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## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

Elm Valley Joint Fire District  
Delaware County  
9821 US Route 42 North  
Ashley, Ohio 43003

We have performed the procedures enumerated below, which were agreed to by the Board of Trustees and the management of Elm Valley Joint Fire District (the District), on the receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the Districts cash basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019 and certain compliance requirements related to those transactions and balances, included in the information provided to us by the management of the District. The District is responsible for the receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the cash basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019 and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances included in the information provided to us by the District. The sufficiency of the procedures is solely the responsibility of the parties specified in this report. Consequently, we make no representations regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

This report only describes exceptions exceeding \$10.

### Cash and Investments

1. We recalculated the December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2019 bank reconciliations. We found no exceptions.
2. We agreed the January 1, 2019 beginning fund balances recorded in the Cash Summary by Fund Report to the December 31, 2018 balances in the prior year documentation in the prior year Agreed-Upon Procedures working papers. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the January 1, 2020 beginning fund balances recorded in the Cash Summary by Fund Report to the December 31, 2019 balances in the Cash Summary by Fund Report. We found no exceptions.
3. We agreed the totals per the bank reconciliations to the total of the December 31, 2020 and 2019 fund cash balances reported in the Cash Summary by Fund Report and the financial statements filed by the District in the Hinkle System. The amounts agreed.
4. We confirmed the December 31, 2020 bank account balances with the District's financial institutions. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the confirmed balances to the amounts appearing in the December 31, 2020 bank reconciliation without exception.
5. We selected five reconciling debits (such as outstanding checks) from the December 31, 2020 bank reconciliation:
  - a. We traced each debit to the subsequent January bank statement. We found no exceptions.
  - b. We traced the amounts and dates to the check register and determined the debits were dated prior to December 31. There were no exceptions.

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6. We inspected investments held at December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2019 to determine that they:
  - a. Were of a type authorized by Ohio Rev. Code Sections 135.13, 135.14 or 135.144. We found no exceptions.
  - b. Mature within the prescribed time limits noted in Ohio Rev. Code Section 135.13 or 135.14. There were no exceptions.

### **Property Taxes and Intergovernmental Revenue**

1. We selected a total of five receipts from the *Statement of Semiannual Apportionment of Taxes and State Distribution Transaction Lists (DTL)* from 2020 and a total of five from 2019:
  - a. We compared the amount from the above named reports to the amount recorded in the Receipt Register Report. The amounts agreed.
  - b. We inspected the Receipt Register Report to determine these receipts were allocated to the proper funds as required by Ohio Rev. Code Sections 5705.05-06 and 5705.10. We found no exceptions.
  - c. We inspected the Receipt Register Report to determine whether the receipt was recorded in the proper year. The receipt was recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.
2. We inspected the Receipt Register Report to determine whether it included two real estate tax receipts for 2020 and 2019. The Receipt Register Report included the proper number of tax receipts for each year.

### **Other Receipts**

We selected 10 other receipts from the year ended December 31, 2020 and 10 other receipts from the year ended 2019 and:

- a. Agreed the receipt amount recorded in the Receipt Register Report to supporting documentation. The amounts agreed.
- b. Inspected the Receipt Register Report to determine the receipt was posted to the proper fund, and was recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.

### **Debt**

1. From the prior agreed-upon procedures documentation, we observed the following bonds were outstanding as of December 31, 2018. These amounts agreed to the District's January 1, 2019 balances on the summary we used in procedure 3.

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Principal outstanding as of December 31, 2018:</b>
Fire Station Bonds, Series 2014	\$1,541,700
Vehicle Acquisition Bonds, Series 2016	\$106,067

2. We inquired of management, and inspected the Receipt Register Report and Payment Register Detail Report for evidence of debt issued during 2020 or 2019 or debt payment activity during 2020 or 2019. All debt agreed to the summary we used in procedure 3.
3. We obtained a summary of bond debt activity for 2020 and 2019 and agreed principal and interest payments from the related debt invoices and amortization schedules to the Miscellaneous Capital Project fund and Permanent Improvement fund payments reported in the Payment Register Detail Report. We also compared the date the debt service payments were due to the date the District made the payments. We found no exceptions.

