

ROAD REPORT

The Official Newsletter of the Sandusky County Engineer
Carlos A. Baez Sr., P.E., P.S.

No. 2

February 2022

FROM THE ENGINEER

According to some media outlets, February 2022 was ranked in the top 10 snowiest Februarys on record. We certainly received our fair share of snow in February after a fairly mild January. So far, the beginning of March has also been fairly mild. Fortunately, we have a good crew and decent equipment to be able to handle any snow or ice storms that might come our way. Consequently, speaking of equipment, we were just informed by our dump truck dealership that our single axles, that were ordered last year, are not going to be available until next spring (2023). We had planned to replace two of our single axle trucks in 2021. However, with the way things are right now, it's almost impossible to find equipment. We had also ordered a new sign truck last year, which is scheduled to be delivered sometime late fall this year. Our new mowers are scheduled to arrive sometime in mid-May.

Elizabeth, Rich, and I have been meeting with Martin-Marietta, Integrity Permits, and some of the trucking companies hauling their lime out of the quarry on CR 30 north of Woodville. The issue is that the trucking companies are wanting to haul much heavier loads going into Michigan. We are currently in talks with them about permit fees, permit durations, and load weights permitted. We receive, on average, about a dozen special haul permits per month going into this quarry. However, these loads that they are currently proposing are a lot heavier than what they have been carrying and almost double the legal load limit of 80,000 pounds.

We have been contacted by the Washington Township Trustees to help them lay out the drainage behind their new salt shed being built by Anstead Construction. Rich and I met with Trustee Matt Reed out in the field, and Dean performed the TOPO survey of the area to be able to lay out the new drainage tile. While performing the survey, Dean found an old tile that would have been underneath the new salt shed. We will be recommending to reroute this tile with new catch basins and a 12" tile to drain the back of their property and tie-in to the outlet on TR 702.

This past month, we met with the Ottawa County Engineer and his staff to finalize the plans on the Wolf Creek Ditch. We had some discussions about some structures that are to remain or be replaced depending on their condition and water opening. We also discussed our next step, which would be to finalize the plans and bid this project. Once the project gets started, we will be performing the inspection on this job.

Elizabeth and I attended the latest Transportation Improvement District (TID) meeting held at the Commissioner's office. We wanted to see if we would qualify for a grant to offset some of our local cost for the east side roundabout project with ODOT. After further discussions with ODOT's Division of Jobs and Commerce, which oversees some of this funding, it was decided that we probably would not qualify for funding given that this project is already 95% funded. We will keep an eye out for other projects that might qualify for funding in the future.

FROM THE ROAD SUPERINTENDENT

March has finally arrived! Hopefully, we are on the downhill side of winter now. February was full of snow, ice, and wind events that seemed to take up most of our time. We've had a few days of spring-like weather, which gives an itch to start getting some projects rolling. However, everyone knows March weather can be up and down. Overall, the winter went pretty well except for some minor hiccups with a couple of trucks.

Here in this latest thaw, two sink holes have developed. One is located on Smith Road, north of CR 181 and the other is located on CR 177, south west of TR 260. Mark and his team have replaced about 80' of 12" clay tile. Most of you know this area has sandy ground. With the ground being wet and a tile backed up, it made it very difficult to make this repair. We will be looking into replacing a good section of this tile in the near future. As for CR 177, Darr's will be coming in with the hydrovac to suck out what looks to be a laid up brick catch basin of some sort. Once they remove the debris, we will have to determine our next step.

Some work around the yard that was done in between snow events consisted of washing and waxing trucks and equipment and repairing barricades. Tim and Jeremy replaced the old light fixtures in the restrooms, closets, superintendent's office, mechanic's office, sign shop, and the parts room with new LED fixtures. Steve and Travis remodeled and painted the women's restroom in the front office. They also painted the men's restroom. Turned out very nice!

~ *Miscellaneous Road Work* ~

- Getting close for the night shift to come back to days. Next week, they will be working on the night inspection.
- Mark has moved the excavator to the vacated part of South River Road. We are working on removing an old arch structure on Wolf Creek. High water has stalled this project.
- Crews have been working on plow damage repair, as well as trash pick-up at the same time.
- Tree work has been done on CR 90, 32, and 229.
- Guardrails repaired on CR 260 at the Turnpike and on Port Clinton Road at Schwartz Drive.
- Filled sandbags.
- Signs repaired.
- Filled in pot holes, as needed.
- Dumped and washed trucks, as needed.



Mark pushing the salt with the excavator.

FROM THE OFFICE MANAGER

Hello All! Hope February treated you well! We were busy with generating contracts and the normal day-to-day business of the office. Four contracts were developed, two for us and two for the townships. Check them out on our website! A special “Thank You” to the Fiscal Officers and Trustees from Ballville, Green Creek, Riley, Sandusky, Townsend, and York Townships for stopping by to sign the needed documents in order for us to meet our deadlines. Just as a reminder, if a township would like an Engineer’s Estimate or to request a bid date/contract, we ask that you please fill out our request forms. We will be glad to email them to you *or* feel free to stop by and see us to pick them up!

Health Insurance:

March’s Promotional Theme is *The Benefits of Good Sleep!* Sleep is vital for well-being. It helps improve learning, problem-solving, and decision-making. Getting enough sleep also helps people control emotions and cope with change. However, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) report that one in three American adults don’t get the sleep they need. If you feel like you or someone you may know are sleep deprived, visit www.achievesolutions.net/jhp for some great information!

Income Comparison:

(January)

2022 - \$483,716

2021 - \$454,179



Rick Eberly	March 16 th
Steve Pfeiffer	March 19 th
Rick Villarreal	March 29 th



Patrick Colston

1. Do you go by your full name or a nickname?
What nickname do you go by?
Pat or Patrick
2. Introduce your Family!
I am the youngest of 3 boys, born to Robert and Annamarie Colston. I have 2 older brothers, Donald and Matthew.
3. What is your favorite holiday?
Independence Day
4. Who is your favorite music artist or band?
Aerosmith, Beastie Boys, Ed Sheeran, & Avett Bros.
5. What is your favorite movie or TV show?
Saving Private Ryan or Dances with Wolves
6. What is your favorite “signature dish” to cook or bake?
Anything BBQ, pulled pork, burnt ends, chicken
7. If you could live in any other state, which one would you live in?
Wyoming or Maine

March

2022

marzo ~ mars ~ märz ~ marzo ~ marzec ~ maart ~ maaliskuu ~ Márta ~ março ~ mart ~ māris

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		 1	Ash Wednesday 2		World Day of Prayer 4	
National Oreo Cookie Day 6		International Women's Day 8		*Bid Opening for 2 County Projects at Commissioner's 10		Melt the Ice 5K Run @ East Side Biggs-Kettner Park 12
Fremont Flea Market 9 am - 4 pm 13	 PI DAY 14	**Bid Opening for 2 Township Projects at Ballville Twp. House 15	Happy Birthday, Rick E.! 16	 17	Global Recycling Day  18	Happy Birthday, Steve! 19
 20	World Down Syndrome Day 21		National Tamale Day 23			 Earth Hour 8:30-9:30 pm 26
		Happy Birthday, Rick V.! 29		National Farm Workers Day 31		
					* 1) CR 32, CR 33, & CR 36 Resurfacing 2) CR 128 & CR 130 (OPWC)	** 1) TR Repaving Project (OPWC) 2) Resurfacing of TRs in Ballville/Green Creek