

BARR TOWNSHIP JOINT REPORT FOR COMPLIANCE WITH DECENNIAL COMMITTEES ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY ACT

I. Unit of government submitting this report:

NAME OF TOWNSHIP: Barr Township

Note: Any local government that levies a tax, other than a municipality or county must file this report. For Road Districts in counties with populations of less than 400,000 the highway commissioner may form a joint committee to prepare one combined report. See 50 ILCS 70/10(b-5).

II. Information about our Township

- A. We are located in Macoupin County. There are 26 townships in our county.
- B. The population of our Township is 310, as of the 2020 census.
- C. We have 0 employees of the Township (not including elected officials).
- D. We have 1 employees in our Road District (not including elected officials).
- E. Our annual budget for 2023 is: \$ 236,648.
- F. Our Township's equalized assessed valuation for 2023 is \$ 12,319,610.

FILED

AUG 21 2023


Macoupin County Clerk

III. Information about Our Committee

A. Committee Members:

- Township Supervisor Dustin Ribble
- Township Highway Commissioner Bill Mundy
- Township Trustee Dale Conrady
- Township Trustee Melvin Eades
- Township Trustee Laurie Johnson
- Township Trustee Audie Ribble
- Township Resident (Supervisor Appointment) Becky Conrady
- Township Resident (Supervisor Appointment) Peggy J. Ribble
- Township Resident (Highway Comm. Appointment) Nancy Mundy

IV. Programs Offered by our Township.

A. Our Township offers the following services and programs:
Emergency Relief (General Assistance)

B. Other services/programs we could possibly provide:
N/A

V. Social Service Agreements

A. We partner with the following not for profits to offer social services (list all):

Entity:

Services Provided:

1. N/A
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

B. Our residents have benefitted from these agreements in the following ways:

C. We have considered possibly offering the following social services or the following additional potential partnerships:

VI. Awards and Recognitions

Our Township has received the following awards, distinctions, and recognitions:
TOIRMA – Safety Training

VII. Intergovernmental Agreements

A. We partner with, or have Intergovernmental Agreements, with the following other Governments (List all):

Entity: Scottville Township

Services Offered: Equipment Partnership

Entity: South Palmyra Township

Services Offered: Equipment Partnership

B. Our Township's efficiency has increased through intergovernmental cooperation in the following way (list cost savings, avoiding duplicated services, etc.):

Through Intergovernmental Agreements Barr Township has seen savings in equipment expenses when purchasing jointly.

VIII. Review of Laws, Township Policies, Township Rules and Procedures, Township Training Materials, and other Documents

We have reviewed the following, non-exhaustive list of laws, policies, training materials, and other documents applicable to the Township to evaluate our compliance and to determine if any of the foregoing should be amended.

- State laws applicable to Townships, including, but not limited to the Township Code (60 ILCS)
- Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120)
- Policy on public comment
- Designation of OMA officer (5 ILCS 120/1.05(a))
- All of Elected Officials have completed OMA Training (5 ILCS 120/1.05(b))
- Schedule of All Township Regular Meetings for Calendar or Fiscal Year (5 ILCS 120/2.03)
- Illinois Freedom of Information Act (5 ILCS 140)
- Designation of FOIA officer (5 ILCS 140/3.5(a))
- FOIA Officer Training (5 ILCS 140/3.5(b))
- Computation and Retention of FOIA Requests (5 ILCS 140/3.5(a))
- Posting Other Required FOIA Information (5 ILCS 140/4(a); 5 ILCS 140/4(b))
- List of Types or Categories of FOIA Records under Township's Control (5 ILCS 140/5)
- Periodic Meetings to Review Closed Meeting Minutes (5 ILCS 120/2.06(d))
- IMRF Total Compensation Postings (5 ILCS 120/7.3)
- Designation of Whistleblower Auditing Official (50 ILCS 105/4.1)
- All of our Elected Officials have filed statement of economic interests (5 ILCS 420/4A-101; 5 ILCS 420/4A-101.5)

- X Sexual harassment prevention training (775 ILCS 5/2-109(c))
- X Our Intergovernmental Agreements
- N/A Our Social Service Agreements or Contracts
- X Our budget and financial documents
- X State Ethics Laws, including, but not limited to the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act (5 ILCS 430/1-1)
- N/A Reports on government efficiency, including “Local Government Efficiency and Size in Illinois: Counting Tax Revenues, Not Governments” by Wendell Cox (2016); “Local Democracy and Townships in the Chicagoland Area,” by Wendell Cox, (January 2012).
- N/A Others (List Below or Attach):

- IX. What Have We Done Well?
We utilize intergovernmental agreements with neighboring townships to reduce costs to tax payers.

We have switched over to electronic accounting and file organization/storage.
- X. What Inefficiencies Did We Identify/What Are our Next Steps?
We have found that when the necessary tools to perform service/maintenance/repairs on township equipment/buildings, that the commissioner would drive several miles round trip to borrow personal tools from his farm or take the township equipment to his farm for repairs. We plan to purchase necessary tools and equipment to keep at the township maintenance building.
- XI. What Can We Do Better or More Efficiently?
Inhouse service and maintenance.
- XII. Studies on Governmental Efficiencies

In preparing this report, we reviewed several studies on local government efficiency. These studies show that:

- The average local government in Illinois serves 1800 residents compared to the national median of 2850 individuals
- Most townships in Illinois have no bonded indebtedness. Together with road districts they are an integral element of local democracy. Township expenditures have grown at a lower rate than those of any other level of government since 1992.

- Townships have lower labor costs and employ mostly part time employees.

XIII. Our committee's recommendations regarding Increased Accountability and Efficiency:

We recommend that Barr Township purchase the necessary tools/equipment to allow continued increase with inhouse service and maintenance on buildings and equipment, not to exceed the capabilities/knowledge of the Highway Commissioner or part time employee.

Note: This Report must be filed with your County no later than 18 months after your first committee meeting.

Submitted by:  8/8/2023
Chairman, Decennial Efficiency Committee of Barr Township

Date: