

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

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS EXAMINATION REPORT

OF

CALIFORNIA TOWNSHIP

STARKE COUNTY, INDIANA

January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2011



**FILED**  
10/31/2012



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SCHEDULE OF OFFICIALS

<u>Office</u>	<u>Official</u>	<u>Term</u>
Trustee	Judy Ahlenius	01-01-07 to 12-31-14
Chairman of the Township Board	Beverly Minix	01-01-10 to 02-24-12
	(Vacant)	02-25-12 to 09-11-12
	Harrison Fields	09-12-12 to 12-31-12



**STATE OF INDIANA**  
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT

TO: THE OFFICIALS OF CALIFORNIA TOWNSHIP, STARKE COUNTY, INDIANA

We have examined the accompanying financial statements of California Township (Township), for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2011. The financial statements are the responsibility of the Township's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements 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 Township 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 Township for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2011, on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

Our examination was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the Township's financial statements. The Combining Schedules of Receipts, Disbursements, and Cash and Investment Balances – Regulatory Basis, and Schedule of Capital Assets, as listed in the Table of Contents, are presented for additional analysis and are not required parts of the financial statements. They have not been subjected to the examination procedures applied to the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Township's management, Township Board, and others within the entity 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

September 13, 2012

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## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

CALIFORNIA TOWNSHIP, STARKE COUNTY  
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CASH AND INVESTMENT BALANCES -  
REGULATORY BASIS  
For The Year Ended December 31, 2010

Fund	Cash and Investments 01-01-10	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-10
Township	\$ 134,363	\$ 81,913	\$ 59,843	\$ 156,433
Township Assistance	21,438	6,023	2,840	24,621
Fire Fighting	883,794	313,078	166,811	1,030,061
Levy Excess	8,542	645	8,542	645
Rainy Day	733	2,331	220	2,844
Totals	<u>\$ 1,048,870</u>	<u>\$ 403,990</u>	<u>\$ 238,256</u>	<u>\$ 1,214,604</u>

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

CALIFORNIA TOWNSHIP, STARKE COUNTY  
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CASH AND INVESTMENT BALANCES -  
REGULATORY BASIS  
For The Year Ended December 31, 2011

Fund	Cash and Investments 01-01-11	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-11
Township	\$ 156,433	\$ 79,233	\$ 65,464	\$ 170,202
Township Assistance	24,621	5,527	6,635	23,513
Fire Fighting	1,030,060	300,882	522,520	808,422
Rainy Day	2,844	-	-	2,844
Levy Excess	645	-	645	-
Totals	<u>\$ 1,214,603</u>	<u>\$ 385,642</u>	<u>\$ 595,264</u>	<u>\$ 1,004,981</u>

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

CALIFORNIA TOWNSHIP, STARKE COUNTY  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

*A. Reporting Entity*

The Township was established under the laws of the State of Indiana. The Township operates under a township trustee/township board form of government and provides some or all of the following services: public safety (fire), health and social services (township assistance), culture and recreation (parks and/or community centers), and general administrative services (weed and dog control).

The accompanying financial statements present the financial information for the Township.

*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 include 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 Township.

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.

CALIFORNIA TOWNSHIP, STARKE COUNTY  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
(Continued)

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.

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 include 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.

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

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 Township 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 Township. 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 Township. 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

CALIFORNIA TOWNSHIP, STARKE COUNTY  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
(Continued)

account for assets held by the Township 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 Township 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 Township 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.

**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 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 5. Risk Management**

The Township 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 Township 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.

## SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION – UNAUDITED

For additional financial information, the Township's 2010 Annual Report can be found on the Indiana Transparency Portal website: [www.in.gov/itp/annual\\_reports/](http://www.in.gov/itp/annual_reports/).

For additional financial information, the Township's 2011 Annual Report information can be found on the Gateway website: <https://gateway.ifionline.org/>.

Differences may be noted between the financial information presented in the financial statements contained in this report and the financial information presented in the Annual Reports of the Township which are referenced above. These differences, if any, are due to adjustments made to the financial information during the course of the examination. This is a common occurrence in any financial statement examination. The financial information presented in this report is examined information, and the accuracy of such information can be determined by reading the opinion given in the Independent Accountant's Report.

The supplementary information presented was approved by management of the Township. It is presented as intended by the Township.

CALIFORNIA TOWNSHIP, STARKE COUNTY  
 COMBINING SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND  
 CASH AND INVESTMENT BALANCES - REGULATORY BASIS  
 For The Year Ended December 31, 2010

