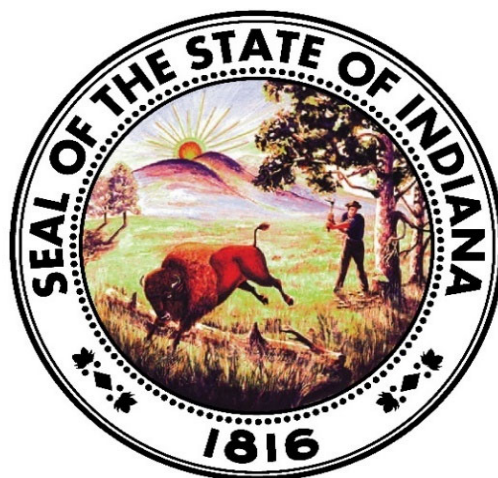


**STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS**  
**302 West Washington Street**  
**Room E418**  
**INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-2769**

COMPLIANCE ENGAGEMENT REPORT  
OF  
LOWER PATOKA RIVER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT  
GIBSON COUNTY, INDIANA  
January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2023



**FILED**  
10/30/2024



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SCHEDULE OF OFFICIALS

<u>Office</u>	<u>Official</u>	<u>Term</u>
Financial Clerk	Robert D. Stone Ginger Schenks Stephanie Berry	01-01-20 to 12-31-21 01-01-22 to 03-20-24 03-21-24 to 12-31-24
President of the District Board	Edward D. Horrall	01-01-20 to 12-31-24



**STATE OF INDIANA**  
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TO: THE OFFICIALS OF THE LOWER PATOKA RIVER CONSERVANCY  
DISTRICT, GIBSON COUNTY, INDIANA

As authorized under Indiana Code 5-11-1, we performed certain procedures to the accounting records and related documents of the Lower Patoka River Conservancy District (District), for the period of January 1, 2020 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 Stephanie Berry, Financial Clerk, on October 10, 2024.



Beth Kelley, CPA, CFE  
Deputy State Examiner

September 26, 2024

LOWER PATOKA RIVER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT  
COMMENTS

**INTERNAL CONTROLS**

*Condition and Context*

Internal controls were not in place to ensure the District complied with laws, regulations, and Guidelines over the adoption of, and certification on, internal control standards as detailed further in the comments below.

*Criteria*

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. . . ."

**ADOPTION OF INTERNAL CONTROL STANDARDS**

A similar comment also appeared in prior Report B55567, entitled *ADOPTION OF AND TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION ON INTERNAL CONTROL STANDARDS*.

*Condition and Context*

The District could not provide supporting documentation showing the adoption of the acceptable minimum level of internal control standards as defined by the Indiana State Board of Accounts.

LOWER PATOKA RIVER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT  
COMMENTS  
(Continued)

*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 B55567, entitled *ADOPTION OF AND TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION ON INTERNAL CONTROL STANDARDS*.

*Condition and Context*

The District 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 District could not provide supporting documentation showing the adoption of 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 as set forth in the uniform compliance guidelines. 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](#)."

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

LOWER PATOKA RIVER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT  
 STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS,  
 AND CASH AND INVESTMENT BALANCES -  
 REGULATORY BASIS  
 For the Years Ended December 31, 2020 and 2021

Fund	Cash and Investments 01-01-20	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-20	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-21
General Fund	\$ 311,694	\$ 101,749	\$ 163,239	\$ 250,204	\$ 105,379	\$ 75,482	\$ 280,101
Totals	<u>\$ 311,694</u>	<u>\$ 101,749</u>	<u>\$ 163,239</u>	<u>\$ 250,204</u>	<u>\$ 105,379</u>	<u>\$ 75,482</u>	<u>\$ 280,101</u>

LOWER PATOKA RIVER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT  
 STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS,  
 AND CASH AND INVESTMENT BALANCES -  
 REGULATORY BASIS  
 For the Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2023

Fund	Cash and Investments 01-01-22	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-22	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-23
General Fund	\$ 280,102	\$ 103,475	\$ 114,512	\$ 269,065	\$ 112,122	\$ 174,830	\$ 206,357
Totals	<u>\$ 280,102</u>	<u>\$ 103,475</u>	<u>\$ 114,512</u>	<u>\$ 269,065</u>	<u>\$ 112,122</u>	<u>\$ 174,830</u>	<u>\$ 206,357</u>