

STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS
302 West Washington Street
Room E418
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-2769

EXAMINATION REPORT
OF
BEECH CREEK TOWNSHIP
GREENE COUNTY, INDIANA
January 1, 2006 to December 31, 2007



FILED
12/19/2008

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OFFICIALS

<u>Office</u>	<u>Official</u>	<u>Term</u>
Trustee	Larry Shute	01-01-03 to 12-31-10
Chairman of the Township Board	William E. Thacker William K. Watkins John C. Sherfield	01-01-06 to 12-31-06 01-01-07 to 12-31-07 01-01-08 to 12-31-08



STATE OF INDIANA
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT

TO: THE OFFICIALS OF BEECH CREEK TOWNSHIP, GREENE COUNTY, INDIANA

We have examined the financial information presented herein of Beech Creek Township (Township), for the period of January 1, 2006 to December 31, 2007. The Township's management is responsible for the financial information presented herein. Our responsibility is to express an opinion based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and, accordingly, included examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the financial information presented herein and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our examination provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial information referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial information of the Township for the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2007, based on the criteria set forth in the uniform compliance guidelines established by the Indiana State Board of Accounts.

STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS

November 24, 2008

BEECH CREEK TOWNSHIP, GREENE COUNTY
SCHEDULES OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CASH AND INVESTMENT BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
As Of And For The Years Ended December 31, 2006 And 2007

	Cash and Investments 01-01-06	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-06
Governmental Funds:				
Township	\$ 119,841	\$ 26,530	\$ 28,315	\$ 118,056
Dog	1,213	693	1,113	793
Township Assistance	19,744	3,993	17,899	5,838
Levy Excess	-	1,196	-	1,196
Firefighting	9,719	23,001	43,557	(10,837)
Cumulative Fire	9,929	4,469	10,426	3,972
Totals	<u>\$ 160,446</u>	<u>\$ 59,882</u>	<u>\$ 101,310</u>	<u>\$ 119,018</u>

	Cash and Investments 01-01-07	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-07
Governmental Funds:				
Township	\$ 118,056	\$ 21,135	\$ 51,061	\$ 88,130
Dog	793	-	-	793
Township Assistance	5,838	14,738	20,423	153
Firefighting	(10,837)	46,322	38,417	(2,932)
Rainy Day	-	203	-	203
Levy Excess	1,196	-	1,196	-
Cumulative Fire	3,972	24,634	17,175	11,431
Totals	<u>\$ 119,018</u>	<u>\$ 107,032</u>	<u>\$ 128,272</u>	<u>\$ 97,778</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial information.

BEECH CREEK TOWNSHIP
NOTES TO FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Note 1. Introduction

The Township was established under the laws of the State of Indiana. The Township provides the following services: public safety, health and social services, and general administrative services.

Note 2. Fund Accounting

The Township uses funds to report on its cash and investments and the results of its operations on a cash basis. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain governmental functions or activities.

Note 3. Budgets

The operating budget is initially prepared and approved at the local level. In addition, funds for which property taxes are levied are subject to final approval by the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance.

Note 4. Property Taxes

Property taxes levied are collected by the County Treasurer and are distributed to the Township in June and December. State statute (IC 6-1.1-17-16) requires the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance to establish property tax rates and levies by February 15. These rates were based upon the preceding year's March 1 (lien date) assessed valuations adjusted for various tax credits. Taxable property is assessed at 100% of the true tax value (determined in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance). Taxes may be paid in two equal installments which become delinquent if not paid by May 10 and November 10, respectively.

Note 5. Deposits and Investments

Deposits, made in accordance with Indiana Code 5-13, with financial institutions in the State of Indiana at year end were entirely insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation or by the Indiana Public Deposit Insurance Fund. This includes any deposit accounts issued or offered by a qualifying financial institution.

State statute (IC 5-13-9) authorizes the Township to invest in securities including, but not limited to, federal government securities, repurchase agreements, and certain money market mutual funds. Certain other statutory restrictions apply to all investments made by local governmental units.

