



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

- # The Public Works Board approved the annual department highway permit application for water and wastewater work in the state road rights-of-ways.
- # Permission was given to solicit engineers to perform landfill gas system design work in expanding our system.
- # A change order was approved to our water system modeling engineer to cover extra expenses in combining all the individual models into a single model.
- # The bid for the organic analysis laboratory equipment was awarded.
- # Permission was given to staff to bid a truck for the wastewater system for FY2011.
- # Permission was also given to wastewater staff to bid a new ferric chloride storage tank.
- # Permission was given to bid the wastewater system's quarterly calibration of the billing and operations meters.
- # The Public Works Board approved John Warner and Mark Eisenbarth as co-directors within the Department after the current director's retirement. This action needs to go to the Full Board for approval as well.
- # The Hall of Justice construction project is progressing. It appears now that a major rebuilding is in order for the jail elevators to stop at the new second floor.
- # Heath Kaplan was recently hired as the County's Finance and Management Director. He will oversee the County's Budget, Purchasing, Accounting, Information Systems, and Office Services departments.
- # The Honeywell Energy Project is winding down with the windows being replaced and transite panels removed at Brookhaven and a new chiller scheduled for our Oak Street Building.
- # Our Parks division is fighting the leaf wars and starting on winter projects.
- # The Wastewater Lab submitted a final draft of a Headworks Loading Study to DNRE and is awaiting their approval.
- # Our Industrial Pretreatment division is studying the dentists who do a good job of treating their mercury and finding out how these methods can be passed on to others.
- # Construction work at the Wastewater drainage pump stations is nearly complete, and they are operating well.
- # The work to place a standby generator for Lift Station L just needs coordination between the electrical and gas utilities to complete.
- # Several acres of timber were removed from Field #7 that should have originally been under cultivation. With our GPS instruments on the tractors, it is easier to know where to clear.
- # A pre-construction meeting is scheduled at the end of the month for the Rapid Infiltration electrical and instrumentation upgrade work.
- # Influent piping was placed in Cell #2 so that water can come through the new 60-inch line directly to the bottom of the cell. The roads around the cells were paved this month as well.
- # Wastewater Operations Maintenance is pumping down the outlet lagoon to remove the massive algae residue.
- # Despite increases in our rate the last two years, a rate comparison done this month of the larger communities in Michigan shows our plant on the low side of average in costs for treatment.
- # Our tillage work at the wastewater farm should be done by Thanksgiving.
- # Early ordered alfalfa, corn, and soybean seed for next year's crop has started to arrive at the farm for storage.
- # Shipment of 100,000 bushels of corn began this week from the System's grain center.
- # The flushing of several portions of the water system has been necessary due to the typically lower volumes of water being used.
- # The water system valve and hydrant maps are nearing completion.
- # The interior painting of the Fruitport water tower is done. The outside is scheduled for spring.
- # The extra \$180,000 in Greenridge grant funds was received for the Laketon Township project.
- # The Hauled Waste volume for October was 2.7 million gallons. November will be significantly more with the over 900,000 gallons coming in the first few weeks of November from a spill in Big Rapids.
- # Anemometers will be installed soon on the WOOD TV and Clear Channel towers near the Wastewater Site to help calibrate the SODAR unit.
- # Sales of the bow permits for the System are at 225 for the regular season and 25 for bow hunting during rifle season.
- # Our quarterly service anniversary party will be at noon on December 16th and is a potluck.
- # The new flow meters for the City of Muskegon flow will be installed in the spring.
- # The various attorneys for all of the participants are reviewing the pertinent contracts.
- # Our attorneys on the Wind Project are developing options for the County to put forth a Request for Proposals for a wind developer.
- # The new 20-year Wastewater Master Contract was approved by all 15 communities (albeit with conditions by the City of Muskegon). Staff will bring it to the Public Works Board in December.
- # The farm operators mowed both the fly ash hill and covered portion of the Type II landfill.



Ruby Moore receives her County retirement clock last week



Randy Young with retirement cake earlier this month



Mowing the capped portion of the Type II Landfill



Laying 42-inch influent piping into Cell #2



Chipping brush and small limbs from Field #7 clearing activity



What kind of treasure might be at the end of this rainbow?

PERSONNEL

Our condolences go out to the families of former employees **Gene Degen** and **Brian Bates** who passed away this month and also to the **Tom Taylor** family in the passing of his brother-in-law. Please pray for **Bob Harrington** who is recovering from back surgery and will hopefully be back next month. Congratulations to **Ruby Moore** who retired last week from our Facilities division and again to Randy Young who retired from the Wastewater System. Congratulations to **Dawn DeVowe** who has 20 years of service in November.