

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

EXAMINATION REPORT
OF
HICKORY GROVE TOWNSHIP
BENTON COUNTY, INDIANA
January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2009



FILED
04/29/2010

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OFFICIALS

Office

Official

Term

Trustee

Leona K. Butts

01-01-07 to 12-31-10

Chairman of the
Township Board

Kevin McNeil

01-01-08 to 12-31-10



STATE OF INDIANA
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT

TO: THE OFFICIALS OF HICKORY GROVE TOWNSHIP, BENTON COUNTY, INDIANA

We have examined the financial information presented herein of Hickory Grove Township (Township), for the period of January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2009. 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, 2008 and 2009, based on the criteria set forth in the uniform compliance guidelines established by the Indiana State Board of Accounts.

STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS

April 5, 2010

HICKORY GROVE TOWNSHIP, BENTON COUNTY
SCHEDULES OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CASH AND INVESTMENT BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
As Of And For The Years Ended December 31, 2008 And 2009

	Cash and Investments 01-01-08	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-08
Governmental Funds:				
Township	\$ 37,684	\$ 25,251	\$ 24,892	\$ 38,043
Township Assistance	13,360	2,115	3,661	11,814
Firefighting	37,939	24,643	26,353	36,229
Cumulative Fire	25,104	3,837	-	28,941
Totals	<u>\$ 114,087</u>	<u>\$ 55,846</u>	<u>\$ 54,906</u>	<u>\$ 115,027</u>

	Cash and Investments 01-01-09	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-09
Governmental Funds:				
Township	\$ 38,043	\$ 36,639	\$ 25,314	\$ 49,368
Township Assistance	11,814	5,417	2,846	14,385
Firefighting	36,229	39,306	29,281	46,254
Wind Farm	-	7,878	7,878	-
Cumulative Fire	28,941	7,193	-	36,134
Totals	<u>\$ 115,027</u>	<u>\$ 96,433</u>	<u>\$ 65,319</u>	<u>\$ 146,141</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial information.

HICKORY GROVE TOWNSHIP, BENTON 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). Normally, taxes may be paid in two equal installments which become delinquent if not paid by May 10 and November 10, respectively. In 2008, all taxes were due November 10 and were distributed on January 9, 2009. In 2009, taxes were due July 10 and November 10, and were distributed December 27, 2009.

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.

HICKORY GROVE TOWNSHIP, BENTON COUNTY
EXAMINATION RESULT AND COMMENT

ADVANCE PAYMENTS

Dates of transactions indicate that the Trustee received salary and office rent prior to the Township's receipt of these services. The Trustee had received all of the 2008 annual salary and amount budgeted for rent by October 2, 2008. All of the 2009 salary and amount budgeted for rent was received by September 11, 2009.

IC 5-7-3-1 states in part: "(a) Public officers may not draw or receive their salaries in advance."

Compensation and any other payments for goods and services should not be paid in advance of receipt of the goods or services unless specifically authorized by statute. Payments made for goods or services which are not received may be the personal obligation of the responsible official or employee. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Townships, Chapter 13)

HICKORY GROVE TOWNSHIP, BENTON COUNTY
EXIT CONFERENCE

The contents of this report were discussed on April 5, 2010, with Leona K. Butts, Trustee. The official concurred with our finding.