automobile liability
- Vehicles
- Property
- Equipment breakdown

The Pool reported the following summary of actuarially-measured liabilities and the assets available to pay those liabilities as of December 31:

	<u>2018</u>
Cash and investments	\$33,097,416
Actuarial liabilities	\$7,874,610

**Note 7 – Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

***Ohio Public Employees Retirement System***

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

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. OPERS members contributed 10 percent of their gross salaries, and the Township contributed an amount equaling 14 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2019.

**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. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the traditional pension plan and combined plan was 0 percent during calendar year 2019. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the member-directed plan was 4.0 percent during calendar year 2019.

**Jefferson Township**  
*Preble County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2019*

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**Note 9 – Subsequent Event**

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the ensuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Township. The Township's investment portfolio has incurred a significant decline in fair value, consistent with the general decline in financial markets. However, because the values of individual investments fluctuate with market conditions, and due to market volatility, the amount of losses that will be recognized in subsequent periods, if any, cannot be determined. In addition, the impact on the Township's future operating costs, revenues, and any recovery from emergency funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.

**Jefferson Township**  
*Preble County, Ohio*  
*Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements*  
*and Changes in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis)*  
*All Governmental Fund Types*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2018*

	General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)
<b>Cash Receipts</b>			
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$126,658	\$88,620	\$215,278
Licenses, Permits and Fees	0	21,305	21,305
Intergovernmental	18,392	113,752	132,144
Earnings on Investments	579	203	782
Miscellaneous	6,954	8,000	14,954
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>152,583</u>	<u>231,880</u>	<u>384,463</u>
<b>Cash Disbursements</b>			
Current:			
General Government	109,894	0	109,894
Public Works	0	164,935	164,935
Health	12,330	42,553	54,883
Capital Outlay	0	2,000	2,000
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>122,224</u>	<u>209,488</u>	<u>331,712</u>
<i>Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>	<u>30,359</u>	<u>22,392</u>	<u>52,751</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	30,359	22,392	52,751
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1, Restated</i>	<u>138,769</u>	<u>200,312</u>	<u>339,081</u>
<b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</b>			
Nonspendable	0	0	0
Restricted	0	222,704	222,704
Committed	0	0	0
Assigned	169,128	0	169,128
Unassigned (Deficit)	0	0	0
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u><u>\$169,128</u></u>	<u><u>\$222,704</u></u>	<u><u>\$391,832</u></u>

*See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.*

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**Jefferson Township**  
*Preble County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2018*

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**Note 1 – Reporting Entity**

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of Jefferson Township, Preble County, (the Township) as a body corporate and politic. A publicly elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides road and bridge maintenance and cemetery maintenance.

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

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

***Basis of Presentation***

The Township’s financial statements consist of a combined statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balances (regulatory cash basis) for all governmental fund types.

***Fund Accounting***

The Township 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 funds of the Township are 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 Township for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

***Special Revenue Funds*** These funds account for and report the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditure for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects. The Township had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

***Gas Tax Fund*** The gas tax fund accounts for and reports that portion of the State gasoline tax restricted for maintenance and repair of roads within the Township.

***Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund*** The motor vehicle license tax fund accounts for and reports that portion of motor vehicle license registration fees restricted for maintenance and repair of roads within the Township.

***Road and Bridge Fund*** The road and bridge fund receives property tax money for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads and bridges.

***Cemetery Fund*** The cemetery fund receives levy money and proceeds from the sale of cemetery lots and opening and closing charges for maintaining the Township’s Cemetery.

**Jefferson Township**  
*Preble County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2018*

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***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 expenditures 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.

***Appropriations*** Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function or 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 Township to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are canceled, and reappropriated in the subsequent year.

A summary of 2018 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

***Deposits and Investments***

The Township'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.

Investment in STAR Ohio is measured 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.

***Capital Assets***

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

**Jefferson Township**  
*Preble County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2018*

***Fund Balance***

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

***Nonspendable*** The Township 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.

***Committed*** Trustees can *commit* amounts via formal action (resolution). The Township 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 Township Trustees or a Township official delegated that authority by resolution, or by State Statute.

