

# Starke County Highway Department February 2021 Monthly Report

## WINTER OPERATIONS



## Common Complaints

- 1) **Why can't you clear the roads like INDOT?**
  - A) They can afford to run full crews 24 hrs a day
  - B) They can afford to use brine and pure salt at a level we cannot
  - C) The roads are all hot mix asphalt/easier to plow
  - D) Higher traffic volumes
- 2) **You plowed my driveway in!**
  - a) Approximately 10,000 driveways in Starke County
  - b) If each driver opened up each of their over 500 driveways at 1 minute each it would add 7.5 hours to their plow route
- 3) **The plow hit my mailbox!**
  - A) Plows rarely hit mailboxes. If they do there is almost no signs of the mailbox left
  - B) Slush and heavy snow coming off the plow at 75mph cause most of the damage
  - C) We follow the mailbox policy for replacement
- 4) **You did not clean up the intersection!**
  - A) During heavy, prolonged snowfalls we clear the roads first and then finish the intersections the next day
  - B) We do not handle State Road intersections
- 5) **The driver is going too fast!**
  - A) The plows seem like they are going much faster than they are due to the snow coming off the blade at three times the speed of the truck

- B) We have GPS and check the speed of our plow trucks. They rarely are going as fast as people think they are
- 6) **You used too much/too little salt/sand!**  
 A) Damned if we do, Damned if we don't
- 7) **Plow my road first!**  
 A) We prioritize routes by traffic volume, use (Schools, Businesses) and mobility. Paved Main routes first, then secondary paved roads, then subdivisions and dead-ends. Gravel roads last.  
 B) Someone has to be first, someone has to be last.
- 8) **My gravel road did not get plowed until the end of the day!**  
 A) See above!

**Plow Routes**

Area #	Area	DRIVER	TRUCK #	OPEN ROAD ASPHALT	OPEN ROAD GRAVEL	SUBDIVISION MILES	TOTAL PLOW MILES (Lane Miles)	OPEN ROAD INTERSECTIONS	SUBDIVISION INTERSECTIONS	INTERSECTIONS	Difficulty Score
14	California South	Adam Fort	27	31	12	0	86	33	1	34	54.5
2	Davis /Oregon North	Larry Ludwig	6	37.5	8.5	0	94	30	0	30	56.75
8	Washington North	Austin Williams	14	36	3	1	80	27	5	32	57.25
9	Washington South/ North Bend North	Jeff Day	25	32.5	2	2	73	21	11	32	57.5
12	Railroad East/ Wayne South	Bryon Fort	15	30	4	2	72	24	11	35	57.5
1	Davis Twp.	Tammy Abeyta	9	40.75	5	0	91.5	34	0	34	60.25
13	Wayne East/ California North	Terry "Mouse" McDaniel	25	32.5	3.25	2	75.5	33	10	43	63.175
11	Railroad East/Wayne North	Francis Tibbs	24	31	3	4	76	21	29	50	75.75
5	Jackson Twp	Melvin Fisher	57	49.25	6	1.5	113.5	38	3	41	76.1
6	Center West	Reid Barnett	28	44.5	4.5	3	104	34	10	44	77.5
10	Railroad/Wayne West	Jeremiah Muston	15	32.75	10	3	91.5	21	26	47	78
7	Center East/ Washington West	Brad Stacy	61	39	3	3.5	91	22	23	45	78.375
3	Davis/Oregon South	Mike Atkins	26	37	3	9	98	17	31	48	89.25
16	North Bend	Kodie Wood	6	34.5	15	3	105	30	30	60	104
15	Bass Lake	Jim Button	12	31	2	16	98	15	41	56	100.5
				539.25	84.25	50	1349				

