

ROAD REPORT

The Official Newsletter of the Sandusky County Engineer

No. 18

November 1, 2013

FROM THE ENGINEER

The latest three Turnpike overpasses should open up very soon (like today or tomorrow!) They are Fangboner Road, TR 222 and TR 238. TR 238 was a big project since it included four approaches instead of the normal two due to the intersection with TR 239. We are supposed to give these a final walk through sometime next week. Only three remain for next year: CR 198 and TR's 188 and 234.

The office boiler and the State Street Bridge projects are in their final stages too. With the boiler, the major remaining item is the "control system". Right now we have a "closed system" that is controlled by an outside contractor (not us). We may convert to an "open system" which we would control. We (more accurately Kris) is seeing if all the equipment is compatible if we switch. It's hard to believe the State Street project will actually be complete. It reminds me of the baseball player who had such blazing speed that he could turn a double into a single.

The Commissioners have formally authorized the consulting firm of Jones and Henry to proceed with design of the Schwochow Ditch project. Their study should determine how runoff from the "Wal Mart" area can best be managed.

Congratulations to Matt Reinhart on taking his professional engineer's exam last week. It is quite an accomplishment to reach this milestone. Good work Matt! Here's wishing Tim Reed a successful recuperation from his recent surgery.

Don't forget to vote on Tuesday!!! It appears electing township trustees is paramount at this time, not just here in Sandusky County, but everywhere! Two trustees are up in each township. Ballville has six candidates and Sandusky, nine. Riley, Scott and York only have the two incumbents running and all the other townships have at least three. There is also a county wide health levy and mental health levy on the ballot. It's quite an honor to be able to vote. We tend to take it for granted, but when the history of the world is considered, it's a rare privilege to elect our leaders.

On the "eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month" (November 11) we will be celebrating Veteran's Day by remembering the sacrifices made by many to make our freedom possible. Make their sacrifices worthwhile- VOTE!!

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY (Years of County Employment)

Jenna Sommers November 8th 9 years

TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK THIS WEEKEND

Remember to turn your clocks back one hour early Sunday, November 3rd for Daylight Savings Time.

FROM THE OFFICE MANAGER

FLEXIBLE SPENDING ENROLLMENT

Anyone wanting to participate in the FSA, return the enrollment form by November 2nd.

HEALTH INSURANCE

I attended the BORMA (Buckeye Ohio Risk Management Association) meeting on October 17th in Sandusky. The association decided to raise health insurance rates 25% for next year. This is due to high claims (our department actually spent more in claims than in premiums). Our health benefits will remain the same. Changes will take place April 1st for prescription drugs. The cost for drugs will remain the same. **Anyone wanting to change their policy (adding/removing) family members, please let me know by November 30th.**

GUARDIAN LIFE AND DENTAL

Sandusky County offers dental and life insurance through Guardian. Open enrollment is in December. Anyone who is interested please let me know by December.

INCOME COMPARISON

(License, Permissive, Gas Tax)

January – September

2013 \$3,181,463

2012 \$3,204,008

THANKSGIVING

If you are planning on taking the day after Thanksgiving off, please submit a vacation request.

FROM THE ROAD SUPERINTENDENT

ROAD MAINTENANCE

- Mowing continues on the east side of the county.
- Wall cabinets were built and installed in bldgs. 3 & 9 for the new fuel program.
- A 30" RCP was installed on CR 247 along the road. The crew is working on cutting the east bank and cleanup work.
- Tile was dug up and repaired on S. River Rd.
- Trees on Port Clinton Rd. and CR 41 were removed by contract. Our crews will be going back and cleaning up the stump grindings and adding dirt.
- Crack sealing continues on CR 106 when weather allows.
- Pot holes were filled where needed.
- Log jams were cleaned up on the Portage River.
- Log jams were also cleaned up on Muskellunge Creek (along Christy Rd.) and at TR 55.
- Cleaning up buildings in the yard and washing vehicles.
- An inventory of equipment is being processed for GovDeals.
- The dovetail trailer (903) is back from the paint shop. It is now in the process of being rewired and a new wood deck is getting installed.