



The Orange Brigade



Summer 2007/Fall 2007

Logan County Highway Dept.

Volume 33



Coleman's Comments

This year, we resurfaced 25.3 miles of county highways, sealed 32 miles of county highways, replaced or rehabilitated 9 bridges, and more than 20 culverts. Of the bridges that have been replaced in 2006, four had been closed to traffic and four could not carry school buses. We have also assisted the Township Trustees with the resurfacing of 21 miles and chip-sealing 39.2 miles of roads with a combination of sales tax, Ohio Public Works grant funds, and the Townships' own funds.

In 2006, we spent \$123,132.74 on snow and ice control during the calendar year, which is a significant decrease from \$378,351.17 in 2005. This includes 527.88 hours of overtime and 4,659.4 tons of grit. In January of 2005, we experienced the worst ice storm of memory. Many county residents were without electric service for several days. Transportation was hindered by fallen trees and the municipalities suffered heavy damage. During 2006, our office continued the effort to remove dead, damaged, and potentially hazardous trees within the highway right-of-ways. We spent \$101,416.05 on tree and brush removal with over 2,769.16 hours of labor.

The Map Room and the Building Authority have been highly productive this year as well. The Logan County Building Authority issued 337 permits this year, of which, 171 were new dwellings. They also performed a total of 3,340 inspections at a cost of only \$38.99 per inspection in 2006. New home valuations totaled \$23,632,848. The Map Room processed 270 new parcel splits and over 2,900 deeds.

The Map Room has been continuously updating and maintaining the County GIS (geographic information system) for all existing and new parcel splits. This information has been made available to the public on the Logan County Auditor's website at <http://lcaweb.co.logan.oh.us/aweb/>. In spring of 2005, the county contracted to have new digital aerial photography and LiDAR (light detection and ranging) data collected for Logan County. The LiDAR data provides highly accurate ground elevations for the entire county. We are currently working to make more survey data available through the County Engineer's Office website. Please watch for updates at <http://www.co.logan.oh.us/engineer/index.html>.

The engineering and administrative staff has overseen the construction and inspection of the SR 235 turn lane project as a part of the Honda Transmission Manufacturing expansion, reviewed the design plans prepared by the City of Bellefontaine

Engineer for the CR 1 hill cut to accommodate the extension of Gunntown Road, designed all of the bridges and large culverts replaced in 2006, prepared all bid documents and specifications for all construction projects, prepared costs estimates, and performed hydraulic analyses for bridges and culverts. We plan bridge replacements and maintenance, road reconstruction, ditch maintenance, equipment needs, and building and grounds maintenance. We maintain and track our inventory, manage billing and payments, track project costs, inspect and issue driveway permits, prepare press releases, plan safety training, perform annual bridge inspections, maintain and update county mapping, inspect subdivisions and stormwater and erosion control measures, comply with state and federal regulations, and answer questions from the public. We perform design and analysis, construction inspection, and surveys for the townships. In 2006, we received \$ 1,245,749.93 in state and federal grant assistance and applied for \$ 709,876 in grants for future projects.

In the fall of 2006, we asked the citizens of Logan County to continue to fund the local transportation system by renewing the ½ percent sales tax for roads and bridges for another five year term. While planning the renewal proposal we recognized the needs of the municipalities within the county and included them in the funding plan for the renewal. The county commissioners were also interested in providing a portion of the renewal for economic development and land use planning. The proposal presented to the public was for 66 % of the funding to be provided for county roads and bridges, 14 % for township roads and bridges, 14% for municipal roads and bridges, and 6 % for long-term economic development and land use planning. On November 7, 2006, the community once again expressed their support for our local transportation system by voting to renew the ½ % sales tax. Collection of the renewed tax under the new distribution plan will begin in October of 2007. We thank the community for their continued support of the highway system and their confidence in our staff.

