

# **SUPERVISOR COMMENTS**

## **OCTOBER 2017**

### **Water Plant Updates from Spicer Engr. Jean Inman ...**

**WEEK OF 9/29/17** ...This week was a little quiet onsite. The fencing contractor nearly completed the fence and gates. He will be back on Monday to finish. Sterling was onsite to do the shoulder gravel on 23 between the two drives, install the flapper gates on the pipes in the seepage pond and change the bands on the culverts. They will be back to work on final restoration. The windows were delayed and will be installed Tuesday. Handrail will also be next week Wed. John E Green was onsite late this week as some of the piping has been fabbed and they are supposed to be onsite from here on out with the piping install. **WEEK OF 10/6/17** ... John E Green was onsite a couple days this week working on the CIP piping. They are waiting for more fittings from the fab shop at this point. Sterling did not put the shoulder gravel and change the bands in as they had planned to last week. Sterling will supposedly be onsite today to complete that work. They will be back next week to topsoil, reseed and place erosion matting. The fencing and gates are complete. Countyline needs to run power to the gate yet. The windows were installed this week and there seems to be an issue with the blind operation. The manufacturer and installer are being contacted. **WEEK OF 10/13/17** ... John E Green was onsite this week working on the piping inside the new building, which they will continue to work on next week. The handrail was installed but will have to be adjusted. Countyline was onsite finishing terminations for the generator which will have start up and training on Tuesday of next week. We are still waiting to hear back from the window manufacturer on the issue with the windows. We received the claim for the additional fencing work in the amount of \$2367. This was for the additional fencing along the back side of the property and the additional 6' gate. Next week the progress meeting will be on Tuesday the 17th at 10 am. This will be the last monthly progress meeting as the plant start up and testing is tentatively set for the week of November 13th.

**TRIBAL 2% DISTRIBUTION** ... I submitted two grant requests on 9/25 in the amount of \$21,076.00. The first request was in the amount of \$17,777.00 to assist with the paving of Baum Rd and if that request were to be granted, it's conceivable that Baum could be paved this November, so we'll wait and see and keep our fingers crossed. The second request was in the amount of \$3299.00 for a 17KW Honeywell/Generac generator from Costco for the township

hall. The installation quote from Goyette in Oscoda for \$1500.00 was not included as we did not want to appear too greedy! Should we not prevail with either request, we'll bank the \$1000.00 minimum award and apply toward the generator project and eventually – within the next year – we'll have a generator! The last 2% go-around in Spring '17, we applied the minimum award toward re-sealing and striping our parking lot and it only cost us \$600.00 from the general fund. Without any big awards from the Tribe, other than the minimums, over the next 3 years, we'll accumulate \$6000.00 in minimums and that's better than a stick in the eye! The tribe has changed their focus over the last couple years on what projects will be funded. Particular improvements for township halls such as new roofs, computers, software, furniture and other incidentals is apparently a thing of the past and has been replaced by projects that has more of a direct effect and benefit for all residents in the County such as bridge and road repair, or a new paved parking lot for the Senior Center in Omer comes to mind. Now that you know the ground rules for these grants, you've got until next August to come up with ideas for the next multi-grant request, because for the moment, I'm out of ideas!

**Annual Attorney Expense ...** At our last meeting, Nancy Hill inquired what do we spend annually on attorney fees and what is budgeted annually? Good question. We could not give a specific number at the time, so Judy checked out where we're at right now. We budgeted \$7000.00 for the year from the General Fund and so far, have spent \$6000.00 total, but not all of that spent was from the General Fund. Approximately \$2500.00 was from the Wallace & Orr account that recently settled the infamous 13-year lawsuit. With that amount out of the equation, we've spent \$3500.00 approximately this year on attorney fees.

#### **FINAL THOUGHT ...**

**A** "I'm not going to buy my kids an encyclopedia. Let them walk to school like I did; **B.** In baseball, you don't know nothing; **C.** I never blame myself when I'm not hitting. I just blame the bat and if it keeps up, I change bats. After all, if I know it isn't my fault that I'm not hitting, how can I get mad at myself? **D.** It ain't the heat, it's the humility. **E.** If you ask me anything I don't know, I'm not going to answer; **F.** Take it with a grin of salt." Yoggi Berra, Catcher, New York Yankees