

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

- ✚ The Public Works Board approved change orders for the Business Park North utilities construction. The Regional Water and Public Works Boards also approved a final change order for the Quarterline Road North Water Main Relining. Both projects are now complete.
- ✚ The fees for disposal of large animals at the landfill were raised to \$42 per ton to bring them in line to what is charged elsewhere.
- ✚ The budgets for our Solid Waste, Regional Water System, and Wastewater System were approved and recommended to the full board.
- ✚ Permission was given to bid Segment 2 (over 5 miles) of the 66-inch force main replacement and also to hire Miller Canfield as our bond counsel for same.
- ✚ Permission was given to Wastewater Staff to bid the crack cleaning and filling of the pavement around the Wastewater Treatment Cells.
- ✚ Conceptual approval was given to have a model rocket launch site at the Wastewater System.
- ✚ Telemetry improvements for monitoring the Whitehall site purge wells were approved.
- ✚ The Board approved a fund transfer from Wastewater to the Regional Water System to reimburse Water for Corporate Counsel's work in the Dalton Township sewer REU case.
- ✚ A disclosure statement was approved for the Laketon Township bonds.
- ✚ A change order was approved to wrap some new water main on the Laketon Township project where it would be located in the groundwater.
- ✚ Permission was granted to the Egelston Township Fire Department to burn one of the old houses on our Apple Avenue property as a training exercise.
- ✚ Our state MWEA Lagoon Committee met at the Wastewater System this month.
- ✚ A confined space rescue team practice was held this week out in a Rapid Infiltration Basin chamber.
- ✚ The Lift Station C new building progressed rapidly this month and should be done in October. Delivery of some of the yard piping pieces will put off the station testing until November or early December.
- ✚ MDEQ should give us the final approval on bonding for Segment 1 of the 66-inch force main replacement and a pre-construction meeting is scheduled for early October. A pre-bid meeting for Segment 2 will also be held in October.
- ✚ The old Lift Station D wet well was inspected and is in good enough shape to continue to use for retention.
- ✚ Nine pre-stress wires have broken in four months in the five miles of 66-inch pipe being monitored.
- ✚ Water staff is working on a unified rate schedule for all of our Regional System customers.
- ✚ The Wastewater System had an all-time record low month in August for wastewater flow at 18.6 MGD, but had a record high volume (3.35 MG) of hauled waste the same month.
- ✚ The Wastewater fax number is now ONLY 724-3588.
- ✚ Both Laketon Township construction contractors are making progress and should have much accomplished this fall.
- ✚ The last application of brine was applied to the Wastewater System slag roads.
- ✚ Staff has piled up and hauled the sludge from two drying beds and has almost another three piled up.
- ✚ The sand blasting and painting of the grain center bins and the associated ladder replacement work was slowed by the recent wet weather, but the contractors have made good progress this week.
- ✚ Soybean harvest could begin by the end of this month and the corn crop will likely be ready two or three weeks later. The last cutting of alfalfa will be taken after the first frost.
- ✚ Most of the RI Basins have been mowed this month.
- ✚ Five of the six liners in the "Gap" (west end of the project work area) are nearly complete. This side is really a liner for future fill. The remaining actual cap is a two-layer geo-synthetic system and work will start on it soon.
- ✚ Sun Chemical has been testing their burner unit on our landfill gas this week. We are hopeful that they can begin full-time use next week.
- ✚ Operations Maintenance has been working at repairing the hydro-electric plant, assisting the contractor in Cell #1, capping a 24-inch water line at the RI basins, performing electrical construction work at Lift Station L, pulling a plugged pump at Lift Station M, and working on a new sampler location at Outfall 001.
- ✚ The Ruddiman Area Sewer lining project should be done today. More work is planned for next year.
- ✚ Training was done for Operations and Operations Maintenance personnel this period on the new Lift Station C monitoring programs.
- ✚ Researchers from Western Michigan University have received a grant to study the storage lagoons' algae to process it into butanol. A private firm has also been out to take algae samples in recent weeks.
- ✚ Staff should also have three good proposals from wind energy firms to review before a recommendation can come to the Board in the next few months.
- ✚ After a good August, our Parks overall revenues for the year should be up a small amount from 2007.

Personnel

Please continue to pray for **Ron Colgrove** who is still seemingly out until further notice. Good luck to Irrigation Technician **Carl Parrish** who resigned this week to take another job. Thanks to all who have been pumping grease and moving sludge this month. Good progress has been made.

REMINDER: Next Thursday, September 25th, is our quarterly service anniversary party. We will be honoring employees that have 5, 20, and 35 years of service with the County. Back by popular request, Ellen is serving tacos.



Laketon Township sewer installation at Horton and Glenwood



Laketon Township HDPE water main installation



Lining contractor installing pipe in Ruddiman Area Sewer



Pumping floating grease from Cell #3 to Cell #4



1500 KW generator for new C Station



72-inch yard piping being installed west of new C Station



Landfill liner being placed on the east face of the "Gap"