

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

FINANCIAL STATEMENT EXAMINATION REPORT

OF

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP

PORTER COUNTY, INDIANA

January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2012



FILED

04/17/2013

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Description</u>	<u>Page</u>
Schedule of Officials	2
Independent Accountant's Report.....	3
Financial Statement:	
Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Cash and Investment Balances - Regulatory Basis.....	6
Notes to Financial Statement.....	7-10
Supplementary Information - Unaudited:	
Combining Schedules of Receipts, Disbursements, and Cash and Investment Balances - Regulatory Basis	12-14
Examination Results and Comments:	
Receipt Issuance	15
Attorney Payments	15
Exit Conference.....	16

SCHEDULE OF OFFICIALS

<u>Office</u>	<u>Official</u>	<u>Term</u>
Trustee	Margaret Ruge Beth Underwood	01-01-07 to 12-31-10 01-01-11 to 12-31-14
Chairman of the Township Board	Jacqueline M. Sterling Edward Seykowski	01-01-10 to 12-31-10 01-01-11 to 12-31-13



STATE OF INDIANA
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

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 LIBERTY TOWNSHIP, PORTER COUNTY, INDIANA

We have examined the accompanying financial statement of Liberty Township (Township), for the period of January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2012. The financial statement is the responsibility of the Township's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statement 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 statement 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 statement 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 effects on the financial statement of the variances between these regulatory accounting practices and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, although not reasonably determinable, are presumed to be material. The basis noted above is a different basis than that used in the prior period.

In our opinion, because of the matter discussed in the preceding paragraph, the financial statement referred to above does not present fairly, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position and results of operations of the Township for the period of January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2012.

In our opinion, the financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position and results of operations of the Township for the period of January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2012, 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 statement. The Combining Schedules of Receipts, Disbursements, and Cash and Investment Balances – Regulatory Basis, as listed in the Table of Contents, are presented for additional analysis and are not required parts of the financial statement. They have not been subjected to the examination procedures applied to the financial statement and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

Bruce Hartman
State Examiner

March 5, 2013

(This page intentionally left blank.)

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

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

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP, PORTER COUNTY
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CASH AND INVESTMENT BALANCES -
REGULATORY BASIS
For The Years Ended December 31, 2010, 2011, and 2012

Fund	Cash and Investments 01-01-10	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-10
Township	\$ 68,516	\$ 60,643	\$ 51,686	\$ 77,473
Township Assistance	53,117	73,328	96,084	30,361
Fire Fighting	115,239	228,850	206,806	137,283
Levy Excess	-	1,029	-	1,029
Cumulative Fire	<u>389,130</u>	<u>74,634</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>463,764</u>
Totals	<u>\$ 626,002</u>	<u>\$ 438,484</u>	<u>\$ 354,576</u>	<u>\$ 709,910</u>

Fund	Cash and Investments 01-01-11	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-11
Township	\$ 77,473	\$ 59,525	\$ 55,754	\$ 81,244
Township Assistance	30,361	68,637	58,429	40,569
Fire Fighting	137,283	214,540	219,530	132,293
Levy Excess	1,029	-	1,029	-
Cumulative Fire	<u>463,764</u>	<u>51,347</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>515,111</u>
Totals	<u>\$ 709,910</u>	<u>\$ 394,049</u>	<u>\$ 334,742</u>	<u>\$ 769,217</u>

Fund	Cash and Investments 01-01-12	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-12
Township	\$ 81,244	\$ 64,212	\$ 57,690	\$ 87,766
Township Assistance	40,569	72,482	60,191	52,860
Fire Fighting	132,293	220,354	219,530	133,117
Levy Excess	-	-	-	-
Cumulative Fire	<u>515,111</u>	<u>48,152</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>563,263</u>
Totals	<u>\$ 769,217</u>	<u>\$ 405,200</u>	<u>\$ 337,411</u>	<u>\$ 837,006</u>

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

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP, PORTER COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT

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) and health and social services (township assistance).

The accompanying financial statement presents the financial information for the Township.

B. Basis of Accounting

The financial statement is 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 statement. 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.

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.

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP, PORTER COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT
(Continued)

E. Disbursements

Disbursements are presented in the aggregate on the face of the financial statement. 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.

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 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.

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP, PORTER COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT
(Continued)

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 statement. The purpose of participation in a risk pool is to provide a medium for the funding and administration of the risks.

Note 6. *Pension Plan*

Public Employees' Retirement Fund

Plan Description

The Indiana Public Employees' Retirement Fund (PERF) is 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 Indiana Public Retirement System (INPRS) Board, most requirements of the system, and give the Township authority to contribute to the plan. The PERF retirement benefit consists of the pension provided

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP, PORTER COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT
(Continued)

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 percent of compensation, plus the interest credited to the member's account. The employer may elect to make the contributions on behalf of the member.

INPRS 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:

Indiana Public Retirement System
1 North Capital Street, Suite 001
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Ph. (888) 526-1687

Funding Policy and Annual Pension Cost

The contribution requirements of the plan members for PERF are established by the Board of Trustees of INPRS.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION – UNAUDITED

For additional financial information, the Township's Annual Reports for years prior to 2011 can be found on the Indiana Transparency Portal website: www.in.gov/itp/annual_reports/.

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

Differences may be noted between the financial information presented in the financial statement 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.

