



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



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88 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
ContactUs@ohioauditor.gov
(800) 282-0370

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

Village of Grand River
Lake County
PO Box 216
Grand River, Ohio 44045

We have performed the procedures enumerated below on the Village of Grand River's (the Village) receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the cash basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021 and certain compliance requirements related to those transactions and balances, included in the information provided to us by the management of the Village. The Village is responsible for the receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the cash basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021 and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances included in the information provided to us by the Village.

The Village Council, Mayor and the management of the Village have agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of providing assistance in the evaluation of the Village's receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in their cash-basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances. No other party acknowledged the appropriateness of the procedures. This report may not be suitable for any other purpose. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of the report and may not meet the needs of all users of the report and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes. The sufficiency of the procedures is solely the responsibility of the parties specified in the report. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

For the purposes of performing these procedures, this report only describes exceptions exceeding \$10.

The procedures and the associated findings are as follows:

Cash and Investments

1. We recalculated the December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021 bank reconciliations. We found no exceptions.
2. We agreed the January 1, 2021, beginning fund balances for each fund recorded in the Cash Summary by Fund Report to the December 31, 2020 balances in the prior year audited statements. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the January 1, 2022, beginning fund balances for each fund recorded in the Cash Summary by Fund report to the December 31, 2021 balances in the cash summary by fund report. We found no exceptions.
3. We agreed the 2022 and 2021 bank reconciliation as of December 31, 2022, and 2021 to the total fund cash balances reported in the cash summary by fund report and the financial statements filed by the Village in the Hinkle System. The amounts agreed.

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Cash and Investments – (Continued)

4. We confirmed the December 31, 2022 bank account balances with the Village's financial institutions, and Ohio Pooled Collateral System. We found no exceptions.
5. We selected five reconciling debits (such as outstanding checks) from the December 31, 2022 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. We found no exceptions.

Property Taxes, Intergovernmental and Other Confirmable Cash Receipts

1. We selected a total of five receipts from the *Statement of Semiannual Apportionment of Taxes*, State Distribution Transaction Listing (DTL), and the County Auditor DLTs for 2022 and a total of five from 2021:
 - a. We compared the amount from the above-named report(s) to the amount recorded in the Fund Journal Report. The amounts agreed.
 - b. We inspected the Fund Journal Report to determine these receipts were allocated to the proper fund(s) as required by Ohio Rev. Code §§ 5705.05-.06 and 5705.10. We found no exceptions.
 - c. We inspected the Fund Journal 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 Source Report to determine whether it included two real estate tax receipts plus two advance(s) for 2022 and 2021. The Receipt Source Report included the proper number of tax receipts for each year. We found no exceptions.

Income Tax Receipts

1. We obtained the December 31, 2022 and 2021 Statement of Income and Expenditures reports submitted by the Central Collection Agency (CCA), the agency responsible for collecting income taxes on behalf of the Village. We agreed the total gross income taxes per year to the Village's Fund Journal Report. The amounts agreed.
2. We obtained the original income tax ordinance which set the rate and effective period. The original ordinance was dated March 1, 1992. We determined there were no additional (council or voter) approved amendments to the original ordinance.

Emergency Medical Service Receipts

1. We confirmed the amounts paid from Medicount, the service organization that performs the emergency medical billing to the Village during 2022 and 2021 with Medicount. We found no exceptions.
 - a. We inspected the Receipt Ledger to determine whether these receipts were allocated to the proper funds. We found no exceptions.
 - b. We inspected the Receipt Ledger to determine whether the receipts were recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.

Emergency Medical Service Receipts – (Continued)

2. We selected five receipts recorded in the cash receipts records from the year ended December 31, 2022 and five from the year ended December 31, 2021 from the Receipt Ledger and:
 - a. Agreed the cash receipt to the credit on the bank statement.
 - b. Inspected the Receipt Ledger to determine whether these receipts were allocated to the proper fund. We found no exceptions.
 - c. Inspected the Receipt Ledger to determine whether the receipts were recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.

