

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

EXAMINATION REPORT  
OF  
ROSS TOWNSHIP  
LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA  
January 1, 2005 to December 31, 2006



**FILED**  
04/18/2007



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OFFICIALS

<u>Office</u>	<u>Official</u>	<u>Term</u>
Trustee	John W. Rooda	01-01-03 to 12-31-07
Chairman of the Township Board	Pat Widing	01-01-05 to 12-31-05
	Richard Kendera	01-01-06 to 12-31-06
	Pat Widing	01-01-07 to 12-31-07



**STATE OF INDIANA**  
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT

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

We have examined the financial information presented herein of Ross 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.

The Schedule of Capital Assets, as listed in the Table of Contents, is presented for additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial information. It has not been subjected to the examination procedures applied to the basic financial information, and accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS

February 13, 2007

ROSS 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	\$ 178,963	\$ 404,843	\$ 391,254	\$ 192,552
Dog	435	114	148	401
Township Assistance	242,041	303,200	117,603	427,638
Firefighting	303,677	156,987	8,307	452,357
Park and Recreation	248,543	773,863	527,172	495,234
Emergency Medical Service	109,286	17,586	5,275	121,597
Property Maintenance	113,364	567,045	266,624	413,785
Cumulative Fire	31,685	-	-	31,685
Donation	9,355	15,433	15,642	9,146
Fiduciary Fund:				
Payroll Withholdings	4,588	143,792	148,250	130
Totals	<u>\$ 1,241,937</u>	<u>\$ 2,382,863</u>	<u>\$ 1,480,275</u>	<u>\$ 2,144,525</u>

	Cash and Investments 01-01-06	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-06
Governmental Funds:				
Township	\$ 192,552	\$ 291,867	\$ 273,406	\$ 211,013
Dog	401	96	497	-
Township Assistance	427,638	162,253	106,473	483,418
Firefighting	452,357	8,210	27,507	433,060
Park and Recreation	495,234	511,114	495,584	510,764
Emergency Medical Service	121,597	5,263	-	126,860
Property Maintenance	413,785	360,998	363,824	410,959
Cumulative Fire	31,685	-	-	31,685
Donation	9,146	14,374	14,649	8,871
Fiduciary Fund:				
Payroll Withholdings	130	151,968	147,774	4,324
Totals	<u>\$ 2,144,525</u>	<u>\$ 1,506,143</u>	<u>\$ 1,429,714</u>	<u>\$ 2,220,954</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the schedules.

ROSS TOWNSHIP, LAKE COUNTY  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL INFORMATION

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.

ROSS TOWNSHIP, LAKE COUNTY  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL INFORMATION  
(Continued)

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. 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 8. 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 in the completion of 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 26, 2006, and the second installment due November 14, 2006.

ROSS TOWNSHIP  
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
SCHEDULE OF CAPITAL ASSETS

December 31, 2006

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>Primary Government</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
Governmental activities:	
Capital assets, not being depreciated:	
Land	\$ 535,516
Buildings	1,143,271
Machinery and equipment	<u>1,349,002</u>
Total governmental activities, capital assets not being depreciated	<u>\$ 3,027,789</u>

ROSS TOWNSHIP, LAKE COUNTY  
EXIT CONFERENCE

The contents of this report were discussed on February 13, 2007, with John Rooda, Trustee; and Donna R. Stath, Chief Deputy. Our examination disclosed no material items that warrant comment at this time.