BEECH CREEK TOWNSHIP
NOTES TO FINANCIAL INFORMATION
(Continued)

Note 6. Pension Plan

Public Employees' Retirement Fund

Plan Description

The Township contributes to the Indiana Public Employees' Retirement Fund (PERF), a defined benefit pension plan. PERF is an agent multiple-employer public employee retirement system, which provides retirement benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. All full-time employees are eligible to participate in this defined benefit plan. State statutes (IC 5-10.2 and 5-10.3) govern, through the PERF Board, most requirements of the system, and give the Township authority to contribute to the plan. The PERF retirement benefit consists of the pension provided by employer contributions plus an annuity provided by the member's annuity savings account. The annuity savings account consists of members' contributions, set by state statute at 3% of compensation, plus the interest credited to the member's account. The employer may elect to make the contributions on behalf of the member.

PERF administers the plan and issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for the plan as a whole and for its participants. That report may be obtained by contacting:

Public Employees' Retirement Fund
Harrison Building, Room 800
143 West Market Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Ph. (317) 233-4162

Funding Policy and Annual Pension Cost

The contribution requirements of the plan members for PERF are established by the Board of Trustees of PERF.

BEECH CREEK TOWNSHIP
EXAMINATION RESULTS AND COMMENTS

APPROPRIATIONS

The records presented for examination indicated the following expenditures in excess of budgeted appropriations:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Years</u>	<u>Excess Amount Expended</u>
Fire Fighting	2006	\$ 4,110
Fire Fighting	2007	2,094
Township Assistance	2007	1,119

Indiana Code 6-1.1-18-4 states in part:

". . . the proper officers of a political subdivision shall appropriate funds in such a manner that the expenditures for a year do not exceed its budget for that year as finally determined under this article."

PENALTIES, INTEREST, AND OTHER CHARGES

A penalty totaling \$60 was paid to the Indiana Department of Revenue on August 21, 2007, for late filing of WH-3 and W-2s.

Officials and employees have the duty to pay claims and remit taxes in a timely fashion. Failure to pay claims or remit taxes in a timely manner could be an indicator of serious financial problems which should be investigated by the governmental unit.

Additionally, officials and employees have a responsibility to perform duties in a manner which would not result in any unreasonable fees being assessed against the governmental unit.

Any penalties, interest or other charges paid by the governmental unit may be the personal obligation of the responsible official or employee. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Townships, Chapter 13)

DISBURSEMENT DOCUMENTATION

One payment was observed which did not contain adequate supporting documentation such as invoices.

Due to the lack of supporting information, the validity and accountability for some monies disbursed could not be established.

BEECH CREEK TOWNSHIP
EXAMINATION RESULTS AND COMMENTS
(Continued)

Supporting documentation such as receipts, canceled checks, tickets, invoices, bills, contracts, and other public records must be available for audit to provide supporting information for the validity and accountability of monies disbursed. Payments without supporting documentation may be the personal obligation of the responsible official or employee. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Townships, Chapter 13)

CAPITAL ASSET RECORDS

Information presented for examination did not indicate an inventory or record of capital assets using Form 369.

Every governmental unit should have a complete inventory of all capital assets owned which reflect their acquisition value. Such inventory should be recorded on the applicable Capital Asset Ledger. A complete inventory should be taken at least every two years for good internal control and for verifying account balances carried in the accounting records. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Townships, Chapter 13)

ALCOHOL PURCHASES

Purchase of alcoholic beverages was paid from public funds.

Purchases of alcoholic beverages may be the personal obligation of the responsible official or employee. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Townships, Chapter 13)

OVERDRAWN CASH BALANCES

The Firefighting Fund was overdrawn in 2006 and 2007.

The cash balance of any fund may not be reduced below zero. Routinely overdrawn funds could be an indicator of serious financial problems which should be investigated by the governmental unit. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Townships, Chapter 13)

BEECH CREEK TOWNSHIP
EXIT CONFERENCE

The contents of this report were discussed on November 24, 2008, with Larry Shute, Trustee. The official concurred with our findings.