B29738

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

EXAMINATION REPORT

OF

CENTER TOWNSHIP

LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA

January 1, 2005 to December 31, 2006

FILED
03/28/2007

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OFFICIALS

Office	Official	Term
Trustee	Eldon Strong	01-01-03 to 12-31-10
Chairman of the Township Board	Richard Julian	01-01-05 to 12-31-05
	Roland Wise	01-01-06 to 12-31-07

STATE OF INDIANA
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT

TO: THE OFFICIALS OF CENTER TOWNSHIP, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA

We have examined the financial information presented herein of Center Township (Township), for the period of January 1, 2005 to December 31, 2006. The Township's management is responsible for the financial information presented herein. 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 financial information presented herein 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 financial information referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial information of the Township for the years ended December 31, 2005 and 2006, based on the criteria set forth in the uniform compliance guidelines established by the Indiana State Board of Accounts.

STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS

January 9, 2007

CENTER TOWNSHIP, LAKE 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, 2005 And 2006

	Cash and Investments 01-01-05	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-05
Governmental Funds:				
Township	$ 90,586	$ 135,959	$ 84,201	$ 142,344
Dog	900	538	581	857
Township Assistance	23,989	286,934	141,106	169,817
Firefighting	506,755	599,879	163,928	942,706
Cumulative Fire	314,154	85,950	2,875	397,229
Fiduciary Fund:				
Payroll Withholdings	2,913	20,836	21,449	2,300
Totals	$ 939,297	$ 1,130,096	$ 414,140	$ 1,655,253

	Cash and Investments 01-01-06	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-06
Governmental Funds:				
Township	$ 142,344	$ 119,217	$ 79,544	$ 182,017
Dog	857	397	556	698
Township Assistance	169,817	122,860	102,584	190,093
Firefighting	942,706	291,519	147,519	1,086,706
Cumulative Fire	397,229	44,291	-	441,520
Fiduciary Fund:				
Payroll Withholdings	2,300	21,594	21,824	2,070
Totals	$ 1,655,253	$ 599,878	$ 352,027	$ 1,903,104

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the 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.

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.

Note 6. Pension Plan

Public Employees' Retirement Fund

Plan Description

The Township contributes to the Indiana Public Employees' Retirement Fund (PERF), a defined benefit pension plan. PERF is an agent multiple-employer public employee retirement system, which provides retirement benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. All full-time employees are eligible to participate in this defined benefit plan. State statutes (IC 5-10.2 and 5-10.3) govern, through the PERF Board, most requirements of the system, and give the Township authority to contribute to the plan. The PERF retirement benefit consists of the pension provided by employer contributions plus an annuity provided by the member's annuity savings account. The annuity savings account consists of members' contributions, set by state statute at 3% of compensation, plus the interest credited to the member's account. The employer may elect to make the contributions on behalf of the member.

PERF administers the plan and issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for the plan as a whole and for its participants. That report may be obtained by contacting:

Public Employees' Retirement Fund
Harrison Building, Room 800
143 West Market Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Ph. (317) 233-4162

Funding Policy and Annual Pension Cost

The contribution requirements of the plan members for PERF are established by the Board of Trustees of PERF.

Note 7. Temporary Loan Between Funds

The temporary loan of $50,000 outstanding at December 31, 2004, from the Firefighting Fund to the Township Assistance Fund was repaid in July 2005.

Note 8. 2005 Property Tax Rates and Levies

Property tax rates and levies were not established by the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance as of February 15, 2005, as required by statute, due to the continued delay in the completion of the reassessment of Lake County. The 2004 pay 2005 property tax bills were mailed out in October 2005, with the first installment due November 18, 2005, and the second installment due February 10, 2006.

Note 9. 2006 Property Tax Rates and Levies

Property tax rates and levies were not established by the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance as of February 15, 2006, as required by statute, due to the continued delay caused by the reassessment of Lake County. The 2005 pay 2006 property tax bills were mailed out on August 1, 2006, with the first installment due August 29, 2006, and the second installment due November 14, 2006.

CENTER TOWNSHIP, LAKE COUNTY
EXIT CONFERENCE

The contents of this report were discussed on January 9, 2007, with Eldon Strong, Trustee; and Tammy Hershman, Clerk. Our examination disclosed no material items that warrant comment at this time.