

COMPLIANCE AUDIT

Kelly Township Non-Uniformed Pension Plan Union County, Pennsylvania For the Period January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2018

July 2019



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Department of the Auditor General

Eugene A. DePasquale • Auditor General



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Department of the Auditor General
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0018
Facebook: Pennsylvania Auditor General
Twitter: @PAAuditorGen
www.PaAuditor.gov

EUGENE A. DePASQUALE
AUDITOR GENERAL

Board of Township Supervisors
Kelly Township
Union County
Lewisburg, PA 17837

We have conducted a compliance audit of the Kelly Township Non-Uniformed Pension Plan for the period January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2018. We also evaluated compliance with some requirements subsequent to that period when possible. The audit was conducted pursuant to authority derived from Section 402(j) of Act 205 and in accordance with the standards applicable to performance audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform our audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our finding and conclusions based on our audit objectives. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our finding and conclusions based on our audit objectives.

The objectives of the audit were:

1. To determine if municipal officials took appropriate corrective action to address the findings contained in our prior audit report; and
2. To determine if the pension plan was administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies.

Our audit was limited to the areas related to the objectives identified above. To determine if municipal officials took appropriate corrective action to address the findings contained in our prior audit report, we inquired of plan officials and evaluated supporting documentation provided by officials evidencing that the suggested corrective action has been appropriately taken. To determine whether the pension plan was administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies, our methodology included the following:

- We determined whether state aid was properly determined and deposited in accordance with Act 205 requirements by verifying the annual deposit date of state aid and determining whether deposits were made within 30 days of receipt for all years within the period under audit.

- We determined whether annual employer contributions were calculated and deposited in accordance with the plan's governing document and applicable laws and regulations by examining the municipality's calculation of the plan's annual financial requirements and minimum municipal obligation (MMO) and comparing these calculated amounts to amounts actually budgeted and deposited into the pension plan as evidenced by supporting documentation.
- We determined that there were no employee contributions required by the plan's governing document and applicable laws and regulations for the years covered by our audit period.
- We determined that there were no benefit calculations prepared for the years covered by our audit period.
- We determined whether the January 1, 2013, January 1, 2015, and January 1, 2017 actuarial valuation reports were prepared and submitted by March 31, 2014, 2016, and 2018, respectively, in accordance with Act 205 and whether selected information provided on these reports is accurate, complete, and in accordance with plan provisions to ensure compliance for participation in the state aid program by comparing selected information to supporting source documentation.

Township officials are responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that the Kelly Township Non-Uniformed Pension Plan is administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies. In conducting our audit, we obtained an understanding of the township's internal controls as they relate to the township's compliance with those requirements and that we considered to be significant within the context of our audit objectives, and assessed whether those significant controls were properly designed and implemented. Additionally and as previously described, we tested transactions, assessed official actions, performed analytical procedures, and interviewed selected officials to provide reasonable assurance of detecting instances of noncompliance with legal and regulatory requirements or noncompliance with provisions of contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies that are significant within the context of the audit objectives.

The results of our procedures indicated that, in all significant respects, the Kelly Township Non-Uniformed Pension Plan was administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies, except as noted in the following finding further discussed later in this report:

Finding – Failure To Deposit The Full Amount Of State Aid Into The Pension Plan

As previously noted, one of the objectives of our audit of the Kelly Township Non-Uniformed Pension Plan was to determine compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies. Act 205 was amended on September 18, 2009, through the adoption of Act 44 of 2009. Among several provisions relating to municipal pension plans, the act provides for the implementation of a distress recovery program. Three levels of distress have been established:

<u>Level</u>	<u>Indication</u>	<u>Funding Criteria</u>
I	Minimal distress	70-89%
II	Moderate distress	50-69%
III	Severe distress	Less than 50%

The accompanying supplementary information is presented for purposes of additional analysis. We did not audit the information or conclude on it and, accordingly, express no form of assurance on it. However, **we are extremely concerned about the funded status of the plan contained in the schedule of funding progress included in this report which indicates the plan's funded ratio is 63.4% as of January 1, 2017, which is the most recent data available. Based on this information, the Municipal Pension Reporting Program issued a notification that the township is currently in Level II moderate distress status.** We encourage township officials to monitor the funding of the non-uniformed pension plan to ensure its long-term financial stability.

