

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

COMPLIANCE EXAMINATION REPORT

OF

NEWTON COUNTY REGIONAL WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT

NEWTON COUNTY, INDIANA

January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2023



FILED
10/11/2024



STATE OF INDIANA
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS
302 WEST WASHINGTON STREET
ROOM E418
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-2769

Telephone: (317) 232-2513
Fax: (317) 232-4711
Web Site: www.in.gov/sboa

October 11, 2024

Board of Directors
Newton County Regional Water and Sewer District
Newton County, Indiana

This report is supplemental to the audit report of the Newton County Regional Water and Sewer District (District), for the period from January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2023. It has been provided as a separate report so that the reader may easily identify any Examination Findings that pertain to the District. It should be read in conjunction with the financial statement audit report of the District, which provides an opinion on the District's financial statements. This report may be found at www.in.gov/sboa/.

As authorized under Indiana Code 5-11-1, we engaged private examiners under our review to perform the audit of the District and perform procedures to determine compliance with applicable Indiana laws and uniform compliance guidelines established by the Indiana State Board of Accounts. The Examination Findings and Results contained herein describe the identified reportable instances of noncompliance found as a result of these procedures.

We have reviewed the Supplemental Audit Report for Newton County Regional Water and Sewer District prepared by Crowe LLP, Independent Public Accountants, for the period January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2023. In our opinion, the Supplemental Audit Report was prepared in accordance with the guidelines established by the Indiana State Board of Accounts.

We call your attention to the findings in the report on pages 3 through 4.

The report is filed with this letter in our office as a matter of public record.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tammy R. White".

Tammy R. White, CPA
Deputy State Examiner

COMPLIANCE EXAMINATION OF
NEWTON COUNTY REGIONAL WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT
Newton County, Indiana
January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2023

NEWTON COUNTY REGIONAL WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT

Newton County, Indiana
January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2023

CONTENTS

SCHEDULE OF OFFICIALS 1

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT’S REPORT 2

SCHEDULE OF EXAMINATIONS OF FINDINGS AND RESULTS:

 2023-001: MISSING GATEWAY UPLOADS 3

 2023-002: CAPITAL ASSET POLICY 3

 2023-003: ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT – OTHER INFORMATION 4

EXIT CONFERENCE 5

NEWTON COUNTY REGIONAL WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF OFFICIALS
January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2023

| <u>Office</u> | <u>Official</u> | <u>Term</u> |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| President of the District Board | Randy Decker | 01-01-20 to 12-31-23 |
| Treasurer | Sherri Rainford | 01-01-20 to 12-31-23 |

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT

To the Indiana State Board of Accounts and
Management of the Newton County Regional Water and Sewer District

We have examined the Newton County Regional Water and Sewer ("District") compliance with the Indiana State Board of Accounts' *Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual For Special District's* during the period January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2023. Management of the District is responsible for the District's compliance with the specified requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the District's compliance with the specified requirements based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the District complied, in all material respects, with the specified requirements referenced above. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether the District complied with the specified requirements. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgment, including an assessment of the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our qualified opinion.

We are required to be independent and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to the engagement.

Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the District's compliance with specified requirements.

Our examination disclosed material noncompliance with the *Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual For Special Districts* applicable to the District during the period January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2023, as described in items 2023-001 through 2023-003, on the following Schedule of Examination Findings and Results.

In our opinion, except for the material noncompliance described in the preceding paragraph, the District complied, in all material respects, with the aforementioned requirements during the period January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2023.

Crowe LLP

Indianapolis, Indiana
August 15, 2024

NEWTON COUNTY REGIONAL WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF EXAMINATIONS OF FINDINGS AND RESULTS
January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2023

FINDING 2023-001: MISSING GATEWAY UPLOADS

Criteria: The Indiana State Board of Accounts (SBOA) Directive 2018-1 states in part, " 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. This remote process will provide for more efficient data processing and save audit costs for our clients.

The following files and governmental unit information are required to be uploaded monthly by all units:

- Bank Reconcilements, Bank Statements, and Outstanding Check Lists
- Approved Board Minutes, please see the user guide for more information and examples
- Funds Ledger, summarizing total receipts, disbursements, and beginning and ending balances by fund

The following files and governmental unit information are required to be uploaded annually by all units:

- • Detail of Receipts for the year
- • Detail of Disbursements for the year
- • Current year Salary Ordinance (or Schedule)
- • Annual Vendor History Report
- • Annual Payroll History Report, without social security numbers
- • Annual Funds Ledger, summarizing year-to-date total receipts, year-to-date disbursements, and beginning and ending balances by fund

Condition: During testing, we noted the District did not upload the following required items:

- All annual uploads from 2020 to 2023.
- The December monthly uploads for 2020.

FINDING 2023-002: CAPITAL ASSET POLICY

Criteria: Chapter 1 of the Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Special Districts states in part, *"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."*

Condition: During testing of capital assets, we noted the District did not have a written policy concerning capital assets and the threshold at which an item is considered a capital asset.

A similar comment appeared in prior Report B55863.

(Continued)

NEWTON COUNTY REGIONAL WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF EXAMINATIONS OF FINDINGS AND RESULTS
January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2023

FINDING 2023-003: ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT - OTHER INFORMATION

Criteria: The Annual Financial Report (AFR) required under IC 5-11-1-4(a) shall be filed with the state examiner not later than sixty (60) days after the close of each fiscal year. (Accounting and Uniform Guidelines Compliance Manual for Special Districts, Chapter 1)

Condition: Financial and other information are required to be entered annually into the AFR via the Indiana Gateway for Government Units (Gateway) financial reporting system. During our examination procedures, we noted the District was unable to provide adequate support to verify the amount of Accounts Payable reported on the Schedule of Payables and Receivables.

NEWTON COUNTY REGIONAL WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT
EXIT CONFERENCE
January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2023

The contents of this report were discussed on August 15, 2024 with Sherri Rainford, Treasurer, and Randy Decker, President of the District Board.