

ROAD REPORT

The Official Newsletter of the Sandusky County Engineer

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FROM ENGINEER

Practically the whole office staff and Dean and Duane have been busy getting everything ready for the April 13th bid date. Although each one of us works on one or two of the projects, Kim gets stuck with all of them!! We'll be bidding a paving project, a seal coat project, equipment for the new trucks, the HVAC system for the office building and a gunite contract for bridge repairs. Some of the estimates are higher now than when we put the budget together, so we may not be able to award everything.

Dean Silva, Mark Swartz and I attended a surveying seminar at Ohio Northern University on March 18th. This is the best course I have ever attended. All the speakers were interesting, the facilities were great and the cost was reasonable. ONU has a very impressive campus. We each received six hours of CPD (continuing professional development).

We have met with the City of Fremont regarding running their raw water intake down the center of Buckland Avenue. We are very much opposed to this, but they have no other alternative. The plan calls for 1,300 feet beginning at the South River Road intersection. They would like to add another 1,000 feet, but we have said no to that. The work is supposed to begin in May.

This past Monday I was invited to the annual meeting of a regional economic development group consisting of twelve counties in northwest Ohio. ODOT wanted all the county engineers to attend to convey their plans to combine road projects with economic development and just call them if they can help us out in any way-- must be an election year. Senator George Voinovich was the speaker.

The recent rain and strong northeast winds revealed leaks around the windows in the new building. Although they have been repaired, this is very disappointing. We've tried hard to avoid any inherent design or construction flaws that might be a problem for the county in the long run. Obviously we haven't been 100% successful. All the contractors have been dragging their feet finalizing the odds and ends. I am not sure why. We are holding a substantial amount of money on all of them.

I recently ran across a list of equipment and employees from 2000. Since then sixteen pieces of equipment have been replaced and thirteen employees have retired or otherwise moved on. Changes are gradual, but they do occur! Building 1 sure has changed! The parts room is empty, the generator and air compressor are gone and the electrical panels on the west wall have been removed, just to name a few. Marv would have a hard time finding things now!!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Rick Villarreal March 29th

FROM THE ROAD SUPERINTENDENT

SPRING IS HERE

Even though it doesn't feel like it today, and we had to do some salting last night, there are some signs of spring here at the county. Next week is the last week for the midnight shift. Snow fence is down. Plow damage has been repaired. We started berm dragging. Trash has been picked up along the roads. All the salt has been delivered for the year. The parking lot was swept. The plows and salters are being oiled for storage.

YARD WORK

Building #1 is being cleaned and a new water line was run to the wash rack. Building # 2 rest rooms and kitchenette was painted and a new counter top was installed in the kitchenette. File cabinets are being moved from basement. The generator, air compressor, lube reels, and other misc. items were taken to the auction.

MISC.

- The brush crew is working on the east side town route and has it looking good
- Mark is battling water cleaning the ditch on 41 west of 32.
- Various crews have been spot berming, ahead of the berm dragging.
- Perry is busy with signs especially since the midnight shift ran sign inspection.
- Roads are being run at night checking the R.P.M.'s
- Dean and Jeff are keeping everything going and putting things where they want them in the new shop.