The contents of this report were discussed with officials of Kelly Township and, where appropriate, their responses have been included in the report. We would like to thank township officials for the cooperation extended to us during the conduct of the audit.

June 25, 2019



EUGENE A. DEPASQUALE
Auditor General

CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
Background.....	1
Status of Prior Findings	3
Finding and Recommendation	
Finding – Failure To Deposit The Full Amount Of State Aid Into The Pension Plan.....	4
Supplementary Information	5
Report Distribution List	11

BACKGROUND

On December 18, 1984, the Pennsylvania Legislature adopted the Municipal Pension Plan Funding Standard and Recovery Act (P.L. 1005, No. 205, as amended, 53 P.S. § 895.101 et seq.). The Act established mandatory actuarial reporting and funding requirements and a uniform basis for the distribution of state aid to Pennsylvania's public pension plans. Section 402(j) of Act 205 specifically requires the Auditor General, as deemed necessary, to make an audit of every municipality which receives general municipal pension system state aid and of every municipal pension plan and fund in which general municipal pension system state aid is deposited.

Annual state aid allocations are provided from a 2 percent foreign (out-of-state) casualty insurance premium tax, a portion of the foreign (out-of-state) fire insurance tax designated for paid firefighters and any investment income earned on the collection of these taxes. Generally, municipal pension plans established prior to December 18, 1984, are eligible for state aid. For municipal pension plans established after that date, the sponsoring municipality must fund the plan for three plan years before it becomes eligible for state aid. In accordance with Act 205, a municipality's annual state aid allocation cannot exceed its actual pension costs.

In addition to Act 205, the Kelly Township Non-Uniformed Pension Plan is also governed by implementing regulations adopted by the former Public Employee Retirement Commission published at Title 16, Part IV of the Pennsylvania Code and applicable provisions of various other state statutes.

The Kelly Township Non-Uniformed Pension Plan is a single-employer defined benefit pension plan locally controlled by the provisions of Resolution No. 35. The plan was established January 5, 2009. Active members are not required to contribute to the plan. As of December 31, 2018, the plan had 2 active members, no terminated members eligible for vested benefits in the future, and no retirees receiving pension benefits from the plan.

BACKGROUND – (Continued)

As of December 31, 2018, selected plan benefit provisions are as follows:

Eligibility Requirements:

Normal Retirement	Age 62 and 5 years of service.
Early Retirement	None
Vesting	A member is 100% vested after 5 years of service.

Retirement Benefit:

Benefit equals 1.0% of the average of final 36 months of compensation times years of service.

Survivor Benefit:

None

Service Related Disability Benefit:

None

KELLY TOWNSHIP NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN
STATUS OF PRIOR FINDINGS

Compliance With Prior Audit Recommendation

Kelly Township has complied with the prior audit recommendation concerning the following:

- Incorrect Data On Certification Form AG 385 Resulting In An Underpayment Of State Aid

During the current audit period, municipal officials accurately reported the required pension data on the Certification Forms AG 385.

Rescission Of Prior Audit Recommendation

The following prior audit recommendation has been rescinded:

- Failure To Deposit The Full Amount Of State Aid Into The Pension Plan

Upon further review, it was determined that the township had deposited the full amount of the 2012 state aid allocation during the prior audit period.

KELLY TOWNSHIP NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN
FINDING AND RECOMMENDATION

Finding – Failure To Deposit The Full Amount Of State Aid Into The Pension Plan

Condition: The municipality did not deposit the full amount of its 2013 and 2014 state aid allocations into the pension plan. The municipality received its 2013 state aid allocation in the amount of \$4,733 on September 23, 2013, but, as of the date of this report, only \$4,603 was deposited into the pension plan. The municipality received its 2014 state aid allocation in the amount of \$6,614 on January 26, 2016 (allocated late due to incorrect certified data, as cited in our prior audit report), but, as of the date of this report, only \$6,283 was deposited into the pension plan.

