

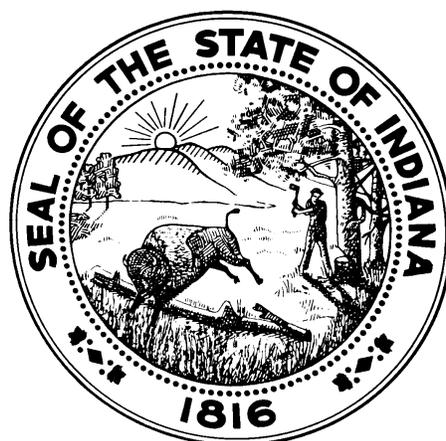
STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS
302 West Washington Street
Room E418
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-2769

EXAMINATION REPORT

OF

BENTON COUNTY, INDIANA

January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2008



FILED

12/22/2009

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Description</u>	<u>Page</u>
Officials	2
Independent Accountant's Report.....	3
Financial Information:	
Schedule of Receipts, Disbursements, and Cash and Investment Balances	4-5
Notes to Financial Information	6-8
Supplementary Information:	
Schedule of Capital Assets.....	9
Schedule of Long-Term Debt	10
Other Reports.....	11
Exit Conference.....	12

OFFICIALS

<u>Office</u>	<u>Official</u>	<u>Term</u>
Auditor	Joan Schluttenhofer Patricia A. Clouse	01-01-05 to 12-31-08 01-01-09 to 12-31-12
Treasurer	Patricia A. Clouse Peggy D. Puetz	01-01-05 to 12-31-08 01-01-09 to 12-31-12
Clerk	Janet Hasser	01-01-07 to 12-31-10
Sheriff	Boston Pritchett	01-01-07 to 12-31-10
Recorder	Tish Ringle	01-01-05 to 12-31-12
President of the County Council	Bruce Buchanan Alan Adwell	01-01-08 to 12-31-08 01-01-09 to 12-31-09
President of the Board of County Commissioners	Mel A. Budreau Leon R. Cyr	01-01-08 to 12-31-08 01-01-09 to 12-31-09



STATE OF INDIANA
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS
302 WEST WASHINGTON STREET
ROOM E418
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-2769

Telephone: (317) 232-2513
Fax: (317) 232-4711
Web Site: www.in.gov/sboa

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT

TO: THE OFFICIALS OF BENTON COUNTY, INDIANA

We have examined the financial information presented herein of Benton County, for the period of January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2008. The County'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 County for the year ended December 31, 2008, based on the criteria set forth in the uniform compliance guidelines established by the Indiana State Board of Accounts.

The Schedule of Capital Assets and Schedule of Long-Term Debt, as listed in the Table of Contents, are presented for additional analysis and are not required parts of the basic financial information. They have not been subjected to the examination procedures applied to the basic financial information and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS

October 13, 2009

BENTON COUNTY
SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CASH AND INVESTMENT BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL AND FIDUCIARY FUND TYPES
As Of And For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

