



MRALPH T. **MEACHAM** CPA **MAHONING COUNTY AUDITOR**

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Mahoning Auditor Meacham and Ohio Treasurer Mandel Announce Launch of Mahoning County Data

Expenditures Can be Reviewed by Taxpayers

In Columbus today, Mahoning County Auditor Ralph T. Meacham and State Treasurer Josh Mandel along with Commissioner Anthony Traficanti released Mahoning County expenditures as the first county on ohiocheckbook.com.

According to the State Treasurer's Office, OhioCheckbook.com is a first-of-its-kind government transparency website that shows taxpayers exactly how their tax money is being spent. This initiative sets a new national standard for transparency in state government and is designed to make government more open and accountable to taxpayers by allowing Ohioans to follow their tax dollars and see how public money is being spent.

"I am excited to be on the forefront of the government transparency initiative started by Treasurer Mandel," Meacham stated. "This would not be possible without the cooperation of the Mahoning County Commissioners, Treasurer Mandel and the capable staff of the Auditor's Office."

State Treasurer Mandel launched OhioCheckbook.com last year, putting all state spending online for the first time in Ohio history. OhioCheckbook.com includes more than \$408 billion worth of spending over the past seven fiscal years, displaying approximately 112 million transactions and approximately 3.9 billion pieces of spending information.

"Taxpayers have the right to know how their money is spent. This is just the first of several transparency initiatives by the Mahoning County Auditor's Office. "

Meacham and Mandel encourage taxpayers to visit OhioCheckbook.com for further information and to search the database.

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