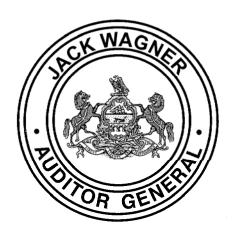
# BUFFALO TOWNSHIP NONUNIFORMED PENSION PLAN WASHINGTON COUNTY

COMPLIANCE AUDIT REPORT

FOR THE PERIOD

JANUARY 1, 2005, TO DECEMBER 31, 2005



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## **ABBREVIATION**

PMRS - Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System

Board of Township Supervisors Buffalo Township Washington County Washington, PA 15301

We have conducted a compliance audit of the Buffalo Township Nonuniformed Pension Plan for the period January 1, 2005, to December 31, 2005. The audit was conducted pursuant to authority derived from Section 402(j) of Act 205 of 1984 and in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

The objective of the audit was to determine if the pension plan was administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies.

Our audit was limited to the areas related to the objective identified above. The Buffalo Township Nonuniformed Pension Plan participates in the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System (PMRS), which is an agent multiple-employer public employee retirement system that acts as a common investment and administrative agent for participating municipal pension plans. PMRS issues a separate Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, copies of which are available from the PMRS accounting office. PMRS's financial statements were not audited by us and, accordingly, we express no opinion or other form of assurance on them.

The Department of the Auditor General (Department) is mandated by state statute to calculate state aid provided to municipal pension funds and to audit municipal pension funds having received such aid. State aid is calculated by an administrative unit that is not involved in the audit process. The Department's Comptroller Office then pre-audits the calculation and submits requests to the Commonwealth's Treasury Department for the disbursement of state aid to the municipality. The Department has implemented procedures to ensure that Department audit personnel are not directly involved in the calculation and disbursement processes. The Department's mandatory responsibilities are being disclosed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.

The results of our tests indicated that, in all significant respects, the Buffalo Township Nonuniformed Pension Plan was administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies.

The accompanying supplementary information is presented for purposes of additional analysis. We did not audit the information and, accordingly, express no form of assurance on it.

The contents of this report were discussed with officials of Buffalo Township and, where appropriate, their responses have been included in the report.

April 11, 2006

JACK WAGNER Auditor General

#### **BACKGROUND**

On December 18, 1984, the Pennsylvania Legislature adopted the Municipal Pension Plan Funding Standard and Recovery Act (P.L. 1005, No. 205, 53 P.S. §895.101, et seq.). The act established mandatory actuarial reporting and funding requirements and a uniform basis for the distribution of state aid to Pennsylvania's public pension plans. Section 402(j) of Act 205 specifically requires the Auditor General, as deemed necessary, to make an audit of every municipality which receives general municipal pension system State aid and of every municipal pension plan and fund in which general municipal pension system State aid is deposited.

Pension plan aid is provided from a 2 percent foreign casualty insurance premium tax, a portion of the foreign fire insurance tax designated for paid firefighters and any investment income earned on the collection of these taxes. Generally, municipal pension plans established prior to December 18, 1984, are eligible for state aid. For municipal pension plans established after that date, the sponsoring municipality must fund the plan for three plan years before it becomes eligible for state aid. In accordance with Act 205, a municipality's annual state aid allocation cannot exceed its actual pension costs.

In addition to Act 205, the Buffalo Township Nonuniformed Pension Plan is also governed by implementing regulations adopted by the Public Employee Retirement Commission published at Title 16, Part IV of the Pennsylvania Code and applicable provisions of various other state statutes including, but not limited to, the following:

Act 15 - Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement Law, Act of February 1, 1974, (P.L. 34, No. 15), 53 P.S. § 881.101, as amended, et seq.

The Buffalo Township Nonuniformed Pension Plan is a single-employer defined benefit pension plan locally controlled by the provisions of Ordinance No. 38, adopted pursuant to Act 15.

#### BUFFALO TOWNSHIP NONUNIFORMED PENSION PLAN AUDIT REPORT

#### **OBJECTIVE, SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY**

The objective of our audit was to determine if the Buffalo Township Nonuniformed Pension Plan was administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies.

The scope of the audit covered the period January 1, 2005, to December 31, 2005.

Township officials are responsible for establishing and maintaining an internal control structure to provide reasonable assurance that the Buffalo Township Nonuniformed Pension Plan is administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies. To assist us in planning and performing our audit, we obtained an understanding of the township's internal control structure as it relates to the township's compliance with those requirements. Additionally, we tested transactions, assessed official actions, performed analytical procedures and interviewed selected officials to the extent necessary to satisfy the audit objective.

# BUFFALO TOWNSHIP NONUNIFORMED PENSION PLAN AUDIT REPORT

#### **CONCLUSIONS**

The objective of our audit was to determine if the Buffalo Township Nonuniformed Pension Plan was administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies. Our audit conclusions are presented below.

Our tests indicated that, in all significant respects, the Buffalo Township Nonuniformed Pension Plan was administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies.

