

County Update

The Monthly Newsletter For The Belmont County Engineer's Department

May Dates

May 12th Mother's Day

May 18th Armed Forces Day

May 27th Memorial Day



Fred's Desk



APRIL IS ABOUT OVER, and the 2013 construction season has begun. Bids were opened earlier this month for center line striping, with Oglesby Construction the low bidder at \$1,022.73 per mile. This will allow them to stripe 119.81 miles of centerline for a total cost of \$122,533.28. The county commissioners are funding \$120,000 of the cost.

Lash Paving completed this week the paving of 2.3 miles of the west end of County Highway 102 (Johnson Ridge Road) and 1 mile of the west end of County Highway 124 (Wright Road). The Ohio Gathering Company, who is constructing

new gas pipe lines, is paying for this work. These lines will connect new wells drilled by Gulf Port Energy. Our road crews replaced the bad culverts and ditched these roads in preparation of the paving.

The Belmont County Commissioners are currently holding public hearings for the purpose of deciding whether or not to enact the permissive additional \$10.00 license fee for Belmont County. It is estimated that this will generate about \$500,000 for the county, along with about \$140,000 to be shared with our 16 townships and about \$60,000 to be shared with 14 of our mu-

nicipalities. The first public hearing was held this past Tuesday, and the second one will be held on May 1st. If the Commissioners vote to enact the \$10 fee, it will start with the 2014 registrations.

Our annual Township Trustees Meeting and our Employees Safety Meeting were held last week. As usual, the speakers did an outstanding job and the food was very good.

Bid dates will soon be set for additional construction projects. They will be listed in next month's County Update. Enjoy the spring weather.



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County Road 5 Clover Ridge

Concrete box beams were recently set at the Cover Ridge bridge replacement project. The bridge should be open in a few weeks after guardrail is installed and paving is completed.



CORSA

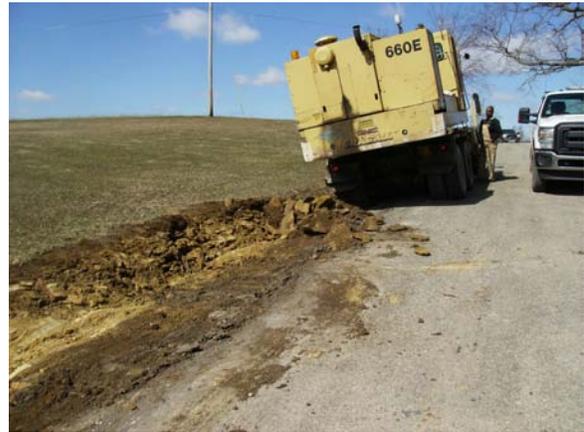
The County Risk Sharing Authority is a property and liability self funded pool established by the County Commissioners Association of Ohio (CCAO) in 1987. The program is governed by a nine member board of directors, all of whom must be commissioners from member counties. They provide the information on the corsa.org website as a service to members and the public.

The mission of the County Risk Sharing Authority (CORSA) is to provide members with comprehensive property and liability coverage and high quality risk management services at a stable and competitive cost.

CORSA provides training like Defensive Driving, Public Risk Management, Loss Control and Coaching for CDL Drivers.

Road Work

The Neffs, Roscoe and Tacoma road crews were involved in a 3 week project on County Roads 102 (Johnson Ridge), 124 (Wright Road) and 128 (Boston Road). Several sections of the roads were widened. Cross culverts were replaced which included 780 feet of 12 inch, 160 feet of 18 inch and 150 feet of 24” smooth bore plastic pipe. The work was done in anticipation of heavy traffic involved with the oil and gas drilling that will be done in the area.



Meeting with Township Officials

Dan Carlier of Union Township (bottom left) makes a report during the meeting with Township Trustees and Fiscal Officers. Chesapeake Energy representatives (bottom right) talked about oil and gas drilling concerns.



Annual Employee Safety Meeting



Speakers at the Annual Safety Meeting included: (top left) Ryan Dean of Chesapeake Energy, who spoke on oil and gas drilling; (top right) Steve Clark on first aid; (left) Ginger Hering and Jeremy Campbell of the Sexual Predator Internet Initiative; (bottom left) Ohio Motor Carrier Enforcement agents, who spoke about heavy equipment transportation; (bottom right) Eric White of the Bureau of Worker Compensation, who talked about harness and bucket truck safety.



Ohio Speed Limits History

1908 The first speed limit was 20 mph outside municipalities, 8 mph inside municipalities

1926 35 mph

1940 45 mph

1941 50 mph

12/1942 Gas rationing and a 35 mph speed limit on all roads that had been in effect along the East Coast for 7 months was extended nationally to conserve gasoline and rubber during World War II

8/1945 50 mph speed limit reinstated

1958 60 mph daytime, 50 mph speed limit at night

1963 70 mph for cars and 55 mph for trucks and commercial tractors on interstates; 60 mph daytime and 50 nighttime on non interstates

1974 55 mph for all vehicles on interstates and most other highways

1987 65 mph for cars on 900 miles of rural interstates, 55 mph for commercial vehicles weighing more than 8,000 lbs.

1991 65 mph for cars on another 246 miles of interstates

1992 65 mph on 209 miles of rural non interstates

1996 Speed limits raised to 65 mph on designated urban interstates and rural highways for passenger vehicles and commercial buses

2002 Am. Sub. SB 123 (effective date 11/1/02) overhauls point system for speeding. Effective date for provisions dealing with changes in Ohio's point system for speeding is 1/1/04.

2004 The Ohio Turnpike Commission approved a resolution increasing the speed limit for commercial vehicles from 55 mph to 65 mph in August 2004. Effective date: 9/8/04.

12/2010 Ohio Turnpike Commission approves a resolution to increase the speed limit on the Ohio Turnpike to 70 mph for cars and trucks. Effective date: 4/1/11

12/2011 HB 395, which proposed to raise Ohio's speed limit to 70 mph on segments of Ohio's interstate freeways was introduced and reported by the House Transportation, Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee. It was never voted on by the full Ohio House.

2013 Under HB 35, speed limits increased from 65 mph to 70 mph on most of Ohio's rural interstate freeway systems. The measure also sets the maximum speed limit for interstate outerbelts in urban areas at 65 mph and on freeways in congested areas at 55 mph. Effective date: 7/1/13.

The information above was found at the Ohio Insurance Institute website.