

**STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS**  
**302 West Washington Street**  
**Room E418**  
**INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-2765**

EXAMINATION REPORT

OF

BENTON TOWNSHIP

ELKHART COUNTY, INDIANA

January 1, 2004 to December 31, 2005



**FILED**

08/16/2006



TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Description</u>	<u>Page</u>
Officials .....	2
Independent Accountant's Report .....	3
Schedules of Receipts, Disbursements, and Cash and Investment Balances.....	4
Notes to Schedules .....	5
Exit Conference.....	6

OFFICIALS

<u>Office</u>	<u>Official</u>	<u>Term</u>
Trustee	Richard G. Longcor	01-01-03 to 12-31-06
Chairman of the Township Board	Lyle Burtsfield	01-01-04 to 12-31-04
	Larry Erb	01-01-05 to 12-31-05
	Joe Hibschan	01-01-06 to 12-31-06



**STATE OF INDIANA**  
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS  
302 WEST WASHINGTON STREET  
ROOM E418  
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-2765

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

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT

TO: THE OFFICIALS OF BENTON TOWNSHIP, ELKHART COUNTY, INDIANA

We have examined the schedules of receipts, disbursements, and cash and investment balances of Benton Township (Township), for the period of January 1, 2004 to December 31, 2005. The Township's management is responsible for the schedules. Our responsibility is to express an opinion based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and, accordingly, included examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the schedule of receipts, disbursements, and cash and investment balances and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our examination provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the schedules referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the cash transactions of the Township for the years ended December 31, 2004 and 2005, based on the criteria set forth in the uniform compliance guidelines established by the Indiana State Board of Accounts.

STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS

July 3, 2006

BENTON TOWNSHIP, ELKHART COUNTY  
SCHEDULES OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CASH AND INVESTMENT BALANCES  
ALL GOVERNMENTAL AND FIDUCIARY FUND TYPES  
As Of And For The Years Ended December 31, 2004 And 2005

	Cash and Investments 01-01-04	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-04
Governmental Funds:				
General	\$ 8,097	\$ 34,202	\$ 26,319	\$ 15,980
Dog	1,689	1,590	1,573	1,706
Township Assistance	9,762	7,673	3,559	13,876
Firefighting	83,139	104,559	102,545	85,153
Park and Recreation	5,326	3,523	2,000	6,849
Rainy Day	13,120	-	-	13,120
Cumulative Fire	253,912	57,833	186,513	125,232
Fiduciary Fund:				
Buggy License	-	3,030	3,030	-
Totals	<u>\$ 375,045</u>	<u>\$ 212,410</u>	<u>\$ 325,539</u>	<u>\$ 261,916</u>

	Cash and Investments 01-01-05	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-05
Governmental Funds:				
General	\$ 15,980	\$ 30,550	\$ 26,407	\$ 20,123
Dog	1,706	1,556	1,407	1,855
Township Assistance	13,876	5,287	3,935	15,228
Firefighting	85,153	89,977	63,226	111,904
Park and Recreation	6,849	2,042	3,001	5,890
Rainy Day	13,120	-	-	13,120
Levy Excess	-	154	-	154
Cumulative Fire	125,232	52,181	31	177,382
Fiduciary Fund:				
Buggy License	-	3,753	3,753	-
Totals	<u>\$ 261,916</u>	<u>\$ 185,500</u>	<u>\$ 101,760</u>	<u>\$ 345,656</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the schedules.

BENTON TOWNSHIP, ELKHART COUNTY  
NOTES TO SCHEDULES

Note 1. Introduction

The Township was established under the laws of the State of Indiana. The Township provides the following services: public safety, health and social services, culture and recreation, and general administrative services.

Note 2. Fund Accounting

The Township uses funds to report on its cash and investments and the results of its operations on a cash basis. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain governmental functions or activities.

Note 3. Budgets

The operating budget is initially prepared and approved at the local level. In addition, funds for which property taxes are levied are subject to final approval by the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance.

Note 4. Property Taxes

Property taxes levied are collected by the County Treasurer and are distributed to the Township in June and December. State statute (IC 6-1.1-17-16) requires the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance to establish property tax rates and levies by February 15. These rates were based upon the preceding year's March 1 (lien date) assessed valuations adjusted for various tax credits. Taxable property is assessed at 100% of the true tax value (determined in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance). Taxes may be paid in two equal installments which become delinquent if not paid by May 10 and November 10, respectively. All property taxes collected by the County Treasurer and available for distribution were distributed to the Township on or prior to December 31 of the year collected.

Note 5. Deposits and Investments

Deposits, made in accordance with Indiana Code 5-13, with financial institutions in the State of Indiana at year end were entirely insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation or by the Indiana Public Deposit Insurance Fund. This includes any deposit accounts issued or offered by a qualifying financial institution.

State statute (IC 5-13-9) authorizes the Township to invest in securities including, but not limited to, federal government securities, repurchase agreements, and certain money market mutual funds. Certain other statutory restrictions apply to all investments made by local governmental units.

BENTON TOWNSHIP, ELKHART COUNTY  
EXIT CONFERENCE

The contents of this report were discussed on July 5, 2006, with Richard G. Longcor, Trustee. Our examination disclosed no material items that warrant comment at this time.