

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

COMPLIANCE ENGAGEMENT REPORT

OF

JASPER COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

JASPER, INDIANA

January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2023



FILED
05/02/2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Description</u>	<u>Page</u>
Schedule of Officials	2
Compliance Report	3-4
Comments	5-6
Statements of Receipts, Disbursements, and Cash and Investment Balances - Regulatory Basis.....	9-11

SCHEDULE OF OFFICIALS

<u>Office</u>	<u>Official</u>	<u>Term</u>
Treasurer	Shelia Schroeder	11-01-17 to 06-19-19
	(Vacant)	06-20-19 to 07-30-19
	Shelby Keys	07-31-19 to 10-25-22
	(Vacant)	10-26-22 to 01-02-23
	Angela Courtney	01-03-23 to 12-31-24
President of the District Board	Mark Jordan	01-01-19 to 12-31-24



STATE OF INDIANA
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

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TO: THE OFFICIALS OF THE JASPER COUNTY SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT, JASPER COUNTY, INDIANA

As authorized under Indiana Code 5-11-1, we performed certain procedures to the accounting records and related documents of the Jasper County Soil and Water Conservation District (District), for the period of January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2023. The objective of this engagement was to determine compliance with applicable Indiana laws, regulations, and uniform compliance guidelines (Guidelines) established by the Indiana State Board of Accounts pursuant to Indiana Code 5-11-1-24. The objective of this engagement is not to opine on compliance or financial activity of the District as this engagement was not conducted in accordance with any standards established by an authoritative standard setting body, and, as such, we do not provide any opinions on compliance or financial activity.

Management is responsible for preparing and maintaining its accounting records and related documents in accordance with applicable Indiana laws, regulations, and Guidelines. Management's responsibility also includes, but is not limited to, complying with other applicable Indiana laws, regulations, and Guidelines concerning how it operates: authorized sources and uses of funds; what reports are required to be prepared and filed; and what depositories and investment types are allowable.

We fulfilled our responsibility as detailed in the first paragraph, using procedures that verified the appropriate accounting for and reporting of cash, receipts, and disbursements; and the appropriate sources and uses of funds in accordance with applicable Indiana laws, regulations, and Guidelines. Expanding the scope and nature of these procedures can and does occur in specific circumstances.

The Comments contained herein, if any, describe the identified reportable instances of noncompliance found during our engagement. Our procedures were not designed to identify all instances of noncompliance; therefore, noncompliance may exist that is unidentified. Any Official Response to the Comments incorporated within this report was not verified for accuracy.

The Schedule of Officials and Statements of Receipts, Disbursements, and Cash and Investment Balances - Regulatory Basis (Statements) are informational only. The Statements have not been subjected to any procedures designed to express an opinion or provide any assurance on them, and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on them.

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. Reports can be found on the Indiana State Board of Accounts' website: <http://www.in.gov/sboa/>, and the District's Annual Financial Reports filed by management can be found on the Indiana Gateway for Government Units financial reporting system website: <http://www.gateway.ifionline.org>.

The contents of this report were communicated to Angela Courtney, Treasurer, and Mark Jordan, President of the District Board, on April 29, 2024.



Beth Kelley, CPA, CFE
Deputy State Examiner

April 4, 2024

JASPER COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
COMMENTS

FINANCIAL REPORTING

Condition and Context

The District had not established effective internal controls over the Annual Financial Report (AFR) information entered into the Indiana Gateway for Government Units financial reporting system, which was the source of the District's financial statement. One employee entered and submitted the AFR without a review or approval process to ensure that the information was accurate.

For year ending December 31, 2019, receipts and disbursements were understated by \$75,647 and \$68,502, respectively, causing the ending cash and investment balance to be understated by \$7,145.

Adjustments were proposed, accepted by the District, and made to the financial statement.

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](#)."

The Indiana State Board of Accounts (SBOA) is required under Indiana Code 5-11-1-27(e) to define the acceptable minimum level of internal control standards. To provide clarifying guidance, the State Examiner compiled the standards contained in the manual, *Uniform Internal Control Standards for Indiana Political Subdivisions*. All political subdivisions subject to audit by SBOA are expected to adhere to these standards. The standards include adequate control activities. According to this manual:

"Control activities are the actions and tools established through policies and procedures that help to detect, prevent, or reduce the identified risks that interfere with the achievement of objectives. Detection activities are designed to identify unfavorable events in a timely manner whereas prevention activities are designed to deter the occurrence of an unfavorable event. Examples of these activities include reconciliations, authorizations, approval processes, performance reviews, and verification processes.

