

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

**Paul D. Joyce, CPA
State Examiner**

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT REPORT

OF

LAPORTE COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT

LAPORTE COUNTY, INDIANA

January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2023



FILED

03/26/2025



Paul D. Joyce, CPA
State Examiner

INDIANA STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS

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March 26, 2025

Board of Directors
LaPorte County Regional Sewer District
LaPorte County, Indiana

As authorized under Indiana Code 5-11-1, we engaged private examiners under our review to perform the audit of LaPorte County Regional Sewer District. We have reviewed the audit report opined upon by Crowe LLP, Independent Public Accountants, for the period January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2023. Per the *Independent Auditor's Report*, the financial statements included in the report present fairly the financial condition of LaPorte County Regional Sewer District as of December 31, 2022 and 2023, and the results of its operations for the period then ended, on the basis of accounting described in the report.

In our opinion, Crowe LLP prepared the audit report in accordance with the guidelines established by the Indiana State Board of Accounts.

In addition to the report presented herein, a supplemental report for LaPorte County Regional Sewer District was prepared in accordance with the guidelines established by the Indiana State Board of Accounts.

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

Tammy R. White, CPA
Deputy State Examiner

LAPORTE COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT
LaPorte County, Indiana

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

As of December 31, 2023 and for the
period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023

LAPORTE COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT
LaPorte County, Indiana

FINANCIAL STATEMENT
As of December 31, 2023 and for the
period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023

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LAPORTE COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF OFFICIALS (Unaudited)
As of December 31, 2023 and for the
period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023

<u>Office</u>	<u>Official</u>	<u>Term</u>
Treasurer	Marcella Kunstek	01-01-22 to 12-31-23
President of the District Board	Mitch Bishop John Carr	01-01-22 to 01-19-22 01-20-22 to 12-31-23

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Those Charged with Governance
LaPorte County Regional Sewer District
LaPorte County, Indiana

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying statement of receipts, disbursements, and cash and investment balances of the LaPorte County Regional Sewer District (the "District") as of December 31, 2023, and for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statement.

Unmodified Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting

In our opinion, the financial statement presents fairly, in all material respects, the cash and investment balances of the District as of December 31, 2023, and its cash receipts and cash disbursements for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023, in accordance with the financial reporting provisions of the Indiana State Board of Accounts described in Note 1.

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 Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles section of our report, the financial statement referred to above does not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the District as of December 31, 2023, or changes in net position for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023.

Basis for Opinion

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 opinion.

Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

As discussed in Note 1 to the financial statement, the Unit 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 statement 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 and pervasive.

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) as described in Note 1, and 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 opinion. 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 made by 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 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.

(Continued)

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information included with the financial statement. The other information comprises the Schedule of Officials, Combining Schedules of Receipts, Disbursements, and Cash and Investment Balances – Regulatory Basis, Schedule of Payables and Receivables, Schedule of Leases and Debt, Schedule of Capital Assets, and State Reporting Information, but does not include the financial statement and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statement does 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 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 conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

Crowe LLP
Crowe LLP

Indianapolis, Indiana
March 21, 2025

LAPORTE COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CASH AND
INVESTMENT BALANCES - REGULATORY BASIS

As of December 31, 2023 and for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Cash and Investments 01-01-22</u>		<u>Receipts</u>		<u>Disbursements</u>		<u>Cash and Investments 12-31-22</u>		<u>Receipts</u>		<u>Disbursements</u>		<u>Cash and Investments 12-31-23</u>	
Rolling Prairie Sewer Project	\$	34,248	\$	148,618	\$	165,925	\$	16,941	\$	249,400	\$	127,251	\$	139,090
Toll Road Sewer Operating		386,986		330,605		308,343		409,248		352,702		308,910		453,040
Hudson Saugany Construction		-		3,500,129		4,000		3,496,129		174,121		1,095,641		2,574,609
Rolling Prairie Bond & Interest		-		25,486		16,629		8,857		31,167		16,210		23,814
Rolling Prairie Debt Service Reserve		-		2,267		-		2,267		3,117		-		5,384
Totals	\$	<u>421,234</u>	\$	<u>4,007,105</u>	\$	<u>494,897</u>	\$	<u>3,933,442</u>	\$	<u>810,507</u>	\$	<u>1,548,012</u>	\$	<u>3,195,937</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statement.

LAPORTE COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT
As of December 31, 2023 and for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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.

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 basis of accounting also requires presentation of certain information as Other Information.

The regulatory basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP), 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. The regulatory basis also allows for all investments to be stated at cost, while GAAP requires fair value for qualifying investments.

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.

Receipts: Receipts are presented in the aggregate on the face of the financial statement. The aggregate receipts include the following sources:

Penalties. Amounts received from late payment fees.

Utility fees. Amounts received from charges for current services.

Other receipts. Amounts received from various sources which can include, but are 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.

Disbursements: Disbursements are presented in the aggregate on the face of the financial statement. The aggregate disbursements include the following uses:

Other services and charges. Amounts disbursed for services including, but are not limited to: 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 Unit. It includes all expenditures for the reduction of the principal and interest of the Unit general obligation indebtedness as well as lease agreements.

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

Utility operating expenses. Amounts disbursed for operating the utilities.

