



Public Works Monthly Newsletter Issue #118 May 21st, 2010

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

- The Public Works and Water Boards approved the final change order for Contract #1 of the Laketon Township Greenridge Area Water and Sewer installation project.
- The Public Works Board also approved the final balancing change order for the capping of Landfill Cells #2 and #3.
- The Wastewater System received permission from the Board to sell some of the used farm equipment at some local farm auctions.
- Two change orders for deductions of over \$150,000 were approved for Contract #1 of the 66-inch force main replacement project.
- An informational meeting has been scheduled for 7 PM June 2nd at Oakridge High School for Scandia Wind to present information on the possibility of a 150 MW wind farm at the Wastewater System. Full Board Chairman Mahoney will moderate.
- The department held its first Household Hazardous Waste event mid-month with Vic and Greg being quite busy.
- The new scraper for the landfill has been checked over and put into operation.
- 4 Another Apple Avenue house was torn down this period and hauled to our landfill.
- Soil from the Muskegon Lake restoration project is being received at the landfill and used for daily cover.
- The Hauled Waste volume for April was a respectable 2.8 MG, but May is only at a 2.4 MG pace so far.
- The latest round of water service installations to individual Greenridge Area residences has begun and is going well so far.
- Work on the Honeywell energy project continues with asbestos abatement in four county buildings completed this period. Asbestos abatement and demolition work continues at the Hall of Justice.
- The Farm will start shipping corn next week, and the first cutting of alfalfa will also be taken soon. Some low spots in a couple soybean fields were frosted earlier this month and may need to be replanted.
- The Sullivan Station ditch was cleaned this period, and some major washouts in the RI System were repaired.
- A new pump and motor has been ordered for our only remaining LYCO sewage lift station (L) in Muskegon Heights.
- The pipeline from Laketon Station to Sullivan Station is complete, and we likely will be pumping through it sometime next week, treating the drainage water from south of Apple Avenue in the Rapid Infiltration System. The Order deadline is June 1st.
- 4 Operations Maintenance will begin exercising the isolation and air vacuum valves on the 60-inch force main next week.
- Jackson-Merkey will come in and rebuild the last four Rapid Infiltration Basin valves in their contract soon.
- Irrigation of the crops at the Wastewater System began the first week in May and has been slow so far. With our lower flows, keeping the lagoon elevation at a manageable level is easier.
- A motor expert was in and did an efficiency study on some of the Wastewater System's oldest irrigation units. It appears that the 37-year-old pump motors at South Irrigation Station are the least efficient (big surprise). If the energy savings payback period is sufficiently short, staff will recommend some replacements beginning next year.
- Western Michigan University has won further grant funding in their algae research at the Wastewater System and has equipment set up for summer testing.
- The SODAR wind profiler has measured an average wind velocity of about 12 miles per hour so far at 300 feet.
- We are now monitoring directly the Northeast Plume pump station at Whitehall that receives water from the nine groundwater purge wells that are still capturing water from the Mill Pond Trail area
- Pioneer, Meinert, and Blue Lake Parks have been open this month, but the weather has been poor on the weekends so far.
- Buck Construction has been awarded the HOJ first and second floor remodeling, and the bid came in under budget. Most of the work will be done nights and weekends.
- The base course of paving was completed around the treatment cells, widening the roads where the old flumes were removed.



Another Apple Avenue house was removed to the landfill this month

PERSONNEL

Welcome to **Torrance Williams** and **Colleen Walsh**, our Wastewater and Water Engineering Aides for the summer. Colleen is already studying to take a June exam to be registered for soil erosion inspections. Please pray for **Mike Faino's** family as their twomonth-old son is having gall bladder surgery, for **Tony Dunn's** family as his sister has an advanced stage of cancer, for **Jim Wood** for his back surgery next week, for **Bob Harrington** as he undergoes a stress test, for



Residential water service installation on Memorial Drive in Laketon Township



Hall of Justice asbestos removal prep work



Pipeline almost completed to Laketon Station



Replacement CAT 615 landfill scraper



New hydraulic irrigation rigs being delivered



Antione and Ron repair a washout in one of the RI System ditches

Antione Williams as he is off for another major surgery, for Karen Buie's continued recovery from major surgery, and for Larry Coleman's family as they continue to care for his mother-in-law. Thanks to Fleet Maintenance for again doing the maintenance work on the Facilities tractor this spring. Congratulations to Randy Cole, Tom Robinson, Steve Robinson, and Ray Kuypers on 10, 10, 15, and 30 years of service this month. The director thanks all for their prayers during his recent kidney stone experience.