



STATE OF INDIANA
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS
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December 19, 2023

TO: THE OFFICIALS OF GRASS TOWNSHIP, SPENCER COUNTY, INDIANA

As authorized under Indiana Code 5-11-1, we performed certain procedures to the accounting records and related documents of Grass Township (Township), Spencer County, for the period of January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2022, to determine compliance with applicable Indiana laws and uniform compliance guidelines established by the Indiana State Board of Accounts.

Management is responsible for preparing and maintaining its accounting records and related documents, as well as compliance with applicable state laws and uniform compliance guidelines established by the Indiana State Board of Accounts.

The Township's Annual Financial Reports filed by management can be found on the Gateway Website: www.gateway.ifionline.org.

The Comments contained herein describe the identified reportable instances of noncompliance found as a result of the procedures we performed. Our procedures were not designed to identify all instances of noncompliance; therefore, noncompliance may exist that is unidentified.

Comments

ADOPTION OF INTERNAL CONTROL STANDARDS

A similar comment also appeared in prior Report B54984, entitled *ADOPTION OF AND TRAINING ON INTERNAL CONTROL STANDARDS*.

Condition and Context

The Township had not adopted the acceptable minimum level of internal control standards as defined by the Indiana State Board of Accounts.

Criteria

Indiana Code 5-11-1-27(g) states in part:

"After June 30, 2016, the legislative body of a political subdivision shall ensure that:

- (1) the internal control standards and procedures developed under subsection (e) are adopted by the political subdivision; . . ."

CERTIFICATION ON INTERNAL CONTROL STANDARDS

A similar comment also appeared in prior Report B54984, entitled *CERTIFICATION OF INTERNAL CONTROL STANDARDS*.

Condition and Context

The Township certified on the Indiana Gateway for Government Units financial reporting system that it had adopted the minimum internal control standards as required by Indiana Code 5-11-1-27(e); however, during the engagement, the Trustee indicated that the Township had not adopted the minimum internal control standards.

Criteria

Indiana Code 5-11-1-4(a) states:

"The state examiner shall require from every audited entity 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 in the form and content prescribed by the state examiner and filed electronically in the manner prescribed under [IC 5-14-3.8-7](#)."

MONTHLY AND ANNUAL UPLOADS

Condition and Context

The files and governmental unit information that are required to be uploaded monthly include the bank reconciliations, approved Township Board minutes and the funds ledger, summarizing total receipts, disbursements, and balances by fund.

Annual upload requirements include the year-end bank statement, year-end outstanding check list, year-end investments, detail of receipt activity, detail of disbursement activity, current year salary ordinance, and an annual vendor history report.

The Township did not comply with the State Examiner Directive and failed to upload any of the monthly and annual files on the Indiana Gateway for Government Units financial reporting system for 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022.

Criteria

All counties, cities, towns, townships, libraries, schools, and special districts will use the Engagement Uploads to upload files containing financial and governmental unit information on Gateway to allow the SBOA to conduct audit planning and audit processes prior to on-site work at a unit. This remote process will provide for more efficient data processing and save audit costs for our clients.

A user guide for the Engagement Uploads is available and located at: <https://gateway.ifionline.org/userguides/engagementguide>. It is pertinent that this user guide be used in conjunction with this Directive. It provides critical information to you that will help guide you to uploading the correct documents.

(Amended State Examiner Directive 2018-1)

Units are required to comply with all grant agreements, rules, regulations, bulletins, directives, letters, letter rulings, court decisions and filing requirements concerning reports and other procedural matters of federal and state agencies. Units must file accurate reports required by federal and state agencies. Noncompliance may require corrective action. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Townships, Chapter 1)

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

The same comment also appeared in prior Report B54984.

Condition and Context

The Township was not able to provide supporting documentation for 2 out of 25 disbursements tested.

Criteria

Supporting documentation such as receipts, canceled checks, tickets, invoices, bills, contracts, and other public records must be available for examination to provide supporting information for the validity and accountability of monies disbursed. Payments without supporting documentation may be the personal obligation of the responsible official or employee. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Townships, Chapter 1)

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, governance, and others within the organization. This restriction is not intended to limit the distribution of this report, which is a matter of public record.

The Schedule of Cash and Investment Balances - Regulatory Basis is presented as other information. It has not been subjected to any auditing procedures, and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on it.

SCHEDULE OF CASH AND INVESTMENT BALANCES - REGULATORY BASIS For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Fund	Cash and Investments 12-31-22
Township	\$ 39,766
Park and Recreation	2,695
Township Assistance	18,520
Fire Fighting	92,598
Excess LOIT	1,985
Excess Levy	49,417
Cumulative Fire	<u>344,813</u>
Total	<u>\$ 549,794</u>

Any Official Response to the Comments, incorporated within this report, was not verified for accuracy.

The contents of this report were communicated to LeGeanne Thomas, Trustee, and Raymond Lynam, Chair of the Township Board, on December 12, 2023.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Beth Kelley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "B".

Beth Kelley, CPA, CFE
Deputy State Examiner