

ROAD REPORT

The Official Newsletter of the Sandusky County Engineer

No. 8

April 15, 2016

FROM THE ENGINEER

What a week this has been! We started out with 10 inches of snow on Saturday. Then we had our first “Employee Expo” bid openings and the Annual Township trustee meeting on Tuesday.

It was pretty rough going in the northeast part of the county with the snow on Saturday afternoon, but our employees rose to the occasion! By Monday, the snow was a distant memory!

The “Expo” seems to have been well received overall, but more training sessions have been requested for the future. I hope everyone gained some useful knowledge.

The bids for our 2016 paving and paint striping programs came in well under the estimates and, more importantly, came in under the budget amounts. We are in the process of determining what we can do with the savings. It would appear we can proceed with a new service truck and a new mower for the boom mower.

The bids for TR 220 came in well over the estimate. This project is being paid for by a combination of the Commissioners, Green Creek Trustees and the Ohio Public Works Commission, so it doesn’t affect our budget. We’ll be going over the plans to see how they can be modified to reduce the cost and then the project will eventually be re-bid.

The Annual Trustee meeting was typical of those in the past. The main topic of interest was the proposed gas lines that will be crossing Sandusky County, passing through six townships. Much work remains to be done to prepare for next year’s proposed construction.

Many have asked the question—was that our Orville Moore? Unfortunately, the answer is yes. Retired employee Orrville Moore passed away on March 30th at the age of 75. Evidently there were problems in locating the next of kin. There were no calling hours or services. Orville was truly “one of the good ones”. He was involved with two terrible accidents resulting in serious personal injury.

In one he had a serious head injury when he fell out of a truck onto the concrete shop floor and in the other; he lost part of his hand and three fingers in a salt spreader. They were miraculously re-attached. He successfully worked very hard to recuperate from these injuries. I believe he has the distinction of being the first to operate a boom mower here at the County. May he rest in peace.

Dean Silva and I attended a surveying seminar at Ohio Northern University on April 7th. Trainings like this are required to earn Continuing Professional Development credits. Each professional engineer and surveyor in the State of Ohio is required to earn 15 hours per year.

In other employee news, Matt Zilles resigned on April 14th. We wish Matt success in his future endeavors.

As a result, we will be starting the hiring process soon. It looks like we’ll be hiring at least three new employees, so if you know of any good candidates, be sure to let them know.

It looks like we are finally going to get some beautiful, long overdue, spring weather—enjoy!!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Carlos Baez	April 15 th
Kory Keegan	April 16 th

FROM THE OFFICE MANAGER

County Engineers Association of Ohio

The CEAO Board of Directors has established a scholarship program for Civil Engineering and/or Surveying students attending school in the State of Ohio. The scholarships are to be awarded to Civil Engineering and Surveying students at the Junior and Senior level of a Bachelors program, and to current county employees who are interested in working toward their dual registration. Applications should be submitted directly to the CEAO office by June 1, 2016. I have the application and information for anyone who is interested.

Employee Meeting

Reminder to turn in Emergency Contact and Policy Acknowledgment forms. Tom w/ Washington National left brochures and business cards for anyone who is interested. I know several employees were interested so I sat down with him to get detailed information on the policies...let me know if you are interested. Julie with Corporate One Benefits provided information that is available through the Jefferson Health Plan at no cost. All participants enrolled in the medical plan including employees, spouses and their dependents are eligible for benefits offered through the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) at 1-877-233-0976 and online www.achievesolutions.net/JHP. Site topics include things like: Marriage, Divorce, Parenting, Debit and Credit, Depression and Financial Planning

- Brush is being cut around two culverts on CR 185. These culverts will be extended to help build up the shoulder.
- Pot hole were filled.
- Tile work was done on CR 229 in conjunction with a ditch cleaning.

FROM THE ROAD SUPERINTENDENT

I guess winter was not quite ready to give up. Last Friday night and Saturday morning the area saw just a little bit of snow! We measured 8" here at the shop. I believe Clyde and Bellevue got a couple inches more than that. Thank goodness we had some good temperatures and sunshine after the storm to help clean the roads up. 48 hours after the storm you couldn't even tell it had snowed. And now, a week later, the forecast is for 70 degrees. What are you going to do?

The CR 32 Bridge was going pretty well until Mother Nature decided to drop by, bringing about an inch of rain last week and 8" of snow this past weekend with her. Mark was able to move around to the north side and remove the north wall though. The crew moved back to the south side Wednesday and started back on the footer. Poor soil conditions for a dike and bedrock in the way of the footer is slowing it down some. Mark is hammering out what we need for the footer and guys are trying to use old bridge forms to form in the footer. Concrete is set up for Monday.

ROAD MAINTENANCE

- Trucks were hooked back up and gone over in preparation of the spring snow storm.
- Rumble strips were cut into CR 1 at SR 23.
- Trucks were dumped and washed up after the storm.
- Office, Ready Room, and restrooms were cleaned and buffed.