### **Payroll Cash Disbursements**

1. We selected one payroll check for five employees from 2020 and one payroll check for five employees from 2019 from the Employee Detail Adjustment Report and:
  - a. We compared the hours and pay rate, or salary recorded in the Employee Detail Adjustment Report to supporting documentation (timecard, legislatively or statutorily-approved rate or salary). We found no exceptions.
  - b. We inspected the Payment Register Detail Report to determine the fund and account code to which the check was posted were allowable based on the employees' duties as documented in the employees' personnel files as required by statute. We found no exceptions.
  - c. We confirmed the payment was posted to the proper year. We found no exceptions.
2. We inspected the last remittance of tax and retirement withholdings for the year ended December 31, 2020 to confirm remittances were timely paid, and if the amounts paid agreed to the amounts withheld, plus the employer's share where applicable, during the final withholding period of 2020. We observed the following:

<b>Withholding (plus employer share, where applicable)</b>	<b>Date Due</b>	<b>Date Paid</b>	<b>Amount Due</b>	<b>Amount Paid</b>
Federal income taxes & Medicare	January 31, 2021	December 30, 2020	\$5,091	\$5,091
State income taxes	January 15, 2021	January 15, 2021	\$2,082	\$2,082
Local income tax	January 30, 2021	December 7, 2020	\$162	\$162
OPERS retirement	January 30, 2021	December 7, 2020	\$1,510	\$1,510

### **Non-Payroll Cash Disbursements**

1. We selected 10 disbursements from the Payment Register Detail Report for the year ended December 31, 2020 and 10 from the year ended 2019 and determined whether:
  - a. The disbursements were for a proper public purpose. We found no exceptions.
  - b. The check number, date, payee name and amount recorded on the returned, canceled check agreed to the check number, date, payee name and amount recorded in the Payment Register Detail Report and to the names and amounts on the supporting invoices. We found no exceptions.
  - c. The payment was posted to a fund consistent with the restricted purpose for which the fund's cash can be used. We found no exceptions.
  - d. The fiscal officer certified disbursements requiring certification or issued a *Then and Now Certificate*, as required by Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D). We found no exceptions.

### **Compliance – Budgetary**

1. Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(B) prohibits expenditures (disbursements plus certified commitments) from exceeding appropriations. We compared total expenditures to total approved appropriations (Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.38 and 5705.40) plus any carryover appropriations for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019 for the General, Permanent Improvement and Miscellaneous Capital Projects funds. There were no funds for which expenditures exceeded appropriations.

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2. We inspected all interfund transfers from 2020 and 2019 Revenue Status Reports and Appropriation Status Reports for compliance with Ohio Rev. Code Sections 5705.14 - .16. We found no evidence of transfers these Sections prohibit, or for which Section 5705.16 would require approval by the Tax Commissioner.
3. We inspected the Cash Summary by Fund Report for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019 for negative cash fund balances. Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.10 (l) provides that money paid into a fund must be used for the purposes for which such fund is established. As a result, a negative fund cash balance indicates that money from one fund was used to cover the expenses of another. There were no funds having negative cash fund balances.

