

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

FEDERAL COMPLIANCE AUDIT REPORT

OF

PULASKI COUNTY, INDIANA

January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020



FILED

11/05/2021

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SCHEDULE OF OFFICIALS

<u>Office</u>	<u>Official</u>	<u>Term</u>
County Auditor	Laura M. Wheeler	01-01-20 to 12-31-21
County Treasurer	Teresa L. Bryant	01-01-20 to 12-31-21
Clerk of the Circuit Court	JoLynn Behny	01-01-20 to 12-31-21
County Sheriff	Jeffery K. Richwine	01-01-20 to 12-31-21
County Recorder	Susan J. Fox	01-01-20 to 12-31-21
President of the Board of County Commissioners	Kenneth R. Becker Charles R. Mellon	01-01-20 to 12-31-20 01-01-21 to 12-31-21
President of the County Council	Kenneth Boswell	01-01-20 to 12-31-21



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING
AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL
STATEMENT PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

TO: THE OFFICIALS OF PULASKI COUNTY, INDIANA

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statement of Pulaski County (County), for the year ended December 31, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statement, which collectively comprise the County's financial statement and have issued our report thereon dated October 14, 2021, wherein we noted the County followed accounting practices the Indiana State Board of Accounts prescribes rather than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statement, we considered the County's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statement, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the County's financial statement will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies, and, therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We did identify certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs as item 2020-001, that we consider to be material weaknesses.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING
AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL
STATEMENT PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*
(Continued)

Compliance and Other Matters


As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the County's financial statement is free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which are described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs as item 2020-001.

Pulaski County's Response to Findings

The County's response to the findings identified in our audit is described in the accompanying Corrective Action Plan. The County's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statement, and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

Purpose of This Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the County's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.


Paul D. Joyce, CPA
State Examiner

October 14, 2021



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM; REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE; AND REPORT ON SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE

TO: THE OFFICIALS OF PULASKI COUNTY, INDIANA

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

We have audited Pulaski County's (County) compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2020. The County's major federal programs are identified in the Summary of Auditor's Results section of the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs.

Management's Responsibility

Management is responsible for compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of its federal awards applicable to its federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on compliance for each of the County's major federal programs based on our audit of the types of compliance requirements referred to above. We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Those standards and the Uniform Guidance require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the County's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. However, our audit does not provide a legal determination of the County's compliance.

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

In our opinion, the County complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2020.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM; REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE; AND REPORT ON SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE
(Continued)

Report on Internal Control over Compliance

Management of the County is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above. In planning and performing our audit of compliance, we considered the County's internal control over compliance with the types of requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each major federal program to determine the auditing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance for each major federal program and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control over compliance.

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A material weakness in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A significant deficiency in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.


Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM; REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE; AND REPORT ON SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE
(Continued)

Report on Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards Required by the Uniform Guidance

We have audited the financial statement of the County, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statement. We issued our report thereon dated October 14, 2021, which contained a dual opinion on the financial statement. An adverse opinion was issued regarding the presentation in accordance with U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, and an unmodified opinion was issued regarding the presentation in accordance with the Regulatory Basis of Accounting. Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statement as a whole. The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by the Uniform Guidance and is not a required part of the financial statement. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statement. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statement and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statement or to the financial statement itself, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statement as a whole.


Paul D. Joyce, CPA
State Examiner

October 14, 2021

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SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS AND ACCOMPANYING NOTES

The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards and accompanying notes presented were approved by management of the County. The schedule and notes are presented as intended by the County.

PULASKI COUNTY
 SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
 For the Year Ended December 31, 2020

