



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

- ✚ The Public Works Board authorized staff to advertise for bids our uniforms and floor mats. Permission was also given to bid a 1974 GMC 2.5-ton grain truck.
- ✚ Permission was given by the Board for the Wastewater System to switch commodities brokers to Smith Barney.
- ✚ Permission was given by the Board to erect a wind metering tower on the fly ash hill.
- ✚ Installation of the 60-inch force main pipe began several weeks ago on the treatment site and should have the first 5,000 feet completed out to Maple Island and Hall Roads by the end of next week. Pipe laying at Brooks and Hall Roads began this week.
- ✚ Construction at Lift Station C is complete except paving, landscaping, and punch list items.
- ✚ The contractor is painting the Pump Station 3 strainer piping and will look at a final stabilization of the structure.
- ✚ Staff has been meeting with our engineer to nail down the scope of the Sullivan Station replacement and Rapid Infiltration System upgrade, both in anticipation of treating the Laketon Station discharge and qualifying for SRF funds to do the construction.
- ✚ More site safety inspections will be done this year in our Public Works divisions.
- ✚ Even as our flow into the wastewater plant drops to 14-15 MGD, our hauled waste volume pulled off its 10th straight monthly record in March with 2.7 MG and appears to be on a record pace for April.
- ✚ Two of the liner repairs from the borings on the fly ash hill have been completed, and a request is in to MDEQ regarding how the wind metering tower anchors to will penetrate the liner.
- ✚ Our flare pilot system is ready for our electrical contractor to connect. Unfortunately, both the foundry and chemical industry operations have slowed down, and the price of natural gas is down as well.
- ✚ One of our Solid Waste leachate pump stations is down, and the waste is being pumped manually. Staff is looking into a new station that would handle additional flows.
- ✚ We expect our landfill cap project to start up again at the end of this month.
- ✚ Our Water staff has been chasing down many leaks in abandoned houses and is much better able to spot these problems with our monthly billing meter reads.
- ✚ Several local communities have decided to go ahead with our gypsy moth spraying this spring.
- ✚ Our two Greenridge water and sewer projects have started up again in Laketon Township and expect to be done this summer.
- ✚ The planting of over 700 acres of alfalfa began this week at the Wastewater farm.
- ✚ Our Wastewater staff erected the old hydraulic irrigation rigs that we moved to fields 44 and 48 from fields 12 and 13. An irrigation contractor assembled new irrigation rigs in those two fields.
- ✚ Our heavy equipment operator has been stacking sludge in preparation of hauling it to our landfill.
- ✚ The Cell #1 mixer rebuild project progressed this month with seven of the 18 units being set. A helicopter is scheduled in a few weeks to replace a few motors in Cell #2 while it is in operation.
- ✚ A new Maximum Allowable Headworks Loading (MAHL) study is underway due to Sappi being down for six months.
- ✚ Staff continues to do the preliminary work necessary to document the capability to treat water from the Cordova site next year.
- ✚ Computer issues with flow reporting at our new main lift station have occurred and are being corrected.
- ✚ Some of the temporary meters installed for the City of Muskegon have had to be relocated, and lack of much storm data will mean that this study should be continued at least through May.
- ✚ The pumping of the remaining sludge in Cell #4 should begin later this month.
- ✚ Proposals have been received for both the algae and grease projects, and staff will likely make recommendations on both at our May Public Works Board meeting.
- ✚ Our Parks division has hired the temporary rangers for the summer with all having prior park experience. Pioneer and Meinert Parks will open May 1st.
- ✚ One of the VFDs at our Harvey Street water pump station was damaged by an electrical surge and will likely be down for several months.



Placing new frames and rebuilt motors and mixers in Cell #1



Placing liner over 60-inch force main section before placing it in the trench box



Laketon Township sewer installation on Pennsylvania Avenue



Valve vaults completed next to sewer lift station at end of Horton Road in Laketon Township



The above-grade portion of old C Station has been demolished and hauled off



Lift Station L damage to electrical panels



Spring Tillage work on the farm

PERSONNEL

Congratulations to **Steve Barnard**, **Joe Tardani**, and **Greg Cioe** for 20, 20, and 35 years of service this month. Please keep **Tony Dunn** in your prayers. Tony had a quickly-scheduled and apparently successful cancer surgery last week and is now home. He will be off several weeks yet. Congratulations to **Merl Schlaack** who is retiring April 25th after almost 16 years of service for our Solid Waste and Farm divisions. Thanks to those who responded quickly at L Station this week and got it operating on a generator. The above-ground electrical gear was smashed up pretty good after an 11-year-old drove his mom's car into it. Thanks to our irrigation operators for pumping all the standing water in the sludge drying beds to aid drying.