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Weekly Report to Commissioners

Community Concerns

Culvert Installation/Replacement Requests:

- Penn Road between 120 and 130 Roads. A culvert under the road is showing signs of deterioration and is affecting the road surface near the intake and outfall areas. *Completed*
- 1702 Marble Road, requesting a road culvert replacement. The Road appears to be a private driveway but belongs to the county. This situation was created when Marble was moved during construction of a new intersection by the State many years ago.
 - *Completed: the road and adjacent property could be deeded to the owner of the residence it serves to avoid this situation in the future. While this issue is being researched, this topic will be removed from the Weekly Report until a specific action that requires the authority of the Commission is recommended.*
- 150 Road North of Timber at the entrance of residence 723; an collection basin and a culvert are needed between two driveways to correct a drainage problem that has been scouring the driveway and the edge of the road for many years.
- Rock Road between 290 and 300 Roads; construct a dry plug (ramp from road to a field where a culvert is not required) on the North side, and on Rock Road between 300 and 310 Roads install a culvert (18x30) on the North side for field access.
- Elm Road ¼ mile east of 180 Road, resident expressed concerns about a culvert under the road
 - *Investigated and some signs of erosion we observed that could be mitigated with rip rap*

Other Drainage Issues:

- 110 Road and Birch needs ditch cleaning on the North side of 110 near the intersection, and possibly several culverts replaced with larger culverts.
 - Investigating

Bridge Concerns

- Bridge 4-F.4 on 40 Road south of Fir Road has had 4 guardrail supports broken from weld plates in the prestressed concrete tee girders. This appears to have occurred when an implement impacted the top of the guard rail. The damage is fairly significant and difficult to repair. An Engineer is being engaged to evaluate possible solutions. *This project will be moved to the "Pending Actions list"*

- Bridge 21-0.7 on 210 Road south of Highway 36. Column caps under the bridge have been damaged by overloading. This is beginning to show up in the bridge decking. Temporary repairs are necessary immediately. We are considering replacing the bridge with a railcar tanker that has been recycled into a 9.5 ft steel tube. This is a cost-effective solution and there are incentives for reducing our bridge inventory. *This project will be moved to the "Pending Actions list"*

Signs or Obstruction Concerns:

- An increasing number of street signs are reported missing. First responders have noted for example, signs missing at 200 & King, 210 & Fir, 200 & Fir, 190 & Fir. **The Roads and Bridges Department is committed to replacing a minimum of 2 signs each week.** *210, 200, 190 and Fir Roads completed*

Other Concerns:

- A fiber optic trunk cable between Belleville and Scandia was cut during culvert replacement activities on Penn Road between 120 and 130 Roads on Thursday Aug 5th. Utilities had been located and flags were not even disturbed during the removal of the culvert, however, it appears that the fiber optic cable had been plowed THROUGH the culvert when it was installed. The service interruption was regrettable, but unavoidable



Department Reports on Non-Routine Activities

Roads and Bridges

- Pothole repair on Fir has progressed to 30 Road, just two miles short of the Jewel County Line. The project was paused for higher priorities which included restoring road surfaces in Districts 1 & 2 that were damaged by flash flooding during recent rains.
- The Authority to Award a construction contract for Off System Bridge K-7.2 (King Road over Dry Creek between 60 & 70 Roads, 3 miles south of Republic) has been approved. The State Department of Transportation has authorized the Contract for Construction. A Voucher is being processed for the County's 20% share which is \$75,000.
- A Notice to proceed has been issued for the Republic County, RS 563 HMA Overlay (148 to Courtland) Project. The contractor has agreed to perform the additional work the City of Courtland has requested at the unit costs presented in their Bid. The Consultant will prepare Change Order Documents for our review and approval.
- Two employees received formal Grader Training from a Caterpillar Instructor. One of the employees with a little more hands on experience excelled in demonstrating proficiency and has been assigned a Grader in District #4
- An applicant was interviewed for an Operator Position this week and will begin the pre-employment process next week.

• PENDING ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO COMMUNITY CONCERNS (in order of priority)

