

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

EXAMINATION REPORT
OF
BENTON COUNTY, INDIANA
January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009



FILED
10/29/2010

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OFFICIALS

<u>Office</u>	<u>Official</u>	<u>Term</u>
Auditor	Patricia A. Clouse	01-01-09 to 12-31-12
Treasurer	Peggy D. Puetz	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	01-01-09 to 12-31-12
President of the County Council	Alan Adwell	01-01-09 to 12-31-09
President of the Board of County Commissioners	Leon R. Cyr Bryan Berry	01-01-09 to 12-31-09 01-01-10 to 12-31-10



STATE OF INDIANA
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT

TO: THE OFFICIALS BENTON COUNTY, INDIANA

We have examined the financial information presented herein of Benton County, for the period of January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009. 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, 2009, based on the criteria set forth in the uniform compliance guidelines established by the Indiana State Board of Accounts.

Included in the financial statements are the receipts and disbursements activity from emergency telephone system fees (IC 36-8-16) and enhanced wireless emergency telephone fees (IC 36-8-16.5). In accordance with IC 36-8-16-14 and IC 36-8-16.5-41 these fees have been subject to an annual examination performed by State Board of Accounts and, in our opinion, are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements.

The Schedule of Capital Assets, as listed in the Table of Contents, is presented for additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial information. It has not been subjected to the examination procedures applied to the basic financial information and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS

July 20, 2010

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, 2009

	Cash and Investments 01-01-09	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-09
Governmental Funds:				
General Fund	\$ 421,245	3,821,397	3,447,188	\$ 795,454
Surveyor's Corner Perpetuation	28,379	2,185	1,403	29,161
Property Reassessment 2006	93,915	112,322	114,958	91,279
Local Health Maintenance	5,119	37,454	29,305	13,268
Recorder's Records Perpetuation	50,701	24,124	20,856	53,969
Extradition	(2,230)	-	955	(3,185)
Law Enforcement Continuing Education	2,981	1,502	320	4,163
Plat Book	12,339	426	5,611	7,154
Drug Free Community	33,504	7,644	11,897	29,251
Emergency Telephone System-Wireless	341,506	117,957	193,590	265,873
Misdemeanant Fund	13,454	6,901	3,819	16,536
Emergency Telephone System-Landline	-	34,744	-	34,744
Megawatt Production Fee	-	643,566	340,479	303,087
Hoosier Wind Project-Enxco	19,187	10,030	10,000	19,217
Coalition for Drug Free Benton County	7,915	400	2,597	5,718
Child Restraint	225	25	250	-
Check Service Charge	4,304	-	4,304	-
Misdemeanor User Fees	816	6	48	774
Wind Energy Conversion	100,525	166,670	106,546	160,649
Fowler Ridge Phase 1	522,964	1,501,480	1,017,671	1,006,773
Fowler Ridge Phase 2	-	861,982	480,101	381,881
Infraction User Fees	31,843	14,201	5,636	40,408
Law Enforcement Coordinating Council	5,200	1,577	6,617	160
Child Advocacy	1,225	-	-	1,225
Prisoner Reimbursement	4,470	4,525	-	8,995
Collection Agency Fees	(14)	-	-	(14)
Riverboat	9,271	58,957	-	68,228
Accident Reports	6,038	416	1,174	5,280
Firearms Training	3,975	2,530	525	5,980
Economic Development Income Tax	121,070	616,248	569,466	167,852
County User Fees	18,373	3,328	2,839	18,862
Document Storage Fee	13,907	2,741	-	16,648
Jury Pay	21,532	1,946	-	23,478
Infraction Penalty	25,012	4,783	84	29,711
Public Defender Fee	65,554	35,468	8,167	92,855
Sales Disclosure	1,360	2,400	2,675	1,085
Sales Disclosure Training	6,177	1,785	-	7,962
Juvenile Probation Service	23,708	3,564	2,772	24,500
Health Department Donations	25	1,000	-	1,025
Local Health Donations	7,281	-	-	7,281
Adult Probation Services	276,759	73,828	74,613	275,974
Health Bio Terrorism	4,825	-	1,473	3,352
Rainy Day Fund	3,132	1,013,646	400,000	616,778
Tobacco Settlement	47,755	14,087	11,507	50,335
Motor Vehicle Highway	1,085,188	2,830,654	3,024,684	891,158
Local Road and Street	231,798	263,342	290,000	205,140
Cumulative Bridge	280,573	415,966	268,747	427,792
Health	9,971	102,455	86,051	26,375
Family and Children	377,468	214,572	592,040	-
Prosecutor Title IV-D	9,680	1,335	114	10,901
Clerk Title IV-D Incentive	18,973	-	978	17,995
Guardian Ad Litem	10,214	-	-	10,214
Welfare CPRT	58,234	13,386	71,620	-
General Drain Improvement	713,573	28,074	66,939	674,708
Drainage Maintenance	646,175	481,187	197,665	929,697
Emergency Medical Services	96,705	707,340	623,131	180,914
Civil Defense Donations	16,639	2,101	1,407	17,333
Retirement Village Donations	338	-	-	338
Welfare Reform	500	-	-	500
Cumulative Jail	308,548	75,925	137,601	246,872
Cumulative Capital Development	325,845	134,704	202,175	258,374
State Grant No. 22 H1N1	-	9,334	1,630	7,704
HEA 1001-2008 State HSC	803	121,145	121,789	159
CERT Grant	1,775	-	-	1,775
Homeland Security Grant 03 No. 2	662	-	-	662

