

ROAD REPORT

The Official Newsletter of the Sandusky County Engineer

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FROM THE ENGINEER

I have been busy working on applications for the next round of Ohio Public Works projects and pipelines.

We intend to submit a bunch of paving applications hoping some, or all, of them will be funded. The rating system was changed last year and I think I have learned a way to make our applications rate higher. Time will tell.

Two pipelines are proposed for our County. The Utopia is a 12-inch line that will go through the western and southern parts of the county and the Nexus is a 36-inch line that will cross the northern portion of the county. Both involve not only hauling pipe, but equipment, stone, spoils and supplies and who knows what else. County and township roads will have to be used and some will be damaged. We're trying to figure out the best way to protect them and recoup any costs involved with fixing them. We're working with all twelve townships as well as at least fourteen other county engineers to come up with the best "RUMA" (Road Use Maintenance Agreement) we can.

I have also been dealing with the ODOT on haul routes for their I-75 projects. A lot of asphalt is being hauled from the two asphalt plants on the CR 32 quarry in Woodville—to the tune of a load every five minutes and they want to run 24-hours a day. We have agreed to let them run empty trucks on 32 between SR 600 and the quarry. If you see any trucks on any other county road, please let me know.

A ribbon cutting ceremony for the Mull Covered Bridge project, that was completed last year, was held on June 15th. It was a well-attended event. It was especially nice to see John Smolen, the design engineer and former Ashtabula County Engineer, and Essie Sudeghzadeh, the foreman on the job. If you haven't seen this bridge, you should take the time to look at it. It came out very nice and should be good for a long, long time.

M & B Asphalt has completed paving at the Fairgrounds. Our office prepared the plans for this \$100,000 project. I understand they received a \$50,000 grant from the State. M & B Asphalt also placed stone where needed. We will be adding dirt in the remaining areas.

Hard to believe, but the price of asphalt has gone down, at least for York Township who opened bids on June 14th. The price was down to about \$50 a ton. It was about \$52 when we bid ours in April. Last year it was about \$62 a ton.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Jeff Dymond July 6th

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY (Years of County Employment)

Tony Miller July 5th 5 years

FROM THE ROAD SUPERINTENDENT

The interviewing process is still moving along for our positions in the Highway Dept. On Monday and Tuesday, we will be bringing back seven applicants for a second interview. I would say by Tuesday morning we will know who will be the top prospects for the positions.

The first round of mowing is now complete. Today the guys are working around town and will be starting back on the east side of the county. The boom mower will also be heading out shortly.

The culvert crew has been working hard on Finefrock Rd. replacing culverts for this year's paving. All the culverts the backhoe can do are now complete. We will need to bring the excavator in to replace a 18" culvert and this road will be complete. We still have some culverts on CR 185 and CR 181 to replace. The guys are working today on spot paving these culverts.

The excavator and bull dozer have moved over to CR 185 where we are extending two culverts. One is a 48" and the other is a 60". Along with the extensions, we are hauling dirt in from the Alley Ditch to widen out the shoulders. The 48" pipe has already been installed and the guys are working on hauling the dirt and building up the shoulders. Next week, we will be moving down the road to extend the 60" pipe.

