

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

EXAMINATION REPORT
OF
STERLING TOWNSHIP
CRAWFORD COUNTY, INDIANA
January 1, 2007 to December 31, 2009



FILED
04/15/2010

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OFFICIALS

<u>Office</u>	<u>Official</u>	<u>Term</u>
Trustee	Russell Newkirk	01-01-07 to 12-31-10
Chairman of the Township Board	Lisa Riddell	01-01-07 to 12-31-07
	LeAnn Bertram	01-01-08 to 12-31-08
	Lisa Riddell	01-01-09 to 12-31-09
	LeAnn Bertram	01-01-10 to 12-31-10



STATE OF INDIANA
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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT

TO: THE OFFICIALS OF STERLING TOWNSHIP, CRAWFORD COUNTY, INDIANA

We have examined the financial information presented herein of Sterling Township (Township), for the period of January 1, 2007 to December 31, 2009. 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, 2007, 2008, and 2009, based on the criteria set forth in the uniform compliance guidelines established by the Indiana State Board of Accounts.

STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS

April 1, 2010

STERLING TOWNSHIP, CRAWFORD COUNTY
SCHEDULES OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CASH AND INVESTMENT BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
As Of And For The Years Ended December 31, 2007, 2008, And 2009

	Cash and Investments 01-01-07	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-07
Governmental Funds:				
Township	\$ 32,557	\$ 9,767	\$ 11,021	\$ 31,303
Township Assistance	13,309	-	4,197	9,112
Totals	<u>\$ 45,866</u>	<u>\$ 9,767</u>	<u>\$ 15,218</u>	<u>\$ 40,415</u>

	Cash and Investments 01-01-08	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-08
Governmental Funds:				
Township	\$ 31,303	\$ 27,741	\$ 15,683	\$ 43,361
Township Assistance	9,112	2,514	2,753	8,873
Totals	<u>\$ 40,415</u>	<u>\$ 30,255</u>	<u>\$ 18,436</u>	<u>\$ 52,234</u>

	Cash and Investments 01-01-09	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-09
Governmental Funds:				
Township	\$ 43,361	\$ 20,151	\$ 14,172	\$ 49,340
Township Assistance	8,873	2,958	4,374	7,457
Park and Recreation	-	1,000	1,000	-
Totals	<u>\$ 52,234</u>	<u>\$ 24,109</u>	<u>\$ 19,546</u>	<u>\$ 56,797</u>

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

STERLING TOWNSHIP, CRAWFORD COUNTY
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: health and social services, culture and recreation, 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. All property taxes collected by the County Treasurer and available for distribution were distributed to the Township on or prior to December 31 of the year collected.

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.

STERLING TOWNSHIP, CRAWFORD COUNTY
EXAMINATION RESULTS AND COMMENTS

CONDITION OF RECORDS

The following deficiencies relating to the recordkeeping were noted during the examination period:

1. Record balances were not reconciled to depository balances. At December 31, 2009, an amount of \$1,096.17 was required for cash necessary to balance.

IC 5-13-6-1(e) states: "All local investment officers shall reconcile at least monthly the balance of public funds, as disclosed by the records of the local officers, with the balance statements provided by the respective depositories."

At all times, the manual and/or computerized records, subsidiary ledgers, control ledger, and reconciled bank balance should agree. If the reconciled bank balance is less than the subsidiary or control ledgers, then the responsible official or employee may be held personally responsible for the amount needed to balance the fund. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Townships, Chapter 13)

2. There were a considerable number of posting errors. These errors included deposits not receipted and checks and receipts either not recorded or posted to the wrong fund.

Controls over the receipting, disbursing, recording, and accounting for the financial activities are necessary to avoid substantial risk of invalid transactions, inaccurate records and financial statements and incorrect decision making. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Townships, Chapter 13)

3. The 2009 Annual Financial Report did not agree with the funds ledger.

Officials and employees are required to use State Board of Accounts prescribed or approved forms in the manner prescribed. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Townships, Chapter 13)

STERLING TOWNSHIP, CRAWFORD COUNTY
EXAMINATION RESULTS AND COMMENTS
(Continued)

PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS

Social Security and Medicare taxes were not withheld from the wages paid to the Township Board members during the examination period.

Political subdivisions are required to comply with all grant agreements, rules, regulations, bulletins, directives, letters, letter rulings, and filing requirements concerning reports and other procedural matters of federal and state agencies, including opinions of the Attorney General of the State of Indiana, and court decisions. Governmental units should file accurate reports required by federal and state agencies. Noncompliance may require corrective action. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Townships, Chapter 13)

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)

Each governmental unit is responsible for compliance with all rules, regulations, guidelines, and directives of the Internal Revenue Service and the Indiana Department of Revenue. All questions concerning taxes should be directed to these agencies. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Townships, Chapter 13)

STERLING TOWNSHIP, CRAWFORD COUNTY
EXIT CONFERENCE

The contents of this report were discussed on April 1, 2010, with Russell Newkirk, Trustee. The official concurred with our findings.