

B36227

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

EXAMINATION REPORT
OF
WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP
LAPORTE COUNTY, INDIANA
January 1, 2007 to December 31, 2009



FILED
04/21/2010

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OFFICIALS

<u>Office</u>	<u>Official</u>	<u>Term</u>
Trustee	Loretta Rudolph	01-01-07 to 12-31-10
Chairman of the Township Board	Wayne Dipert Harold Barr	01-01-07 to 12-31-07 01-01-08 to 12-31-10



STATE OF INDIANA
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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 WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP, LAPORTE COUNTY, INDIANA

We have examined the financial information presented herein of Washington 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

March 31, 2010

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP, LAPORTE 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	\$ 26,675	\$ 11,173	\$ 15,454	\$ 22,394
Dog	352	-	352	-
Township Assistance	5,649	927	4,695	1,881
Firefighting	24,190	20,138	35,012	9,316
Shared Winnings	21,738	8,205	2,500	27,443
Levy Excess	5,021	-	-	5,021
Fire Debt	22,678	15,685	49,992	(11,629)
Cumulative Fire	166,644	14,421	-	181,065
Totals	<u>\$ 272,947</u>	<u>\$ 70,549</u>	<u>\$ 108,005</u>	<u>\$ 235,491</u>

	Cash and Investments 01-01-08	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-08
Governmental Funds:				
Township	\$ 22,394	\$ 7,969	\$ 15,596	\$ 14,767
Township Assistance	1,881	3,213	7,826	(2,732)
Firefighting	9,316	51,368	52,909	7,775
Shared Winnings	27,443	7,919	-	35,362
Levy Excess	5,021	-	-	5,021
Fire Debt	(11,629)	60,529	49,992	(1,092)
Cumulative Fire	181,065	35,632	85,000	131,697
Totals	<u>\$ 235,491</u>	<u>\$ 166,630</u>	<u>\$ 211,323</u>	<u>\$ 190,798</u>

	Cash and Investments 01-01-09	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-09
Governmental Funds:				
Township	\$ 14,767	\$ 6,135	\$ 15,659	\$ 5,243
Township Assistance	(2,732)	2,410	6,144	(6,466)
Firefighting	7,775	49,017	64,445	(7,653)
Shared Winnings	35,362	10,194	-	45,556
Levy Excess	5,021	-	-	5,021
Fire Debt	(1,092)	48,540	49,992	(2,544)
Cumulative Fire	131,697	28,573	-	160,270
Totals	<u>\$ 190,798</u>	<u>\$ 144,869</u>	<u>\$ 136,240</u>	<u>\$ 199,427</u>

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

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP, LAPORTE 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: public safety, 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.

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP, LAPORTE COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL INFORMATION
(Continued)

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.

Note 6. Subsequent Event

LaPorte County has not completed and settled an approved property tax cycle since the 2005 payable 2006 property tax year. Each subsequent year the County has sent out various forms of provisional bills with the notice that a reconciliation bill will be provided to taxpayers once assessments are approved and certified and final tax rates are established. These delays and uncertainties have resulted in a lower than budgeted property tax collection rate for the Township. It is undeterminable how much property tax collections the Township will receive once all the reconciliation bills have been distributed and the collections received. Provisional bills for 2009 were due January 29, 2010. The Township received their distribution on February 11, 2010.

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP, LAPORTE COUNTY
EXAMINATION RESULT AND COMMENT

OVERDRAWN FUND BALANCES

The following Township funds were overdrawn:

Fund	2007	2008	2009
Township Assistance	\$ -	\$ 2,731	\$ 6,466
Firefighting	-	-	7,653
Fire Debt Fund	11,629	1,092	2,544

The 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)

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP, LAPORTE COUNTY
EXIT CONFERENCE

The contents of this report were discussed on March 31, 2010, with Loretta Rudolph, Trustee. The official concurred with our findings.