

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

AUDIT REPORT

OF

COUNTY AUDITOR

JASPER COUNTY, INDIANA

January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012



FILED
10/08/2013

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COUNTY OFFICIALS

<u>Office</u>	<u>Official</u>	<u>Term</u>
Auditor	Donya Jordan Kimberly Grow	01-01-05 to 12-31-12 01-01-13 to 12-31-16
President of the County Council	Ronald Siphema	01-01-12 to 12-31-13
President of the Board of County Commissioners	Kendell Culp	01-01-12 to 12-31-13



STATE OF INDIANA
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

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TO: THE OFFICIALS OF JASPER COUNTY

We have audited the records of the Jasper County Auditor for the period from January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012, and certify that the records and accountability for cash and other assets are satisfactory to the best of our knowledge and belief, except as stated in the Audit Results and Comments. The financial transactions of this office are reflected in the Annual Report of Jasper County for the year 2012.

STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS

September 19, 2013

COUNTY AUDITOR
JASPER COUNTY
AUDIT RESULTS AND COMMENTS

INTERNAL CONTROLS OVER FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS AND REPORTING

We noted several deficiencies in the internal control system of the County related to financial transactions and reporting. We believe the following deficiencies constitute material weaknesses:

1. **Lack of Segregation of Duties:** Control activities should be selected and developed at various levels of the County to reduce risks to the achievement of financial reporting objectives. The County has not separated incompatible activities related to receipts, disbursements, payroll and related liabilities, and cash and investment balances. The failure to establish these controls could enable material misstatements or irregularities to remain undetected.
2. **Preparing Financial Statements:** Effective internal control over financial reporting involves the identification and analysis of the risks of material misstatement to the County's audited financial statements and then determining how those identified risks should be managed. The County has not identified risks to the preparation of reliable financial statements and as a result has failed to design effective controls over the preparation of the financial statements to prevent or detect material misstatements, including notes to the financial statements.
3. **Monitoring of Controls:** Effective internal control over financial reporting requires the County Commissioners to monitor and assess the quality of the County's system of internal control. The County Commissioners have not performed either an ongoing or separate evaluation of their system of internal controls. The failure to exercise their oversight responsibility places the County at risk that controls may not be designed or operating effectively to provide reasonable assurance that controls will prevent or detect material misstatements in a timely manner. Additionally, the County has no process to identify or communicate corrective actions to improve controls.

Governmental units should have internal controls in effect which provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial information and records, effectiveness and efficiency of operations, proper execution of management's objectives, and compliance with laws and regulations. Among other things, segregation of duties, safeguarding controls over cash and all other assets and all forms of information processing are necessary for proper internal control.

Controls over the receipting, disbursing, recording and accounting for the financial activities are necessary to avoid substantial risk of invalid transactions, inaccurate records and financial statements and incorrect decision making. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for County Auditors of Indiana, Chapter 14)

COUNTY AUDITOR
JASPER COUNTY
AUDIT RESULTS AND COMMENTS
(Continued)

INTERNAL CONTROLS OVER THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS

The County did not have a proper system on internal control in place to prevent or detect and correct errors on the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA). The County should have proper controls in place over the preparation of the SEFA to ensure accurate reporting of federal awards. Without a proper system of internal control in place that operates effectively, material misstatements of the SEFA could remain undetected.

Governmental units should have internal controls in effect which provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial information and records, effectiveness and efficiency of operations, proper execution of management's objectives, and compliance with laws and regulations. Among other things, segregation of duties, safeguarding controls over cash and all other assets and all forms of information processing are necessary for proper internal control.

Controls over receipting, disbursing, recording and accounting for the financial activities are necessary to avoid substantial risk of invalid transactions, inaccurate records and financial statements and incorrect decision making. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for County Auditors of Indiana, Chapter 14)

COUNTY AUDITOR
JASPER COUNTY
EXIT CONFERENCE

The contents of this report were discussed on September 19, 2013, with Kimberly Grow, Auditor; and Kendell Culp, President of the Board of County Commissioners.