# WARWICK TOWNSHIP NONUNIFORMED PENSION PLAN CHESTER COUNTY

COMPLIANCE AUDIT REPORT

FOR THE PERIOD

JANUARY 1, 2008, TO DECEMBER 31, 2010



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#### **BACKGROUND**

On December 18, 1984, the Pennsylvania Legislature adopted the Municipal Pension Plan Funding Standard and Recovery Act (P.L. 1005, No. 205, as amended, 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 Warwick 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.

The Warwick Township Nonuniformed Pension Plan is a single-employer defined benefit pension plan locally controlled by the provisions of Resolution No. 2007-1P.



The Board of Township Supervisors Warwick Township Chester County Elverson, PA 19520

We have conducted a compliance audit of the Warwick Township Nonuniformed Pension Plan for the period January 1, 2008, to December 31, 2010. The audit was conducted pursuant to authority derived from Section 402(j) of Act 205 and in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* applicable to performance audits issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our finding and conclusions based on our audit objective. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our finding and conclusions based on our audit objective.

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 this objective.

Township officials are responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that the Warwick Township Nonuniformed Pension Plan is administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies. In conducting our audit, we obtained an understanding of the township's internal controls as they relate to the township's compliance with those requirements and that we considered to be significant within the context of our audit objective, and assessed whether those significant controls were properly designed and implemented. Additionally, we tested transactions, assessed official actions, performed analytical procedures and interviewed selected officials to the extent necessary to satisfy the audit objective.

The results of our tests indicated that, in all significant respects, the Warwick Township Nonuniformed Pension Plan was administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies, except as noted in the following finding further discussed later in this report:

Finding – Failure To Fully Pay The Minimum Municipal Obligation Of The Plan

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 Warwick Township and, where appropriate, their responses have been included in the report.

June 6, 2011

JACK WAGNER Auditor General

## WARWICK TOWNSHIP NONUNIFORMED PENSION PLAN FINDING AND RECOMMENDATION

#### <u>Finding – Failure To Fully Pay The Minimum Municipal Obligation Of The Plan</u>

<u>Condition</u>: The municipality did not fully pay the minimum municipal obligation (MMO) that was due to the nonuniformed pension plan for the year 2010 as required by Act 205. Based upon an estimate prepared by this department, the municipality had an unpaid 2010 MMO balance of \$631.

Criteria: With regard to the MMO, Section 302(b) of Act 205 states, in part:

Annually, the chief administrative officer of the pension plan shall determine the financial requirements of the pension plan for the following plan year. The financial requirements of the pension plan for the following plan year shall be based on the most recent actuarial valuation report of the pension plan prepared pursuant to Chapter 2. The financial requirements of the pension plan shall be the normal cost and administrative expense requirements for the following plan year and, if the pension plan has an unfunded actuarial accrued liability pursuant to the most recent actuarial valuation report, the amortization contribution requirement for the following plan year.

Section 302(d) of Act 205 states, in part:

The minimum obligation of the municipality shall be payable to the pension plan from the revenue of the municipality.

Furthermore, Section 302(e) of Act 205 states, in part:

Any amount of the minimum obligation of the municipality which remains unpaid as of December 31 of the year in which the minimum obligation is due shall be added to the minimum obligation of the municipality for the following year, with interest from January 1 of the year in which the minimum obligation was first due until the date the payment is paid.

<u>Cause</u>: Plan officials failed to establish adequate internal control procedures to ensure the MMO was fully paid in accordance with Act 205 requirements.

<u>Effect</u>: The failure to fully pay the MMO could result in the plan not having adequate resources to meet current and future benefit obligations to its members.

Due to the municipality's failure to fully pay the 2010 MMO by the December 31, 2010, deadline, the municipality must add the 2010 MMO balance to the current year's MMO and include interest, as required by Act 205.

#### WARWICK TOWNSHIP NONUNIFORMED PENSION PLAN FINDING AND RECOMMENDATION

### Finding – (Continued)

<u>Recommendation</u>: We recommend that the municipality pay the MMO due to the nonuniformed pension plan for the year 2010, with interest, in accordance with Section 302(e) of Act 205. A copy of the interest calculation must be maintained by the township for examination during our next audit of the plan.

Furthermore, we recommend that plan officials establish adequate internal control procedures to ensure that future MMOs are fully paid in accordance with Act 205 requirements.

Management's Response: Municipal officials agreed with the finding without exception.

### WARWICK 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, 2005, 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)]
01-01-05	\$ 10,644	\$ 9,064	\$ (1,580)	117.4%	\$ 30,648	(5.2%)
01-01-07	17,076	19,650	2,574	86.9%	31,080	8.3%
01-01-09	26,804	33,302	6,498	80.5%	None	N/A

#### WARWICK 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.

# WARWICK 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
2005	\$ 2,979	100.0%
2006	3,002	100.0%
2007	3,092	100.0%
2008	5,580	100.0%
2009	5,695	100.0%
2010	1,107	43.0%

### WARWICK 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, 2009

Amortization method Level dollar

Remaining amortization period 20 years

Asset valuation method Contract value

Actuarial assumptions:

Investment rate of return \* 6.0%

Projected salary increases \* 4.5%

\* Includes inflation at Not disclosed

Cost-of-living adjustments None assumed

#### WARWICK TOWNSHIP NONUNIFORMED PENSION PLAN REPORT DISTRIBUTION LIST

This report was initially distributed to the following:

The Honorable Tom Corbett Governor Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Warwick Township Nonuniformed Pension Plan Chester County 2500 Ridge Road Elverson, PA 19520

Mr. Charles Jacob Chairman, Board of Township Supervisors

Ms. Joan Grimley Chief Administrative Officer

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.