

# County Update

The Monthly Newsletter For The Belmont County Engineer's Department

## Fred's Desk



**POTHoles ARE EVERYWHERE**, and having spent many years as County Engineer, I can't remember dealing with so many of them. Usually, they don't appear until March, but with the harsh winter, they arrived early. When it's not snowing, we usually have three crews filling them, but it's hard to keep up with them. And when the ground thaws out, we'll probably have problems with our aggregate roadways. This happens every year, but some years are worse than others.

The 2014 construction will begin next week. On March 3, Shelly & Sands Co. will close two I-70 overpass bridges to replace the beams and bridge decks, one County 26 (Old 26 North) and CH 80 (Pogue Road). Both bridges should be opened within 120 days.

On or about March

13th, Ohio/West Virginia Co. will begin the construction of a new bridge on County Highway 4 (Sand Hill Road) over McMahan Creek near Neffs. This \$721,350 bridge will be completed by mid summer. A temporary bridge will be built nearby for the use of local traffic.

BOG Construction will begin, on March 24, the rehabilitation of two historic stone arch bridges, one on Union Township 814 near Morristown, and the other on County Highway 40-B at Lloydsville. Both bridges were built in the 1830s as part of the National Road. This project costs \$972,687 and is 80% funded by the Federal Highway Administration. This work should be completed by early fall. Bids will be opened in late April for the placement of about 10,300 lineal feet of new guardrail. The esti-

mated cost will be about \$300,000 and will be 100% funded by FHWA. This project should be completed by late August.

As mentioned in last month's "County Update", several more projects will be bid as the spring and summer goes on. There will be a lot of construction going on this year in Belmont County.

Deputy Engineer Mike Wahl has completed the annual 2014 bridge inspection of 280 bridges, which are located on county and township roads. Seventy-three of these bridges are posted with reduced load limits between 4 tons to 28 tons. One bridge, located in Barton, was closed to traffic due to its condition.

Once again we will have a busy construction season. Let's just hope that winter ends soon and we don't have a wet summer.

**Don't Forget**

**SPRING AHEAD!**

**Time Change**  
**March 9th 2:00 A.M.**

Belmont County Engineer's Department · 101 West Main Street · St. Clairsville, Ohio 43950  
Phone 740-699-2160 · Fax 740-695-8894

## ***'Tis the Season!***

A long range weather forecast for the area calls for March to be slightly colder than normal with rain and snow during the first week or so. A warming trend during the second week will carry through to the end of the month. Rain is predicted during this time with a mix of snow showers.



With snow one week and warming temperatures the next, crews are patching roads as time allows.

## ***CEAO Website***

A nice feature of the CEAO website is the ability to quickly look up information about County Engineer's Departments. On the right side home page, click 'Find An Engineer' and you will see a map of the counties in Ohio with hyperlinks to each Engineer and their website.



April 10th, 2014

***Annual Meeting with Township Officials***

6:00 P.M. Roscoe Road Garage

Ray Brushart of the Ohio Local Technical Assistance Program will give an update of the services available to local government agencies. LTAP provides training and assistance in the areas of safety, workforce development and infrastructure management.



April 11th, 2014

***Annual Employee Safety Training***

Program will include speakers from Belmont County 911, Belmont County Sheriff's Department, Cumberland Trail Fire District, Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation and others.

