



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

- ✚ The Public Works Board reelected **Marve Engle** Chairman, **Jim Derezhinski** Vice-Chairman, and **Jeff Hepler** Secretary of the Board.
- ✚ The Board approved extending the contracts for both our Solid Waste groundwater and air quality consultants for another year.
- ✚ Permission was given to staff to write off a Solid Waste \$500 bad debt.
- ✚ The Board approved Change Order #1 for the Cell #1 Gas System Modifications Project, a balancing change order that reduced the contract by over \$10,000.
- ✚ The Board approved selling \$15,000 in proprietary data acquisition equipment formerly used to monitor the wire breaks in the 66-inch PCCP force main back to the manufacturer.
- ✚ Wastewater staff received permission to bid the farm chemicals, fertilizers, and alfalfa hay for FY2010.
- ✚ Change Order #1 for the Cell #4 sludge removal project was approved for material that was hauled to two rapid infiltration beds by truck.
- ✚ Change Order #1 was approved for the Outfall 002 Laketon and Sullivan Station Improvements contract to reduce the contract by over \$100,000 in hiring an alternate electronics subcontractor.
- ✚ Change Order #3 for Segment 2 of the 66-inch force main replacement project was approved for a deduction of over \$100,000 as a balancing change order for the 60-inch portion of the job.
- ✚ Change Order #4 for Segment 1 of the 66-inch force main replacement project was approved for a deduction of over \$5,000 as a balancing change order for the water main portion of the job.
- ✚ Permission was given to Wastewater staff to bid a Sonic Detection and Ranging (SODAR) unit to measure the wind profile on the fly ash hill and other Wastewater locations. Issues with the metering tower originally designed for the site have shown that the SODAR unit is better suited for this location.
- ✚ Our Parks division is working on inside improvements to some of our many parks buildings and residences and quoting supplies for next summer.
- ✚ The County-Wide energy program is getting underway with Honeywell as our consultant. Work has been done at the Herman Ivory terminal, Hall of Justice, and CMH. Honeywell will supervise some of this work on the Wastewater Administration Building this year.
- ✚ Our Facilities division has been performing the snow plowing so far at many of our county buildings assisted by an employee from the Drain Commissioners office.
- ✚ To save energy, the Wastewater System has been experimenting with different mixing and aeration combinations in the treatment cells this winter. The lower flows give us more flexibility with these alternatives.
- ✚ Lift Station C has now been running for over a month without the surge tank. Although small changes continue to be made in programming, the station operation appears to be well optimized.
- ✚ MDNRE completed their annual sampling and plant inspection of the Wastewater Plant this week and seemed pleased with the operation.
- ✚ Operations Maintenance continues to have a few pumps and motors pulled from the collection system and are working to resolve the problems with these units.
- ✚ Work to put the first City of Muskegon wastewater meter into operation proceeds at Keating Station. The remaining six meters will be bid in the spring.
- ✚ The hauled waste volume for December was a respectable 2.3 MG, but the January volume so far is down considerably at a 1.7 MG pace.
- ✚ Our Farm Manager is attending a seminar regarding the changing federal agriculture regulations.
- ✚ The Wastewater Farm purchased salt in bulk for the winter this year to save money and have the material more accessible.
- ✚ All our new North Muskegon customers have been transferred to our accounts and their equipment upgraded as necessary. Replacement meters will be an issue in both the Northside and Eastside Water Systems in the next several years.
- ✚ Our Water System is again catching many leaks in the winter with the monthly reads and associated billing.
- ✚ The new Greenhouse Gas rules will affect our landfill operations, and these are being studied.
- ✚ The Greenridge Water and Sewer contracts are down to just restoration work that will be done in the spring. Two contracts for the remaining residential water connections will be bid in the spring.
- ✚ The new Quarterline Station antenna was completed this period, and the electronics have been installed.
- ✚ Wastewater staff is working to put our MSDS forms on computer for easier access and referencing.
- ✚ The first beagle club event was held this month and went without incident. Three woodlots were used, and the participants were happy with the opportunity.
- ✚ Division cooperation = Wastewater will use the old Quarterline Tower for communications on site, and Solid Waste borrowed our excavator for work in the landfill. An old generator from the Hall of Justice will be used at L Station.
- ✚ The old 66-inch pipeline is being filled with flowable concrete. Over a mile has been done, and they are completing about a quarter mile a day. About 35,000 cubic yards of concrete will be used, and the job should be done in March.
- ✚ A pre-construction meeting for the Outfall 002 Project will be held next week. This work will start this spring and be done this year. Laketon Station and the pipeline to Sullivan Station will be done by early summer.
- ✚ The bids will be in soon for the motor replacement at Lift Station D. The change is from a 600-horsepower motor to an 85-horsepower unit, and the work should be done by the end of this summer.



*Hunter Edwin Scarth*



*Filling old 66-inch force main with flowable concrete on White Road*



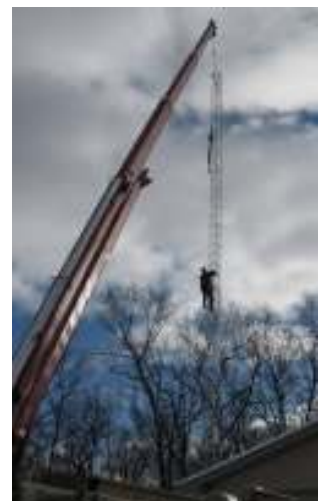
*Gaylene and her retirement cake*



*Tele-handler pushing salt into storage at grain center*



*Excavator being used in the landfill*



*New Quarterline Tower*

**PERSONNEL**

There were no 5-year increment service anniversaries this month. Our condolences go to the family of **Lee Burley** in the passing of his father-in-law. **Wally Wolting** is still on light duty after knee surgery. Thank you to Solid Waste for hosting a small retirement party last week for **Gaylene Strickler**. Welcome to **Carly Hines** who is replacing Gaylene as Clerk at Solid Waste and starts work Monday. Welcome to **Amy Taylor** who also joined us this month as Laboratory Technician. Congratulations to **John Warner** for passing the state exam for his S-1 Water License (the highest state rating)! Congratulations to **Ken Scarth** on the birth of his sixth grandchild, Hunter Edwin Scarth on the last day of 2009. Thanks to **Tony Marvin** and **Ed Washington** for their work this winter on the Rapid Infiltration Basins. We have many more basins now available for treatment. Thanks also to **Paul Rolewicz** for working over the weekend to finish testing a batch of organic samples before their hold time expired.