## BRIDGE WORK

- BRIDGE #7 REPLACEMENT  
IN DESIGN
- BRIDGE #137 REPLACEMENT  
IN DESIGN
- BRIDGE CLEANING  
+ BRUSH CLEARANCE (57)
- CULVERT INSPECTIONS
- CULVERT CLEANING
- 800N/300E CCMG  
CULVERT REPLACEMENT
- 700S CULVERT  
REPLACEMENT
- MINOR CULVERT  
REPLACEMENTS (20)
- BRIDGE #59  
CALL FOR PROJECTS  
APPLICATION

## ROAD WORK

- 600E FROM 700N TO 900N  
HOTBOX/CCMG 2022 (2)
- 500N FROM US35 TO 750E  
HOTBOX/ENDOT CALL FOR  
PROJECTS\* (3.5)
- 700E FROM SR8 TO 6255  
CCMG 21-1 (6.25)
- APPLICATION IN PROGRESS
- CRACK SEAL  
PROGRAM (25)
- GRINDINGS/  
RESHAPE (15)
- CMA  
PAVING (15)
- CHIP SEAL PROGRAM  
(40)

REOPEN 1100E FROM 150N TO 300N

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

- Inter R. / 3006  
INTERSECTION  
IMPROVEMENT  
ROAD SAFETY AUDIT!
- APWA Certification/  
INDOT Pre-Qual
- Mowing  
6 mowers
- Brush Control  
Bucket truck
- Make Summer  
patch
- Haul Material  
as needed
- Grant  
Applications
- Trash  
Roadkill
- SNOW PLOW  
TRAINING
- Launch  
RoadSoft
- Department website
- Facility upgrades
- Road crew  
Weed eating
- Dust control as  
needed
- Grade gravel  
Roads
- Truck  
Inspectors
- Traffic  
Investigators
- Equipment  
Acquisition



## BRIDGES

- Bridge 137 – CR 300 E over the Yellow River, just south of CR 50 N. In design Estimated completion date, Fall of 2024
- Bridge 7 – CR 1200 E over the Yellow River –In design. Estimated Completion Date, Fall of 2022.
- Bridge 59 – CR700S over Bogus Run – Grant application was submitted for this replacement. Estimated Completion Date, Fall of 2022
- Bridge Structural Inspections—We received Phase II of our latest round of inspections yesterday. We are reviewing the results

## **COMMUNITY CROSSINGS GRANTS**

### **Call 2020-2**

- A) 600e B/T 700N and 900N hot mix asphalt
- B) Culvert replacement on 300E just N of 800N
- C) Both projects to be done this Spring

### **Call 2021-1**

- A) 700E b/t SR8 and 625S, Hot Mix asphalt

## **INDOT CALL FOR PROJECTS**

- 1) 500N from US35 to CR750E HMA road resurfacing—This project also goes through Hamlet. Hamlet is partnering with us on this project. They will pay the funding match for their section of roadway.
- 2) Bridge #59 replacement, CR700S b/t CR100W and CR200W
- 3) Toto Rd. sight distance correction at CR300E

## **PERMITS**

We have submitted the application for review

## **FACILITIES**

- 1) New generator INSTALLED JANUARY 9TH
- 2) Two new garage doors --- Feb 2
- 3) New front door for the office--- door has arrived
- 4) New lighting in the areas around our equipment storage shed
- 5) Repairs to the Salt shed

## **US30 COALITION**

We met virtually last Friday, there actually has been some movement in the process. I will explain at your meeting. I recommend we remain cautious but involved.

## **VEHICLES**

- 1) 2021 SINGLE AXLE – REGULAR REPLACEMENT PROGRAM/MARCH
- 2) DISTRIBUTOR TRUCK 3000 GAL. --REGULAR REPLACEMENT PROGRAM/AUGUST
- 3) ¾ TON PICKUP – REGULAR REPLACEMENT PROGRAM/MARCH
- 4) REPLACEMENT FOR TOTALLED SINGLE AXLE
  - A) International dealer - Plymouth
  - B) Freightliner dealer – Gary
  - C) International – Kalida trucks \$132,000