### BUFFALO TOWNSHIP NONUNIFORMED PENSION PLAN SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (UNAUDITED)

#### SCHEDULE OF FUNDING PROGRESS

Historical trend information about the plan is presented herewith as supplementary information. It is intended to help users assess the plan's funding status on a going-concern basis, assess progress made in accumulating assets to pay benefits when due, and make comparisons with other state and local government retirement systems.

The actuarial information is required by Act 205 biennially, except for distressed pension plans, for which annual reporting was required through January 1, 2003. The historical information, beginning as of January 1, 2003, is as follows:

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
						Unfunded
			Unfunded			(Assets in
		Actuarial	(Assets in			Excess of)
		Accrued	Excess of)			Actuarial
	Actuarial	Liability	Actuarial			Accrued
Actuarial	Value of	(AAL) -	Accrued	Funded	Covered	Liability as a %
Valuation	Assets	Entry Age	Liability	Ratio	Payroll	of Payroll
Date	(a)	(b)	(b) - (a)	(a)/(b)	(c)	[(b-a)/(c)]
01-01-03	\$ 14,891	\$ 64,064	\$ 49,173	23.2%	\$ 84,292	58.3%
01-01-05	42,728	87,676	44,948	48.7%	112,542	39.9%

Generally accepted accounting principles require the above data to be presented as of the plan's actuarial valuation dates for the past six consecutive fiscal years. Since six years of data were not yet available, this requirement will be implemented prospectively.

#### BUFFALO TOWNSHIP NONUNIFORMED PENSION PLAN SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (UNAUDITED)

The comparability of trend information is affected by changes in actuarial assumptions, benefit provisions, actuarial funding methods, accounting policies, and other changes. Those changes usually affect trends in contribution requirements and in ratios that use the actuarial accrued liability as a factor.

Analysis of the dollar amount of the actuarial value of assets, actuarial accrued liability, and unfunded (assets in excess of) actuarial accrued liability in isolation can be misleading. Expressing the actuarial value of assets as a percentage of the actuarial accrued liability (Column 4) provides one indication of the plan's funding status on a going-concern basis. Analysis of this percentage, over time, indicates whether the system is becoming financially stronger or weaker. Generally, the greater this percentage, the stronger the plan.

Trends in unfunded (assets in excess of) actuarial accrued liability and annual covered payroll are both affected by inflation. Expressing the unfunded (assets in excess of) actuarial accrued liability as a percentage of annual covered payroll (Column 6) approximately adjusts for the effects of inflation and aids analysis of the plan's progress made in accumulating sufficient assets to pay benefits when due. Generally, where there is an unfunded actuarial accrued liability, the smaller this percentage, the stronger the plan. However, when assets are in excess of the actuarial accrued liability, the higher the bracketed percentage, the stronger the plan.

## BUFFALO TOWNSHIP NONUNIFORMED PENSION PLAN SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (UNAUDITED)

# SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS FROM EMPLOYER AND OTHER CONTRIBUTING ENTITIES

Year Ended December 31	Annual Required Contribution	Percentage Contributed	
2001	\$ 2,397	100%	
2002	9,481	100%	
2003	9,735	100%	
2004	10,228	100%	
2005	10,249	100%	

Generally accepted accounting principles require the above data to be presented for the past six consecutive fiscal years. Since six years of data were not yet available, this requirement will be implemented prospectively.

### BUFFALO TOWNSHIP NONUNIFORMED PENSION PLAN SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION NOTES TO SUPPLEMENTARY SCHEDULES (UNAUDITED)

The information presented in the required supplementary schedules was determined as part of the actuarial valuation at the date indicated. Additional information as of the latest actuarial valuation date follows:

Actuarial valuation date January 1, 2005

Actuarial cost method Entry age normal

Amortization method Level dollar closed

Remaining amortization period 12 Years

Asset valuation method Fair value

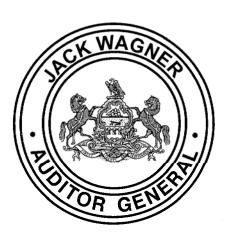
Actuarial assumptions:

Investment rate of return 6.0%, net of expenses

Projected salary increases \* 4.7%

\* Includes inflation at 3.0%

Cost-of-living adjustments 3.0%, where applicable



# BUFFALO TOWNSHIP NONUNIFORMED PENSION PLAN REPORT DISTRIBUTION LIST

This report was initially distributed to the following:

The Honorable Edward G. Rendell Governor Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Buffalo Township Nonuniformed Pension Plan Washington County 400 Buffalo Center Lane Washington, PA 15301

Mr. Richard A. Folle Chairman, Board of Township Supervisors

Mr. Raymond L. Calvert Secretary, Board of Township Supervisors

This report is a matter of public record. Copies of this report may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of the Auditor General, Office of Communications, Room 318 Finance Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120. If you have any questions regarding this report or any other matter, you may contact the Department of the Auditor General by accessing our website at www.auditorgen.state.pa.us.