



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

- Muskegon Wind, LLC (Gamesa) continues to monitor wind data from the three met towers, with data from the SODAR unit will be compared to the tower data.
- Staff has completed the field work to map utilities on the 11,000-acre Wastewater site. Work will continue to incorporate the information into the GIS program in Equalization.
- Bids were received by Ducks Unlimited for construction of the Marsh Project on the Wastewater site. Jackson-Merkey was low bid and awarded the project through Ducks Unlimited. Before work begins, staff will need to complete the 26-acre easement portion of the permit.
- There were no incidents involved with the archery hunting season on the Wastewater site. A total of 171 out of 300 full season permits have been sold along with 26 mid-season permits.
- The fall tillage was completed on the Farm fields, and the wheat cover crop has been planted to prevent soil erosion.
- The 1,370 acres of corn harvested for silage yielded 18.99 tons per acre, which is equivalent to 152 bushel corn, and is very close to last year's yield.
- The soybean harvest had a yield of 43.6 bushels per acre, keeping in line with the budgeted yield for the crop. Due to the extended growing season some alfalfa fields produced an additional cutting.
- Ivan Phillips, the newly-hired Automations Process Controls Manager, is working on configuring the Human Machine Interface (HMI) software and reporting functions on a new computer for C Station.
- Several Wastewater employees received training on safe use of the hydraulic mobile crane.
- The DEQ gave Wastewater permission to public notice the revised sewer use ordinance and the new local limits for industrial dischargers. The thirty-day public notice period should begin in January.
- Solid Waste recently expanded the landfill gas collection system to include 8 new wells along with other improvements.
- The Parks are shut down for the season with fall cleanup, maintenance, and snow removal tasks being performed. The Board approved fee increases, and they are as follows: Meinert Seasonal Rate to \$1,900, Pioneer and Blue Lake Campsite Overnight to \$25, Pioneer Group Camping Overnight to \$350, Meinert Cabin Weekly to \$800, Meinert Cabin Nightly to \$100, Picnic Lodge Fees to \$100, and Picnic Shelter Fees to \$50. Other rates will remain the same as 2012.
- Household Hazardous Waste collection has finished for the year. Regular collection hours are the second and fourth Friday of each month, May through October, from 1:00-3:00 PM. You can visit www.co.muskegon.mi.us/HHW for more details.
- The Muskegon Area Medication Disposal Program has many locations for controlled and non-controlled medication drop-off, including all law enforcement offices. For more information and a list of all the sites, please check our website at www.co.muskegon.mi.us/sustainability/medsharps.htm
- We would like to transmit this newsletter via email whenever possible. Please forward your email addresses to burnsma@co.muskegon.mi.us to be added to the list. Thank you!

Personnel

- We recognize two service anniversaries this quarter, **Mike Faino** who marked 10 years and **Cheryl Helsen** who marked 20 years.
- Our best wishes to **Diane Doenges** of Facilities Management who retired December 12, with 23+ years of service and to **Linda Neal**, also of Facilities Management, who will retire December 28, with 18 years of service.
- Wastewater welcomed a fall intern, **Cory Bodziak**, who did some GIS field work and also helped in the Laboratory.



Winter



*Work for the Laketon Township meter at
Whitehall and Dykstra Roads*



The new Laketon Township flow meter



Landfill gas collection expansion work



*Diane Doenges and John Warner celebrating
Diane's retirement*