

ROAD REPORT

The Official Newsletter of the Sandusky County Engineer

No. 22

December 30, 2011

FROM THE ENGINEER

Here are some of the highlights from 2011:

January

1st Temperature reached 57°
3rd Matt Reinhart's first day
20th Heat shut off in old sign shop (AKA as the old office!)

March

16th Reached an agreement with the Ohio Turnpike on fixing failed slopes; agreement was included in the Transportation budget which was signed by Governor Kasich on March 30

April

21st New single axle trucks were built
29th Dave Beeker's last day

May

2nd Osama Bin Laden killed
4th Floor poured in Building 7
9th New trucks delivered to Nollenberger's
22nd Retired employee Dick Schneider passed away
23rd The 499th bridge beam was poured
25th Received new crack sealing machine
29th Malachi Brough born
31st Last day for Tom Morrison and Dean Reese

June

13th Shawn Jarrett and Matt Zilles' first day; replacement of TR 211 bridge over Bark Creek started

July

5th Tony Miller's first day
7th Jaxon Sommers born
9th Retired employee Charlie Hensley passed away
26th Public open house of our facilities

August

23rd New trucks picked up by Newell
25th Court Street parking lot bid
31st Mark Swartz's last day

September

15th CR 128 bridge opened
16th TR 211 bridge opened

October

21st TR 222 Turnpike overpass closed
31st Steve Fisher's last day

November

30th Duane Reese's last day

December

8th Chad Fisher appointed Road Superintendent
9th Trucks out for the first time
30th Tony Hartshorn hired as the next new employee beginning in January

These are just a few of the major events of the past year. My apologies for the things I overlooked.

We paved 16 miles of road and replaced three bridges and several major culverts. Although we bought two new single axle trucks, we are still waiting on their delivery which we are told will be next week. We also ordered two new tandems which have been built and are currently being equipped for service. We should have those by late winter. We also bought a used bucket truck to replace our current 1960's vintage one. We also bought two new Ram 4WD pickups.

2011 will be remembered as the year of major personnel changes. Six employees retired and five new ones have been hired. This is the last year the Department is picking up a portion of the employee's contribution to PERS. It had been 4% for the last several years. Employees received a 4% raise in lieu of this.

All in all, 2011 was another good year. I would like to thank all employees for their hard work and contributions to make this possible. The public does not have a high regard for us or what we do, but I do! We are successful because we have dedicated employees who come to work everyday prepared for the job they are supposed to do. I thank you for that.

Not only has 2011 been a good year, we are well prepared for 2012. We already have 18 miles of paving under contract as well as materials for at least three bridges/culverts. We will receive four new trucks. We have state of the art surveying equipment. We have funding lined up to paint Tindall Bridge and perform major maintenance on the State Street Bridge. Most of our road signs will be updated to high intensity prismatic material. Guardrail installation will be completed on CR 117 along the Portage River. We have a mean and lean work force ready for the challenges of winter and the rest of the year!!

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

FROM THE OFFICE MANAGER

Health Insurance

2012 Health Insurance
Medical Mutual – SuperMed Plus 15100
Payroll Deduction: 6.5%

Single \$13.13
Employee/Spouse \$26.27
Employee/Children \$25.29
Employee/Spouse/Child \$31.02
Family \$38.42

Effective January 1, 2012 (be sure to use
your new cards)

Claims Status/Explanation of Benefits –new
website www.mutualhealthservices.com
You will still be able to view claims,
payments and EOB's on the medmutual.com
website for dates of service prior to January
1, 2012.

Paycheck

Overtime that was worked on December 24th
will be on payroll #1.

Flexible Spending Account

Check the web site www.mybenny.com or
call 1-877-810-2600 to see what's left in
your account. Remember to submit any
outstanding claims or receipts before March
15, 2012, any unspent funds will not be
carried over nor will funds be reimbursed to
you.
Keep your 2011 Benny Card; you will use it
for 2012. When using Benny card remember
to select "credit" when asked "credit or
debit".

INCOME COMPARISON (License, Permissive, Gas Tax) January - November

2011 \$3,899,003
2010 \$3,968,548

FROM THE ROAD SUPERINTENDENT

It's been a rainy start for the winter
months so far. Just think if the temperature
had dropped just a few degrees during the
rain, how much snow could have been on
the ground. Winter is far from over and I am
sure we will see our fair share of snow yet
this season.

Tindall Bridge

Eric, Cody and Shawn have been working
on welding down the grating on Tindall
Bridge when weather permits. Sounds like
there is plenty to weld out there.

Sign Shop

The sign grant has been one of the biggest
projects we have been working on the past
few weeks. Crews have been working
diligently on replacing warning signs and
stop signs with the new high intensity signs.
Stop strips are being made also as needed.
Perry and Terri have been busy trying to
keep up with the paper work and logging the
signs into the computer for the grant.

In The Shop

Jeff and Andy are busy with their normal
services plus whatever else comes up.
Hydraulic lines on the loader were repaired,
new fittings were put on the water truck to
stop the leaks, and a new windshield
and seat was replaced on the excavator after
it was vandalized.

Night Shift

The night shift has been on now for a couple
of weeks. Since there hasn't been any snow
as of yet, the guys are staying busy by
washing vehicles, cleaning the insides of the
vehicles, and keeping the offices clean.

Misc. Road Maintenance

Tim B, Tim R., and Eric spent time
repairing and cleaning the floor drains in
buildings #1 and #9.
Catch basin lids were replaced on CR 229
and 294.
Plugged tiles were jetted on CR 201, Smith
Rd, and Port Clinton Rd.
Pot holes were filled as needed.
Shoulder work continues on CR 117 when
weather permits.
Trucks were washed out after salt rounds.
Mowers were washed up.
Eric is working on cutting I beams for plate
steel.
Building #1 and #3 were cleaned.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Employee: Anthony (Tony) Walter Miller

Title: Maintenance Worker

Date Hired: July 5th, 2011

Girlfriend: Bekkah Miller (3 years and 3 months)

Children: Zippo...Nada (0), but would like to have 2 boys and 2 girls.

Pets: 2 Labs, Chance and Sadie

Favorite Song: "Sexy and I Know It" by LMFAO

Hobbies: Movie ticket collecting, bowtie collecting, various sports, music, DJ'ing, singing in the shower, playing Angrybirds.

Claim to fame: The "10-4 Good Buddy" hat and getting Homecoming King.

Pet Peeve: Semi-trucks because they are hard to see around and/or pass when it is raining; when hoses get stuck on your tires when you are trying to wash your car; Leather seats.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Jimmy Sanford January 7th

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

(Years of County Employment)

Kim Foreman	January 3 rd	12 years
Cody Amor	January 3 rd	7 years
Matt Reinhart	January 3 rd	1 year
Jim Moyer	January 7 th	27 years
Steve Pfeiffer	January 10 th	7 years