Other disbursements. Amounts disbursed for various 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.

(Continued)

LAPORTE COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT
As of December 31, 2023 and for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

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.

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 Unit. 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 District itself.

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 - 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 (PDIF). 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.

The District holds an investment account within the Hoosier Fund Local Government Investment Pool. The purpose of the HoosierFund is to help Indiana governmental entities (e.g. counties, municipalities, school corporations, townships, and other units of local government) increase interest earnings on their short term cash balances. The mission of the HoosierFund is to invest funds in a legal, prudent and suitable fashion, maintaining safety of principal, allowing daily liquidity, providing competitive interest rates, and delivering a high level of service to all participants. At December 31, 2023, the District's investment account within the HoosierFund Investment Pool was valued at \$2,744,103.

(Continued)

NOTE 4 - 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 Unit 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.

The District has purchased insurance to address the risks described above.

OTHER INFORMATION (Unaudited)

LAPORTE COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT
 COMBINING SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CASH AND
 INVESTMENT BALANCES - REGULATORY BASIS
 For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

	Rolling Prairie Sewer Project	Toll Road Sewer Operating	Hudson Saugany Construction	Rolling Prairie Bond & Interest	Rolling Prairie Debt Service Reserve	Totals
Cash and investments - beginning	\$ 34,248	\$ 386,986	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 421,234
Receipts:						
Utility fees	148,540	326,558	-	-	-	475,098
Other receipts	78	4,047	3,500,129	25,486	2,267	3,532,007
Total receipts	148,618	330,605	3,500,129	25,486	2,267	4,007,105
Disbursements:						
Other services and charges	616	-	-	-	-	616
Debt service - principal and interest	16,470	-	-	16,629	-	33,099
Capital outlay	-	22,650	-	-	-	22,650
Utility operating expenses	66,978	285,693	-	-	-	352,671
Other disbursements	81,861	-	4,000	-	-	85,861
Total disbursements	165,925	308,343	4,000	16,629	-	494,897
Excess (deficiency) of receipts over disbursements	(17,307)	22,262	3,496,129	8,857	2,267	3,512,208
Cash and investments - ending	\$ 16,941	\$ 409,248	\$ 3,496,129	\$ 8,857	\$ 2,267	\$ 3,933,442

LAPORTE COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT
 COMBINING SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CASH AND
 INVESTMENT BALANCES - REGULATORY BASIS
 For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Rolling Prairie Sewer Project	Toll Road Sewer Operating	Hudson Saugany Construction	Rolling Prairie Bond & Interest	Rolling Prairie Debt Service Reserve	Totals
Cash and investments - beginning	\$ 16,941	\$ 409,248	\$ 3,496,129	\$ 8,857	\$ 2,267	\$ 3,933,442
Receipts:						
Utility fees	153,885	334,097	-	-	-	487,982
Penalties	37,328	-	-	-	-	37,328
Other receipts	58,187	18,605	174,121	31,167	3,117	285,197
Total receipts	249,400	352,702	174,121	31,167	3,117	810,507
Disbursements:						
Other services and charges	-	20,361	-	-	-	20,361
Debt service - principal and interest	25,790	-	-	16,210	-	42,000
Capital outlay	7,000	-	1,022,644	-	-	1,029,644
Utility operating expenses	52,671	288,549	24,161	-	-	365,381
Other disbursements	41,790	-	48,836	-	-	90,626
Total disbursements	127,251	308,910	1,095,641	16,210	-	1,548,012
Excess (deficiency) of receipts over disbursements	122,149	43,792	(921,520)	14,957	3,117	(737,505)
Cash and investments - ending	\$ 139,090	\$ 453,040	\$ 2,574,609	\$ 23,814	\$ 5,384	\$ 3,195,937

LAPORTE COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF PAYABLES AND RECEIVABLES
December 31, 2023

<u>Government or Enterprise</u>	<u>Accounts Payable</u>	<u>Accounts Receivable</u>
La Porte Regional Sewer District	\$ -	\$ 61,090
Totals	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 61,090</u>

LAPORTE COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF LEASES AND DEBT
December 31, 2023

Description of Debt		Ending	Principal Due
<u>Type</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Within One</u>
		<u>Balance</u>	<u>Year</u>
La Porte Regional Sewer District:			
Bond Anticipation Note	Sewage Works BAN 2022	\$3,500,000	\$ -
Revenue bonds	Taxable Revenue Bonds of 2018	86,000	4,000
Revenue bonds	Taxable Revenue Bonds of 2020	193,325	10,450
Total La Porte Regional Sewer District		3,779,325	14,450
Totals		\$3,779,325	\$ 14,450

LAPORTE COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF CAPITAL ASSETS
December 31, 2023

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:	
Total governmental activities	\$ <u> -</u>
La Porte Regional Sewer District:	
Infrastructure	<u> 9,110,000</u>
Total capital assets	<u>\$ 9,110,000</u>

LAPORTE COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT
STATE REPORTING INFORMATION
December 31, 2023

The reports presented herein were prepared in addition to another official report prepared for the District as listed below:

Indiana State Board of Accounts Compliance Examination of the LaPorte County Regional Sewer District.

The above report contains the results of the compliance examination as required by the Indiana State Board of Accounts' *Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual For Special Districts*.