Other Receipts

We selected 10 other receipts from the year ended December 31, 2022 and 10 other receipts from the year ended 2021 and:

- a. Agreed the receipt amount recorded in the Fund Journal Report to supporting documentation. The amounts agreed.
- b. Confirmed the amounts charged complied with rates in force during the period. We found no exceptions.
- c. Inspected the Fund Journal Report to determine the receipt was posted to the proper funds 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 and notes were outstanding as of December 31, 2020.
 - a. These amounts agreed to the Villages January 1, 2021 balances on the summary we used in procedure 3.
 - b. We inspected the debt's final offering documents for all outstanding debt and we confirmed the Village does not have any debt covenants.

Issue	Principal outstanding as of December 31, 2020:
General Obligation Bonds, Series 2012	\$162,600
General Obligation Bonds, Series 2018	\$74,400
Short Term Note	\$5,000

2. We inquired of management and inspected the Fund Journal for evidence of debt issued during 2021 or 2022 or debt payment activity during 2021 or 2022. All debt agreed to the summary we used in procedure 3.
3. We obtained a summary of bonds and notes activity for 2021 and 2022 and agreed principal and interest payments from the related debt amortization schedules to debt service fund payments reported in the Fund Journal Report. We also compared the date the debt service payments were due to the date the Village made the payments. We found no exceptions.

Payroll Cash Disbursements

1. We selected one payroll check for five employees from 2022 and one payroll check for five employees from 2021 from the payroll listing and:
 - a. We compared the hours and pay rate, or salary recorded in the pay stub to supporting documentation (timecard, legislatively or statutorily approved rate or salary). We found no exceptions.
 - b. We inspected the fund and account code(s) to which the check was posted to determine the posting was allowable based on the employees' duties as documented in the minutes. We found no exceptions.
 - c. We confirmed the payment was posted to the proper year. We found no exceptions.

2. We selected one new Council Member and two new employees from 2022 and three new employees from 2021 and:
 - a. We inspected the employees'/Council Members' personnel files and/or minute record for the Retirement system, Federal, State & Local income tax withholding authorization.
 - b. We agreed the items in a above to the payroll listing. We found no exceptions.

3. We inspected the last remittance of tax and retirement withholdings for the year ended December 31, 2022 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 during 2022. We observed the following:

Withholding (plus, employer share, where applicable)	Date Due	Date Paid	Amount Due	Amount Paid
Federal income taxes & Medicare (and social security, for employees not enrolled in pension system)	January 31, 2023	January 19, 2023	\$10,113.44	\$10,113.44
State income taxes	January 15, 2023	January 9, 2023	\$1,216.32	\$1,216.32
Village of Grand River income tax	January 30 2023	December 28, 2022	\$466.65	\$466.65
OPERS retirement	January 30, 2023	January 30, 2023	\$1,133.72	\$1,133.72
OP&F retirement	January 31, 2023	January 19, 2023	\$1,257.30	\$1,257.30

We found no exceptions.

Non-Payroll Cash Disbursements

We selected 10 disbursements from the fund journal report for the year ended December 31, 2022 and 10 from the year ended 2021 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 Fund Journal 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 § 5705.41(D). We found no exceptions.

Mayor's Court Transactions

1. We recalculated the December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021 bank reconciliations. We found no exceptions.
2. We compared the reconciled cash totals as of December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021 to the Mayor's Court Fund balance reported in the Cash Summary by Fund. The balances agreed.
3. We agreed the totals per the bank reconciliations to the total of December 31, 2022 and 2021 listing of unpaid distributions as of each December 31. The amounts agreed.
4. We confirmed the December 31, 2022 bank account balance with the Mayor's Court financial institution website. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the confirmed balances to the amounts appearing in the December 31, 2022 bank reconciliation without exception.
5. We selected five cases from the court cash book and agreed the payee and amount posted to the:
 - a. Duplicate receipt book.
 - b. Docket, including comparing the total fine paid to the judgment issued by the judge (i.e. mayor)
 - c. Case file.

