

# Starke County Highway Department

## Monthly Report

### June 2014

#### Summary

**MOWING** – The County mowing program is progressing as planned. We are beginning our second cycle of mowing. We currently have seven part-time mowers on staff. This allows us to keep a full complement of mowers on the road five days a week despite the part time hour limitations.

**ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM** – The attached list is being submitted to the Commissioners for approval. We have been able to increase from an estimated 138 miles to around 145 thanks to savings in fuel and maintenance costs. ( We are starting to see a real dividend from the purchase of the new trucks and the warranties that come along with them) The roads were chosen based on the PASER system and the ADT of each road. All townships are well represented on the list. The San Pierre area has the most roads on the list primarily based on past neglect. The roads in this area rated the poorest.

**CULVERT REPLACEMENTS** – We have replaced seven culvert/pipes as of June 1. We have 6 more on our schedule for June.

**1100E FLOODING--ROAD BUILDUP** – Over the last few years 1100E from 700S to 850S has had an area of severe flooding. Temporary fixes have been put in place. Last month we implemented a more permanent fix. Thanks to “free” fill material provided by local concrete plants we were able to build the road and replace a culvert in a few days. (see pics)



#### **BRIDGE REPLACEMENTS –**

**LOCAL BRIDGE REPLACEMENTS** Mark Wilson is making excellent progress with the bridge designs for all four local bridges we are replacing this year. He has submitted the Specs, plans, and cost estimates for bridge numbers 86 and 31. The initial estimate for Bridge 86 ( CR900S over Bogus Run, .2 miles west of CR100W) is \$230,199 and for Bridge 31(CR 800E over Eagle Creek, .2 miles north of CR50S) it is \$241,290. These are both under the preliminary estimate provided in the last bridge inspection report. We propose moving forward with a July 7<sup>th</sup> bid opening.

**EMERGENCY REPAIR OF 700E over the Yellow River** – We met with Troy Madloff and Jerry Frost i

- June 11th: Sealed plans for bidding due to Highway Superintendent from Frost Engineering
- June 16th: Issued for Bids during Commissioner's meeting
- July 7th: Bids Due & Awarded: FEC to attend Commissioner's meeting for review & award
- August 1st: Tentative Construction Completion (we will confirm this with the contractor's we meet onsite)

**SAFETY PROGRAM** – Last week we participated in Simulator training for all our truck drivers ( see pics) We also will be sending our drivers to Traffic Control Safety Training and Chainsaw/ Bucket Truck training this month.



**UNIFORM CONTRACT** – Aramark is revising their contract to match what Marty Lucas requested. If Aramark does not agree to our revisions we will pursue a contract with Cintas.

**GOLD CART ORDINANCE** – We are nearly finished resigning the roads around Bass Lake and Koontz Lake to comply with the new Golf Cart Ordinance. As part of this we are reducing the speed limit of CR625 from Bass Lake to Totot Road from 45 mph to 35 mph.

**INTERSECTION SAFETY – SPORTY'S FOUR WAY STOP** – As a result of an approved addition to Sporty's Restaurant is Bass Lake the sight distance may be compromised to the point where a four way stop at CR210 and Winona Avenue may be warranted. LTAP through Purdue U. is conducting the traffic study for us. We will also consult with INDOT before a recommendation is presented to the Commissioners.

**PILOT PROGRAM FOR WINTER OPERATIONS** – We have been selected as a participant in a Pilot Program for the development of a new Winter Operations program. This selection was based upon criteria established by the APWA (American Public Works Association).