

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

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS EXAMINATION REPORT

OF

VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP

GRANT COUNTY, INDIANA

January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2011



FILED
12/04/2012

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SCHEDULE OF OFFICIALS

<u>Office</u>	<u>Official</u>	<u>Term</u>
Trustee	Robert D. White	01-01-07 to 12-31-14
Chairman of the Township Board	Kevin Wetherington Susan Hinderliter	01-01-10 to 12-31-10 01-01-11 to 12-31-12



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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT

TO: THE OFFICIALS OF VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP, GRANT COUNTY, INDIANA

We have examined the accompanying financial statements of Van Buren Township (Township), for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2011. The financial statements are the responsibility of the Township's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements 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 statements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our examination provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As discussed in Note 1, the Township prepares its financial statements on the prescribed basis of accounting that demonstrates compliance with the reporting requirements established by the State Board of Accounts as allowed by 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 noted above is a different basis than that used in the prior year.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position and results of operations of the Township for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2011, on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

Our examination was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the Township's financial statements. The Combining Schedules of Receipts, Disbursements, and Cash and Investment Balances – Regulatory Basis, as listed in the Table of Contents, are presented for additional analysis and are not required parts of the financial statements. They have not been subjected to the examination procedures applied to the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Township's management, Township Board, and others within the entity and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. In accordance with Indiana Code 5-11-5-1, this report is a part of the public records of the State Board of Accounts and of the office examined.

STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS

November 5, 2012

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FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements and accompanying notes were approved by management of the Township. The financial statements and notes are presented as intended by the Township.

VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP, GRANT COUNTY
 STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CASH AND INVESTMENT BALANCES -
 REGULATORY BASIS
 For The Year Ended December 31, 2010

Fund	Cash and Investments 01-01-10	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-10
Township	\$ 14,959	\$ 29,914	\$ 29,225	\$ 15,648
Township Assistance	21,461	3,723	9,337	15,847
Fire Fighting	82,655	16,608	10,667	88,596
Cumulative Fire	13,789	8,588	7,884	14,493
Levy Excess	-	127	-	127
Totals	<u>\$ 132,864</u>	<u>\$ 58,960</u>	<u>\$ 57,113</u>	<u>\$ 134,711</u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP, GRANT COUNTY
 STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CASH AND INVESTMENT BALANCES -
 REGULATORY BASIS
 For The Year Ended December 31, 2011

Fund	Cash and Investments 01-01-11	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-11
Township	\$ 15,648	\$ 27,833	\$ 30,118	\$ 13,363
Township Assistance	15,847	3,576	8,073	11,350
Fire Fighting	88,596	16,408	16,163	88,841
Levy Excess	127	-	-	127
Cumulative Fire	14,493	8,483	-	22,976
Totals	<u>\$ 134,711</u>	<u>\$ 56,300</u>	<u>\$ 54,354</u>	<u>\$ 136,657</u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP, GRANT COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Reporting Entity

The Township was established under the laws of the State of Indiana. The Township operates under a township trustee/township board form of government and provides some or all of the following services: public safety (fire), health and social services (township assistance), culture and recreation (parks and/or community centers), and general administrative services (weed and dog control).

The accompanying financial statements present the financial information for the Township.

B. Basis of Accounting

The financial statements are reported on a regulatory basis of accounting prescribed by the 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. Receipts are recorded when received and disbursements are recorded when paid.

The regulatory basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America 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.

C. 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.

D. Receipts

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

Taxes which can include one or more of the following: property taxes, certified shares (local option tax), property tax replacement credit (local option tax), county option income tax, wheel tax, innkeepers tax, food and beverage tax, county economic development income tax, boat and trailer excise tax, county adjusted gross income tax, and other taxes that are set by the Township.

Intergovernmental receipts which include receipts from other governments in the form of operating grants, entitlements, or payments in lieu of taxes. Examples of this type of receipts include, but are not limited to: federal grants, state grants, cigarette tax distributions received from the state, motor vehicle highway distribution received from the state, local road and street distribution received from the state, financial institution tax received from the state, auto excise surtax received from the state, commercial vehicle excise tax received from the state, major moves distributions received from the state, and riverboat receipts received from the county.

VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP, GRANT COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Continued)

Other receipts which include 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.

E. Disbursements

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

Personal services include outflows for salaries, wages, and related employee benefits provided for all persons employed. In those units where sick leave, vacation leave, overtime compensation, and other such benefits are appropriated separately, such payments would also be included.

Supplies which include articles and commodities that are entirely consumed and materially altered when used and/or show rapid depreciation after use for a short period of time. Examples of supplies include office supplies, operating supplies, and repair and maintenance supplies.

Other services and charges which include, but are not limited to: professional services, communication and transportation, printing and advertising, insurance, utility services, repairs and maintenance, and rental charges.

Capital outlay which include all outflows for land, infrastructure, buildings, improvements, and machinery and equipment having an appreciable and calculable period of usefulness.

F. Interfund Transfers

The Township may, from time to time, transfer money 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.

G. Fund Accounting

Separate funds are established, maintained, and reported by the Township. Each fund is used to account for money 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 Township. The money 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 Township 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 unit itself.

VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP, GRANT COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Continued)

Note 2. Budgets

The operating budget is initially prepared and approved at the local level. The fiscal officer of the Township 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. Property Taxes

Property taxes levied are collected by the County Treasurer and are scheduled to be distributed to the Township in June and December; however, situations can arise which would delay the distributions. 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 percent 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 normally become delinquent if not paid by May 10 and November 10, respectively.

Note 4. 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. This includes any deposit accounts issued or offered by a qualifying financial institution.

State statutes authorize 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 5. Risk Management

The Township 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 Township to set aside money for claim settlements. The self-insurance fund would be included in the financial statements. The purpose of participation in a risk pool is to provide a medium for the funding and administration of the risks.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION – UNAUDITED

For additional financial information, the Township's 2010 Annual Report can be found on the Indiana Transparency Portal website: www.in.gov/itp/annual_reports/.

For additional financial information, the Township's 2011 Annual Report information can be found on the Gateway website: <https://gateway.ifionline.org/>.

Differences may be noted between the financial information presented in the financial statements contained in this report and the financial information presented in the Annual Reports of the Township which are referenced above. These differences, if any, are due to adjustments made to the financial information during the course of the examination. This is a common occurrence in any financial statement examination. The financial information presented in this report is examined information, and the accuracy of such information can be determined by reading the opinion given in the Independent Accountant's Report.

The supplementary information presented was approved by management of the Township. It is presented as intended by the Township.

VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP, GRANT COUNTY
 COMBINING SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND
 CASH AND INVESTMENT BALANCES - REGULATORY BASIS
 For The Year Ended December 31, 2010

	Township	Township Assistance	Fire Fighting	Cumulative Fire	Levy Excess	Totals
Cash and investments - beginning	\$ 14,959	\$ 21,461	\$ 82,655	\$ 13,789	\$ -	\$ 132,864
Receipts:						
Taxes	29,751	3,723	16,458	8,588	-	58,520
Other receipts	163	-	150	-	127	440
Total receipts	<u>29,914</u>	<u>3,723</u>	<u>16,608</u>	<u>8,588</u>	<u>127</u>	<u>58,960</u>
Disbursements:						
Personal services	21,754	8,737	4,000	-	-	34,491
Supplies	388	-	-	-	-	388
Other services and charges	7,083	600	6,667	-	-	14,350
Capital outlay	-	-	-	7,884	-	7,884
Total disbursements	<u>29,225</u>	<u>9,337</u>	<u>10,667</u>	<u>7,884</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>57,113</u>
Excess (deficiency) of receipts over disbursements	<u>689</u>	<u>(5,614)</u>	<u>5,941</u>	<u>704</u>	<u>127</u>	<u>1,847</u>
Cash and investments - ending	<u>\$ 15,648</u>	<u>\$ 15,847</u>	<u>\$ 88,596</u>	<u>\$ 14,493</u>	<u>\$ 127</u>	<u>\$ 134,711</u>

VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP, GRANT COUNTY
 COMBINING SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND
 CASH AND INVESTMENT BALANCES - REGULATORY BASIS
 For The Year Ended December 31, 2011

	<u>Township</u>	<u>Township Assistance</u>	<u>Fire Fighting</u>	<u>Levy Excess</u>	<u>Cumulative Fire</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Cash and investments - beginning	\$ 15,648	\$ 15,847	\$ 88,596	\$ 127	\$ 14,493	\$ 134,711
Receipts:						
Taxes	16,316	3,263	14,972	-	7,741	42,292
Intergovernmental	11,434	313	1,436	-	742	13,925
Other receipts	83	-	-	-	-	83
Total receipts	<u>27,833</u>	<u>3,576</u>	<u>16,408</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,483</u>	<u>56,300</u>
Disbursements:						
Personal services	21,765	-	4,000	-	-	25,765
Supplies	474	-	70	-	-	544
Other services and charges	7,382	8,073	12,093	-	-	27,548
Capital outlay	497	-	-	-	-	497
Total disbursements	<u>30,118</u>	<u>8,073</u>	<u>16,163</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>54,354</u>
Excess (deficiency) of receipts over disbursements	<u>(2,285)</u>	<u>(4,497)</u>	<u>245</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,483</u>	<u>1,946</u>
Cash and investments - ending	<u>\$ 13,363</u>	<u>\$ 11,350</u>	<u>\$ 88,841</u>	<u>\$ 127</u>	<u>\$ 22,976</u>	<u>\$ 136,657</u>

VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP, GRANT COUNTY
EXAMINATION RESULTS AND COMMENTS

FEDERAL AND STATE AGENCIES - COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

The Trustee received office rent in the amount of \$4,000 for each of the years 2010 and 2011. This office rent was not reported to the Internal Revenue Service. A similar comment appeared in prior Report B36083.

The 2011 Employer's Quarterly Federal Tax Returns (Form 941) were incorrectly filed. Social Security was calculated using the prior rate of 12.4 percent instead of the current rate of 10.4 percent. Amended 941s should be filed with the Internal Revenue Service and any refunds should be deposited to the Township Fund.

Political subdivisions are required to comply with all grant agreements, rules, regulations, bulletins, directives, letters, letter rulings and filing requirements concerning reports and other procedural matters of federal and state agencies, including opinions of the Attorney General of the State of Indiana, and court decisions. Governmental units should file accurate reports required by federal and state agencies. Noncompliance may require corrective action. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Townships, Chapter 13)

Each governmental unit is responsible for compliance with all rules, regulations, guidelines, and directives of the Internal Revenue Service and the Indiana Department of Revenue. All questions concerning taxes should be directed to these agencies. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Townships, Chapter 13)

PENALTIES, INTEREST, AND OTHER CHARGES

Penalties and interest totaling \$144 were paid to the Internal Revenue Service for the late remittance of taxes for the quarter ending March 31, 2011.

Officials and employees have the duty to pay claims and remit taxes in a timely fashion. Failure to pay claims or remit taxes in a timely manner could be an indicator of serious financial problems which should be investigated by the governmental unit.

Additionally, officials and employees have a responsibility to perform duties in a manner which would not result in any unreasonable fees being assessed against the governmental unit.

Any penalties, interest or other charges paid by the governmental unit may be the personal obligation of the responsible official or employee. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Townships, Chapter 13)

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING SALARIES OF TOWNSHIP OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

The salaries of the Trustee and Township employees were not approved by the Township Board using Form 17, Resolution Establishing Salaries of Township Officers and Employees, for the years 2010 and 2011.

Indiana Code 36-6-6-10 requires the township board to set the salaries; wages; rates of hourly pay; and remuneration other than statutory allowances of all township officials and employees, except assessing officials and employees, for the year 1985 and each year thereafter. . . A type of format for recording these salaries should be the existing format of Township Form No. 17. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Townships, Chapter 2)

VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP, GRANT COUNTY
EXIT CONFERENCE

The contents of this report were discussed on November 5, 2012, with Robert D. White, Trustee. The official concurred with our findings.