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NEW ASSISTANT ENGINEER

Bryan D. Dhume, P.E., joined our staff in July as Assistant Engineer. Bryan was born and raised in Madison County. He worked for over six years in public service with the Madison County and Erie County Engineer Offices including experience with a Columbus consulting firm. Bryan is a graduate of Ohio University. We are please to have Bryan as part of our team. "Welcome Aboard"!

“Coleman’s Comments” (continued from page 1)

The road and bridges sales tax income for 2006 was \$2,502,729.32. Of these funds, 13.5 percent, \$337,868.46, will be provided for township roads and bridges. Beginning in September of 2007, 14 % of the monthly sales tax revenue will be set aside for township roads and bridges.

For 2007, we have scheduled another 31 miles for asphalt resurfacing and have planned a 30 mile chip-seal program to preserve the roads that have been resurfaced recently. We also plan to perform a crack sealing project to extend the service life of some of the higher traffic roads in the county.

The Bridge Crew replaced/rehabilitated 9 bridges and performed maintenance on several structures in 2006. They will continue to work diligently to replace/rehabilitate 10 more bridges and complete maintenance work that is scheduled for 2007. Of the 10 bridges scheduled for replacement/rehabilitation in 2007, two are closed to all traffic and four cannot be crossed by school buses.

The Traffic Department has replaced 1,325 permanent signs in 2006. This past year, they placed 283 temporary construction signs, repainted 19 railroad and 8 school crossing zones, and trimmed brush around signs to provide clear sight distance. In 2007, the Traffic Department will be busy overseeing pavement markings, replacing damaged or vandalized signs, installing road construction signage, maintaining the sign inventory, and conducting a new traffic count study on all county roads and bridges.

*Scott C. Coleman, P.E., P.S.
Logan County Engineer*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

371.85 Miles of County Road
Excellent/Good Condition - 267.85 Miles
Fair/Poor Condition - 104 Miles

300 Bridges
40 Have Load Reductions Posted
27 Have a Sufficiency Rating Less Than 50%
3 are Closed

6,916 Signs

1,583 Culverts
Excellent/Good Condition - 1,384
Fair/Poor/Unknown Condition - 199

New Equipment and Ideas in the Highway Department

This year we started a crack sealing program. Though crack sealing is not a new concept for us, it will be bound for better success. A few years ago we tried to do it but had limited success due to not having proper equipment or material. So far, what we have done seems to be working well. We will have to see later down the road for long-term results. Crack sealing was done on County Roads 11, 32, and 130.

We got a new truck this year for District 11, also known as “The Hills” in Jefferson township. The bed system has a conveyor down the middle of the floor which moves forward to a cross auger that takes the material to the left front corner where it drops out onto a spinner which fans it out in front of the rear wheels helping in traction for the plow driver.

We also bought three (3) new mowers for the roadside mowing program along with a new Case 4-wheel drive tractor.

We were able to get a bucket truck and brush chipper from the FEMA Program. This will make tree removal much easier and safer.

We also got a used Case 850D Dozer from Southeastern Equipment. We were able to find a good used one at a reasonable price that fit our needs and budget. We have used it quite a bit already and seems to be working fine.

2007 BRIDGE PROGRAM

Our Bridge Crew was very productive this year. In addition to repairing and replacing bridges and culverts, they also work on snow and ice control. Bridge Crew employees must be able to proficiently switch from a bridge project to snow and ice control and back again.

The Bridge Crew replaced 7 structures and performed significant repairs to the following bridges in Logan County.

Structures Completed in 2007:

County Road 113-1.73 Bridge Replacement
County Road 173-0.12 Bridge Replacement
Township Road 157-0.60 Bridge Replacement
County Road 35-5.40 Bridge Replacement
Township Road 49-5.93 Bridge Rehabilitation
Township Road 126-1.39 Bridge Replacement
Township Road 89-1.25 Bridge Replacement

Work is Underway on:

Township Road 192-0.43 Bridge Replacement

**We appreciate the Bridge Crew's hard work!
"Job well done!"**

2008 BRIDGE PROGRAM

The 2008 Bridge Program continues the commitment of prioritizing bridge replacements based on condition. The County infrastructure will be re-evaluated periodically and changes to this program are likely to occur in order to achieve our commitment to repair or replace the structures and highways in the worst condition first.

