



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

February 3, 2012

Matthew DeTemple, Executive Director
Heidi Fought, Director of Governmental Affairs
Ohio Township Association
6500 Taylor Road, Suite A
Blacklick, OH 43004-8570

Dear Matt and Heidi:

It was great to meet with both of you again last week. I appreciate the strong working relationship we've built during the past year and the ongoing conversation about matters of importance to the OTA.

At our most recent meeting, you asked about how this office would view townships paying the cost for recently elected fiscal officers to attend the OTA conference in February prior to actually taking office on April 1.

Of course, a township's lawyer is the Prosecuting Attorney of the county, and that's where legal counsel must be sought.

As a matter of public policy, though, a new township fiscal officer ought to be able to receive technical training prior to actually taking office, and I see no legal impediment to doing so. Attendance at the OTA February conference under these circumstances, even prior to taking office, is a proper public expenditure and will not be questioned in an audit, and we will not issue findings.

If you have any questions concerning this correspondence please feel free to contact me or Chief Deputy Auditor Bob Hinkle. Thanks again for working with us as we move forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Yost".

Dave Yost
Auditor of State

cc: County Prosecuting Attorney Association