The amounts recorded in the cash book, receipts book, docket and case file agreed.

6. From the cash book, we selected one month from the year ended December 31, 2022, and one month from the year ended 2021 and determined whether:
 - a. The monthly sum of fines and costs collected for those months agreed to the amounts reported as remitted to the Village, State, or other applicable government in the following month. We found no exceptions.
 - b. The totals remitted for these two months per the cash book agreed to the returned canceled checks. 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 cash book.

Compliance – Budgetary

1. Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(B) prohibits expenditures (disbursements plus certified commitments) from exceeding appropriations. We compared total expenditures to total approved appropriations (Ohio Rev. Code §§ 5705.38 and 5705.40) plus any carryover appropriations for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021 for the General, Street Construction, Maintenance and Repair, Bond Retirement, and Street Highway Maintenance funds as recorded in the Cash Summary by Fund Report. General Fund and Bond Retirement Fund expenditures for 2021 exceeded total appropriations by \$78,286 and \$10,903, respectively, contrary to Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(B).
2. We inspected interfund transfers from 2022 and from 2021 Cash Summary by Fund Report and for compliance with Ohio Rev. Code §§ 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, 2022 and 2021 for negative cash fund balance. Ohio Rev. Code § 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 Village'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. We inquired with Village management and determined that the Village did not have any completed public records requests during the engagement period.
3. We inquired with Village management and determined that the Village did have a records retention schedule during the engagement period but did not make it readily available to the public as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(B)(2).
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 Village'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 Village management and determined that the Village did have a public records policy during the engagement period but it was not displayed in all the branches of the Village as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2).
7. We inquired with Village management and determined that the Village did not have any applications for record disposal submitted to the Records Commission during the engagement period.
8. We inspected the training certificates and determined whether each elected official in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(1) (or his/her designee) successfully attended a certified three-hour Public Records Training for each term of office as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 109.43(B). We found no exceptions.
9. We inspected the public notices for the public meetings held during the engagement period and determined the Village 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.
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 § 121.22(G).
 - c. Formal governing board actions were adopted in open meetings.We found no exceptions.

HB 481 / HB 614 Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) Compliance

We inquired of management and those charged with governance and documented how the Village decided to spend their CRF allocations and how the Village documented their compliance with the CARES Act three-prong test. We then selected five transactions including payroll, non-payroll, and subgrant/sub loan transactions, and determined the Village:

- a. Spent the CRF money (including additional distributions or redistributions) in accordance with use of funds requirements and
 - b. Maintained appropriate supporting documentation.
- We found no exceptions.

Other Compliance

1. Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 requires villages 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 Village filed their complete financial statements, as defined by AOS Bulletin 2015-007 and Auditor of State established policy within the allotted timeframe for the year ended December 31, 2022 in the Hinkle system. Financial information was filed on March 21, 2022, for fiscal year 2021 which was not within the allotted timeframe.
2. We inquired of the fiscal officer and inspected the Fiscal Integrity Act Portal (<http://www.ohioauditor.gov/fiscalintegrity/default.html>) to determine whether the fiscal officer obtained the training required by Ohio Rev. Code §§ 507.12 and 733.81. Fiscal Officer obtained the required training.

We were engaged by the Village to perform this agreed-upon procedures engagement and conducted our engagement in accordance with the attestation standards established by the AICPA and the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. We were not engaged to, and did not conduct an examination or review engagement, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on the Village'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.

We are required to be independent of the Village and to meet our ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the ethical requirements established by the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards* related to our agreed upon procedures engagement.

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

Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

October 3, 2023

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



VILLAGE OF GRAND RIVER

LAKE 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 10/24/2023

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

This report is a matter of public record and is available online at
www.ohioauditor.gov