

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

FINANCIAL STATEMENT EXAMINATION REPORT

OF

SOUTH VIGO TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT

KNOX COUNTY, INDIANA

January 1, 2007 to December 31, 2010



FILED
12/13/2011

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OFFICIALS

<u>Office</u>	<u>Official</u>	<u>Term</u>
Treasurer	Donald L. Pieper	01-01-07 to 12-31-11
President of the Board	Mark Sargent	01-01-07 to 12-31-11



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 THE SOUTH VIGO TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT, KNOX COUNTY, INDIANA

We have examined the financial statements of the South Vigo Township Fire District (District), for the period of January 1, 2007 to December 31, 2010. The District's management is responsible for the financial statements. 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 statements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our examination provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As discussed in Note 1, the District prepares its financial statements on the prescribed basis of accounting that demonstrates compliance with the reporting requirements established by the State Board of Accounts as allowed by state statute (IC 5-11-1-6), which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The basis noted above is a different basis than that used in the prior year.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position and results of operations of the District for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010, on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the District's management, Fire District Board, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. In accordance with Indiana Code 5-11-5-1, this report is a part of the public records of the State Board of Accounts and of the office examined.

STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS

October 18, 2011

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FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements and accompanying notes were approved by management of the District. The financial statements and notes are presented as intended by the District.

SOUTH VIGO TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CASH AND INVESTMENT BALANCES
REGULATORY BASIS
For The Year Ended December 31, 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010

	<u>Cash and Investments 01-01-07</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>Cash and Investments 12-31-07</u>
General	<u>\$ 302,292</u>	<u>\$ 66,266</u>	<u>\$ 156,718</u>	<u>\$ 211,840</u>
	<u>Cash and Investments 01-01-08</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>Cash and Investments 12-31-08</u>
General	<u>\$ 211,840</u>	<u>\$ 98,636</u>	<u>\$ 55,535</u>	<u>\$ 254,941</u>
	<u>Cash and Investments 01-01-09</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>Cash and Investments 12-31-09</u>
General	<u>\$ 254,941</u>	<u>\$ 130,521</u>	<u>\$ 56,285</u>	<u>\$ 329,177</u>
	<u>Cash and Investments 01-01-10</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>Cash and Investments 12-31-10</u>
General	<u>\$ 329,177</u>	<u>\$ 7,799</u>	<u>\$ 50,220</u>	<u>\$ 286,756</u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

SOUTH VIGO TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Reporting Entity

The District was established under the laws of the State of Indiana. The District operates under an appointed governing board.

The accompanying financial statements present the financial information for the District (primary government), and does not include financial information for any of the District's legally separate component units, which accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be reported with the financial information of the District (primary government).

B. Basis of Accounting

The financial statements are reported on a regulatory basis of accounting prescribed by the State Board of Accounts in accordance with state statute (IC 5-11-1-6), which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Receipts are recorded when received and disbursements are recorded when paid.

The regulatory basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America in that receipts are recognized when received in cash, rather than when earned, and disbursements are recognized when paid, rather than when a liability is incurred.

C. Cash and Investments

Investments are stated at cost. Any changes in fair value of the investments are reported as receipts in the year of the sale of the investment.

D. Receipts

Receipts are presented in the aggregate on the face of the financial statements. The aggregate receipts may include, but are not limited to, the following sources:

Taxes which can include one or more of the following: property taxes, certified shares (local option tax), property tax replacement credit (local option tax), county option income tax, wheel tax, innkeepers tax, food and beverage tax, county economic development income tax, boat and trailer excise tax, county adjusted gross income tax, and other taxes that are set by the District.

Licenses and permits which include amounts received from businesses, occupations, or nonbusinesses that must be licensed before doing business within the government's jurisdiction or permits levied according to the benefits presumably conferred by the permit. Examples of licenses and permits include: peddler licenses, dog tax licenses, auctioneer license, building and planning permits, demolition permits, electrical permits, sign permits, and gun permits.

