

# ROAD REPORT

The Official Newsletter of the Sandusky County Engineer

No. 4

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## FROM THE ENGINEER

Only two more weeks until our Goodbye Winter, Hello Spring Cookout!! We've made it this far through another very hard, cold winter, so two more weeks should be a piece of cake (famous last words). Temperatures are predicted to be moderate, so let's hope the worst is behind us. Last year we got hit with 8" of snow on the 12<sup>th</sup> of March and went to a Level 3!

Over the last two weeks we have taken bids on the Hoefflich Ditch and the bids came in well under estimate. We also had a BORMA meeting concerning our health insurance. We have met with officials from Ottawa County regarding the Wolf Creek project. At 13 miles long, this is the biggest ditch project we have had in a long time.

Yesterday morning, we met with the Sandusky County Soil and Water Board and the County Commissioners regarding ditch maintenance. It looks like this will become an annual event. It's nice to have guests so we can "show off" our facilities. Many thanks to all who put in the extra effort to make everything look sharp!!

We have also received our new semi-tractor to pull the lowboy. Aluminum wheels, lots of chrome, 450 horsepower, automatic shifting—we sure have come a long way from the first Dodge single axle converted snowplow!

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Steve Pfeiffer

March 19<sup>th</sup>



## CONGRATULATIONS GOES OUT TO PROUD GRANDMA, KIM FOREMAN

### It's a Boy!

Silas Lee Foreman joins his big brother Bo! His proud parents are Derek & Heidi.

Name: Silas Lee Foreman

Weight: 6 lbs. 11oz

Length: 18 ¾ inches

Date: February 26, 2015

## FROM THE OFFICE MANAGER

### INCOME COMPARISON (License, Permissive, Gas Tax) January – February

2014	\$682,617
2015	\$693,069

### Wellness Benefit Program

The County offers wellness programs through their group health insurance to us. Listed below are a couple of the wellness programs that are available. A notice is posted of all the programs in the Ready Room and at the time clock.

- Bring in a receipt from a gym membership or fitness program and receive reimbursement up to \$50. Bring in a registration form or a running number from a running event and get reimbursed up to \$25 for registration fees.
- Annual Preventative Screenings – Individuals who participate in the health screenings or submit a physician verification form stating the reason for your visit was your annual physical or wellness check, no later than 9/30/15, will have your name entered in a drawing for up to ten \$100 winners.

On March 11<sup>th</sup> (11:00 am – 2:00 pm) is a Health/Benefit Fair at DJ&FS Conference Rooms 1-3. If you are interested in participating, a vacation request is needed.

## FROM THE ROAD SUPERINTENDENT

Here we are a week into March and temperatures are still down in the single digits at night. That has pretty much been the story for the last two weeks. Cold temperatures, snow, and wind, but that looks to be changing next week, finally. The forecast is for temperatures in the mid to high 40s and we may even possibly see a 50 degree day in there. Let's hope the weather predictors are right about this.

Like I said, cold temperatures and snow have kept work outside to a minimum. When we were not out for snow and ice control, backhoes were out pushing back banks to make room for more blowing and drifting snow, and pushing back intersections for visibility. Other projects, like washing and waxing vehicles, cleaning the truck barn floor, washing plow trucks, mixing salt, and cleaning the shop kept guys busy and warm.

We have also been busy on purchasing new equipment for 2015. New tractors and mowers have been ordered. This year we will be mowing with John Deere tractors and the Tiger mowers are being replaced with Diamond mowers. Two new International trucks have been ordered for snow plows. We are now getting set to bid out the dump body and plow package. This year we are also going to install a mid-mount wing plow on the new trucks. This should help out on drifting areas. We have also just purchased a 2012 International semi-tractor to replace our 1985 Mack. One other purchase that has been made was a tree grinder/mulcher attachment for the excavator. This will help with tree removal around bridges and wherever else. This should complete the major equipment purchasing for the year.