

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

COMPLIANCE ENGAGEMENT REPORT

OF

BEECH CREEK TOWNSHIP

GREENE COUNTY, INDIANA

January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2023



**FILED**  
09/10/2024



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SCHEDULE OF OFFICIALS

<u>Office</u>	<u>Official</u>	<u>Term</u>
Trustee	Gregory Thacker	01-01-20 to 12-31-24
Chair of the Township Board	Donald O. Prow	01-01-20 to 12-31-24



**STATE OF INDIANA**  
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

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TO: THE OFFICIALS OF BEECH CREEK TOWNSHIP, GREENE COUNTY, INDIANA

As authorized under Indiana Code 5-11-1, we performed certain procedures to the accounting records and related documents of Beech Creek Township (Township), 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 Township 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 Township'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 Gregory Thacker, Trustee, and Gary Hudson, Township Board member, on August 21, 2024.



Beth Kelley, CPA, CFE  
Deputy State Examiner

July 15, 2024

BEECH CREEK TOWNSHIP, GREENE COUNTY  
COMMENTS

**CAPITAL ASSETS**

*Condition and Context*

The Township did not have proper internal controls in place to ensure compliance with laws, regulations, and Guidelines relating to capital assets.

The Township provided a detailed capital asset listing; however, amounts reported on the listing did not support totals reported in the Indiana Gateway for Government Units financial reporting system of \$892,155.

*Criteria*

Every unit must have a capital assets policy that details the threshold at which an item is considered a capital asset. Every unit must have a complete detail listing of all capital assets owned which reflects their acquisition value. Capital Asset Ledger (Form 369) has been prescribed for this purpose. A complete physical inventory must be taken at least every two years, unless more stringent requirements exist, to verify account balances carried in the accounting records. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Townships, 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. . . ."

BEECH CREEK TOWNSHIP, GREENE COUNTY  
COMMENTS  
(Continued)

**PRESCRIBED FORMS**

*Condition and Context*

Internal controls were not in place to ensure required forms prescribed by the Indiana State Board of Accounts were in use. Of the 15 Township Assistance applications tested, we noted the following:

- There were 2 Township Assistance disbursements that were not supported by a TA-1 - Application for Township Assistance.
- All 15 Township Assistance disbursements did not have a TA-1A - Notice of Township Assistance Action.
- There were 3 Township Assistance disbursements that lacked documented evidence of investigation.

*Criteria*

Officials and employees are required to use prescribed and approved forms in the manner prescribed. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Townships, Chapter 1)

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

BEECH CREEK TOWNSHIP, GREENE COUNTY  
 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
TOWNSHIP FUND	\$ 151,739	\$ 66,948	\$ 55,987	\$ 162,700	\$ 54,282	\$ 45,235	\$ 171,747
TOWNSHIP ASSISTANCE	35,979	480	1,016	35,443	491	806	35,128
FIRE FIGHTING FUND	230,371	124,839	114,563	240,647	140,353	91,223	289,777
RAINY DAY	25,276	5,020	-	30,296	12,000	-	42,296
CUMULATIVE FIRE FUND	43,277	17,911	11,095	50,093	26,453	-	76,546
PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	<u>1,575</u>	<u>5,514</u>	<u>5,843</u>	<u>1,246</u>	<u>5,011</u>	<u>5,029</u>	<u>1,228</u>
Totals	<u>\$ 488,217</u>	<u>\$ 220,712</u>	<u>\$ 188,504</u>	<u>\$ 520,425</u>	<u>\$ 238,590</u>	<u>\$ 142,293</u>	<u>\$ 616,722</u>

BEECH CREEK TOWNSHIP, GREENE COUNTY  
 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
TOWNSHIP FUND	\$ 171,748	\$ 56,754	\$ 46,084	\$ 182,418	\$ 93,503	\$ 57,586	\$ 218,335
TOWNSHIP ASSISTANCE	35,128	253	1,073	34,308	527	2,321	32,514
FIRE FIGHTING FUND	289,779	138,308	232,290	195,797	147,626	108,450	234,973
RAINY DAY	42,296	13,204	7,500	48,000	-	-	48,000
CUMULATIVE FIRE FUND	76,546	31,587	-	108,133	38,068	37,961	108,240
PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	<u>1,230</u>	<u>4,981</u>	<u>6,260</u>	<u>(49)</u>	<u>5,500</u>	<u>5,505</u>	<u>(54)</u>
Totals	<u>\$ 616,727</u>	<u>\$ 245,087</u>	<u>\$ 293,207</u>	<u>\$ 568,607</u>	<u>\$ 285,224</u>	<u>\$ 211,823</u>	<u>\$ 642,008</u>