



Public Works Monthly Newsletter Issue #107 June 23rd, **2009**

News from Public Works Board, Water Policy Board, and Municipal Wastewater Committee Meetings

- The Public Works and Water Boards approved another antenna lease for the Fruitport Water Tower.
- The Board approved a \$12 per ton tipping fee for materials used for cover, and we will now encourage more foundries to use our landfill.
- ♣ MCK of Montague was approved as a contract hauler with our landfill.
- 4 A change order was approved for the landfill cap project to cover capping an additional 1.5 acres.
- Likewise, a changer order was also approved on the Laketon Township Sewer Contract #2 for extra tree removal and extra creek restoration work on Bear Lake Road.
- Permission was granted to Wastewater staff to bid sludge hauling.
- The low bid on uniforms for Wastewater and Solid Waste was accepted from Cintas.
- A change order to do a line stop on the old D Station force main to cap it was approved.
- The work on the Hauled Waste Area for Aerated Settling Lagoon #4 was awarded to K&R.
- A Public Hearing was held on the diversion of water from Laketon Station, replacement of Sullivan Station, and the erection of three 1-megawatt turbines. These are all projects that have been submitted to MDEQ for SRF and Stimulus funding for first quarter 2010.
- The anchors for our wind monitoring tower have been placed, and the tower should be up soon.
- The seed and mulch is being applied to the landfill cover, and the contractor is looking at irrigating this planting during the summer months.
- Wastewater staff is training with our vactor truck manufacturer to use some special tools to clean Muskegon's 42-inch pipe where old C Station caused sedimentation in the line.
- Grounding issues with the new C Station motors are being solved with better isolation and grounding within the units.
- The massive Pre-Aeration structure has been removed as part of the 66-inch replacement improvements.
- The main Wastewater Plant meter is still out due to several problems from the adjacent demolition work.
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 The movement of sludge from Cell #4 continues. The contractor may truck some of it to the drying beds.
- Two sink holes have developed on the old C Station site. Cracks have developed in the valve floor at new C Station and will need to be repaired.
- Brown Grease samples have been taken to MSU for analysis, and OEP has been here to take algae samples. WMU has received their grant monies and will also start algae work soon.
- The Gypsy moth spraying was done for the year.
- **Lectrical** issues remain at our Harvey Street Water Station, and staff is pursuing them.
- The Greenridge construction is going well in Laketon Township and should be done this fall.
- Downtown Public Works staff are acting as project managers on the planned Hall of Justice renovations.
- MDEQ wants to extend water to Arlington Estates Mobile Home Park next year, and staff is studying this.
- The 66-inch replacement contracts are going well with over 40% of the pipe laid. The Contract #1 contractor is working at Dangl Road and Marquette Avenue going west. The Contract #2 contractor is working on Hall Road west of Hilton Park Road and moving west.
- May attendance at our County parks was up from 2008.
- Our Parks division has had some major problems with their large mowers this period.
- Our hauled waste volume for May was an all-time monthly record 4.25M gallons with some one-time large cleanups being done. June's volume should exceed 3.5M, up significantly from last year. New haulers continue to be permitted.
- The pivot pad for rig 9 broke; staff demoed it and poured a new one.
- The telemetry on the new irrigation rigs is now in operation.
- The first cutting of alfalfa was taken, and the early fields chopped had lower yields due to the cold weather. The row crops are also behind in growth for this time of year, but have a good stand and have all been sprayed for weeds. Staff is busy shipping another 50,000 of last year's corn.
- The Wastewater Lab needs to replace their cyanide distillation unit soon.
- Wastewater and Solid Waste staff is done hauling sludge from drying bed E3.
- Wastewater staff is working with Scott Erdman's environmental consultants in removing an old oil tank from the house office on the site and removing oil-contaminated soil from around the hydraulic irrigation rig pivots. Mr. Erdman will be asking for another extension on the property closing (likely until January) due to more MDEQ requirements that must be met.
- A confined space rescue practice was completed at the Grain Center this month.
- Our Hunting Committee will meet in July to have a recommendation to the Board in August or September.
- Our second quarter Service Anniversary Party will be this Thursday, June 25th at noon at the farm. Hamburgs and picnic fare will be offered along with vanilla and Milky-Way homemade ice cream. We will be giving out 9 certificates for 175 years of service and four suggestion awards.



Fuel Oil tank removal at Whitehall Plant



Harry Sloop and Ken Scarth "rescue" the practice manikin inside a grain bin while wearing SCBA gear during a Confined Space practice

PERSONNEL

Welcome to **Mike Stevenson**, our Michigan Works employee for the summer. Please continue to pray for **Bob Harrington** who will be out for several weeks yet after knee surgery, for **Mike Lorentz** who will be out until July after elbow surgery, for **Forrest McCauley** who had more quality time in the hospital last week for tests, for **Tony Dunn** who is back to work but will continue with chemotherapy for several months, and for **Brian Bates** who retired last week and continues to battle cancer. Brian had almost 36 years of service, the longest of anyone so far at the Wastewater System. We offer our condolences to the family of **Jack Hughey** in the loss of his mom. Congratulations to **Jeff Winters, Mark Eisenbarth, and Steve Fink** for 10, 5, and 5 years of service this month. Congratulations also to **Mike Faino** on his promotion to Disposal Site Operator at the landfill. Congratulations to **Anita Friend** who was awarded our state MWEA's Lab Professional of the Year this week. What an honor and we are so proud of her!



Sewer Force Main installation on Dykstra Road in Laketon Township



Gravity Sewer work on Memorial Drive in Laketon Township



Demolition of the Cell #1 Pre-Aeration Chambers



Old C Station is gone!



First Cutting of hay being cut



66-inch force main replacement near Marquette Avenue and Dangl Road



Patrick Pastor and Shane Sietsema with the old pivot pad of Rig #9 removed



Spraying soybeans for weed control