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## Southern Clinton County Municipal Utilities Authority

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### Inside this issue:

Process—Making it Clean 2

Inspections—The Scoop on the Poop 2



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Municipal Utilities  
Authority  
"The Clean Water People"

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### Administration

This month, the Admin team has been preparing documentation for the auditors' 2024 annual audit. With a full year of SRF project work, this year's preparation involves more than in any previous year. The team has collaborated with the auditors to confirm the necessary documentation for their review.

The team was privileged to highlight our project to our friends at EPA and EGLE. This was their sole Michigan visit for that group. The tour and meeting were beneficial to all involved. They highlighted our approach to the project, which represents a significant cost saving versus a more traditional approach. They also provided a platform for SCCMUA to give feedback on the SRF process and some of the requirements and hurdles associated with those requirements.

The budget process is well underway for the 2026 budget and CIP. Some hurdles that will be challenging are the changes in PA 152 and the impacts of PHP no longer being a benefit provider. Healthcare costs will significantly impact the budget as we move forward and continue to gather information.

Sick-time policy updates have been drafted for the board's review relating to the impacts of the ESTA laws that the state has enacted. These changes are fairly minimal in nature but carry liability.

### Maintenance—Keeping Things Humming

The circuit board from one of our portable generators was sent out for repair. We received it back, and the team reinstalled it. The generator seems to be operating as it should now. This is a never-ending battle in this field.

Maintenance on our system's bubblers was completed this past month, which included cleaning filters, checking fluids, diffusers, air lines, and connection points at each location in the station. More locations have been identified as good spots to use these devices to help manage odors and grease buildup.

With the warmer weather, crews have been able to repair any yards that may have been affected by snow removal and to rake any rocks that were pushed into

the yards over the winter. Additionally, now that the snow is gone, they can pick up any trash or debris that has accumulated over the past few months.

During our weekly station checks, the team discovered two faulty low floats: one at LS 203 and another at LS 215. Both floats have been replaced.

The team installed air relief valves on the two pumps located in the basement of Sandhill. These were added to ensure that if any air enters the valves of these pumps, it has a way to be released, allowing the pumps to start up without the risk of cavitation.



## Process—Making it Clean

**NPDES Permit:** We are pleased to report that all parameters of the NPDES permit were successfully met, with a total precipitation for the month of .77 inches

The team has been busy with routine preventative maintenance and addressing any unforeseen issues that arise. A hot water circulation pump has been replaced above the blower room door due to bearing failure. There are multiple pumps throughout the HVAC system to circulate hot water from the main plant boiler through the air-handling unit and back to the boiler, providing heat throughout the facility. Staff will explore the possibility of rebuilding this pump and storing it as a spare for future use.

One of the new RBC blowers has been put online and into service. This turbo-style blower is encased in insulated housing that significantly reduces noise. Currently, the blower output is the same PSI as our two older blowers running simultaneously. This is exciting as it adds redundancy for any additional air needs in the future.

The A1 RBC tank has been cleaned and inspected, with new baffles installed between each stage of the RBCs. The baffles help slow the flow of wa-

ter through the tank stages, allowing for more detention time and giving the water a better chance to be treated by microorganisms. These microorganisms attach to the plastic media of the RBC, and while submerged in water, they break down organic material such as proteins, carbohydrates, and fats—pollutants to humans but food and energy sources that help these organisms thrive.

Sludge hauling will occur in the next month or so, and staff are preparing. We are currently dewatering our supernatant from the sludge as much as possible to minimize unnecessary hauling costs. Sludge dewatering is carried out year-round to maximize the volume of sludge we can add to our storage tanks, as we only have sludge hauled twice a year, in spring and fall. Dewatering must be recycled back through the treatment system at a very low flow rate, as supernatant is high in ammonia and phosphorus, which contribute to our daily concentrations.

## Inspections—The Scoop on the Poop

### Miss Dig:

A total of 228 tickets were checked by staff during the month of February.

16 tickets required marking

### Inspections:

- 4 household inspections were completed in the month of February.

- 4 new connections

0 repairs

### Projects:

The staff has continued working on improving the GIS and Lucity asset management for the migration to Ziptility. The efforts have included cleaning up duplicates in the databases, filling in missing information,

adding new assets to better facilitate workflows in Ziptility, and field verifying data. There is finally light at the end of the tunnel.

The staff has started the annual spring draw-downs at each lift station. Drawdowns will continue through March and April.

The staff reviewed plans for the expansion of sanitary sewer service to a parcel at the corner of Grand River Ave and Francis Rd.

