



STATE OF INDIANA
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS
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February 1, 2023

TO: THE OFFICIALS OF BLUE RIVER TOWNSHIP, JOHNSON COUNTY, INDIANA

As authorized under Indiana Code 5-11-1, we performed certain procedures to the accounting records and related documents of Blue River Township (Township), Johnson County, for the period of January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2021, to determine compliance with applicable Indiana laws and uniform compliance guidelines established by the Indiana State Board of Accounts.

Management is responsible for preparing and maintaining its accounting records and related documents, as well as compliance with applicable state laws and uniform compliance guidelines established by the Indiana State Board of Accounts.

The Township's Annual Financial Reports filed by management can be found on the Gateway Website: www.gateway.ifionline.org.

The Comments contained herein describe the identified reportable instances of noncompliance found as a result of the procedures we performed. Our procedures were not designed to identify all instances of noncompliance; therefore, noncompliance may exist that is unidentified.

Comments

FUND SOURCES AND USES

Condition and Context

Local Tax Distributions for 2020 were reported in incorrect amounts and receipt classifications within the Annual Financial Report filed in the Indiana Gateway for Government Units financial reporting system.

Criteria

Sources and uses of funds must be limited to those authorized by the enabling law, ordinance/ resolution, or grant agreement. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Townships, Chapter 1)

Indiana Code 5-11-1-4(a) states:

"The state examiner shall require from every audited entity financial reports covering the full period of each fiscal year. These reports shall be prepared, verified, and filed with the state examiner not later than sixty (60) days after the close of each fiscal year. The reports must be in the form and content prescribed by the state examiner and filed electronically in the manner prescribed under [IC 5-14-3.8-7](#)."

CAPITAL ASSETS

Condition and Context

The Township had not conducted a physical inventory or kept record of its capital assets.

Criteria

Every unit must have a capital assets policy that details the threshold at which an item is considered a capital asset. Every unit must have a complete detail listing of all capital assets owned which reflects their acquisition value. Capital Asset Ledger (Form 369) has been prescribed for this purpose. A complete physical inventory must be taken at least every two years, unless more stringent requirements exist, to verify account balances carried in the accounting records. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Townships, Chapter 1)

ADOPTION OF, AND TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION ON, INTERNAL CONTROL STANDARDS

Similar comments appeared in prior Report B52006, entitled *ADOPTION OF INTERNAL CONTROL STANDARDS* and *TRAINING ON INTERNAL CONTROL STANDARDS*.

Condition and Context

The Township certified on the Indiana Gateway for Government Units financial reporting system that it had adopted the minimum internal control standards as required by Indiana Code 5-11-1-27(e) and that all personnel defined by Indiana Code 5-11-1-27(c) had received training concerning the internal control standards adopted by the Township. However, during the engagement, the Trustee indicated that the Township had not adopted the minimum internal control standards as defined by the Indiana State Board of Accounts, and employees whose official duties included receiving, processing, depositing, disbursing, or otherwise having access to funds that belonged to the Township, had not received training concerning the internal control standards.

Criteria

Indiana 5-11-1-27(g) states:

"After June 30, 2016, the legislative body of a political subdivision shall ensure that:

- (1) the internal control standards and procedures developed under subsection (e) are adopted by the political subdivision; and
- (2) personnel receive training concerning the internal control standards and procedures adopted by the political subdivision."

Indiana Code 5-11-1-4(a) states:

"The state examiner shall require from every audited entity financial reports covering the full period of each fiscal year. These reports shall be prepared, verified, and filed with the state examiner not later than sixty (60) days after the close of each fiscal year. The reports must be in the form and content prescribed by the state examiner and filed electronically in the manner prescribed under [IC 5-14-3.8-7](#)."

BANK ACCOUNT RECONCILIATIONS

The same comment also appeared in prior Report B52006.

Condition and Context

Depository reconciliations of the fund balances to the bank account balances were not provided and we were unable to complete alternate procedures to determine the accuracy of the cash and investment balance reported in this report and in the Gateway Annual Financial Report.

Criteria

Indiana Code 5-13-6-1(e) states: "All local investment officers shall reconcile at least monthly the balance of public funds, as disclosed by the records of the local officers, with the balance statements provided by the respective depositories."

BOARD MINUTES

Condition and Context

The Township did not provide minutes for the meetings of the Township Board for 2018. The Township Board did not meet to reorganize at the beginning of each year as prescribed by Indiana Code.

