

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

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT REPORT  
OF  
TRI-TOWNSHIP FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
CLARK COUNTY, INDIANA  
January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2022



**FILED**  
10/19/2023



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SCHEDULE OF OFFICIALS

<u>Office</u>	<u>Official</u>	<u>Term</u>
Fiscal Officer	David Schickel, Jr.	01-01-21 to 12-31-23
President of the District Board	Dale P. Cooke	01-01-21 to 12-31-23



## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO: THE OFFICIALS OF THE TRI-TOWNSHIP FIRE PROTECTION  
DISTRICT, CLARK COUNTY, INDIANA

### ***Adverse and Unmodified Opinions***

We have audited the accompanying financial statement of the Tri-Township Fire Protection District (District), which comprises the financial position and results of operations for the period of January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statement as listed in the Table of Contents.

#### *Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles*

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the *Basis for Adverse and Unmodified Opinions* section of our report, the financial statement referred to above does not present fairly, the financial position and results of operations of the District for the period of January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2022, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### *Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting*

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position and results of operations of the District, for the period of January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2022, in accordance with the financial reporting provisions of the Indiana State Board of Accounts described in Note 1.

### ***Basis for Adverse and Unmodified Opinions***

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statement* section of our report. We are required to be independent of the District, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

#### *Matter Giving Rise to Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles*

As discussed in Note 1 to the financial statement, the District prepares its financial statement on the prescribed basis of accounting that demonstrates compliance with the reporting requirements established by the Indiana State Board of Accounts as allowed by state statute (IC 5-11-1-6), which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The effects on the financial statements of the variances between the regulatory basis of accounting described in Note 1 and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, although not reasonably determinable, are presumed to be material.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT  
(Continued)

***Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statement***

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statement in accordance with the financial reporting provisions of the Indiana State Board of Accounts as allowed by state statute (IC 5-11-1-6). Management is responsible for and has determined that the regulatory basis of accounting, as established by the Indiana State Board of Accounts, is an acceptable basis of presentation. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statement***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not absolute assurance, and, therefore, is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment of a reasonable user based on the financial statement.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statement, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statement.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT  
(Continued)

**Required Supplementary Information**

Financial reporting requirements established by the Indiana State Board of Accounts, as described in Note 1, require that the Combining Schedules of Receipts, Disbursements, and Cash and Investment Balances - Regulatory Basis be presented to supplement the basic financial statement. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statement, is required by reporting requirements established by the Indiana State Board of Accounts who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statement in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statement, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statement. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

**Other Information**

Management is responsible for the other information included in the Annual Financial Report. The other information comprises the Schedule of Leases and Debt and Schedule of Capital Assets, as listed in the Table of Contents, but does not include the basic financial statement and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinions on the basic financial statement do not cover the other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the basic financial statement, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statement, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we concluded that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.



Beth Kelley, CPA, CFE  
Deputy State Examiner

October 12, 2023

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FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND ACCOMPANYING NOTES; REQUIRED  
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION; AND OTHER INFORMATION

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

The District's Annual Financial Reports information can be found on the Indiana Gateway for Government Units 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 District's Annual Financial Reports referenced above. These differences, if any, are due to adjustments made to the financial information during the course of the audit. This is a common occurrence in any financial statement audit. The financial information presented in this report is audited information, and the accuracy of such information can be determined by reading the opinion given in the Independent Auditor's Report.

The other information presented was approved by management of the District. It is presented as intended by the District.

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TRI-TOWNSHIP FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
 STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS,  
 AND CASH AND INVESTMENT BALANCES -  
 REGULATORY BASIS  
 For the Years Ended December 31, 2021 and 2022