	Cash and Investments 01-01-08	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-08
Governmental Funds:				
General Fund	\$ 1,024,676	\$ 3,609,779	\$ 4,213,210	\$ 421,245
Surveyor's Corner Perpetuation	26,012	3,470	1,103	28,379
Property Reassessment 2006	114,906	57,430	78,421	93,915
Local Health Maintenance	29,621	3,810	28,312	5,119
Recorder's Records Perpetuation	60,242	19,291	28,832	50,701
Extradition	184	-	2,414	(2,230)
Law Enforcement Continuing Education	2,261	873	153	2,981
Plat Book	11,659	680	-	12,339
Drug Free Community	30,860	9,610	6,966	33,504
Emergency Telephone System	356,036	154,271	168,801	341,506
Misdemeanant Fund	12,920	6,901	6,367	13,454
Hoosier Wind Project - Enxco	-	20,000	813	19,187
Coalition for Drug Free Benton County	7,905	470	460	7,915
Child Restraint	-	275	50	225
Check Service Charge	4,304	-	-	4,304
Misdemeanor User Fees	6,685	453	6,322	816
Wind Energy Conversion	175,935	640,636	716,046	100,525
Fowler Ridge Phase 1	-	670,000	147,036	522,964
Infraction User Fees	21,152	13,349	2,658	31,843
Law Enforcement Coordinating Council	2,626	4,374	1,800	5,200
Child Advocacy	1,175	50	-	1,225
Prisoner Reimbursement	3,525	9,735	8,790	4,470
Collection Agency Fees	(14)	-	-	(14)
Riverboat	17,807	59,099	67,635	9,271
Accident Reports	5,322	716	-	6,038
Firearms Training	2,162	2,720	907	3,975
Economic Development Income Tax	156,598	262,894	298,422	121,070
County User Fees	16,302	3,454	1,383	18,373
Document Storage Fee	10,845	3,062	-	13,907
Jury Pay	19,251	2,281	-	21,532
Infraction Penalty	19,608	6,574	1,170	25,012
Public Defender Fee	85,216	38,210	57,872	65,554
Sales Disclosure	470	3,100	2,210	1,360
Sales Disclosure Training	6,177	-	-	6,177
Juvenile Probation Service	24,582	4,705	5,579	23,708
Health Department Donations	25	-	-	25
Local Health Donations	7,281	-	-	7,281
Adult Probation Services	296,747	95,790	115,778	276,759
Health Bio Terrorism	4,825	-	-	4,825
Rainy Day Fund	6,371	-	3,239	3,132
Tobacco Settlement	52,226	13,190	17,661	47,755
Motor Vehicle Highway	463,358	3,957,394	3,335,564	1,085,188
Local Road and Street	223,061	88,737	80,000	231,798
Cumulative Bridge	615,875	222,544	557,846	280,573
Health	19,149	54,892	64,070	9,971
Family and Children	233,554	634,809	490,895	377,468
Prosecutor Title IV-D	5,432	5,671	1,423	9,680
Clerk Title IV-D Incentive	15,565	3,770	362	18,973
Guardian Ad Litem	10,214	-	-	10,214
Welfare CPRT	35,998	27,646	5,410	58,234
General Drain Improvement	695,746	18,113	286	713,573
Drainage Maintenance	739,977	120,948	214,750	646,175
Emergency Medical Services	146,240	474,461	523,996	96,705
Civil Defense Donations	16,638	1,600	1,599	16,639
Retirement Village Donations	455	-	117	338
Welfare Reform	500	-	-	500
Cumulative Jail	276,222	40,172	7,846	308,548
Cumulative Capital Development	397,230	71,273	142,658	325,845
HEA 1001-2008 State HSC	-	706,889	706,086	803
CERT Grant	1,775	-	-	1,775
Homeland Security Grant 03 No. 2	662	-	-	662
Homeland Security Grant 04 No. 1	(295)	-	-	(295)

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

BENTON COUNTY
SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CASH AND INVESTMENT BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL AND FIDUCIARY FUND TYPES
As Of And For The Year Ended December 31, 2008
(Continued)

	Cash and Investments 01-01-08	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-08
Governmental Funds (continued):				
05 SHSP	(201)	-	-	(201)
K-9 Grant	4,115	701	1,661	3,155
Criminal Justice Grant	-	4,025	4,025	-
ODP 2005 SHSP/LETPP	201	-	-	201
Recycle Grant	24,961	40,000	-	64,961
2006-SHSP-Grant	-	17,894	17,051	843
2008-04-DB-090 Grant	-	5,279	5,279	-
07 Public Safety Inc. Grant	-	43,478	-	43,478
EMS Donations	673	1,850	794	1,729
Emergency Planning and Right to Know	11,293	3	-	11,296
Sheriff's Commissary	22,442	38,911	30,574	30,779
Levy Excess	1,036	-	-	1,036
Fiduciary Funds:				
Pension Trust:				
Sheriff's Pension Trust	659,453	73,659	128,918	604,194
Permanent Fund:				
Congressional School Principal	39,164	-	-	39,164
Agency Funds:				
Surplus Tax	42,924	-	32,585	10,339
Surplus Dog	(10)	-	-	(10)
Surplus Tax Sale	113,035	-	84,308	28,727
Judgments Due Law Enforcement	925	-	-	925
Mortgage Fees	-	1,050	516	534
Redaction Fund	9,052	5,024	-	14,076
Wage Garnishments	505	-	-	505
Plea Agreement Charity Fund	6,394	512	-	6,906
Adult Offender Fee	-	225	150	75
State Fines and Forfeitures	1	1,261	662	600
Inheritance Tax	259,927	1,559,017	1,599,775	219,169
Tax Sale Redemption	7	9,335	9,321	21
Flex Account	-	75,102	75,102	-
Education Plate Fees	975	863	113	1,725
HRA Reimbursement	3,809	26,883	30,201	491
Wind Fund	381,018	1,356,354	620,921	1,116,451
Homestead Credit Rebate Fund	334,986	6,990	334,168	7,808
Infraction Judgments	-	11,472	3,424	8,048
Homestead Credit	1,230	498,560	262,894	236,896
City and Town Court Costs	3,045	3,811	-	6,856
Special Death Benefit	-	630	280	350
Coroner's Continuing Education	14	439	207	246
Sewage Collections	5,380	-	5,380	-
Congressional School Interest	5,539	12	-	5,551
Payroll Withholding	6,429	1,311,990	1,309,518	8,901
Settlement Fund	121,289	13,689,749	12,331,384	1,479,654
County Sheriff	86	172,916	172,916	86
Clerk of the Circuit Court	97,089	915,737	898,840	113,986
Sheriff's Inmate Trust	735	42,231	42,250	716
County Recorder	20	59,158	59,158	20
County Treasurer	296,536	14,740,597	10,826,065	4,211,068
County Home	822	55,559	55,559	822
Probation Department	345	92,664	92,664	345
Emergency Medical Services	-	219,389	219,389	-
Totals	<u>\$ 8,977,085</u>	<u>\$ 47,233,501</u>	<u>\$ 41,379,370</u>	<u>\$ 14,831,216</u>

