



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

- ✚ The Water Policy and Public Works Boards authorized bidding the installation of a taller radio tower for the Quarterline Pump Station and soliciting bids for the engineering of a future Muskegon Lake channel crossing.
- ✚ The Board approved the fence and landscaping bids for work around the Fruitport Township water tower.
- ✚ The Board approved a contract with our landfill environmental consultant to install, test, and do the statistical analysis on three new wells in the vicinity of the "gap" area between Cells #1 and #2.
- ✚ Wastewater staff received permission to sell three 1972 Lockwood Irrigation Rigs.
- ✚ The construction engineering contract was approved for the Sullivan Drainage Station replacement project.
- ✚ Permission was granted by the Board to hire a contractor to do emergency directional drilling to replace failed water pipe on Center Street at the Holland Drain.
- ✚ The remodeling at the Hall of Justice has meant a lot of shuffling of work space in the building and around the South Campus Buildings. Staff is trying to keep this activity as organized as possible. Staff is also working on design issues for the CMH Building Addition.
- ✚ The contractors are close to finishing the Laketon Township sewer and water installations. They will hopefully be done testing this week and will be done adding services soon. We will bid the first contract of local water services immediately and do the rest in the spring.
- ✚ The First Run FY2009 budget showed a loss of \$700,000 in fund balance for the Wastewater System.
- ✚ Our United Way campaign is in progress in our department. Steve Barnard will visit our various divisions with information and forms.
- ✚ Our Safety staff report that the H1N1 virus is becoming more active in the area, but it not as severe an illness as it could have been. Still our divisions have been advised to think about how we can keep our work going if we have a significant number of employees off sick.
- ✚ The fall migratory bird and bat studies were conducted for the fly ash turbine project.
- ✚ Work on the design of a smaller pump for Lift Station D has proceeded, and it now appears that an 85-horsepower model will be optimal. This project should be out for bid in November.
- ✚ The mixer rebuilding and lagoon structure changes from the new 60-inch pipe are nearly done in Cell #1.
- ✚ All of the Lift Station C pump motors have now been rebuilt because of electrical grounding issues that deteriorated the motor bearings.
- ✚ Nine floating aerators have been moved to Cell #4 to treat wastewater and hauled waste.
- ✚ The Rapid Infiltration "B" basins are out of service so that many of them could be rebuilt this month.
- ✚ Weekly chlorine residual testing indicated that we need to chlorinate the Whitehall Road water main and tank, so this is scheduled for this week.
- ✚ Lift Station C staff has begun a six-month trial period for 6 AM and 6 PM 12-hour shifts.
- ✚ Irrigation at the Wastewater Plant was shut down October 5<sup>th</sup>.
- ✚ A new bypass pump engine has been located to replace the one that failed last week. John Deere is investigating the cause to determine if they want to participate in the costs.
- ✚ Fleet Maintenance cleaned out the Hauled Waste Scales so the material under the deck will not freeze like it did a few years ago (thanks!).



*Small windmills were installed on top of our landfill to operate gas system condensate pumps*



*98% done! 60-inch force main installation approaching Harvey on Marquette*



*Boring pit for installation of the 60-inch pipe under US-31*

- ✚ Fleet also dug some relief channels in the East Lagoon breakwater to hopefully drain the algae out of this area better next year. The annual addition of rip rap stone is being placed on the storage lagoons, and some Wastewater Plant back roads are being upgraded for harvest.
- ✚ The hard frost we had last week stopped the corn growth, so our yields will be reduced somewhat from last year. The weather has not allowed staff to accomplish much soybean harvest yet. Several of the grain center fans were balanced by a local shop this month.
- ✚ The hauled waste was 2.9 MG in September and is on a significantly higher pace for October.
- ✚ We gave our retirees a good send off and welcomed our Facilities division at our September service anniversary party. Thank-you cards received from two of them sound like they are on really long vacations.
- ✚ The 60-inch pipeline is now 98% complete with the contractors still trying to have this complete by the end of October. Final connections and testing could run into the first week of November. The US-31 boring work is proceeding on schedule. Testing of the remaining part of the Egelston Township pipe will be done this week.
- ✚ Our parks are closed for the season, and the battle with the leaves has begun.
- ✚ Revenues were up \$27,000 in our Parks division this year.
- ✚ The contractor installing the new landfill gas wells in Cell #1 has finished this work, increasing our gas flow by about 50 cfm. Two windmills were installed to pump condensate from the gas lines where such locations were remote from any onsite electrical feed.
- ✚ Our Household Hazardous Waste program has one more event this month on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, the last of the year. Thanks to **Greg Leverence** and **Vivek Singh**, we offer this community service twice a month from May through October.

**PERSONNEL**

Welcome back to **Antione Williams** from surgery. Congratulations to **Eric Imbault** on 10 years of service this month. Welcome to **Andrew Carey** who will be our new Collection System Operator beginning October 26<sup>th</sup>. Other results from our recent retirements include **Shane Sietsema**, who was promoted to Maintenance Mechanic; **Rodney Holland**, who was promoted to Maintenance Mechanic; and **Jesse Peña**, who was transferred from the Laboratory to a Collection System Operator position. My apologies to **Mary Peckham** in missing her service anniversary certificate at the party last month. She has been with Facilities since 1996, not 2006, so we will recognize her in December. Thanks so much to **Ed Washington** and **Mike Lorentz** for cleaning up the grease mess around Pump Station #3 last week. The high winds created waves that washed the floating grease over the short wall.



*A valve head was blown through the D Station Bypass Pump engine casting*



*Drilling new gas wells in Landfill Cell #1*



*System excavator cutting channels in the storage lagoon breakwater to drain algae*



*Farm staff has done little more than adjust the combines (above in field 51) so far this season with all the wet weather*



*Vic suited up to receive any kind of household hazardous waste*



*Chris Denevan, Ray Maleski, Bob Ekkel, and Greg Cioe with their retirement cake at the party where they were recognized*