As of December 31, 2007, the proposed Bridge Program for 2008 is as follows:

County Rd. 63-1.38 Bridge Replacement-Fed. Aid
County Rd. 63-2.63 Bridge Replacement-Fed. Aid
Township Road 221-0.20 Bridge Replacement
Township Road 110-0.58 Bridge Replacement
Township Road 114-0.88 Bridge Replacement
Township Road 56-5.09 Bridge Replacement
Township Road 30-0.80 Bridge Rehabilitation
Township Road 181-0.80 Bridge Replacement
Township Road 164-2.10 Bridge Replacement
Township Road 164-1.75 Bridge Replacement

"The Survey Says..."

(Topics submitted and written by Chief Deputy Surveyor, Curtis D. Dill, on behalf of the Survey Department and Map Room.)

The Survey Crew is presently made up of three members, Bob Simmons, Greg Dappert, and myself. Most of our time this year was spent working on the various county road and bridge projects. The largest project being the C.R. 1 Hill Cut—Gunntown Road project. We worked more or less jointly with the Bellefontaine Engineers Office on this job and special thanks go out to Dan Weber and Roger Brown for their help. This project not only added a connector road to the South side of Bellefontaine but greatly improved the intersection of C.R. 1 with C.R. 29.

Technology is ever changing which creates challenges for everyone to keep up. Our crew has been challenged this past year trying to master two new technologies. In 2005, aerial photographs were taken of Logan County. At that time, LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) equipment was used to collect additional data about the earth's surface here in Logan County. With this technology, a remote scan of the earth's surface is made at million of points enabling us to create a topographic map. This is good stuff, but in order to tie into and use this data, we needed some GPS equipment, something we did not have until now. Once we master these technologies, we will be able to meld them together to provide accurate information about a job site in a fraction of the time it would normally take. Who says you can't teach old dogs new tricks.

Best wishes, Curt Dill

Employee Birthdays

"HAPPY BIRTHDAY"

July

Dennis Grogan
Steven Tracey

August

Larry Artis
Elliott Fullerton
Jeremy Burrey
Jon Hines

September

Bryan Dhume
Ron Hanson
Rick Archer
Greg Kennaw

October

Shane Long
Denny Stryker
Todd Coleman
Don Phipps

November

Greg Swonguer
Greg Dappert
Butch Banning

December

Mark Dearwester
Dick Cooksey
Ramon Lianez
Rebecca Jolliff

"HAPPY BIRTHDAY"

Notice to Employees - Payroll Direct Deposit Available
Direct Deposit forms are available in the main office.

Work Anniversaries - 2007

THANK YOU FOR YOUR YEARS OF SERVICE!

July

Carolyn Grimes - 6 Years
Michael Reffitt - 10 Years
Dennis Grogan - 4 Years
Michaela Brunke - 3 Years
John Berry - 25 Years

September

Don Phipps - 3 Years
Rick Archer - 23 Years
Scott Coleman - 14 Years
Becky Jolliff - 18 Years
Daniel McMillen - 14 Years

October

Sam Ragland - 3 Years
Jon Hines - 20 Years
Elliott Fullerton - 1 Year
Ramon Lianez - 1 Year
John Cummins - 3 Years
Mark Dearwester - 5 Years
Greg Kennaw - 1 Year
Joel Miracle - 4 Years
Greg Swonguer - 5 Years

Recent Promotions

Matt Archer - Highway Worker 2
Steve Tracey - Highway Worker 2
Elliott Fullerton - Highway Worker Trainee 2
Ramon Lianez - Highway Worker Trainee 2
Greg Kennaw - Highway Worker Trainee 2

"Congratulations!"

Logan County Engineer
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Please circulate this in your offices.
Thank You!



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