

ROAD REPORT

The Official Newsletter of the Sandusky County Engineer

No. 15

September 20, 2013

FROM THE ENGINEER

This has been one of those really busy days that makes me proud to be the Sandusky County Engineer.

Boxes were being set at the CR 294 box. Although we have set many boxes over the years, this is the first one with curved ends to fit the channel.

Next, the CR 247 bridge was opened to traffic. This is the first bridge we've completed this year. Years past, we would build five or six bridges, but the difference is in the size of the bridge. This one has the highest walls we've ever poured. Plus, we lost a month due to storm cleanup.

The other big operation going on today was paving. What a nice operation this is. The road (181 in this case) was being paved full width, about 20' wide, with three double drum rollers right behind the paver. What a beautiful operation!

In addition to this, we had our annual Issue 2 meeting to assign priority points to projects from throughout the County. It has always amazed me how everyone works together on this to select projects that are good for the county, but not necessarily the individual applicants. None of the projects we submitted rated real high and we may or may not get funding. On the bright side, however, we received word yesterday that we can move CR 41 paving up to next year if we want to. This will be far more valuable than any of the Issue 2 projects we submitted.

What is amazing about all these projects is the amount of work that went into them to make them a reality. Although the construction is what everyone sees, that is only the "icing on the tip of the iceberg" (apologies to the Duck Dynasty folks!). Every one of these projects required planning, applications for funding, appropriations, purchase orders, paying bills, surveying, engineering, utility coordination, cooperation from the public, equipment, supplies and the list goes on and on. My compliments and thanks to all those involved. Your work is appreciated!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Tim Below	September 25 th
Andy Brough	September 27 th
Rich Randolph	September 30 th
Mark Auxter	October 4 th

FROM THE OFFICE MANAGER

BUDGET

Jim and I are working on the 2014 budget. Anyone considering retiring in 2014 please let me know by October 18th.

FLEXIBLE SPENDING ENROLLMENT

Flexible Spending Account open enrollment is in December. Anyone who is considering signing up, please let me know by October 18th.

FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNT (BENNY CARD)

Check the website www.mybenny.com or call 1-877-810-2600 to check your account balance. Remember to submit any outstanding claims or receipts. Any unspent funds will not be carried over, nor will funds be reimbursed to you. Keep your Benny Card; you will use it for 2014. When using Benny card remember to select "credit" when asked "credit or debit".

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 November 26th.

HEALTH INSURANCE

I attended a BORMA (Buckeye Ohio Risk Management Association) meeting on September 5th in Sandusky. Health Insurance rates may increase 25% for next year. A decision will be made on October 17th. Our department usage is higher than what we paid for premiums. Anyone wanting to make changes to their policy (adding/removing) family members, please let me know by November 26th.

FROM THE ROAD SUPERINTENDENT

RY 247 – 1.38 BRIDGE

Since the last road report, a lot has been done to the 247 bridge. The approaches on the bridge have been backfilled and flooded, wing caps have been poured, the east channel work was completed, and the approaches were paved. The guardrail has been installed, and the bridge has been overlaid with asphalt. There is still a lot to be done, like a 30" RCP installation, west side channel work, and removing all the extra dirt. We will be getting to these things as time allows. There is a crew out today working on the shoulders and berming. By the end of the day, we will be able to open the bridge to traffic.

TO 294 – 3.87 BOX CULVERT

The excavator moved on to this job on Thursday, Sept. 12th, and has been hard at work ever since. The crew has removed the old structure and cut the dirt out for the new box. With the angle of the new box, it generated another huge pile of dirt. The sub grade was another treat! It was very soft! A layer of 1's and 2's had to be put down before we could put the normal #57 stone down. Thank goodness for good weather and no rain on this project! We have had to leave the ditch diked off for about 3 days, just to keep the hole dry. If all goes well today, the boxes will be installed. Nice work everyone!

VEHICLE INSPECTION

We had our annual vehicle inspection today, and all of our vehicles passed with the exception of a few minor repairs.

ROAD MAINTENANCE

- Tile repair on CR 1, 181, S. River, and CR 117
- Mowing on the west side of the County has wrapped up
- Bridge on Smith Road was waterproofed
- Made a road cut on Smith Road for the paving crew
- Stacked guardrail posts in yard
- Annual vehicle inspection
- Overlaid TR 270 culvert, and bermed it.
- Mowed the areas around town
- Culvert inspection on CR 109