



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

- ✚ The Public Works Board approved Johnson and Anderson to do the engineering work on the local water services affected by the Water and Sewer Projects being constructed in Laketon Township.
- ✚ Our landfill groundwater contractor, Environmental Information Logistics, was approved to do the modeling and well design for our Solid Waste Cell #1 wells that have failed.
- ✚ The annual free day of dumping solid waste for our Muskegon County communities was approved.
- ✚ Change Order #3 was approved for the landfill cap project. This change order included additional well parts, gas line piping, and liner welding.
- ✚ Change Order #3 was approved on Laketon Township Contract #2 to cover additional subgrade undercutting on the sewer portion of the job.
- ✚ A revision to our Solid Waste Order Stipulation was approved by the Public Works Board, adding our gas compression and pumping operation.
- ✚ Alfalfa bids were awarded to the highest bidder for one year on five fields and for four years on six fields. The bids were lower than last year, but still high enough to justify growing the hay crop.
- ✚ The farm chemical and fertilizer bids were awarded to the low bidders that met our specifications.
- ✚ Permission was given from the Board to request a quote from the Segment #1 60-inch contractor to install a small water main on part of the Marquette Avenue route.
- ✚ An SRF Projects Recognition and Kickoff was held at the new Lift Station C last week and was well attended. Staff recognized the engineers (Prein&Newhof), contractors (Triangle and Associates, K&R, and Jackson-Merkey Contractors), and MDEQ (Director, SRF staff, and local Surface Water staff) for their hard work on completing Phase I and II of our Collection System Upgrade. Staff also recognized Commissioner McMurray for his 16 years as our Public Works Board Chairman.
- ✚ K&R began work on the Wastewater Site around Cell #1 this month and will start laying 60-inch pipe near the interception ditch crossing down toward Hall Road next week. Jackson-Merkey should begin installing the 16-inch force main on Dangl Road between MacArthur and Hall and the 60-inch force main near Brooks Road around the end of the month.
- ✚ Staff and our engineers are expediting the design for a single small pump and drive at Lift Station D due to the recent loss of paper mill flow. We will hopefully be far enough along on the plans to recommend the bid or purchase of such equipment in April. Right now we are operating the 600-HP pumps (with heavy flywheels) as if they were sump pumps.
- ✚ The design is completed for the Laketon Station diversion, but advertisement will wait pending an MDEQ decision on whether or not we can extend the completion date to take advantage of a first quarter 2010 SRF low interest loan. Stimulus monies are being used to offer a 23% principle forgiveness on 2009 and first quarter 2010 eligible projects only.
- ✚ Work continues at Lift Station C to upgrade the county-wide monitoring of all our Wastewater systems. The Metro Site security cameras can now be viewed downtown.
- ✚ K&R hauled about a thousand yards of sand to assist staff in fixing a major washout on the north side of the Wastewater property.
- ✚ Soil borings were taken this week on the fly ash hill as exploratory work for wind turbines.
- ✚ The rifle range sand on the old Whitehall site was removed to our landfill and the site tested.
- ✚ The hauled waste volume last month set a February record of over 2 million gallons and March should be about 2.6 MG.
- ✚ Delivery has started on the two new irrigation rigs for fields 12 and 13.
- ✚ Work on the grain center scales is going well.
- ✚ Potassium fertilizer application on the established alfalfa fields began this week.
- ✚ It appears that irrigation will not need to begin until the first week in May, but Operations Maintenance will begin working on station preparations soon.
- ✚ Staff completed the lagoon rip rap rock replacement this month.
- ✚ One last flushing was done on the Whitehall Road water main before summer.
- ✚ The Wastewater System will get flow from the Duck Creek RV Park this spring.
- ✚ Construction continues on the sewage lift station on Horton Road on the above-grade building.
- ✚ Staff has been working with our Water Attorney and the Water Policy Board to revise the management contract.
- ✚ Staff attended a Park conference where sessions discussed “green” options, but most are expensive.
- ✚ Another grant application is being written for Pioneer Park.



Commissioner McMurray thanked for his 16 years as Public Works Board Chairman



Representatives from our engineers, MDEQ, Wastewater Management Committee, Public Works Board, pipe manufacturer, and contractors pose by the commemorative pipe at the Open House for the kickoff of 60-inch replacement work



Demolition of the old 1973 vintage Lyco Lift Station D



K&R laying 60-inch concrete culvert in the interception ditch where the 60-inch force main will cross it



Horton Road sewage lift station in Laketon Township



Unloading a new hydraulic irrigation rig in field #12



Grizz digging the cover off the cap liner so that soil borings can be taken on the fly ash hill for the wind turbine project



40-yard off-road truck unloads sand to help staff repair erosion on the Wastewater site



It's gone! The above-grade demolition of our old Lift Station C is nearly done

PERSONNEL

Welcome to **Tom Taylor**, our new Collection System Operator! **THANK YOU** to all who helped with the SRF Projects Recognition and Kick-Off Open house last week! C Station was spotless, and I had many good comments on the station, the tours, the parking, the sound system, the organization recognition, and the 60-inch pipe. State MDEQ Director Chester told his staff back in Lansing that he did not know a sewage lift station could be so clean. Any who would like a tour, please contact Mark Eisenbarth, Mike Barry, Vivek Singh, or just stop in and ask the Operator on duty. Please sign the pipe in the garage – it will be there for several weeks yet. Congratulations to **Harry Sloop** on five years of service and **Ken Scarth** with 25 years of service this month. Remember our Quarterly Service Anniversary Party next Thursday, March 26th at noon at the Farm Headquarters. We offer our condolences to **Jesse Peña** and his family in the passing of his mom last week. Thanks to all those involved with sampling, testing, and removing the rifle range sand from our old Whitehall Treatment Site this month.