Criteria

Indiana Code 36-6-6-7 states:

"(a) The legislative body shall meet at the office of the executive on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in January of each year. At this meeting the legislative body shall elect one (1) member as chair for that year and one (1) member as secretary for that year.

(b) If a newly elected legislative body holds a special meeting before the first Tuesday after the first Monday in the January following its election, it shall elect a chair and a secretary before conducting any other business. The chair and secretary elected at the special meeting retain those positions until the first Tuesday after the first Monday in January of the year following the special meeting."

Indiana Code 36-6-6-8 states:

"The legislative body shall keep a permanent record of its proceedings in a book furnished by the executive. The secretary of the legislative body shall, under the direction of the legislative body, record the minutes of the proceedings of each meeting in full and shall provide copies of the minutes to each member of the legislative body before the next meeting is convened. After the minutes are approved by the legislative body, the secretary of the legislative body shall place the minutes in the permanent record book. The chair of the legislative body shall retain the record in the chair's custody."

Indiana Code 5-14-1.5-4 states in part:

". . . (b) As the meeting progresses, the following memoranda shall be kept:

- (1) The date, time, and place of the meeting.
- (2) The members of the governing body recorded as either present or absent.
- (3) The general substance of all matters proposed, discussed, or decided.
- (4) A record of all votes taken, by individual members if there is a roll call.

(5) Any additional information required under section 3.5 of 3.6 of this chapter or any other statute that authorizes a governing body to conduct a meeting using an electronic means of communication.

(c) The memoranda are to be available within a reasonable period of time after the meeting for the purpose of informing the public of the governing body's proceedings. The minutes, if any, are to be open for public inspection and copying."

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

A similar comment appeared in prior Report B52006, entitled *COMPENSATION*.

Condition and Context

The Township did not provide an annual salary resolution or ordinance, Township Board minutes, or other documentation setting and approving the salaries of Township officers and employees for 2019, 2020, and 2021.

Criteria

Indiana Code 36-6-6-10(c) states: "The township legislative body shall fix the compensation of all officers and employees of the township. . . ."

All compensation and benefits paid to officials and employees must be included in the labor contract, salary ordinance, resolution, or salary schedule adopted by the governing body unless otherwise authorized by law. Compensation must be paid in a manner that will facilitate compliance with state and federal reporting requirements. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Townships, Chapter 1)

MONTHLY AND ANNUAL GATEWAY UPLOADS

Condition and Context

As of the report date, the Township had not uploaded all required monthly and annual engagement uploads for 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021 into the Indiana Gateway for Government Units financial reporting system as required by Amended State Examiner Directive 2018-1.

Criteria

The following files and governmental unit information are required to be uploaded monthly by Townships:

- Bank Reconcilements, Bank Statements, and Outstanding Check Lists
- Approved Board Minutes, please see the user guide for more information and examples
- Funds Ledger, summarizing total receipts, disbursements, and beginning and ending balances by fund

The following files and governmental unit information are required to be uploaded annually:

- Year-end Investment Statements
- Detail of Receipts for the year
- Detail of Disbursements for the year
- Current year Salary Ordinance (or Schedule) and Amendments
- Annual Vendor History Report

- Annual Payroll History Report, without social security numbers
- Annual Funds Ledger, summarizing year-to-date total receipts, year-to-date disbursements, and beginning and ending balances by fund
- Optional: Excel Data Capture/Data Dump (in lieu of Detail of Receipts and Disbursements)

(The Township Bulletin and Uniform Compliance Guidelines, December 2020)

Units are required to comply with all grant agreements, rules, regulations, bulletins, directives, letters, letter rulings, court decisions and filing requirements concerning reports and other procedural matters of federal and state agencies. Units must file accurate reports required by federal and state agencies. Noncompliance may require corrective action. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Townships, Chapter 1)

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, governance, and others within the organization. This restriction is not intended to limit the distribution of this report, which is a matter of public record.

The Schedule of Cash and Investment Balances - Regulatory Basis, is presented as other information. It has not been subjected to any auditing procedures, and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on it.

SCHEDULE OF CASH AND INVESTMENT
BALANCES - REGULATORY BASIS
For the Year Ended December 31, 2021

Fund	Cash and Investments 12-31-21
Township Fund	\$ 48,906
Poor Relief Fund	191,190
Fire Fighting Fund	38,092
Total	\$ 278,188

Any Official Response to the Comments, incorporated within this report, was not verified for accuracy.

The contents of this report were communicated to Ray Walton, Trustee, and John Johnson, Chair of the Township Board, on January 19, 2023.

Respectfully,



Beth Kelley, CPA, CFE
Deputy State Examiner