Criteria: Section 402(g) of Act 205 states, in part:

. . . The total amount of the general municipal pension system State aid received by the municipality shall, within 30 days of receipt by the treasurer of the municipality, be deposited in the pension fund or the alternate funding mechanism applicable to the pension plan.

Cause: Internal control procedures were not in effect to ensure the deposit of the full amount of state aid.

Effect: When state aid is not deposited into a pension plan account, the funds are not available to pay operating expenses or for investment and the risk of misapplication is increased.

Recommendation: We recommend that the municipality deposit the township’s remaining 2013 and 2014 state aid allocations, totaling \$461, plus interest earned during the period beyond the 30 day grace period allowed by Act 205, compounded annually, into the pension plan. A copy of the interest calculation must be maintained by the township for examination during our next audit of the plan.

We also recommend that plan officials develop and implement procedures to ensure that the full amount of future state aid allocations is deposited into the non-uniformed pension plan within 30 days of receipt.

Management’s Response: Municipal officials agreed with the finding without exception.

Auditor’s Conclusion: Compliance will be evaluated during our next audit of the plan.

KELLY TOWNSHIP NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
(UNAUDITED)

The supplementary information contained on Pages 5 through 7 reflects the implementation of GASB Statement No. 67, *Financial Reporting for Pension Plans*. The objective of this statement is to improve financial reporting by state and local governmental pension plans.

SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN THE NET PENSION
LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015, 2016, 2017, AND 2018

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
Total Pension Liability				
Normal cost	\$ 5,510	\$ 5,841	\$ 6,222	\$ 6,595
Interest	3,211	3,735	4,638	5,289
Experience (gain) or loss	-	-	5,096	-
Assumption changes	-	-	376	-
Net Change in Total Pension Liability	<u>8,721</u>	<u>9,576</u>	<u>16,332</u>	<u>11,884</u>
Total Pension Liability – Beginning	<u>53,524</u>	<u>62,245</u>	<u>71,821</u>	<u>88,153</u>
Total Pension Liability – Ending (a)	<u><u>\$ 62,245</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 71,821</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 88,153</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 100,037</u></u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position				
Contributions – employer	\$ 6,729	\$ 8,452	\$ 8,570	\$ 10,127
Expected investment return	2,086	2,468	3,170	4,149
Additional investment return	(2,617)	1,525	4,646	(7,885)
Administrative expense	(657)	(745)	(818)	(908)
Net Change in Plan Fiduciary Net Position	<u>5,541</u>	<u>11,700</u>	<u>15,568</u>	<u>5,483</u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position – Beginning	<u>31,726</u>	<u>37,267</u>	<u>48,967</u>	<u>64,535</u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position – Ending (b)	<u><u>\$ 37,267</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 48,967</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 64,535</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 70,018</u></u>
Net Pension Liability – Ending (a-b)	<u><u>\$ 24,978</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 22,854</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 23,618</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 30,019</u></u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	59.87%	68.18%	73.21%	69.99%
Estimated Covered Employee Payroll	\$ 85,284	\$ 86,801	\$ 89,395	\$ 93,660
Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll	29.29%	26.33%	26.42%	32.05%

KELLY TOWNSHIP NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN
 SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
 (UNAUDITED)

Sensitivity of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

The following presents the net pension liability of the township as of December 31, 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018, calculated using the discount rate of 6.0%, as well as what the township's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage-point lower or 1 percentage-point higher than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (5.0%)	Current Discount Rate (6.0%)	1% Increase (7.0%)
Net Pension Liability – 12/31/15	\$ 36,513	\$ 24,978	\$ 15,562
Net Pension Liability – 12/31/16	\$ 35,742	\$ 22,854	\$ 12,291
Net Pension Liability – 12/31/17	\$ 38,881	\$ 23,618	\$ 11,069
Net Pension Liability – 12/31/18	\$ 46,733	\$ 30,019	\$ 16,228

