



# HAWKINS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

**Comptroller's Investigative Report**  
August 22, 2018

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**Justin P. Wilson, Comptroller**





JUSTIN P. WILSON  
*Comptroller*

JASON E. MUMPOWER  
*Chief of Staff*

August 22, 2018

Director of Schools and Members  
of the Board of Education  
Hawkins County Schools  
200 North Depot Street  
Rogersville, TN 37857

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Office of the Comptroller of the Treasury conducted an investigation of selected records of the Hawkins County Board of Education, and the results are presented herein.

Copies of this report are being forwarded to Governor Bill Haslam, the State Attorney General, the District Attorney General, certain state legislators, and various other interested parties. A copy is available for public inspection in our office and may be viewed at <http://www.comptroller.tn.gov/ia/>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Justin P. Wilson".

Justin P. Wilson  
Comptroller of the Treasury

JPW/RAD

# INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

## Hawkins County Board of Education

The Office of the Comptroller of the Treasury investigated possible malfeasance related to a contractor for the Hawkins County Board of Education.

### INVESTIGATIVE RESULTS

- **Former contracted certified operator Shawn Hatchett received \$64,800 in fees for work he did not perform**

During the period of April 8, 2011, through December 12, 2017, former contracted certified operator Shawn Hatchett fraudulently claimed and received \$64,800 in fees from the Hawkins County Board of Education (school system). Since at least February 1998, the school system had retained Mr. Hatchett to perform required tests for onsite wastewater treatment systems at certain schools. The most recent contract between the school system and Mr. Hatchett was dated August 2008. As part of that agreement, Mr. Hatchett was to complete Discharge Monitoring Reports [DMRs] documenting the results of his tests and provide them to the school system for filing with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation. Mr. Hatchett asserted on the signed-and-filed DMRs that he performed the required tests at the Town of Rogersville<sup>1</sup> sewer treatment plant laboratory, designated “Rog STP” on the form. [Refer to Exhibit 1.] There were no logs, notes, or records of any kind establishing that Mr. Hatchett had used the department’s laboratory facilities to perform the required tests. Town employees that managed, directed, and oversaw all day-to-day operations at the sewer treatment plant since April 2011 advised Comptroller investigators that samples from schools’ onsite systems had not been tested at their facility.

The Comptroller of the Treasury issued a separate *Investigative Report – Town of Rogersville Water Department* dated April 18, 2018, related to Mr. Hatchett’s employment with the town’s utility department. The report may be accessed and viewed at <http://www.comptroller.tn.gov/repository/ia/rogersvillewaterdepartment.pdf>.

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<sup>1</sup> Mr. Hatchett was employed by the Town of Rogersville Water Department from June 1988 until August 2017.

Exhibit 1

CHEVREE HIGH WPD# 833  
 PERMITTEE: H.C.B.O.C. MONTH: NOV 2017  
 CITY: PETERSVILLE COUNTY: HAWKINS

COMMENTS: SOLID OPERATION AND COMPLIANCE  
 RECEIVED  
 DEC 12 2017  
 JOHNSON CITY  
 ENV. FIELD OFFICE

DIVISION OF WATER POLLUTION CONTROL  
 MONTHLY OPERATION REPORT FOR PACKAGE TREATMENT PLANTS

DATE	INFLUENT	OPERATION	EFFLUENT	SLUDGE DISPOSED
1	2	3	4	5
17.5A	✓		0 17.22	7.44
17.6A	✓		0 17.24	7.46
17.7A	✓		0 17.47	7.46
17.8A	✓		0 16.44	7.22
17.9A	✓		0 17.22	7.41
17.10A	✓		0 16.58	7.37
17.11A	✓		0 17.01	7.27
17.12A	✓			
17.13A	✓			
17.14A	✓			
17.15A	✓			
17.16A	✓			
17.17A	✓			
17.18A	✓			
17.19A	✓			
17.20A	✓			
17.21A	✓			
17.22A	✓			
17.23A	✓			
17.24A	✓			
17.25A	✓			
17.26A	✓			
17.27A	✓			
17.28A	✓			
17.29A	✓			
17.30A	✓			
17.31A	✓			

CLOSED 4-5-17  
 CLOSED 27 25 24 23 22 17

I certify that the submitted information is accurate and complete. I further certify that all sampling was performed in accordance with approved procedures and all analyses were performed in accordance with 40 CFR Part 136. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment.

LABORATORY **Ve**  
**Rg. STP**

I certify that the submitted information is accurate and complete. I further certify that all sampling was performed in accordance with approved procedures and all analyses were performed in accordance with 40 CFR Part 136. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment.  
 SIGNATURE OF OPERATOR: Shawn Hatchett 12-6-17  
 LICENSE NO: On file PHONE NO: 352-0043  
 ANALYSES REQUIRED BY PERMIT: Yes  
 LABORATORY USED: **Rg. STP**  
 SIGNATURE OF PERSONAL SUPERVISOR: [Signature] 12-8-17

These issues were referred to the local district attorney general and the Tennessee Attorney General. On August 20, 2018, the Hawkins County Grand Jury indicted Shawn Hatchett on one count of Theft over \$60,000, one count of Forgery over \$60,000, and fifty-five counts of Violation of the Water Pollution Control Act.