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## Weekly Report to Commissioners

### Community Concerns

#### Culvert Installation/Replacement Requests:

- 190 Road .5 mile north of Lincoln Road; a 48" culvert under the road is rusted out and needs to be replaced.
- Valley Road .1 mile east of 130 Road on the north side; a broken concrete tile culvert needs replaced with a new steel culvert. Other drainage concerns may need to be addressed. *This will be completed after wheat harvest.*
- Valley Road .5 mile west of 130 Road; a culvert is needed under the road. *Investigating*
- 20 Road .25 mile north of Nickel Road, east side; a field access culvert needs cleared or replaced. *Investigating*

#### Other Concerns:

- Many parts of the county have received 4" of rain or more in the last week. Improvements to a drainage structure on Birch Road east of 110 Road have handled recent rains very well; the railroad half-tanker installed under Elm Road east of 130 last week has prevented storm water from topping the road and the box culvert upstream on 130 as it has in the past. Recent improvements on 150 Road ½ to ¾ mile north of Fir Road have also prevented storm water from topping the road as it has in similar conditions. Many of our gravel roads needed attention immediately following a rain and we are improving those conditions as concerns are expressed. Farm access roads are in very poor shape, but we need dryer conditions to work on those.
- Fir Road, .75 east of 230 Road, a sink hole opened in the roadway behind the headwall of an abutment. *The road was closed for a day, repairs were made on Thursday the 7<sup>th</sup>.*
- A half section east of 100 Road between Shady and Timber Roads is being improved and the Farmer has requested that we clear our right-of-way of brush and trees after they clear the fence. *90% Completed; we will return within a few weeks now that we have permission to drop some trees on the fence if necessary.*
- 120 Road 0-.3 mile north of US148, a new home is being built and the road needs gravel.
- The owners of Premium Feeders and Nesika Energy are requesting improvements to 70 Road south of US 36 Highway for dust control.
  - a. *A geotechnical study is being conducted by Consultant Terracon to specify a paving thickness based on soil strengths for one or more of the alternatives.*
- 30 Road south of Bridge 3-D.7 and north of Elm Road, ditch cleaning is needed and a road lift.
  - a. *Investigating*

# Department Reports on Non-Routine Activities

## Roads and Bridges

- We have located a used asphalt patcher that is for sale. It is a 2015 model owned by a municipality in Michigan and has been operated for less than 20 hours. These commonly sell for \$80,000 new and refurbished for over \$40,000. We offered \$30,000 in accordance with our approved Capital Plan for Equipment Upgrades budget for this item. The seller has countered with \$32,500. We are requesting the approval of the Commission to complete the purchase at \$32,500. We will still stay within our overall approved budget for the year.



We have just purchase 450 tons of cold mix for \$44,000 and we intend to purchase 1,000 tons more. Last year we purchased nearly 5,000 tons. The cost of cold mix has increased over 30% since last year. A hot oil asphalt patcher will allow us to make more durable repairs to asphalt than cold patching in most cases and with 30% of the material cost.

- Work continues on a Capital Plan for Facilities.
- The Corps of Engineers has advertised “Proposed Adverse effects to an Eligible Historic Bridge” that we intend to replace near Talmo. We have also advertised for parties interested in adaptive re-use of the existing structure. The solicitation period ends on July 9, 2022.

## Solid Waste

- The county received a grant to purchase a baler last year. A baler would be used to compact and create bales of recyclable material (cardboard, aluminum, paper, or plastics) that can be sold to buyers of recyclable materials. This is an essential piece of equipment for storing recyclables until enough material (a semi-trailer full) can be picked up by a buyer. Our delay in purchasing this equipment has been primarily due to the lack of an established recycling center location. We have been visiting neighboring counties with recycling programs to consider how our operations might be established. Our operations may be part of a larger solid waste program site that is being studied for feasibility. We have concluded that the grant does not require the baler to be operational, so we can purchase the baler without having to decide where it will be installed yet.

The grant amount is \$12,271.88 toward the purchase of a \$16,000 baler that is now, nearly a year later, a \$19,500 baler. Our contribution will be \$7,228.12.

We have the option of not proceeding with the purchase, without any penalties or without compromising our chances to compete for a similar grant in the future, however we recommend that we proceed with the purchase. The costs in the future will likely not be less, and future funding assistance is not guaranteed. The baler will be stored under a roof at the Highway Department Yard until we present an operating solution and associated costs to the Commission.