**Sunshine Law Compliance**

1. We obtained and inspected the District's Public Records Policy to determine the policy was in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code §§ 149.43(E)(2) and 149.43(B)(7)(c) and did not limit the number of responses that may be made to a particular person, limit the number of responses during a specified period of time, or establish a fixed period of time before it will respond unless that period is less than eight hours. We found no exceptions.
2.
  - a. We inquired with District management and determined that the District did not have any completed public records requests during the engagement period.
  - b. We inquired with the District management and determined the District did not have any denied public records requests during the engagement period.
  - c. We inquired with the District management and determined the District did not have any public records requests with redactions during the engagement period.
3. We inquired whether the District had a records retention schedule, and observed that it was readily available to the public as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(B)(2). We found no exceptions.
4. We inspected written evidence that the Public Records Policy was provided to the records custodian/manager as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2). We found no exceptions.
5. We inspected the District's policy manual and determined the public records policy was included as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2). We found no exceptions.
6. We inquired with the District management and determined the District did not have a public records policy displayed conspicuously in their branch as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2).
7. We inquired with District management and determined that the District did not have any applications for record disposal submitted to the Records Commission during the engagement period.
8. We inquired with the District management and determined the District did not have any elected officials subject to the Public Records Training requirements during the engagement period as required by Ohio Rev. Code §§ 149.43(E)(1) and 109.43(B).
9. We inspected the public notices for the public meetings held during the engagement period and determined the District notified the general public and news media of when and where meetings during the engagement period were to be held as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 121.22(F). We found no exceptions.

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10. We inspected the minutes of public meetings during the engagement period in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code § 121.22(C) and determined whether they were:

- a. Prepared – a file is created following the date of the meeting
- b. Filed – placed with similar documents in an organized manner
- c. Maintained - retained, at a minimum, for the engagement period
- d. Open to public inspection – available for public viewing or request.

We found no exceptions.

11. We inspected the minutes from the engagement period in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code § 121.22(G) and determined the following:

- a. Executive sessions were only held at regular or special meetings.
- b. The purpose for the meetings and going into an executive session (when applicable) correlated with one of the matters listed in Ohio Rev. Code Section 121.22(G).
- c. Formal governing board actions were adopted in open meetings.

We found no exceptions.

### **Other Compliance**

1. Ohio Rev. Code Section 117.38 requires Districts to file their financial information in the HINKLE system within 60 days after the close of the fiscal year. This statute also permits the Auditor of State to extend the deadline for filing a financial report and establish terms and conditions for any such extension. Auditor of State established policies, regarding the filing of complete financial statements, as defined in AOS Bulletin 2015-007 in the Hinkle System. We confirmed the District filed their complete financial statements, as defined by AOS Bulletin 2015-007 and Auditor of State established policy, within the allotted timeframe for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019 in the Hinkle system. There were no exceptions.

2. For all credit card accounts we obtained:

- copies of existing internal control policies,
- a list(s) of authorized users, and
- a list of all credit card account transactions.

a. We inspected the established policy obtained above and determined it is:  
i. in compliance with the HB 312 statutory requirements, and  
ii. implemented by the entity.

We found no exceptions.

b. We selected 1 credit card transaction from each credit card account for testing. For selected transactions we inspected documentation to determine that:  
i. Use was by an authorized user within the guidelines established in the policy, and  
ii. Each transaction was supported with original invoices and for a proper public purpose.

We found no exceptions.

c. We selected 3 credit card statements from each credit card account for testing. For selected statements we inspected documentation to determine that:  
i. No unpaid beginning balance was carried forward to the current billing cycle,  
ii. Ending statement balance was paid in full, and  
iii. Statement contained no interest or late fees.

We found no exceptions.

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d. For cash withdraws made. We selected 1 cash withdraw and inspected supporting documentation to determine:

- i. The policy explicitly allowed for cash withdraws and when related legislative or administrative action was passed.
- ii. Appropriate and specific additional controls were implemented for cash withdraw transactions.

We found no exceptions.

This agreed-upon procedures engagement was conducted in accordance with the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants' attestation standards and applicable attestation engagement standards included in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. We were not engaged to, and did not conduct an examination or review, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively on the District's receipts, disbursements, balances and compliance with certain laws and regulations. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

This report is to provide assistance in the evaluation of the District's receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in their cash-basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019, and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances and is not suitable for any other purpose.



Keith Faber  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

April 7, 2021

# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



ELM VALLEY JOINT FIRE DISTRICT

DELAWARE COUNTY

## AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION

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



Certified for Release 5/11/2021

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