



March 19, 2019

## Southern Clinton County Municipal Utilities Authority

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### Maintenance—Keeping Things Humming

Submersible pumps come at a premium, especially when operating 49 lift stations. This is why any pump that can cost-effectively be saved or repurposed for an emergency backup is put on the shelf. Our staff does a great job of working with parts and components on hand to manufacture pumps for backup situations. This sometimes involves taking two pumps and making one decent pump. This gives the staff options when a failure occurs. These projects were completed in some of the foul weather we have had in the past months.

The beautiful Michigan weather is also responsible for some additional work for our crews. It seems wind is becoming more common which has resulted in arbitrary power issues. Additionally, some of the vinyl fencing at the stations have not held up well to the high wind. The staff has made temporary repairs to secure the station, but further work will be needed once the weather allows.

As much as we wish we could control when things fail, we have not been granted that power. In the bitter cold, staff had to make a replacement of a failed impeller at station

215 (Bath).

Training and implementation of station data entry into tablets during weekly station checks are underway. This has been a long time coming as our IT provider and software provider worked the bugs out of the system. The staff has been using these the last couple of weeks and a few changes will be made, but in the end, this significantly reduces the amount of paperwork and the people handling that paper, considerably increasing our efficiency.

The engine from the salvaged generator from the old 102 station in DeWitt Township has been rebuilt. The plan is to have the ability to put this on one of our trailers to utilize as another backup in cases of a generator failure or emergency.

The first meeting with the engineers for the roof project has been completed which included an onsite inspection and data gathering session. The project is on schedule and should be completed in the summer months.

### Administration

SCCMUA has hired a new operator to fill the opening created by the promotion last month. Mark Arnes comes to us with a background in the agricultural industry with mechanical knowledge and a willingness to learn. SCCMUA is happy to have him and looks forward to all he can bring to us.

The budget process has begun and is in full swing. This is one of the more exciting times here at SCCMUA where discussion and ideas happen with all the staff working to find creative new methods to solve different problems.

Director Gurski was able to complete a course at MSU's Eli Broad College of Business in Effective Communication in the Municipal Environment. This class focused on the increasing demand and challenges associated with communication in all facets of the municipal environment.

On March 20, SCCMUA will be participating in the DeWitt Community Showcase. This event draws a great turnout which allows for an abundant amount of information to be shown and given out in one convenient location. We hope to see you there.

Southern Clinton County  
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## **Process—Making it Clean**

All parameters of the NPDES permit were met.

SCCMUA is consistently maintaining safety protocols around the plant and stations. A group which consists of operators and supervisors meet to discuss safety-related items. Many new upgrades have been implemented recently to better react to situations that may arise. Some of these upgrades include additional fall restrain devices, updated Exit signs with emergency lighting throughout the plant, and additional emergency escape hoods in case of a CL2 gas leak. These items will hopefully never be used, but in the case a situation arises, our staff is often the only line of defense and emergency crews are not usually equipped to handle some of the unique circumstances that can come from our industry.

In our digester system, two remote actuated valves in the base-

ment of the new digester needed to be replaced due to the frequency of operation, which causes excessive wear. This was no easy task, and the system has to be drained, isolated, and new valves installed promptly. The circulation of biosolids cannot be done with this system offline. Staff did a great job working together to accomplish this installation effectively and efficiently.

PFAS has been a continued focus and will be for many years to come. SCCMUA has worked with SIU's to sample their discharges for PFAS contaminants. Fortunately, only one has shown any samples with PFAS related chemicals which are not uncommon. SCCMUA has sampled the effluent and is waiting for the results. Additionally, SCCMUA is working with the organization to implement Best Practices to limit the

future discharge of PFAS.



## **Inspections—The Scoop on the Poop**

### **Miss Dig:**

161 total Miss Dig requests

51 tickets needed to be marked

Inspection services: 3

### **DeWitt Township**

Crowner Farms III: Cleaning and televising has been completed. Waiting for the video to review. Air and mandrel testing was performed and passed. Manhole vacuum test is remaining.

DeWitt Crossing South: No change. The contractor has received all the necessary permits. DeWitt Twp has issued Authorization to Proceed. The contractor has moved equipment on site and is stockpiling materials so work can proceed while frost laws are in effect.

501 Interceptor: Work continues on the interceptor from I69 to LS 501. The pipe passed the mandrel

and low air pressure testing. Manholes passed vacuum testing. Lines have been cleaned and televised. Televising is under review.

The main line sewer on Blackwood has been repaired and the road has been resurfaced.

### **Bath Township**

Chandler Lofts/NOCA: Plans have been submitted to DEQ for review.

### **City Of DeWitt**

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, the contractor has completed punch list items. Still,

need to complete vacuum test on manholes and record drawings

### **Watertown Township**

Lakeside: Phase 10 revised record drawings have been supplied and are under review. Cleaning and lateral inspection of phase 12 pipe were completed. Several laterals will require repair of leaking caps and joints.

Clean and TV: Review of 2018 televising continues. New and worsening defects have been identified, and adjustments to the Long Term Improvement program have been made. Modifications to the 2019 cleaning and televising plan are under review.