- PENDING ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO COMMUNITY CONCERNS

### Bridge and Culverts Division Project List (in order of priority)

1. Rock Road, ¼ mile west of 290 Road. A wood box culvert needs to be replaced. *A review of this watershed suggests a 5ft x 40ft culvert can replace the wood box. This pipe has been ordered.*
  - a. Corner post for fence damaged by grader needs replaced when equipment is mobilized for this project.
2. **130 Road 1/10-mile north of Elm Road.** Erosion has undermined a box culvert abutment and some repairs are necessary before it can be backfilled.
3. 120 Road .3 mile south of Granite Road, replace wood box culvert with a 48” x 40ft culvert.
4. Nickel Road at 30 Road on the west side of the intersection; a concrete box culvert is collapsing below the road surface. This will be replaced with a low profile “squash pipe.”
5. Diamond Road, .34 mile east of 190 Road, a concrete box culvert needs to be replaced with a culvert. A 36” culvert has been ordered for this.
  - a. A road lift and possible culvert reconfiguration are also requested near the intersection of Diamond and 190 roads to keep storm drainage off the road.
6. Elm Road ¼ mile east of 130 Road, culvert had a hole in the top. *Culvert has been repaired and a 10.5ft half pipe with a floor and headwalls in being installed this week. Completed*
7. Xavier Road, just west of residence 1090 has a culvert under the road that is filled with earth and needs replaced.
8. 40 Road ½ mile south of Fir, a watershed is growing out of our right-of-way.
  - a. *A retention pond will be constructed within the right-of-way on the east side of 40 Road north of the box culvert with an overflow descending to riprap in the creek bottom about 18 feet below.*
9. 220 Road, between Marble and Nickel roads, pavement cut needed to excavate and replace culvert, then patch and repair pavement. *(Culvert beneath blacktop collapsing).*
10. 30 Road 5/10-mile North of US-36, a Concrete Box Culvert has lost 2 of 4 wingwalls at the abutments and requires frequent maintenance to keep the road surface from eroding into the watershed.
  - a. *This will be replaced with a culvert when 30 road is ripped, and the shoulders pulled this spring.*
11. Bridge X-11.9 had planks lifted off the bridge by water and debris when the area received 5” of rain recently. The bridge has a very low profile and we have decided to remove it and replace it with 2 large diameter culverts.
12. Oak Road west of 20 Road beginning at the Railroad crossing; waterway on the north side is eroding the base of the road and then meanders out of the right-of-way eroding a field. *Improvements will have to wait until after harvest.*

### Roads and Driveways Division Project List (in order of priority)

1. Queen Road, west of 20 Road, tree removal, ditch cleaning and driveway upgrades needed for the first ½ mile. **40% Complete**
2. 30 Road improvements to restore the crown in the roadway between Highway 36 and Fir Road. *The project will start at US-HWY-36 and progress north and will take up to a year to complete.*
3. Fir Road, east of Residence at 2641, Ditch work needed to re-route drainage out of field and a damaged culvert replaced.

4. Elm Road ¼ mile east of 180 Road; *mulching of overgrowth on the south side of the road is **completed**; ditch cleaning will be performed, and rip rap will be installed to minimize scour at the inlet and outfall of the culvert under the road.*
5. Shady Road ¼ mile east of 20 Road, north side, 30ft field access driveway needed south of pivot riser.
6. 30 Road ½ mile north of Shady Road, west side, 20ft field access driveway needs widened to 30 or 40ft however, a fiber cable marker might need to be moved.
7. Nickel Road ½ mile east of 110 Road, needs a culvert repaired or replaced, water is flowing over the road and damaged portions of the road are closed with Barricades. *Operator has reported that some ditch cleaning may restore drainage without replacing the culvert, this will be attempted first.*
8. Hickory Road, 1/10 mile east of 90 Road on the north side; new 30ft field access driveway requested.
9. Cut and patch 4-6ft of Concrete at 170 Road near residence 1549 (*Primary Road; Currently 23x23 & 10x23 inch potholes where previous asphalt patch has failed*).

## Upcoming Events

- A Notice of Funding Opportunity for the Bridge Investment Program was published on June 10, 2022. The program will accept Bridge Project Grant Applications until September 8, 2022. Many of the County's bridges are being inspected this month and that information is critical in determining our needs. We will create a shortlist of candidates for our application for funding consideration in August.
- Vacations of Right-of-Ways are proposed for 3 road spurs adjacent to Highway 81 that were abandoned after improvements to the Highway many years ago.