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

BENTON COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Note 1. Introduction

The County was established under the laws of the State of Indiana. The County provides the following services: public safety, highways and streets, health and social services, culture and recreation, and general administrative services.

Note 2. Fund Accounting

The County 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 or highway use taxes are received 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 County 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. In 2008, all taxes were due November 10, 2008, and settlement was not made until January 9, 2009.

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 County 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.

BENTON COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL INFORMATION
(Continued)

Note 6. Pension Plans

A. Public Employees' Retirement Fund

Plan Description

The County 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 County 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 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.

B. County Police Retirement Plan

Plan Description

The primary government contributes to the County Police Retirement Plan which is a single-employer defined benefit pension plan. With the approval of the primary government's fiscal body, the plan is administered by the sheriff's department and an appointed trustee as authorized by state statute (IC 36-8-10-12) for full-time police officers. The plan provides retirement, death, and disability benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. The trustee issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information of the plan. The report may be obtained by contacting:

BENTON COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL INFORMATION
(Continued)

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 plan members for the County Police Retirement Plan are established by state statute. The primary government's annual pension cost and related information, as provided by the actuary, is presented in this note.

C. County Police Benefit Plan

Plan Description

The primary government contributes to the County Police Benefit Plan which is a single-employer defined benefit pension plan. With the approval of the primary government's fiscal body, the plan is administered by the sheriff's department and an appointed trustee as authorized by state statute (IC 36-8-10-12) for full-time police officers. The plan provides dependent pensions, life insurance, and disability benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. The trustee issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information of the plan. The 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

BENTON COUNTY
 SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
 SCHEDULE OF CAPITAL ASSETS
 For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

Capital assets are reported at actual or estimated historical cost based on appraisals or deflated current replacement cost. Contributed or donated assets are reported at estimated fair value at the time received.

General infrastructure assets (those reported by governmental activities) are included regardless of their acquisition date or amount. The government was able to estimate the historical cost for the initial reporting of these assets through backtrending (i.e., estimating the current replacement cost of the infrastructure to be capitalized and using an appropriate price-level index to deflate the cost to the acquisition year or estimated acquisition year). As the government constructs or acquires additional capital assets each period, including infrastructure assets, they are reported at historical cost.

<u>Primary Government</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
Governmental activities:	
Capital assets, not being depreciated:	
Land	\$ 56,765
Infrastructure	85,891,972
Buildings	4,473,084
Improvements other than buildings	1,590,834
Machinery and equipment	2,133,314
Construction in progress	<u>32,360</u>
Total governmental activities, capital assets not being depreciated	<u>\$ 94,178,329</u>

BENTON COUNTY
 SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
 SCHEDULE OF LONG-TERM DEBT
 December 31, 2008

The County has entered into the following debt:

Description of Debt	Ending Principal Balance	Principal and Interest Due Within One Year
Governmental activities:		
Capital leases:		
Jail	\$ 1,590,000	\$ 241,800
Notes and loans payable	<u>209,313</u>	<u>50,666</u>
Total governmental activities debt	<u>\$ 1,799,313</u>	<u>\$ 292,466</u>

BENTON COUNTY
OTHER REPORTS

The report presented herein was prepared in addition to other official reports prepared for the individual County offices listed below:

County Auditor
County Highway
County Commissioners

BENTON COUNTY
EXIT CONFERENCE

The contents of this report were discussed on October 13, 2009, with Joan Schluttenhofer, former Auditor; Patricia A. Clouse, Auditor; Brian Berry, Board of County Commissioners; and Leon R. Cyr, President of the Board of County Commissioners.