Federal Grantor Agency Cluster Title/Program Title/Project Title	Pass-Through Entity or Direct Grant	Federal CFDA Number	Pass-Through Entity (or Other) Identifying Number	Passed Through to Subrecipient	Total Federal Awards Expended
<u>Department of Housing and Urban Development</u>					
COVID-19 Community Development Block Grants/State's program and Non-Entitlement Grants in Hawaii CARES - OCRA	Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs	14.228	038-CDBG-CV-SUB	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000
Total - Department of Housing and Urban Development				250,000	250,000
<u>Department of Justice</u>					
Crime Victim Assistance VOCA 2018- 2020	Indiana Criminal Justice Institute	16.575	2017-VA-GX-0004	-	56,128
Total - Department of Justice				-	56,128
<u>Department of Transportation</u>					
Highway Planning and Construction Cluster Highway Planning and Construction Highway Planning and Construction	Indiana Department of Transportation	20.205	DES 1592164	-	24,283
Total - Highway Planning and Construction Cluster				-	24,283
Airport Improvement Program Fuel Farm - Aviation	Direct Grant	20.106	3-18-0087-10-2017	-	84,347
COVID-19 Airport Improvement Program CARES - Aviation	Direct Grant	20.106	3-18-0087-10-2017	-	7,600
Total - Airport Improvement Program				-	91,947
Total - Department of Transportation				-	116,230
<u>Department of the Treasury</u>					
COVID-19 - Coronavirus Relief Fund CARES Relief Fund #1	Indiana Financing Authority	21.019	FY2020	-	404,531
Total - Department of the Treasury				-	404,531
<u>Election Assistance Commission</u>					
COVID-19 2020 HAVA CARES Act Grant CARES - Election	Indiana Secretary of State	90.404	040_INCOVID2020	-	895
Total - Election Assistance Commission				-	895
<u>Department of Health and Human Services</u>					
Child Support Enforcement Title IV-D Prosecutor Incentive Title IV-D Clerk Incentive Title IV-D Incentive Clerk/Pros/Indirect Costs	Indiana Department of Child Services	93.563	FY2020 FY2020 FY2020 FY2020	- - - -	5,703 10,237 3,150 96,002
Total - Child Support Enforcement Program				-	115,092
Opioid STR SIM Opioid Grant	Indiana Supreme Court	93.788	022OPIOIDSORF19	-	70,000
Total - Department of Health and Human Services				-	185,092
<u>Department of Homeland Security</u>					
Emergency Management Performance Grants Homeland Security	Indiana Department of Homeland Security	97.042	38519EMPG000000	-	23,898
Total - Department of Homeland Security				-	23,898
Total federal awards expended				\$ 250,000	\$ 1,036,774

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards.

PULASKI COUNTY
NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA) includes the federal grant activity of the County under programs of the federal government for the year ended December 31, 2020. The information in the SEFA is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Because the SEFA presents only a select portion of the operations of the County, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position of the County.

B. Other Significant Accounting Policies

Expenditures reported on the SEFA are reported on the cash basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following, as applicable, either the cost principles in OMB Circular A-87, *Cost Principles for State, Local, and Indian Tribal Governments*, or the cost principles contained in the Uniform Guidance, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowed or are limited as to reimbursement. When federal grants are received on a reimbursement basis, the federal awards are considered expended when the reimbursement is received.

Note 2. Indirect Cost Rate

The County has elected not to use the 10 percent de minimis indirect cost rate allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

PULASKI COUNTY
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

Section I - Summary of Auditor's Results

Financial Statement:

Type of auditor's report issued:	Adverse as to GAAP; Unmodified as to Regulatory Basis
Internal control over financial reporting:	
Material weaknesses identified?	yes
Significant deficiencies identified?	none reported
Noncompliance material to financial statement noted?	yes

Federal Awards:

Internal control over major programs:	
Material weaknesses identified?	no
Significant deficiencies identified?	none reported
Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a)?	no

Identification of Major Programs and type of auditor's report issued on compliance for each:

CFDA Number	Name of Federal Program or Cluster	Opinion Issued
21.019	Highway Planning and Construction Cluster COVID-19 - Coronavirus Relief Fund	Unmodified Unmodified

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs: \$750,000

Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee?	no
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Section II - Financial Statement Findings

FINDING 2020-001

Subject: Preparation of the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards
Audit Findings: Material Weakness, Noncompliance

Condition and Context

The County had not established effective internal controls over the federal award information entered into the Indiana Gateway for Government Units (Gateway) financial reporting system, which was the source of the County's Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA).

The County failed to properly review the federal grant information prepared and submitted in Gateway. Although one employee prepared and entered the federal award information into Gateway, and another employee reviewed and approved the information entered, the internal control was not effective and did not detect and allow correction of errors prior to submission.

PULASKI COUNTY
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
(Continued)

Due to the lack of effective internal controls, the SEFA presented for audit included the following errors:

1. Expenditures for the Highway Planning and Construction Cluster were overstated by \$373,217.
2. Expenditures for Child Support Enforcement were understated by \$97,723.
3. The COVID-19 - Coronavirus Relief Fund overstated the amount passed through to subrecipients by \$404,531.
4. The Airport Improvement Program overstated the amount passed through to subrecipients by \$95,757.
5. The Crime Victim Assistance grant overstated the amount passed through to subrecipients by \$56,128.
6. The Emergency Management Performance Grants were not reported on the SEFA, which understated expenditures by \$23,898.
7. Various other state grants were erroneously included on the SEFA totaling \$200,101.
8. Other errors noted included incorrect program names, incorrect pass-through entities and amounts, and incorrect identifying numbers.

Audit adjustments were proposed, accepted by the County, and made to the SEFA presented in this report.

Criteria

The Indiana State Board of Accounts (SBOA) is required under Indiana Code 5-11-1-27(e) to define the acceptable minimum level of internal control standards. To provide clarifying guidance, the State Examiner compiled the standards contained in the manual, *Uniform Internal Control Standards for Indiana Political Subdivisions*. All political subdivisions subject to audit by SBOA are expected to adhere to these standards. The standards include adequate control activities. According to this manual:

"Control activities are the actions and tools established through policies and procedures that help to detect, prevent, or reduce the identified risks that interfere with the achievement of objectives. Detection activities are designed to identify unfavorable events in a timely manner whereas prevention activities are designed to deter the occurrence of an unfavorable event. Examples of these activities include reconciliations, authorizations, approval processes, performance reviews, and verification processes.

