

ROAD REPORT

The Official Newsletter of the Sandusky County Engineer

No. 7

April 4, 2014

FROM THE ENGINEER

Last week, Carlos, Rich and myself attended the Ohio Asphalt Expo in Columbus. We had the honor of receiving a "Smooth Paving Award" for South River Road, which was paved last year. I consider this a real honor since roads are nominated throughout the state, but there's only one winner in each category. This is the fourth such award we have received. What really makes the roads smooth is the use of an electronic ski. Most people don't realize we were one of the first, if not the first, county in the state to require this on our jobs. I know we were using it before it was required by ODOT. The idea came from the Ohio Turnpike. As with most things, it was a group effort—no one person can take credit. In this case it includes the mix design, the quarry, the asphalt plant, the trucks, the paver operator, the roller operators, the laborers, the foreman, the inspector, just to mention a few.

Yesterday, Matt and I met with the County Commissioners and the Soil and Water Board to discuss what can be done to expedite ditch petitions. We have two that are very old—Cedar Ridge and the Alley Ditch. We have two in progress—the Schwochow and Stahl Road. We have also received two new ones- the Miller Ditch and the Hofelich Ditch. There has been talk about two others- Wolf Creek (the one north of Gibsonburg) and the Toussaint Creek. To get these all done is going to require additional help. Both the SWCD and us are going to submit ideas for consideration.

It looks like we may have a joint project effort with Clyde to pave Limerick road between SR 101 and CR 175. Their portion is really bad and as long as they are doing theirs, we might as well do ours too. Green Creek Township may add a few roads to the same contract. We are also investigating having a project to repair damaged pavement areas throughout the County.

We obviously had some additional expenses due to this past winter. We won't know where we stand until Kris prepares the March financial statement. We'll be looking closely at labor, fuel, salt, equipment repairs and other additional costs. To offset these, we have already decided to defer the CR 66 bridge and cut back on pavement marking.

ODOT set April 8th as the deadline to commit to participating in their salt contracts for next winter. This year, they are having two contracts—one this summer and another one for winter. We put in for 3,000 tons for the winter contract. Any predictions what the cost will be? This year it was \$32 a ton. We were fortunate we got all we could (plus a little extra) from last year's contract.

We submitted an application to ODOT for replacement of the bridge on TR 278 in the Turnpike overpass; one of many projects received over the entire length of the Turnpike. The selection committee has met and they have asked if we would consider repairing it instead of replacing it. Our response was that rather than repair a bridge this old, we would prefer applying the money towards a replacement. No word yet on if it will be funded or not.

By the way, if you read in the newspaper about changes to the proposed entrance to Terra, keep in mind all these changes are coming from Terra. No one else (including us) has been involved.

"Issue 2" also known as "State Capital Improvements Program" is up for renewal in the May primary election. I would encourage everyone to vote for this. It has been invaluable to this Department. It has allowed us to be on a regular schedule for paving roads. There were years we paved over 50 miles thanks to Issue 2. Every city, village and township has benefitted from the program. Please support it!!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Chad Fisher April 11th
Carlos Baez April 15th

FROM THE OFFICE MANAGER

INCOME COMPARISON (License, Permissive, Gas Tax)

January - March

2014 \$1,089,028

2013 \$1,069,747

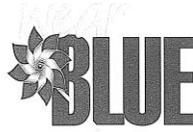
FROM THE ROAD SUPERINTENDENT

FANGBONER DITCH ENCLOSURE

Most of the 36" pipe has been set on this project. There is about 100 ft. to be set yet. Unfortunately, the excavator broke down a week ago and we are at a standstill on setting the rest of the pipe. Our new excavator is sitting at Southeastern waiting on the hydraulic coupler to arrive and be installed. Hopefully, we will have the new machine the first part of next week. This week, the crew installed two 12" culverts under Fangboner and tied them into the 36" RCP. Once we have a machine, we will finish setting pipe and start hauling dirt from CR 294 and 247.

ROAD MAINTENANCE

- Plow damage is being repaired around the county; the west side of the county is about wrapped up.
- Trees and brush were removed around bridges from inspection list.
- Pot holes filled as needed.
- 500 tons of salt was delivered.
- Second set of bridge beams were poured for RY 226-0.61.
- Culverts were located on CR 247 for replacement.
- Night shift crew is back to days.
- Road mowers are serviced and repaired for the upcoming mowing season.
- 3 new Ford pickups with plows have been ordered.
- Road closed barricades are being repaired and painted.
- Floor and drains were cleaned in Building #9.
- Plows and sand bags were removed from pickup trucks.



**Child Abuse
Is
Preventable**

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Sandusky County Children Services received over 1,900 reports of suspected child abuse and neglect last year. We encourage you to show your support for the prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect by WEARING BLUE on

April 9, 2014.

You can help prevent child abuse and neglect in our community.



Take a picture of yourself, your group, your classmates or your co-workers wearing blue and send it to simonj01@odjfs.state.oh.us and we will post it on our agency web site.

For more information, contact Judi Simon at 419-334-8708.
Sponsored by the Sandusky County Child Abuse Prevention Committee

