

ROAD REPORT

The Official Newsletter of the Sandusky County Engineer

No. 6

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FROM THE ENGINEER

It looks like we finally have a solution to the Turnpike problem! They have again agreed to fix all eleven (11) locations as they have in past, but the difference this time is in the maintenance. In the past they insisted that we had to take on all future maintenance, a condition we were not willing to accept. I am not sure what changed their minds, but this time they agreed to accept “major maintenance” if we would accept “routine maintenance”. The concession we made was to move box culverts and guardrail from “major” to “minor” maintenance. I didn’t think this was too much because the box culverts are already on bridge inventory and the guardrail will have to be replaced as part of the reconstruction and so all we’ll have to do is maintain it in the future. All of this was worked out in one afternoon in Columbus!!!! A big thank you to Senator Karen Gillmor for getting this settled! The agreement is included in the State’s Transportation Budget as an amendment. It has been approved by both the House and the Senate and is now awaiting the Governor’s signature.

The office has been busy getting projects ready to bid. At the latest count we have seventeen (17) projects or items to bid or get quotes on. We are getting started a little later than normal, but we’ve had to wait until we received formal approvals on the federally funded jobs and to be sure the OPWC projects would be funded. All systems are go now!!

Last week Rich and I met with representatives from PUCO and the Ohio Rail Development Commission about flashers on Stone, Hayes and Third. Before the introduced themselves they said they were not going to do any of them. Which, of course, everyone around here already knew. I thought it was interesting both came from Columbus, but drove separately in State vehicles—and the State can’t figure out why they don’t have enough money!

TR 358 has collapsed again in Green Creek Township. No one knows why this is happening. Since it would take an expensive soil investigation to find out, we have recommended they keep filling. If that doesn’t work, they may have to ultimately close the road.

The last week or so has been grandparent’s day here in the office. Kris, Kim and Mark have all got to show off their new grandsons! We had a vote to determine which one was the best and it ended in a three-way tie!

Congratulations to John and Jenna Sommers on their marriage on March 26th in Florida. We wish them well. They evidently were having some reservations, but after “encouragement” from many of us, they decided to move forward. Good luck John and Jenna.

I picked Duke and Ohio State to be in the NCAA championship game. Since Duke lost last night, I hope I am at least half right!!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Rick Villarreal
Matt Reinhart

March 29th
April 3rd

FROM THE OFFICE MANAGER

Flexible Spending Account

Remember to submit any **2010** outstanding claims or receipts **before** March 31st, any unspent funds will not be carried over nor will funds be reimbursed to you.

Medical Mutual

Information on our VSP Vision Care plan is attached; the Access Plan provides discounts for exam and eyewear through a VSP Preferred Provider.

Computer Server

Yearly clean-up on the Servers starts on Saturday morning at 8:00 a.m. and will continue all day until completion. As a result all logins will be disabled from the outside. If you plan on working over the weekend please see Rich.

Prescriptions

Once you register at www.caremark.com you can access:

- prescription history (mail-in and local pharmacy)
- refill a prescription
- prescription cost
- drug information
- health information
- account balance and payment options
- newsletter subscriptions and online classes (free fitness, weight loss, depression....)

OPERS

My Benefits System (MBS) offers instant access to your personal account, instant retirement and health care coverage estimates, instant online publications and the opportunity to update your address and beneficiary information.....

MBS Registration:

1. Log on to www.opers.org
2. Click on the MBS "Register" button in the top, right corner of the home page. You will need your social security number and an active e-mail account, MBS will guide you through the registration process. A pin number will be sent immediately to your email address. Once you have pin number you will then be able to access account.

FROM THE ROAD SUPERINTENDENT

SPRING IS HERE

It may not feel like it at times but it has started out like a normal spring. You have a few good days then you backslide for a few days. On the good days we were able to get the crosses painted on the east side of the county and a start on the west side. These are being painted to document cornerstone markers for the Aerial mapping project by the Auditor's office. We also started fixing snow plow damage.

DRAINAGE MAINTENANCE

- The ditch on the north side of C.R.13 at T.R.36 was cleaned.
- The ditch was finished on C.R.13 at Lakota School after the drive pipe was lowered.
- The ditch on the west side of Smith Road north of McGormley was cleaned.

- The ditch on the south side of C.R.11 at T.R.4 is being cleaned for Ditch Maintenance.
- The ditch on the south side of C.R.247 at T.R.272 is being cleaned; this should stop this intersection from washing out.
- A tile was repaired on Morrison at Stahl Road.
- The tile on Smith Road at Sunrise was dug up and the roots were cleaned out of it. This tile has given Ballville Township problems for years.

ROAD MAINTENANCE

- Ed has caught up with the pot holes, but has some edges to repair. This winter took its toll on the roads.
- Brush cutting is winding down for the year, they have been working on 102's route.
- Washouts have been repaired.

MISC.

- Woodville Township's dump truck was hauled to Midway Truck in Monroeville. **This shows what happens when you plow going too fast!**
- Building #7 is down to one interior wall plus the vault, and these walls will come out once the rafters are braced.
- Jimmy is stripping 972 so we can get rid of it.
- Salters were cleaned and oiled.
- The midnight shift has been doing night inspection on the roads.
- Jeff has started going over the mowers.
- The midnight shift will end April 1st.