***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 Township 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 ending December 31, 2018 follows:

2018 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$129,000	\$152,583	\$23,583
Special Revenue	236,574	231,880	(4,694)
Total	\$365,574	\$384,463	\$18,889

**Jefferson Township**  
*Preble County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2018*

2018 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$267,769	\$122,224	\$145,545
Special Revenue	436,885	209,488	227,397
Total	\$704,654	\$331,712	\$372,942

**Note 4 – Deposits and Investments**

The Township maintains a deposits and investments pool all funds use. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of deposits and investments at December 31 was as follows:

	2018
Demand deposits	\$115,584
Certificates of deposit	1,438
Other time deposits (savings and NOW accounts)	273,743
Total deposits	390,765
STAR Ohio	1,067
Total investments	1,067
Total deposits and investments	\$391,832

***Deposits***

Deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; or collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the Township; 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.

***Investments***

Investments in STAR Ohio are not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book-entry form.

**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 non-business, owner occupancy, and homestead exemption credits and/or homestead and rollback deductions. The financial statements include these credits and/or deduction 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.

The County is responsible for assessing property and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on behalf of the Township.

**Jefferson Township**  
*Preble County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2018*

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**Note 6 – Risk Management**

The Township is exposed to various risks of property and casualty losses, and injuries to employees.

The Township insures against injuries to employees through the Ohio Bureau of Worker’s Compensation.

The Township belongs to the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio townships. OTARMA provides property and casualty coverage for its members. York Risk Pooling Services, Inc. (formally known as American Risk Pooling Consultants, Inc.) (York or Management), functions as the administrator of the Pool and provides underwriting claims, loss control, risk management, and reinsurance services for the Pool. Member governments pay annual contributions to fund OTARMA. OTARMA pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members’ deductibles.

Casualty and Property Coverage

The Pool is a member of American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP), which is also administered by York. APEEP provides the Pool with an excess risk-sharing program. Under this arrangement, OTARMA retains insured risks up to an amount specified in the contracts. At December 31, 2017, OTARMA retained \$350,000 for casualty claims and \$250,000 for property claims.

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

Financial Position

OTARMA’s financial statements (audited by other accountants) conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and retained earnings at December 31, 2017.

	<b>2017</b>
Assets	\$40,010,732
Liabilities	8,675,465
Net Position	<u>\$31,335,267</u>

At December 31, 2017 the liabilities above include approximately \$8.0 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets above also include approximately \$6.9 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 1,016 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 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 Township’s share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$4,000.

Based on discussions with OTARMA, the expected rates OTARMA 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 OTARMA for each year of membership.

**Jefferson Township**  
*Preble County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2018*

**2018 Contributions to OTARMA**

\$9,064

After one year of membership, a member may withdraw on the anniversary of the date of joining OTARMA, if the member notifies OTARMA 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 the pool. 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 Plans**

***Ohio Public Employees Retirement System***

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

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. OPERS members contributed 10 percent of their gross salaries, and the Township contributed an amount equaling 14 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through 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. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the traditional pension plan and combined plan was 0 percent during calendar year 2018. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the member-directed plan was 4.0 percent during calendar year 2018.

**Note 9 – Restatement of Prior Year Fund Balance**

The Township received monies from an estate in a previous year to be used for the upkeep of a loved ones grave at the Township cemetery. These monies were previously reported in a Permanent Fund, which was inappropriate based on Governmental Standards Accounting Board Statement Number 54 and available documentation of the estate. As such, the estate should have been classified as its own separate Special Revenue Fund in the accounting system and on the financial statements. This change had the following effects on fund balance as previously reported.

	Special Revenue Funds	Permanent Fund
Fund Balance December 31, 2017	\$198,842	\$1,470
Cemetery Estate Fund	1,470	(1,470)
Adjusted Fund Balance, December 31, 2017	\$200,312	\$0

**Jefferson Township**  
*Preble County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2018*

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**Note 10 – Subsequent Event**

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the ensuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Township. The Township's investment portfolio has incurred a significant decline in fair value, consistent with the general decline in financial markets. However, because the values of individual investments fluctuate with market conditions, and due to market volatility, the amount of losses that will be recognized in subsequent periods, if any, cannot be determined. In addition, the impact on the Township's future operating costs, revenues, and any recovery from emergency funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.

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# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



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WestRegion@ohioauditor.gov

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

Jefferson Township  
Preble County  
6954 Cedar Springs Road  
New Paris, Ohio 45347

To the Board of Trustees:

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 Jefferson Township, Preble County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, and the related notes to the financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated May 28, 2020, wherein we noted the Township followed financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit, restated its beginning 2018 fund balances, and the financial impact of COVID-19 and the ensuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Township.

