

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

- ✚ The Public Works and Water Boards authorized Water staff to use Dixon Engineering to do the inspection on the Fruitport Water Tower paint job. They had done the design and specifications work and were requested by Fruitport.
- ✚ The Public Works and Water Boards also approved Change Order #7 on the Laketon Township Greenridge Waste and Sewer Contract #2, a deduction of \$119,750 on the contract and the last large contract change that is expected.
- ✚ A summer engineering intern position was approved by the Public Works and Water Boards. Staff is checking with several universities to see if they have any programs to help support this educational work opportunity.
- ✚ The annual free dump day for our communities at our landfill was approved.
- ✚ The last three 1972 Lockwood irrigation rigs were sold to Scott Erdman for \$3 and the obligation that he removes them from the property in April. The worth of these old systems has always been about as much as it costs to take them down and set them back up again.
- ✚ Bids were approved for the Wastewater Farm chemicals and fertilizers for 2010.
- ✚ A bid award on one fleet vehicle for the Wastewater System had to be rescinded after the vendor could not supply the vehicle. The next low bidder was then awarded the business.
- ✚ The Public Works Board approved the first step toward a more paperless office at the Wastewater System. We will use what is called Laserfiche software, the same as CMH, to scan and file old documents and to facilitate the handling of new ones. This process will begin in a couple weeks.
- ✚ The highest bids were approved to purchase over 600 acres of alfalfa hay to be planted this spring.
- ✚ The Hall of Justice first and second floor renovation bids are due at the end of this month. Asbestos removal for this project should begin in May.
- ✚ The Honeywell Energy project is still ahead of schedule.
- ✚ Staff is working with a local service club to construct a pavilion at Heritage Landing and with the City of Muskegon to move the bike path where it crosses the park.
- ✚ The Sodar wind profiling unit is due on site next week, and training will also be done at that time. Given all the interest from Scandia Wind this week, this is good timing.
- ✚ Wastewater staff and our engineers are still trying to determine if our Lift Station C pump motor bearings have adequate current isolation.
- ✚ Wastewater staff has been investigating the possibility of treating more groundwater contamination from around the county.
- ✚ Influent wastewater and outfall samples will be sent out this summer to be tested for pharmaceuticals for the first time.
- ✚ We have our own spring training with employees at Hazwoper and an agriculture planter training.
- ✚ Our rig technicians are moving two hydraulic rigs from fields 20 and 34 down south of Apple to replace the old Lockwoods that are junk. A third rig will be constructed from spare parts on hand.
- ✚ Spring field work has begun with alfalfa fertilizer application and general tillage operations.
- ✚ Cleaning of a portion of the lagoon interception ditch has begun.
- ✚ On the water system, meter replacement needs on the Northside area are increasing, and staff has discovered many leaks in abandoned houses.
- ✚ The hauled waste volume increased to 1.75 MG in February. March is on pace to exceed 2.3 MG.
- ✚ The large library of Wastewater MSDS's is being converted to electronic form. Wastewater will be switching later this month to an electronic format for some of its hard-to-find files and for some of the operations that generate the most paperwork.
- ✚ Respirator medical questionnaires will go out shortly for our confined space team to determine who can use SCBA's.
- ✚ Honeywell may have some lights that we can use from other buildings.
- ✚ A proposal for non-computer equipment and furnishings disposal has been developed and was sent to the Administrator this week.
- ✚ Bids are out for the extra meters to measure more of the City of Muskegon's wastewater flow and are due in April.
- ✚ Jackson-Merkey Contractors has completed the boring under Apple Avenue for the Laketon Station to Sullivan Station project. The pipeline should be done substantially ahead of the June deadline.
- ✚ K&R demolished the flume around Cell #1 and has laid much of the pipe between Cells #1 and #2. This area will be paved in May.
- ✚ **We will have our quarterly service anniversary party March 25<sup>th</sup> at noon at the Farm Headquarters.**

**PERSONNEL**

We congratulated **Dawn DeVowe** on 20 years of service last month, but it appears I had calculated the date from all her jobs wrong. She will have 20 years in November. Maybe I can talk about her and embarrass her more then. **Wally Wolting** is still on light duty and will see the doctor again soon. **Ron Glover** has surgery today and will be out for 2-3 months. We pray for his speedy recovery. The City of Muskegon Public Works Director, the very senior **Bob Kuhn** is retiring April 1<sup>st</sup>, which is an appropriate date for this character. He does have several things going for him, however, having graduated from the University of Illinois College of Engineering and having adopted a child out of poverty. We are all jealous of **Anna Foster** who will retire April 30<sup>th</sup>!

Come out and support the inaugural Katty Shack 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, April 24, 2010, at 9:00 AM at the Grand Haven Senior Center. The race will benefit the Crime Victim Foundation and is being put on by former Wastewater Chemist **Natalie Kik-Brown** in memory of her daughter Katherine who was a crime victim. Contact Dave Kendrick or Joe Tarnani for race forms.



*Demolition of flume around Cell #1*



*Laying pipe south of Cell #1*



*Set up for boring under Apple Avenue for Laketon Station to Sullivan Station pipeline*



*Partial clearing of pipeline route along east side of Sullivan Road*



*Station/pipeline project is being partially funded by ARRA principal forgiveness*



*Wastewater technicians moving irrigation rig spans to south of Apple*



*Cleaning lagoon interception ditch with wastewater excavator*



*Spreading potassium fertilizer on hay fields*