Fund	Cash and Investments 01-01-21	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-21	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-22
Rainy Day Township Fund	\$ 569	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 569	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 569
Cumulative Township Fund	293,035	146,734	296,227	143,542	476,628	398,592	221,578
Grants Fund	-	5,000	5,000	-	-	-	-
General Obligation Bonds Fund	-	-	-	-	3,148,200	989,991	2,158,209
Donations Fund	-	1,000	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
General Township Fund	<u>392,057</u>	<u>1,795,185</u>	<u>1,464,944</u>	<u>722,298</u>	<u>1,822,263</u>	<u>1,619,557</u>	<u>925,004</u>
Totals	<u>\$ 685,661</u>	<u>\$ 1,947,919</u>	<u>\$ 1,766,171</u>	<u>\$ 867,409</u>	<u>\$ 5,447,091</u>	<u>\$ 3,008,140</u>	<u>\$ 3,306,360</u>

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

TRI-TOWNSHIP FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT

**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 a governing board.

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

**B. Basis of Accounting**

The financial statement is reported on a regulatory basis of accounting prescribed by the Indiana 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. The basis of accounting involves the reporting of only cash and investments and the changes therein resulting from cash inflows (receipts) and cash outflows (disbursements) reported in the period in which they occurred.

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.* Amounts received from one or more of the following: property tax, wheel tax, innkeeper's 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.

*Intergovernmental receipts.* Amounts received from other governments in the form of operating grants, entitlements, or payments in lieu of taxes. Examples of intergovernmental receipts include, but are not limited to, the following: local income tax, federal grants, state grants, cigarette tax distributions received from the state, motor vehicle highway distributions received from the state, local road and street distributions 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.* Amounts received for services including, but not limited to, the following: planning commission charges, building department charges, copies of public records, copy machines 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.

TRI-TOWNSHIP FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
(Continued)

*Other receipts.* Amounts received from various sources, including, but 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 statement. The aggregate disbursements include the following uses:

*Personal services.* Amounts disbursed 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.* Amounts disbursed for 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, but are not limited to, the following: office supplies, operating supplies, and repair and maintenance supplies.

*Other services and charges.* Amounts disbursed for services including, but not limited to, the following: professional services, communication and transportation, printing and advertising, insurance, utility services, repairs and maintenance, and rental charges.

*Debt service - principal and interest.* Amounts disbursed for 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.

*Capital outlay.* Amounts disbursed for land, infrastructure, buildings, improvements, and machinery and equipment having an appreciable and calculable period of usefulness.

*Other disbursements.* Amounts disbursed for various other purposes including, but 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, make transfers 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 amounts 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 amounts 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.

TRI-TOWNSHIP FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
(Continued)

**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 December 31 of the year preceding the budget year or January 15 of the budget year if the District is issuing debt after December 1 or intends on filing a shortfall appeal. These rates were based upon the assessed valuations adjusted for various tax credits from the preceding year's lien date of January 1. 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 District to invest in securities including, but not limited to, the following: 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 statement. The purpose of participation in a risk pool is to provide a medium for the funding and administration of the risks.

TRI-TOWNSHIP FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
(Continued)

**Note 6. Pension Plan**

*1977 Police Officers' and Firefighters' Pension and Disability Fund*

*Plan Description*

The 1977 Police Officers' and Firefighters' Pension and Disability Fund is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by the Indiana Public Retirement System (INPRS) for all police officers and firefighters hired after April 30, 1977, providing retirement, disability, and survivor benefits.

State statute (IC 36-8-8) regulates the operations of the system, including benefits, vesting, and requirements for contributions by employers and by employees. Covered employees may retire at age 52 with 20 years of service. An employee with 20 years of service may leave service, but will not receive benefits until reaching age 52.

*Financial Report*

INPRS 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  
One North Capitol, Suite 001  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
Ph. (844) 464-6777

*Contributions*

The contribution requirements of plan members and the District are established by the Board of Trustees of INPRS based on actuarial valuation. Employers may pay all or part of the member contribution for the member.