### ***Internal Control Over Financial Reporting***

As part of our financial statement audit, we considered the Township'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 Township'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 Township'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. Therefore, unidentified material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist. We did identify a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings that we consider a material weakness. We consider finding 2019-001 to be a material weakness.

***Compliance and Other Matters***

As part of reasonably assuring whether the Township'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 Township's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed under *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Township's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.



Keith Faber  
Auditor of State

Columbus, Ohio

May 28, 2020

**JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP  
PREBLE COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND 2018**

<b>FINDING RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS</b>
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**FINDING NUMBER 2019-001**

**Material Weakness – Financial Statement Errors**

In our audit engagement letter, as required by AU-C Section 210, *Terms of Engagement*, paragraph .06, management acknowledged its responsibility for the preparation and fair presentation of their financial statements; 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 as discussed in AU-C Section 210 paragraphs .A14 & .A16.

All financial information should be correctly reported and classified in the annual financial statements and accounting system. The Township did not have procedures in place to accurately report financial activity. The following material errors which required re-classifications and adjustments to the financial statements and adjustments to the accounting system to correctly report the financial activity during the audit period were noted:

- Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 54 paragraph 16 (GASB Codification 1800.176 - Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions), states an appropriation of existing fund balance to eliminate a projected budgetary deficit in the subsequent year's budget in an amount no greater than the projected excess of expected expenditures over expected revenues satisfies the criteria to be classified as an assignment of fund balance. In addition, Auditor of State Bulletin 2011-004 states that when the appropriation measure is adopted for the subsequent year, and those appropriations exceed estimated receipts, the excess is to be assigned as it uses existing fund balance at year-end. This would be applicable only to the General Fund, as it is the only fund with a positive unassigned fund balance. At December 31, 2019 and 2018, General Fund subsequent year appropriations in excess of estimated receipts, in the amount of \$164,820 and \$169,128 were classified as Unassigned Fund Balance instead of Assigned Fund Balance.
- Road & Bridge Fund Property Tax Receipts for Special Revenue Funds was overstated by \$10,861 and \$10,882, in 2018 and 2019, respectively, and Road & Bridge Fund Intergovernmental Revenue was understated by the same amounts due to misposting of homestead and rollback reimbursements.
- Permanent Fund Capital Outlay disbursements were overstated by \$1,399 and Cemetery Fund Capital Outlay disbursements for Special Revenue Funds were understated by the same amount in 2019 due to improper use of Stanley Estate monies, resulting in a fund balance adjustment of \$1,399.
- Financial activity reported for the Stanley Estate monies was misclassified in a Permanent Fund instead of a separate Special Revenue Fund. Therefore, Permanent Fund 2018 beginning fund balance, earnings on investments receipts, and ending fund balance were overstated by \$1,470, \$2, and \$1,472, respectively, and Stanley Estate Special Revenue Fund 2018 beginning fund balance, earnings on investments receipts, and ending fund balance were understated by the same amounts. After the adjustment identified in the bullet point above, Permanent Fund 2019 beginning fund balance and ending fund balance were both overstated by \$1,472 and Stanley Estate Special Fund 2019 beginning fund balance and ending fund balance were both understated by the same amount.

The Township's financial statements contained the following errors that did not require adjustment or reclassification to the financial statements:

- General Fund Property Tax Receipts was overstated by \$3,314 and \$3,338, in 2018 and 2019, respectively, and General Fund Intergovernmental Revenue was understated by the same amounts due to misposting of homestead and rollback reimbursements.

**FINDING NUMBER 2019-001  
(Continued)**

The failure to correctly classify fund balances and financial activity on financial statements may impact the user's understanding of the financial operations, the Board's ability to make sound financial decisions, and result in the material misstatement of the financial statements. Policies and procedures should be developed and implemented to verify that all receipts and expenditures are posted in correct accounts.

The errors identified should be reviewed by the Board to help prevent similar errors in subsequent years. In addition, governmental accounting resources such as those found on the Auditor of State website at <https://ohioauditor.gov/> should be reviewed for guidance in the classification of fund balances. In addition to the monthly review of financial reports, the Board should consider a detailed review of the accounting records and the year-end financial statements to help identify and correct errors in a timely manner.

**Officials' Response:**

We did not receive a response from Officials to this finding.

# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



**JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP**

**PREBLE 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  
JUNE 25, 2020**