



**STATE OF INDIANA**  
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

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February 15, 2023

TO: THE OFFICIALS OF OTTER CREEK TOWNSHIP, RIPLEY COUNTY, INDIANA

As authorized under Indiana Code 5-11-1, we performed certain procedures to the accounting records and related documents of Otter Creek Township (Township), Ripely 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](http://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**

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

Similar comments also appeared in prior Report B50749, entitled *ADOPTION OF INTERNAL CONTROL STANDARDS AND TRAINING ON INTERNAL CONTROL STANDARDS*.

*Condition and Context*

The Township had not adopted the acceptable minimum level of internal control standards as defined by the Indiana State Board of Accounts.

Township employees whose official duties included receiving, processing, depositing, disbursing, or otherwise having access to funds that belonged to the Township, had not received training over internal control standards that was developed or approved by the Indiana State Board of Accounts.

### *Criteria*

Indiana Code 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."

## **CERTIFICATION 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); however, during the engagement, the Township could not provide supporting documentation showing the adoption of the minimum internal control standards.

### *Criteria*

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](#)."

## **COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS**

### *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 during the engagement period.

### *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. Compensation shall be established using an annual, monthly, or biweekly salary schedule. An elected township officer is not required to report hours worked and may not be compensated based on the number of hours worked."

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)

## **FEDERAL AND STATE AGENCIES - COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS**

The same comment also appeared in prior Reports B44631 and B50749.

### *Condition and Context*

There was no supporting documentation provided to show that the compensation paid to the Township Board members, was having the appropriate Social Security or Medicare taxes withheld. In addition, no Forms W-2 were provided for evaluation that indicated compensation paid to the Township Board members was reported to the Internal Revenue Service.

### *Criteria*

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)

## **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION AND TRANSACTION RECORDING**

### *Condition and Context*

Supporting documentation for disbursements could not be provided; therefore, we could not verify that the Township was in compliance with state laws and regulations related to disbursements. This was the result of a fire which destroyed many the Township's records, including invoices and ledgers.

### *Criteria*

Supporting documentation such as receipts, canceled checks, tickets, invoices, bills, contracts, and other public records must be available for examination to provide supporting information for the validity and accountability of monies disbursed. Payments without supporting documentation may be the personal obligation of the responsible official or employee. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Townships, Chapter 1)

All documents and entries to records must be made in a timely manner to ensure that accurate financial information is available to allow the unit to make informed management decisions and to help ensure compliance with [IC 5-15-1-1](#). (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Townships, Chapter 1)

All financial transactions pertaining to the unit must be recorded in the records of the unit at the time of the transaction. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Townships, Chapter 1)

Payments made or received for contractual services must be supported by a written contract. Each unit is responsible for complying with the provisions of its contracts. (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  
As of December 31, 2021

Fund	Cash and Investments 12-31-21
Township	\$ 18,454
Township Assistance	25,953
Fire Fighting	(557)
Rainy Day	<u>5,365</u>
Total	<u>\$ 49,215</u>

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

The contents of this report were communicated to Tammy Wiley, Chair of the Township Board, February 9, 2023.

Respectfully,



Beth Kelley, CPA, CFE  
Deputy State Examiner