SOUTH VIGO TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Continued)

Intergovernmental receipts which include receipts from other governments in the form of operating grants, entitlements, or payments in lieu of taxes. Examples of this type of receipts include, but are not limited to: federal grants, state grants, cigarette tax distributions received from the state, motor vehicle highway distribution received from the state, local road and street distribution received from the state, financial institution tax received from the state, auto excise surtax received from the state, commercial vehicle excise tax received from the state, major moves distributions received from the state, and riverboat receipts received from the county.

Charges for services which can include, but are not limited to the following: planning commission charges, building department charges, copies of public records, copy machine charges, accident report copies, gun permit applications, 911 telephone services, recycling fees, dog pound fees, emergency medical service fees, park rental fees, swimming pool receipts, cable tv receipts, ordinance violations, fines and fees, bond forfeitures, court costs, and court receipts.

Fines and forfeits which include receipts derived from fines and penalties imposed for the commission of statutory offenses, violation of lawful administrative rules and regulations (fines), and for the neglect of official duty and monies derived from confiscating deposits held as performance guarantees (forfeitures).

Utility fees which are comprised mostly of charges for current services.

Other receipts which include amounts received from various sources which can include, but are not limited to the following: net proceeds from borrowings; interfund loan activity; transfers authorized by statute, ordinance, resolution or court order; internal service receipts; and fiduciary receipts.

E. Disbursements

Disbursements are presented in the aggregate on the face of the financial statements. The aggregate disbursements may include, but are not limited to, the following uses:

Personal services include outflows for salaries, wages, and related employee benefits provided for all persons employed. In those units where sick leave, vacation leave, overtime compensation, and other such benefits are appropriated separately, such payments would also be included.

Supplies which include articles and commodities that are entirely consumed and materially altered when used and/or show rapid depreciation after use for a short period of time. Examples of supplies include office supplies, operating supplies, and repair and maintenance supplies.

Other services and charges which include, but are not limited to: professional services, communication and transportation, printing and advertising, insurance, utility services, repairs and maintenance, and rental charges.

Debt service principal and interest which include fixed obligations resulting from financial transactions previously entered into by the District. It includes all expenditures for the reduction of the principal and interest of the District's general obligation indebtedness.

SOUTH VIGO TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Continued)

Capital outlay which include all outflows for land, infrastructure, buildings, improvements, and machinery and equipment having an appreciable and calculable period of usefulness.

Utility operating expenses which include all outflows for operating the utilities.

Other disbursements which include, but are not limited to the following: interfund loan payments, loans made to other funds, internal service disbursements, and transfers out that are authorized by statute, ordinance, resolution, or court order.

F. Interfund Transfers

The District may, from time to time, transfer money from one fund to another. These transfers, if any, are included as a part of the receipts and disbursements of the affected funds and as a part of total receipts and disbursements. The transfers are used for cash flow purposes as provided by various statutory provisions.

G. Fund Accounting

Separate funds are established, maintained, and reported by the District. Each fund is used to account for money received from and used for specific sources and uses as determined by various regulations. Restrictions on some funds are set by statute while other funds are internally restricted by the District. The money accounted for in a specific fund may only be available for use for certain, legally restricted purposes. Additionally, some funds are used to account for assets held by the District in a trustee capacity as an agent of individuals, private organizations, other funds, or other governmental units and therefore the funds cannot be used for any expenditures of the unit itself.

Note 2. Budgets

The operating budget is initially prepared and approved at the local level. The fiscal officer of the District submits a proposed operating budget to the governing board for the following calendar year. The budget is advertised as required by law. Prior to adopting the budget, the governing board conducts public hearings and obtains taxpayer comments. Prior to November 1, the governing board approves the budget for the next year. The budget for funds for which property taxes are levied or highway use taxes are received is subject to final approval by the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance.

