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# Press Release

## **Ohio Auditor of State Releases Report on Athens County's "Financial Health Indicators" for 2015**

**Athens, OH, January 27, 2017:** Athens County Auditor Jill Thompson announces that in the report, Athens County had a "Positive Outlook" for twelve of the seventeen indicators listed.

The County received four "Cautionary Outlooks" as follows:

1. Indicator #2, "Unassigned Fund Balance of the General Fund"  
The County's balance declined in 2015 after having risen the previous two years. The report considers any decline of over 1% to generate a "Cautionary Outlook" but the County believes this is just a normal fluctuation. There will be years when the balance does decline.
2. Indicator #10, "General Fund Intergovernmental Revenues as a Percentage of Total General Fund Revenues"  
The County's percentage is right at the lower threshold of 15%. While the County realizes the importance of the intergovernmental revenues it receives, we do not believe that we are over reliant on this income. We will watch for any increases in this percentage in the future.
3. Indicator #11, "Condition of Capital Assets"  
The County is aware that its capital assets are getting older. We want to get the full use of each asset and believe that we have adequate resources to replace the assets when it becomes necessary.
4. Indicator #13, "Unrestricted Net Assets/ Position of GTA / Average Daily Expenses of GTA"  
While any average below 30 days will generate a "Cautionary Outlook", the County notes that its number of days has been on a steady increase since 2012.

The County has not had any cash flow problems but will continue to monitor this indicator.

The County did receive a "Critical Outlook" on Indicator #9, "General Revenues of GTA / Net Expenses of GTA" and "Ratio of General Revenues of GTA / Net Expenses of GTA".

This Indicator measures the relationship of the County wide Expenses, Program Revenue & General Revenues for Government Type Activities (GTA).

Net Expenses are the Total Expense less the Program Revenues.

Program Revenues are Charges for Services, Operating Grants and Contributions and Capital Grants and Contributions that are to be used only for a specific program or purpose.

General Revenues includes, Property Taxes, Investment Income, Grants that are not Restricted, and other incomes.

This report considers it "Critical" anytime expenses exceed revenues, the County will, at times, plan to spend some of the funds carried over from the previous year to prevent excess funds from being accumulated.

The entire report can be view via the following link on the Ohio Auditor of State's website:  
<http://www.ohioauditor.gov/FHI/default.html>

Athens County believes that this report will be a useful tool for the management of the public's funds.

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