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Southern Clinton County Municipal Utilities Authority

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Maintenance—Keeping Things Humming

While SCCMUA crews were doing maintenance at LS 501 (Herbison Rd) after the pump seal was replaced, an extreme wobble or vibration was noticed in the driveline. The crew worked to isolate and identify the issue and the determination was that the vibration was coming from the motor. These are large, 100hp motors weighing nearly 800 pounds. The motor was sent to a local motor shop. It needed bearings and the shaft was out of balance.

The cold weather creates a perfect time to do maintenance on some of our equipment such as our combination sewer truck. This truck gets used a lot and is irreplaceable in our line of work. The vacuum tube was replaced as it had extensive wear with many holes beginning to form. Replacement was necessary.

Each station has a battery backup for the telemetry to keep communications going during a power outage and to prevent memory loss. Each year, staff works through all the stations including the tow-

er sights, checking the function and capacity of these battery backups. It is just one more level of protection and these efforts help in the times when we need them the most, especially during the wild weather we have been getting in the last month.

As we all know, pumps are mechanical devices and need repair from time to time. These can be costly. This is why our crews work to identify problem before catastrophic failure happens. Even with a well laid plan and preventive maintenance, sometimes other variables exist and cause failures. This was the case at LS 219 (Bath) last month when an ordinary circumstance turned into a pump rebuild as it had a dead short. Luckily, this was isolated to the head of the pump and no damage was caused to the motor itself.

Administration

The new Process Supervisor has been working diligently with Mr. McKenzie to absorb as much as he can until the end of the month when we will wish Mr. McKenzie a very happy and deserved retirement.

MERS has been promoting different educational sessions via webinar and Facebook on a monthly basis. Most are related to financial stability and planning. These communication and educational pieces are made available to em-

ployees to aid in their own futures.

Director Gurski was able to attend the Wastewater Administrators Conference in Frankenmuth this past month. The conference highlights technical advances in the industry along with up and coming concerns and challenges communities are facing. Additionally, Director Gurski was able to attend a PFAS and Water Contaminant speed meeting at MSU.

Most of the SCCMUA operators were able to attend the MWEA operator's day located at the Lansing Center. This show highlights all aspects and services in the industry and allows operators and vendors to come together in one location to look at new products and technologies for a variety of applications.

The annual audit was completed the first week of February without any noted issues. It will be presented at the April Board meeting.

Southern Clinton County
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Process—Making it Clean

All parameters of the NPDES permit were met.

In last months Directors report, we discussed an increase in suspended solids in our effluent. Staff spent quite a bit of time brainstorming ideas on what had changed and what could influence such change. Staff has made some headway but it has been difficult to substantiate. This is due to the extreme cold and then the melt which have a great impact on solids and settle ability. We are confident that the changes in secondary sludge and adding the second clarifier have worked; the true measure will be seen once things moderate. The main goal will be to accomplish effective settling and removals without the addition of any new chemicals.

One of the items that staff has been testing is where to discharge supernatant from the

digester system. Since the new digester was put in, the supernatant discharged to the primary clarifier channel. Staff recognized a correlation between ammonia concentration and supernatant discharge, therefore a new location for discharge was needed. To try this idea, staff changed some valving and pumped it to the old storage tank which than can be emptied into the sandhill wetwell. This allows for greater buffering from the impacts of the high ammonia concentrations naturally occurring in the supernatant. Since then, things have smoothed in regards to ammonia spikes. Additionally, the RBC's have not seen weights in the later stages increase. Staff moved forward with a small piping change which allows easier transfer of supernatant utilizing the existing supernatant

pump system.

With the failure of the emergency power transfer switch, staff has been working with vendors to get a new switch configured and quoted. The electrical inspector came onsite to look at options for approvable installation of the new switch. A plan has been designed and things are moving forward and will be submitted to the insurance company.



Waiting for spring...

Inspections—The Scoop on the Poop

Miss Dig:

Requests—238

Marked—87

Inspections—5

DeWitt Twp. Projects

Crowner Farms III: No change. Cleaning and televising were scheduled to be completed in January, but due to extreme weather, were postponed. Air and mandrel testing was performed and passed.

DeWitt Crossing South: No change. Contractor has received all the necessary permits. DeWitt Township has issued Authorization to Proceed.

Bath Twp Projects

Chandler Lofts/NOCA: No change,

developer has supplied design flow for the latest plans; Prein and Newhof have completed capacity modeling.

City of DeWitt Projects

Oaks IV: No change, all testing and manhole inspections are complete. Draft record drawings were supplied and comments sent back to the Engineer. Currently waiting for updated record drawings.

Wildflower Condos III: No change, contractor has completed punch list items. Still need to complete vacuum test on manholes and record drawings

Watertown Twp.

Lakeside: Phase 10 revised record drawings have been

supplied and are under review. Cleaning and lateral inspection of phase 12 pipe has been scheduled for February.

Clean and Televising: Review of the 2018 televising continues. New and/or worsening defects have been identified and adjustments to the Long Term Improvement programs will be made. Modifications to the 2019 Cleaning and Televising plan are under review.