Note 3. Property Taxes

Property taxes levied are collected by the County Treasurer and are scheduled to be distributed to the District in June and December; however, situations can arise which would delay the distributions. 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 percent 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 normally become delinquent if not paid by May 10 and November 10, respectively.

SOUTH VIGO TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Continued)

Note 4. *Deposits and Investments*

Deposits, made in accordance with state statute (IC 5-13), with financial institutions in the State of Indiana at year end should be 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 statutes authorize the District 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 5. *Risk Management*

The District may be exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; job related illnesses or injuries to employees; medical benefits to employees, retirees, and dependents; and natural disasters.

These risks can be mitigated through the purchase of insurance, establishment of a self-insurance fund, and/or participation in a risk pool. The purchase of insurance transfers the risk to an independent third party. The establishment of a self-insurance fund allows the District to set aside money for claim settlements. The self-insurance fund would be included in the financial statements. The purpose of participation in a risk pool is to provide a medium for the funding and administration of the risks. These risks may also be mitigated by the District by recording as a disbursement and replacement items purchased.

SOUTH VIGO TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT
EXAMINATION RESULTS AND COMMENTS

BOARD MINUTES

Not all minutes of meetings of the governing body were available for examination.

Indiana Code 5-14-1.5-4 states in part:

"(b) As the meeting progresses, the following memoranda shall be kept:

- (1) The date, time, and place of the meeting.
- (2) The members of the governing body recorded as either present or absent.
- (3) The general substance of all matters proposed, discussed, or decided.
- (4) A record of all votes take, by individual members if there is a roll call.
- (5) Any additional information required under IC 5-1.5-2-2.5."

PRESCRIBED FORMS

The following prescribed forms were not used: Special District Annual Report, Form 358- Ledger of Receipts, Disbursements and Balances, and Form 359 - Ledger of Appropriations, Encumbrances, Disbursements and Balances. A similar comment appeared in prior reports.

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 Special Districts, Chapter 10)

ANNUAL REPORTS NOT FILED TIMELY

The 2009 and 2010 Annual Financial Reports for South Vigo Township Fire District were not filed electronically.

Indiana Code 5-11-1-4 states:

"The state examiner shall require from every municipality and every state or local governmental unit, entity, or instrumentality financial reports covering the full period of each fiscal year. These reports shall be prepared, verified, and filed with the state examiner not later than sixty (60) days after the close of each fiscal year. The reports must be filed electronically, in a manner prescribed by the state examiner that is compatible with the technology employed by the political subdivision."

SOUTH VIGO TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT
EXAMINATION RESULTS AND COMMENTS
(Continued)

CONTRACTS

Records presented for examination indicate payments were made to Vigo Township Volunteer Fire Department for \$35,000 in 2007, \$35,000 in 2008, and \$45,000 in 2009, without a contract. A similar comment appeared in prior reports.

Payments made or received for contractual services should be supported by a written contract. Each governmental unit is responsible for complying with the provisions of its contracts. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Special Districts, Chapter 10)

DEPOSITS

In numerous instances in 2010, receipts were deposited later than the next business day.

Indiana Code 5-13-6-1(a) states: "All public funds paid into . . . the treasuries of the respective political subdivisions shall be deposited not later than the business day following the receipt of funds on business days of the depository . . ."

Indiana Code 5-13-6-1(c) states: ". . . all local officers, . . . who collect public funds of their respective political subdivisions, shall deposit funds not later than the business day following the receipt of funds on business days of the depository . . ."

TIMELY RECORDKEEPING

The ledger for 2011 has not been posted as of the current date.

All documents and entries to records should be done in a timely manner to ensure that accurate financial information is available to allow the governmental unit to make informed management decisions and to help ensure compliance with IC 5-15-1-1 et seq., commonly referred to as the Public Records Law. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Special Districts, Chapter 10)

SOUTH VIGO TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT
EXIT CONFERENCE

The contents of this report were discussed on October 18, 2011, with Donald L. Pieper, Treasurer. The official concurred with our findings.