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REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

TRI-TOWNSHIP FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
 COMBINING SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS,  
 AND CASH AND INVESTMENT BALANCES -  
 REGULATORY BASIS  
 For the Year Ended December 31, 2021

	Rainy Day Township Fund	Cumulative Township Fund	Grants Fund	General Obligation Bonds Fund	Donations Fund	General Township Fund	Totals
Cash and investments - beginning	\$ 569	\$ 293,035	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 392,057	\$ 685,661
Receipts:							
Taxes	-	146,734	-	-	-	1,291,521	1,438,255
Intergovernmental receipts	-	-	-	-	-	502,054	502,054
Other receipts	-	-	5,000	-	1,000	1,610	7,610
Total receipts	-	146,734	5,000	-	1,000	1,795,185	1,947,919
Disbursements:							
Personal services	-	-	-	-	-	756,521	756,521
Supplies	-	-	-	-	-	45,479	45,479
Other services and charges	-	-	-	-	-	377,448	377,448
Debt service - principal and interest	-	-	-	-	-	193,142	193,142
Capital outlay	-	296,227	5,000	-	-	39,642	340,869
Other disbursements	-	-	-	-	-	52,712	52,712
Total disbursements	-	296,227	5,000	-	-	1,464,944	1,766,171
Excess (deficiency) of receipts over disbursements	-	(149,493)	-	-	1,000	330,241	181,748
Cash and investments - ending	\$ 569	\$ 143,542	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 722,298	\$ 867,409

TRI-TOWNSHIP FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
 COMBINING SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS,  
 AND CASH AND INVESTMENT BALANCES -  
 REGULATORY BASIS  
 For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

	Rainy Day Township Fund	Cumulative Township Fund	Grants Fund	General Obligation Bonds Fund	Donations Fund	General Township Fund	Totals
Cash and investments - beginning	\$ 569	\$ 143,542	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 722,298	\$ 867,409
Receipts:							
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	1,315,955	1,315,955
Intergovernmental receipts	-	476,628	-	-	-	497,308	973,936
Other receipts	-	-	-	3,148,200	-	9,000	3,157,200
Total receipts	-	476,628	-	3,148,200	-	1,822,263	5,447,091
Disbursements:							
Personal services	-	-	-	-	-	1,073,086	1,073,086
Supplies	-	-	-	-	-	77,347	77,347
Other services and charges	-	-	-	147,491	-	396,510	544,001
Debt service - principal and interest	-	145,566	-	-	-	-	145,566
Capital outlay	-	253,026	-	842,500	-	3,449	1,098,975
Other disbursements	-	-	-	-	-	69,165	69,165
Total disbursements	-	398,592	-	989,991	-	1,619,557	3,008,140
Excess (deficiency) of receipts over disbursements	-	78,036	-	2,158,209	-	202,706	2,438,951
Cash and investments - ending	\$ 569	\$ 221,578	\$ -	\$ 2,158,209	\$ 1,000	\$ 925,004	\$ 3,306,360

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OTHER INFORMATION

TRI-TOWNSHIP FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
 SCHEDULE OF LEASES AND DEBT  
 December 31, 2022

Lessor	Purpose	Annual Lease Payment	Lease Beginning Date	Lease Ending Date
Governmental activities:				
US Bancorp Government Leasing & Finance Inc.	Equipment	\$ 12,510	7/1/2020	7/1/2029
Total of annual lease payments		<u>\$ 12,510</u>		

Type	Description of Debt Purpose	Ending Principal Balance	Principal Due Within One Year
Governmental activities:			
General obligation bonds	Fire Truck Land Equipment	\$ 3,180,000	\$ 325,000
Notes and Loans Payable	2022 Ram 2500	89,580	-
Notes and Loans Payable	E-One CAFS Custom Pumper	92,625	61,292
Notes and Loans Payable	Low-Hosebed Pumper and KME Comm Tanker	<u>1,088,606</u>	<u>139,716</u>
Total governmental activities		<u>4,450,811</u>	<u>526,008</u>
Totals		<u>\$ 4,450,811</u>	<u>\$ 526,008</u>

TRI-TOWNSHIP FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
 SCHEDULE OF CAPITAL ASSETS  
 December 31, 2022

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	\$ 881,800
Buildings	667,700
Machinery, equipment, and vehicles	<u>3,481,762</u>
Total governmental activities	<u>5,031,262</u>
Total capital assets	<u><u>\$ 5,031,262</u></u>

## OTHER REPORTS

In addition to this report, other reports may have been issued for the District. All reports can be found on the Indiana State Board of Accounts' website: <http://www.in.gov/sboa/>.