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP, PORTER 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	Cumulative Fire	Totals
Cash and investments - beginning	\$ 68,516	\$ 53,117	\$ 115,239	\$ -	\$ 389,130	\$ 626,002
Receipts:						
Taxes	52,278	64,428	190,172	1,029	47,451	355,358
Intergovernmental	7,590	8,900	28,678	-	7,183	52,351
Other receipts	775	-	10,000	-	20,000	30,775
Total receipts	<u>60,643</u>	<u>73,328</u>	<u>228,850</u>	<u>1,029</u>	<u>74,634</u>	<u>438,484</u>
Disbursements:						
Personal services	45,460	-	-	-	-	45,460
Supplies	870	-	-	-	-	870
Other services and charges	5,356	66,084	206,806	-	-	278,246
Other disbursements	-	30,000	-	-	-	30,000
Total disbursements	<u>51,686</u>	<u>96,084</u>	<u>206,806</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>354,576</u>
Excess (deficiency) of receipts over disbursements	<u>8,957</u>	<u>(22,756)</u>	<u>22,044</u>	<u>1,029</u>	<u>74,634</u>	<u>83,908</u>
Cash and investments - ending	<u>\$ 77,473</u>	<u>\$ 30,361</u>	<u>\$ 137,283</u>	<u>\$ 1,029</u>	<u>\$ 463,764</u>	<u>\$ 709,910</u>

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

	<u>Township</u>	<u>Township Assistance</u>	<u>Fire Fighting</u>	<u>Levy Excess</u>	<u>Cumulative Fire</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Cash and investments - beginning	\$ 77,473	\$ 30,361	\$ 137,283	\$ 1,029	\$ 463,764	\$ 709,910
Receipts:						
Taxes	52,023	61,690	191,473	-	45,826	351,012
Intergovernmental	5,858	6,947	23,067	-	5,521	41,393
Other receipts	1,644	-	-	-	-	1,644
Total receipts	<u>59,525</u>	<u>68,637</u>	<u>214,540</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>51,347</u>	<u>394,049</u>
Disbursements:						
Personal services	45,461	-	-	-	-	45,461
Supplies	449	-	-	-	-	449
Other services and charges	9,844	58,429	219,530	-	-	287,803
Other disbursements	-	-	-	1,029	-	1,029
Total disbursements	<u>55,754</u>	<u>58,429</u>	<u>219,530</u>	<u>1,029</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>334,742</u>
Excess (deficiency) of receipts over disbursements	<u>3,771</u>	<u>10,208</u>	<u>(4,990)</u>	<u>(1,029)</u>	<u>51,347</u>	<u>59,307</u>
Cash and investments - ending	<u>\$ 81,244</u>	<u>\$ 40,569</u>	<u>\$ 132,293</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 515,111</u>	<u>\$ 769,217</u>

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP, PORTER COUNTY
 COMBINING SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND
 CASH AND INVESTMENT BALANCES - REGULATORY BASIS
 For The Year Ended December 31, 2012

	<u>Township</u>	<u>Township Assistance</u>	<u>Fire Fighting</u>	<u>Levy Excess</u>	<u>Cumulative Fire</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Cash and investments - beginning	\$ 81,244	\$ 40,569	\$ 132,293	\$ -	\$ 515,111	\$ 769,217
Receipts:						
Taxes	56,654	64,484	194,759	-	42,559	358,456
Intergovernmental	7,027	7,998	25,595	-	5,593	46,213
Other receipts	531	-	-	-	-	531
Total receipts	<u>64,212</u>	<u>72,482</u>	<u>220,354</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>48,152</u>	<u>405,200</u>
Disbursements:						
Personal services	47,441	-	-	-	-	47,441
Supplies	1,051	-	-	-	-	1,051
Other services and charges	9,198	60,191	219,530	-	-	288,919
Other disbursements	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total disbursements	<u>57,690</u>	<u>60,191</u>	<u>219,530</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>337,411</u>
Excess (deficiency) of receipts over disbursements	<u>6,522</u>	<u>12,291</u>	<u>824</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>48,152</u>	<u>67,789</u>
Cash and investments - ending	<u>\$ 87,766</u>	<u>\$ 52,860</u>	<u>\$ 133,117</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 563,263</u>	<u>\$ 837,006</u>

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP, PORTER COUNTY
EXAMINATION RESULTS AND COMMENTS

RECEIPT ISSUANCE

The Township failed to prepare receipts when the Township received electronic funds transfers (EFTs), direct deposits, and earned interest.

Receipts shall be issued and recorded at the time of the transaction; for example, when cash or a check is received, a receipt is to be immediately prepared and given to the person making payment. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Townships, Chapter 13)

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)

ATTORNEY PAYMENTS

The Township paid \$800 annually to an attorney for the years 2010, 2011, and 2012 without providing a Form 1099-MISC to the attorney or to the IRS as required.

According to the instructions for IRS Form 1099-Misc.: "Payments to attorneys. The term attorney includes a law firm or other provider of legal services. Attorneys' fees of \$600 or more paid in the course of your trade or business are reportable in box 7 of Form 1099-MISC."

All compensation and benefits paid to officials and employees must be included in the labor contract, salary ordinance, resolution, or salary schedule adopted by the governing body unless otherwise authorized by statute. Compensation should be made in a manner that will facilitate compliance with state and federal reporting requirements. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Townships, Chapter 17)

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)

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP, PORTER COUNTY
EXIT CONFERENCE

The contents of this report were discussed on March 5, 2013, with Beth Underwood, Trustee.