

ROAD REPORT

The Official Newsletter of the Sandusky County Engineer

No. 14

August 10, 2012

FROM THE ENGINEER

Now that the State Street Bridge plans are complete, I think we are officially over the “hump” in the office. Our design department tackled two huge projects over the last year: painting Tindall Bridge and Surface Repairs to the State Street Bridge. These may sound like simple design projects, but they are not. They both are complicated projects and not ones that we normally deal with. Both involved substantial grants that we would have lost if the projects were not completed on time. The grants totaled well over a million dollars.

Unfortunately, other projects were put on hold until these design projects were completed. But now, we should be getting to these projects before too long. These projects include some petition projects like the Smith Tile, Cedar Ridge Subdivision, and Alley Ditch as well as a few others. We won't get all these completed overnight, but it shouldn't be too long until we're back to normal and the backlog is eliminated. Of course, we still have to complete the construction of State Street and Tindall bridges, and those will be challenges themselves.

I would like to thank all the employees who have worked diligently to achieve this accomplishment, especially Carlos Baez. Thanks Carlos and crew—you saved Sandusky County a lot of money!

Along these same lines, our employees are tackling some of the Tindall Bridge structural repairs that were included in the contract that came in way over estimate. I know Tim Below, Eddie Fisher, Jan Dorr, and Chad Bender have all been involved, and my apologies to anyone I inadvertently overlooked. They have already completed the west end where the I-beams supporting the ends of the stringers have been replaced with a concrete beam seat as well as a new backwall. The rectangular tubing deck section has been replaced using the open grate deck salvaged off the CR 268 bridge a few years ago. Some minor modifications were made to make it fit. The stringers on the east end are currently being repaired. Once that is done, it will receive a new beam seat and backwall as well.

Thanks to Tim and crew—you have saved the county a lot of money too! As a side note, it was enjoyable taking the sales rep from the only company that bid on the contract out to the bridge to show him what we were doing!

Of course, the beat goes on and we have to keep working away. In the office we are busy getting applications ready for the next round of OPWC projects. These are due September 7th. Preliminary work on next year's budget is well under way, and soon we'll have to decide on the major projects and purchases. Any suggestions are welcome—we don't want to overlook anything. We'll have to decide if we're going to concentrate on paving or equipment purchases. Equipment under consideration are mowing tractors, snow plows, and excavator. Again, your suggestions and comments are welcome. Don't be shy and don't second guess if you don't get involved!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Kris Foreman August 12th
Kim Foreman August 18th

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Rick Villarreal August 12th 16 years

FROM THE OFFICE MANAGER

Income Comparison

(License, Permissive, Gas Tax)

January – July

2012 - \$2,482,857

2011 - \$2,495,543

OPERS

There are proposed Pension Plan changes which will effect current employees and Health Care Plan changes which will effect current employees and retirees. The OPERS Board has recommend drastic changes be made. For more information go to www.opers.org website. A meeting is scheduled in Fremont on August 20th, attached is information.



OPERS is offering educational opportunities around the state to explain the proposed changes to health care and in pension legislation.

DATE: Monday, August 20, 2012

12:00pm Courthouse: 100 N. Park Ave, 43420
2:00pm ODJFS Building: 2511 Countryside Dr., 43420
6:00pm ODJFS Building: 2511 Countryside Dr., 43420



You will learn about:

- The Rationale for Change
- Changes to Plan Design in legislation
- Transition Issues
- Health Care Coverage for Retirees
- How You Can Help

FROM THE ROAD SUPERINTENDENT

We have been busy the last couple weeks, even in the high heat! At least this week brought a little lower temperatures and some much needed rain.

The excavator was moved out to 177 and dug right in tearing out the black top and the old box culvert first thing this week! They had to do some hammering, but the guys are getting everything ready for the new box.

A lot of work has been going on over on County Road 39. Culverts have been replaced, flooded, and paved. This week there is a crew out working on moving back mailboxes. This way it will be all ready for next year's paving.

Tindall Bridge is coming right along. The west side is all done, and the approach has been poured. They have now moved to the east to do everything all over again on that side.

Last week a lot of misc. culvert repairs were done around the county such as: 173, 185, 143, 128, 90, and 270.

There were some misc. jobs done as well:

- A crew mowed around town.

- A few trees were taken down on CR 58.
- Trees were trimmed on South River by 42.
- Some more dirt was hauled to yard from 560.
- A few low drives were fixed on CR 82.