An integral part of the control activity component is segregation of duties. . . ."

GATEWAY MONTHLY AND ANNUAL UPLOADS

Condition and Context

Internal controls were not in place to ensure that the District complied with State Directive 2018-1. The District did not comply with the State Examiner Directive and failed to upload the required monthly and annual files on the Indiana Gateway for Government Units financial reporting system in a timely manner from September 2022 through December 2023.

JASPER COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
COMMENTS
(Continued)

Criteria

Beginning with July 2018 files, which will be due September 15, 2018, **all** cities, towns, townships, libraries, and special districts will use the Upload App to upload files containing financial and governmental unit information on Gateway to allow the State Board of Accounts (SBOA) to conduct audit planning and audit processes prior to on-site work at a unit. . . . (State Examiner Directive 2018-1)

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. (Amended State Examiner Directive 2018-1, updated November 9, 2020, and effective with uploads due February 15, 2021)

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 Special Districts, Chapter 1)

The Indiana State Board of Accounts (SBOA) is required under Indiana Code 5-11-1-27(e) to define the acceptable minimum level of internal control standards. To provide clarifying guidance, the State Examiner compiled the standards contained in the manual, *Uniform Internal Control Standards for Indiana Political Subdivisions*. All political subdivisions subject to audit by SBOA are expected to adhere to these standards. The standards include adequate control activities. According to this manual:

"Control activities are the actions and tools established through policies and procedures that help to detect, prevent, or reduce the identified risks that interfere with the achievement of objectives. Detection activities are designed to identify unfavorable events in a timely manner whereas prevention activities are designed to deter the occurrence of an unfavorable event. Examples of these activities include reconciliations, authorizations, approval processes, performance reviews, and verification processes.

An integral part of the control activity component is segregation of duties. . . .

There is an expectation of segregation of duties. If compensating controls are necessary, documentation should exist to identify both the areas where segregation of duties are not feasible or practical and the compensating controls implemented to mitigate the risk. . . ."

STATEMENTS OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CASH
AND INVESTMENT BALANCES - REGULATORY BASIS

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JASPER COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
 STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS,
 AND CASH AND INVESTMENT BALANCES -
 REGULATORY BASIS
 For the Years Ended December 31, 2019 and 2020

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Cash and Investments 01-01-19</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>Cash and Investments 12-31-19</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>Cash and Investments 12-31-20</u>
General	\$ 45,750	\$ 109,020	\$ 87,759	\$ 67,011	\$ 120,775	\$ 78,554	\$ 109,232
Totals	<u>\$ 45,750</u>	<u>\$ 109,020</u>	<u>\$ 87,759</u>	<u>\$ 67,011</u>	<u>\$ 120,775</u>	<u>\$ 78,554</u>	<u>\$ 109,232</u>

JASPER COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
 STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS,
 AND CASH AND INVESTMENT BALANCES -
 REGULATORY BASIS
 For the Years Ended December 31, 2021 and 2022

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Cash and Investments 01-01-21</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>Cash and Investments 12-31-21</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>Cash and Investments 12-31-22</u>
General	\$ 109,232	\$ 88,924	\$ 127,169	\$ 70,987	\$ 86,270	\$ 62,413	\$ 94,844
Totals	<u>\$ 109,232</u>	<u>\$ 88,924</u>	<u>\$ 127,169</u>	<u>\$ 70,987</u>	<u>\$ 86,270</u>	<u>\$ 62,413</u>	<u>\$ 94,844</u>

JASPER COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
 STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS,
 AND CASH AND INVESTMENT BALANCES -
 REGULATORY BASIS
 For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Fund	Cash and Investments 01-01-23	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-23
General	\$ 94,844	\$ 45,930	\$ 39,884	\$ 100,890
Totals	<u>\$ 94,844</u>	<u>\$ 45,930</u>	<u>\$ 39,884</u>	<u>\$ 100,890</u>