1. 150 Road, 30 feet South of Ash, a Road culvert replacement is needed.
2. Marble Road, 50 yards east of 230, a Road culvert replacement is needed.
3. 120 Road 1/8-mile South of Penn, Road a Culvert replacement is needed. *Completed*
4. Rock Road, ¼ mile west of 290 Road. A wood box culvert needs to be replaced (needs to be scheduled after October, when Cattle are moved to another pasture)
5. Rock Road, 3/8 mile west of 290 Road needs a field access culvert replaced.
6. Corner post for fence damaged by grader needs replaced.
7. Oak Road between 50 and 60 Roads, (2) 40 ft each farm access culverts needed, replacing 20's
8. Granite Road, between 70 & 80 Roads; Ditch Cleaning. Scoping encountered greater watershed impacts than anticipated, **Landowners prefer to wait until after harvest.**
9. 150 Road, North of Marble Road needs to be built up over the first culvert. (*Collector Road; water flows over the road*).
10. Queen Road, ¼ mile West of 210 Road, farm access culvert installation needed.
11. 100 Road, south of the intersection with Highway 36 will be widened about 10 feet for 200 ft to improve tractor trailer access to a new business. Ditch Cleaning on Oak west of 100 Road will also be performed and gravel added to both 100 and Oak Roads. *Completed*
12. Bridge 20-D.4 on 200 Road south of Diamond Road. Recent flooding has scoured the soil from under the southern abutment creating a sinkhole in the approach to the bridge that is growing. This bridge is now closed to traffic. *Sheet piles will be installed behind the concrete abutment that will hold material needed to restore the approach and open the bridge again.*
13. Republic County Historical Museum drainage swale and small diameter culvert will be installed between parking lot and driveway to outdoor exhibits.
14. Republic County Historical Museum 6.5 x 9 ft x 6" slab of concrete (5,000 lbs.) will be relocated from a fuel station on the property to the site of a historic jail cage, leveled and cage lowered on top of it.
15. Diamond Road near Farm Residence 175, restore collection pit at the outfall of a culvert under the road. This will allow storm drainage to follow a channel adjacent to the County Right-of-way instead of through irrigated farmland. *This project has been scoped for completion after harvest this year. We will collaborate with the farmer to determine the best location for borrow and spoils and let him recover topsoil if he has the resources.*
16. 40 Road ½ mile south of Fir, a watershed is growing out of our right-of-way and there is excessive erosion near the abutment of a nearby box culvert.
 - 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. This large project will be performed next year.*
17. Rock Road between 10 & 20 Roads, a right-of way that has been farmed in the past in filled with soil and allowing irrigation water to flood the road surface. Storm drainage also crosses the road at this location. *Ditch cleaning will be performed, a culvert will be replaced, in addition to a road lift. This project will need to wait until after irrigation season is over.*
18. 220 Road, between Marble and Nickle Roads, pavement cut needed to excavate and replace culvert, then patch and repair pavement. (*Culvert beneath blacktop collapsing*).
19. Cut and patch 4-6 ft of Concrete at 170 Road near residence 1549 (*Primary Road; Currently 23x23 & 10x23 inch potholes where previous asphalt patch has failed however potholes are shallow and should be scheduled with other pothole repairs*).
20. Fir Road, east of Residence at 2641, Ditch work needed to re-route drainage out of field and a damaged culvert replaced.
21. King Road, East of bridge K-7.2, Ditch Cleaning needed, (*Service Road*).

22. Marsh Trail and 20 Road South, ditch cleaning. **Some immediate concerns have been addressed; the larger part of this project will be completed this fall.** (*Collector Road; Needed after fire response filled shallow ditches with debris*).

Solid Waste

- The Contract for the **14-bin Recycling Trailer Grant** has been received and will be presented to the Commissioners for approval. This will allow for each of the County’s eight communities to have their own designated recycling trailer. The value of this award is \$18,020. The County matching funds that need to be obligated is \$6,489.
- The Contract for the **Recycling Bailer Grant** is expected soon will be presented to the Commissioners for approval. This is the beginning of an investment to make a “recycling center” a reality. The value of this award is \$12,272. The County matching funds that need to be obligated is \$4,723. The location of where this bailer will be installed, and the costs of installation are being investigated.

Fuel Center

- An electric pump is failing in one of the three single fuel/double hose dispensing units at the fuel center. It caused some challenges for employees fueling vehicles and equipment last week. Finding a replacement was very difficult due to the age of these units. We will be spending \$1,500 or more to replace one component of a very complex and fragile system. We are collecting information on what it would cost to upgrade to new dispensing units. Early estimates are at about \$10,000 each. We will continue our research and may recommend replacing these 3 units over a 3-year period. More on this issue when we are prepared to discuss options in detail.

Upcoming Events

- The Courtland to Highway 148 Overlay Project is waiting for a schedule from the Contractor.
 - A Change Order is being prepared for the additional milling and overlay work that the City of Courtland has requested.
 - The Engineer has noted that a substantial pothole south of the railway crossing needs to be properly excavated, filled, compacted, and patched before the overlay work can begin. The County and the City will work together on this.
 - The Highway Administrator has communicated with the Railways in the area and although we do not have a schedule for construction yet, we do have a commitment from the Railways to increase communication about train schedules during the period of construction that should aid in public notifications and flagging.
- The Construction of Off System Bridge K-7.2 is waiting for a schedule from the Contractor.
- A Tour of County Roads & Bridges will be conducted for the Commissioners when a date for the Tour is determined.