	Township	Township Assistance	Fire Fighting	Levy Excess	Rainy Day	Totals
Cash and investments - beginning	\$ 134,363	\$ 21,438	\$ 883,794	\$ 8,542	\$ 733	\$ 1,048,870
Receipts:						
Taxes	74,861	5,954	276,709	645	2,331	360,500
Charges for services	-	-	28,500	-	-	28,500
Other receipts	7,052	69	7,869	-	-	14,990
Total receipts	<u>81,913</u>	<u>6,023</u>	<u>313,078</u>	<u>645</u>	<u>2,331</u>	<u>403,990</u>
Disbursements:						
Personal services	20,614	-	-	-	-	20,614
Supplies	2,778	-	22,598	-	-	25,376
Other services and charges	28,239	-	89,754	-	-	117,993
Capital outlay	8,212	-	54,459	-	-	62,671
Other disbursements	-	2,840	-	8,542	220	11,602
Total disbursements	<u>59,843</u>	<u>2,840</u>	<u>166,811</u>	<u>8,542</u>	<u>220</u>	<u>238,256</u>
Excess (deficiency) of receipts over disbursements	<u>22,070</u>	<u>3,183</u>	<u>146,267</u>	<u>(7,897)</u>	<u>2,111</u>	<u>165,734</u>
Cash and investments - ending	<u>\$ 156,433</u>	<u>\$ 24,621</u>	<u>\$ 1,030,061</u>	<u>\$ 645</u>	<u>\$ 2,844</u>	<u>\$ 1,214,604</u>

CALIFORNIA TOWNSHIP, STARKE COUNTY  
 COMBINING SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND  
 CASH AND INVESTMENT BALANCES - REGULATORY BASIS  
 For The Year Ended December 31, 2011

	Township	Township Assistance	Fire Fighting	Rainy Day	Levy Excess	Totals
Cash and investments - beginning	\$ 156,433	\$ 24,621	\$ 1,030,060	\$ 2,844	\$ 645	\$ 1,214,603
Receipts:						
Taxes	57,290	5,130	235,315	-	-	297,735
Intergovernmental	15,884	307	35,323	-	-	51,514
Charges for services	4,600	-	28,400	-	-	33,000
Other receipts	1,459	90	1,844	-	-	3,393
Total receipts	<u>79,233</u>	<u>5,527</u>	<u>300,882</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>385,642</u>
Disbursements:						
Personal services	20,957	-	-	-	-	20,957
Supplies	2,069	-	17,151	-	-	19,220
Other services and charges	39,629	6,635	96,678	-	-	142,942
Capital outlay	2,809	-	408,691	-	-	411,500
Other disbursements	-	-	-	-	645	645
Total disbursements	<u>65,464</u>	<u>6,635</u>	<u>522,520</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>645</u>	<u>595,264</u>
Excess (deficiency) of receipts over disbursements	<u>13,769</u>	<u>(1,108)</u>	<u>(221,638)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(645)</u>	<u>(209,622)</u>
Cash and investments - ending	<u>\$ 170,202</u>	<u>\$ 23,513</u>	<u>\$ 808,422</u>	<u>\$ 2,844</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,004,981</u>

CALIFORNIA TOWNSHIP, STARKE COUNTY  
SCHEDULE OF CAPITAL ASSETS  
December 31, 2011

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.

	<u>Ending Balance</u>
Governmental activities:	
Land	\$ 13,500
Buildings	650,000
Machinery, equipment and vehicles	<u>2,294,946</u>
Total capital assets	<u>\$ 2,958,446</u>

CALIFORNIA TOWNSHIP, STARKE COUNTY  
EXAMINATION RESULTS AND COMMENTS

**DEPOSITS**

Many of the duplicate receipts did not show payment type. For example, receipt numbers 397 to 403 included three receipts that showed type of payment and four which did not show type of payment. We were unable to verify that receipts were deposited in the same form in which they were received.

Indiana Code 5-13-6-1(c) states in part: "Public funds deposited . . . shall be deposited in the same form in which they were received."

**DEPOSIT OF PUBLIC FUNDS**

We noted several instances in which the trustee did not make deposits on or before the fifteenth day following the receipt date. For the seven receipts tested, four were not deposited on or before the fifteenth day following the receipt date.

Indiana Code 5-13-6-1(c) states in part: "The public funds collected by township trustees shall be deposited in the designated depository on or before the first and fifteenth day of each month."

**ADVANCE PAYMENT**

On November 7, 2011, the trustee issued two checks totaling \$367,500 to Fire Service Inc., for two new fire trucks, a brush truck and a tanker. The bids for these trucks were approved at the November 7, 2011, board meeting. The vehicles were received in 2012.

At its October 18, 2011 meeting, the Township Board opened bids for the new fire trucks. The minutes show bids from Fire Service Inc., were \$107,220 and \$283,200 for the brush truck and tanker, respectively, which total \$390,420. Page two of the Fire Service Inc., sales contract shows a total price of \$109,970 and \$289,950, respectively, if paid at time of delivery. The sales contract also shows a price of \$97,550 and \$269,950, respectively, (which total \$367,500) if prepayment is paid within 30 days of contract signing.

The October 18, 2011 meeting minutes show one other bid for the brush truck in the amount of \$82,351 and two other bids for the tanker, \$258,658 and \$269,449. The minutes show much discussion and reasoning on from which vendor to purchase the trucks.

The trustee explained that the Township Board considered the risks of prepaying versus the cost savings and decided that the Township would achieve a large savings by prepaying.

Compensation and any other payments for goods and services should not be paid in advance of receipt of the goods or services unless specifically authorized by statute. Payments made for goods or services which are not received may be the personal obligation of the responsible official or employee. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Townships, Chapter 13)

CALIFORNIA TOWNSHIP, STARKE COUNTY  
EXIT CONFERENCE

The contents of this report were discussed on September 13, 2012, with Judy Ahlenius, Trustee.