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, 2009
(Continued)

	Cash and Investments 01-01-09	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-09
Governmental Funds (continued):				
Homeland Security Grant 04 No. 1	(295)	-	-	(295)
05 SHSP	(201)	-	-	(201)
K-9 Grant	3,155	370	897	2,628
ODP 2005 SHSP/LETPP	201	-	201	-
Recycle Grant	64,961	35,922	17,315	83,568
2006-SHSP-Grant	843	-	-	843
Sheriff Homeland Security	-	3,649	3,649	-
07 Public Safety Inc. Grant	43,478	-	43,478	-
EMS Donations	1,729	475	1,689	515
Emergency Planning and Right to Know	11,296	-	-	11,296
Sheriff's Commissary	30,779	24,165	28,863	26,081
Levy Excess	1,036	620,455	597,514	23,977
Fiduciary Funds:				
Pension Trust:		-	-	
Sheriff's Pension Trust	604,194	66,327	89,746	580,775
Permanent Funds:				
Congressional School Principal	39,164	-	-	39,164
Agency Funds:				
Surplus Tax	10,339	83,291	72,896	20,734
Surplus Dog	(10)	-	-	(10)
Surplus Tax Sale	28,727	36,274	29,716	35,285
Judgments Due Law Enforcement	925	-	-	925
Mortgage Fees	534	850	1,384	-
Redaction Fund	14,076	4,914	-	18,990
Wage Garnishments	505	-	-	505
Plea Agreement Charity Fund	6,906	477	-	7,383
Adult Offender Fee	75	600	675	-
State Fines and Forfeitures	600	731	1,328	3
Inheritance Tax	219,169	496,842	482,655	233,356
Tax Sale Redemption	21	-	-	21
Flex Account	-	77,041	29,165	47,876
Education Plate Fees	1,725	206	-	1,931
HRA Reimbursement	491	81,717	-	82,208
Wind Fund	1,116,451	400,296	1,312,356	204,391
Homestead Credit Rebate Fund	7,808	-	-	7,808
Infraction Judgments	8,048	7,389	14,956	481
Homestead Credit	236,896	65,592	301,092	1,396
City and Town Court Costs	6,856	3,274	-	10,130
Special Death Benefit	350	535	885	-
Coroner's Continuing Education	246	640	855	31
Sewage Collections	-	30,152	30,132	20
Congressional School Interest	5,551	-	3,115	2,436
Payroll Withholding	8,901	1,346,373	1,344,968	10,306
Settlement Fund	1,479,654	16,424,168	17,857,141	46,681
County Sheriff	86	135,093	135,093	86
Clerk of the Circuit Court	113,986	806,214	825,600	94,600
Sheriff's Inmate Trust	716	32,677	30,182	3,211
County Recorder	20	76,734	71,714	5,040
County Treasurer	4,211,068	13,836,011	17,845,254	201,825
County Home	822	51,728	51,728	822
Probation Department	345	84,429	84,429	345
Emergency Medical Services	-	159,730	159,730	-
Totals	<u>\$ 14,831,216</u>	<u>\$ 49,604,706</u>	<u>\$ 54,036,418</u>	<u>\$ 10,399,504</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. All property taxes collected by the County Treasurer and available for distribution were distributed to the County 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 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 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.

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:

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

BENTON COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL INFORMATION
(Continued)

Funding Policy and Annual Pension Cost

The contribution requirements of plan members for the County Police Retirement Plan are established by state statute.

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, 2009

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	86,868,492
Buildings	4,473,084
Improvements other than buildings	1,717,249
Machinery and equipment	2,237,149
Construction in progress	<u>40,000</u>
Total governmental activities, capital assets not being depreciated	<u>\$ 95,392,739</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 July 20, 2010, with Bryan Berry, President of the Board of County Commissioners; and Patricia A. Clouse, Auditor. The officials concurred with our findings.