An integral part of the control activity component is segregation of duties. . . .

There is an expectation of segregation of duties. If compensating controls are necessary, documentation should exist to identify both the areas where segregation of duties are not feasible or practical and the compensating controls implemented to mitigate the risk. . . ."

PULASKI COUNTY
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
(Continued)

2 CFR 200.303 states in part:

"The non-Federal entity must:

- (a) Establish and maintain effective internal control . . ."

2 CFR 200.62 states in part:

"Internal control over compliance requirements for Federal awards means a process implemented by a non-Federal entity designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the achievement of the following objectives for Federal awards:

- (a) Transactions are properly recorded and accounted for, in order to:

- (1) Permit the preparation of reliable financial statements. . . ."

2 CFR 200.508 states in part:

"The auditee must: . . .

- (b) Prepare appropriate financial statements, including the schedule of expenditures of Federal awards in accordance with § 200.510 Financial statements. . . ."

2 CFR 200.510(b) states:

"Schedule of expenditures of Federal awards. The auditee must also prepare a schedule of expenditures of Federal awards for the period covered by the auditee's financial statements which must include the total Federal awards expended as determined in accordance with § 200.502 Basis for determining Federal awards expended. While not required, the auditee may choose to provide information requested by Federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities to make the schedule easier to use. For example, when a Federal program has multiple Federal award years, the auditee may list the amount of Federal awards expended for each Federal award year separately. At a minimum, the schedule must:

- (1) List individual Federal programs by Federal agency. For a cluster of programs, provide the cluster name, list individual Federal programs within the cluster of programs, and provide the applicable Federal agency name. For R&D, total Federal awards expended must be shown either by individual Federal award or by Federal agency and major subdivision within the Federal agency. For example, the National Institutes of Health is a major subdivision in the Department of Health and Human Services.
- (2) For Federal awards received as a subrecipient, the name of the pass-through entity and identifying number assigned by the pass-through entity must be included.
- (3) Provide total Federal awards expended for each individual Federal program and the CFDA number or other identifying number when the CFDA information is not available. For a cluster of programs also provide the total for the cluster.

PULASKI COUNTY
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
(Continued)

- (4) Include the total amount provided to subrecipients from each Federal program.
- (5) For loan or loan guarantee programs described in § 200.502 Basis for determining Federal awards expended, paragraph (b), identify in the notes to the schedule the balances outstanding at the end of the audit period. This is in addition to including the total Federal awards expended for loan or loan guarantee programs in the schedule.
- (6) Include notes that describe that significant accounting policies used in preparing the schedule, and note whether or not the auditee elected to use the 10% de minimis cost rate as covered in § 200.414 Indirect (F&A) costs."

Cause

Management had not established a system of internal controls that would ensure proper reporting of the SEFA.

Effect

Without a proper system of internal controls in place that operated effectively, material misstatements of the SEFA remained undetected. The SEFA contained the errors identified in the *Condition and Context*.

Views of Responsible Officials

For the views of responsible officials, refer to the Corrective Action Plan that is part of this report.

Auditor's Response

It is the County's responsibility to be in compliance with all applicable federal regulations and guidelines when accepting a federal grant, including the responsibility to ensure that effective internal controls over the SEFA were in place and operating effectively for accurate reporting. It is our responsibility to evaluate and report on the County's deficiencies in internal controls over the SEFA that could have a direct and material effect in relation to the financial statement.

Section III - Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs

No matters are reportable.

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AUDITEE-PREPARED DOCUMENT

The subsequent document was provided by management of the County. The document is presented as intended by the County.

AUDITOR PULASKI COUNTY

LAURA M WHEELER

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CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

FINDING 2020-001

Contact Person Responsible for Corrective Action: **Laura Wheeler, Pulaski County Auditor**

Contact Phone Number: **574-946-3653**

Views of Responsible Official: I agree that the grants were reported incorrectly, but disagree that the finding is an internal control issue. We have internal controls that work; however, nothing will work if we are not educated in proper reporting. SBOA classes have been taken and yet thorough understanding has been missed.

Description of Corrective Action Plan:

1. **The Auditor's office will remove all grants that do not qualify as SEFA grants from the report and will use the 2020 corrected report as provided by the SBOA audit as a template for the 2021 reporting year.**
2. **Currently the Pulaski County Treasurer reviews the financial data that is entered into gateway. We will now include the grant information as part of her review.**
3. **The SEFA report will be updated for the 2021 AFR.**

Anticipated Completion Date: **02/28/2022**

OTHER REPORTS

In addition to this report, other reports may have been issued for the County. All reports can be found on the Indiana State Board of Accounts' website: <http://www.in.gov/sboa/>.