KELLY TOWNSHIP NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN
 SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
 (UNAUDITED)

SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS

Year Ended December 31	Actuarially Determined Contribution	Actual Contributions	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	Covered- Employee Payroll*	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered- Employee Payroll
2009	\$ 2,797	\$ 2,797	\$ -		
2010	3,047	3,047	-	\$ 38,438	7.93%
2011	4,110	4,110	-		
2012	4,471	4,677	(206)	67,840	6.89%
2013	4,603	4,603	-		
2014	6,283	6,283	-	77,249	8.13%
2015	6,729	6,729	-	85,284	7.89%
2016	8,360	8,452	(92)	86,801	9.74%
2017	8,570	8,570	-	89,395	9.59%
2018	10,127	10,127	-	93,660	10.81%

* Due to GASB Statement No. 67, *Financial Reporting for Pension Plans*, being implemented only recently, the amount of Covered-Employee Payroll was not provided for odd years prior to 2014.

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENT RETURNS

Annual Money-Weighted Rate of Return, Net of Investment Expense:

2018	-5.40%
2017	14.79%
2016	9.71%
2015	-1.53%
2014	6.12%
2013	17.90%
2012	12.37%
2011	-1.23%
2010	13.17%
2009	87.04%

KELLY TOWNSHIP NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN
 SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
 (UNAUDITED)

SCHEDULE OF FUNDING PROGRESS

Historical trend information about the plan is presented herewith as supplementary information. It is intended to help users assess the plan’s funding status on a going-concern basis, assess progress made in accumulating assets to pay benefits when due, and make comparisons with other state and local government retirement systems.

The actuarial information is required by Act 205 biennially. The historical information, beginning as of January 1, 2013, is as follows:

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Actuarial Valuation Date	Actuarial Value of Assets (a)	Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL) - Entry Age (b)	Unfunded (Assets in Excess of) Actuarial Accrued Liability (b) - (a)	Funded Ratio (a)/(b)
01-01-13	\$ 16,876	\$ 32,704	\$ 15,828	51.6%
01-01-15	31,726	53,524	21,798	59.3%
01-01-17	48,967	77,293	28,326	63.4%

KELLY TOWNSHIP NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
(UNAUDITED)

The comparability of trend information is affected by changes in actuarial assumptions, benefit provisions, actuarial funding methods, accounting policies, and other changes. Those changes usually affect trends in contribution requirements and in ratios that use the actuarial accrued liability as a factor.

Analysis of the dollar amount of the actuarial value of assets, actuarial accrued liability, and unfunded (assets in excess of) actuarial accrued liability in isolation can be misleading. Expressing the actuarial value of assets as a percentage of the actuarial accrued liability (Column 4) provides one indication of the plan's funding status on a going-concern basis. Analysis of this percentage, over time, indicates whether the system is becoming financially stronger or weaker. Generally, the greater this percentage, the stronger the plan.

KELLY TOWNSHIP NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
NOTES TO SUPPLEMENTARY SCHEDULES
(UNAUDITED)

The information presented in the supplementary schedules was determined as part of the actuarial valuation at the date indicated. Additional information as of the latest actuarial valuation date follows:

Actuarial valuation date	January 1, 2017
Actuarial cost method	Entry age normal
Amortization method	Level dollar
Remaining amortization period	13 years
Asset valuation method	Fair value
Actuarial assumptions:	
Investment rate of return	6.0%
Projected salary increases	3.5%

KELLY TOWNSHIP NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN
REPORT DISTRIBUTION LIST

This report was initially distributed to the following:

The Honorable Tom W. Wolf
Governor
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Mr. David S. Hassenplug
Chairman, Board of Township Supervisors

Mr. Elvin E. Stoltzfus
Vice Chairman, Board of Township Supervisors

Mr. Steven Ranck
Township Supervisor

Ms. Mildred Satteson
Secretary/Treasurer

This report is a matter of public record and is available online at www.PaAuditor.gov. Media questions about the report can be directed to the Pennsylvania Department of the Auditor General, Office of Communications, 229 Finance Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120; via email to: news@PaAuditor.gov.