



2018 ANNUAL REPORT

Coshocton County Engineer
Frederick T. Wachtel, P.E., P.S.

CONDITION OF ROADS, BRIDGES, AND CULVERTS

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From Fred's Desk...

We file this report annually to highlight the Coshocton County Engineer's Office activities of 2018 and to lay out the tentative plans for the year 2019.

Throughout this report, we will be sharing the many good things we have been able to accomplish this past year. None of this would have been possible without the hard work of everyone in our organization. I extend my sincere thanks to all of them for efforts to do all they do with the limited funds available.

Once again, I need to note the recurring theme in our annual reports with regard to the lack of funding for our operation. Contrary to what many people think, the County Engineer's Office receives no General Fund money except to fund the operation of the Geographic Information System (GIS) / Tax Map Office. Our total revenue for 2018 was \$4,247,918.02 compared to the 2007 total of \$4,343,311.39 - almost \$95,000 less. This lack of funds to provide the needed paving and bridge replacement work can be seen in the continued deterioration of our county road system.

I hope you will find this report interesting and informative. As always, if you have questions with regard to the various activities of the County Engineer's Office, please feel free to contact us at 740-622-2135 or via email at fredwachtel@coshoctoncounty.net. For current information with regard to the County Engineer's Office, please visit our website at www.coshoctoncounty.net.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as Coshocton County Engineer for the last 26 years and I look forward to serving for many more.

CONTACT US:

23194 CR 621, Coshocton, Ohio 43812
Phone: 740-622-2135 * Fax: 740-623-6512
www.coshoctoncounty.net/agency/engineer

PERSONNEL MATTERS

We had significant personnel changes in the Engineer's Office in 2018. Five employees retired this past year with a combined total of 140 years of service. Following is a list the retirees: Barb Powell, administrative assistant, 31 years of service; Scott Kestler, HMW, 28 years of service; Chris Guthrie, HMW, 33 years of service; John Shroyer, head mechanic, 17 years of service; and, Scott Matchett, HMW, 31 years of service. We wish these new retirees all the best in the next chapter of their lives.

As a result of the retirements mentioned above, we hired several new employees to help fill the positions. Joining the County Engineer's Office in 2018 were: Cody Westhoefer, head mechanic; Highway Maintenance Workers Dakota Albertson, Zach Arnold, and Benny Patterson; and, Administrative Assistant Rick Brenly.

Nine employees completed 2018 with perfect attendance: Rob Helmick fifteen years in a row; Brent Everhart eleven years; Brian Albertson six years; Justin Lapp five years; Mark Westhoefer four years; Nate Moore three years; Colt Kaser two years; and Kelly Sims and Robin Watson one year each.

We were able to successfully negotiate a new, three year collective bargaining agreement with AFSCME Local 8. We worked out all of the details directly with our bargaining unit employees thus saving time and money by not needing to hire outside counsel to assist with the process. Thanks to local negotiating team and members of the bargaining unit for the continued cooperation.

FLEET MANAGEMENT

We continue to evaluate our fleet of equipment to try to position our operation with the right combination of vehicles and construction equipment so that we can effectively provide service to our constituents. With the ongoing funding shortfall, this task becomes more difficult.

We made the following significant purchases in 2018: a new Eager Beaver 35 ton trailer, \$42,600; a used Mitsubishi FG30N forklift, \$15,500; a used 2008 Freightliner flatbed truck with a 24 foot bed, \$38,373; a used 2015 HD14W Articulated Tandem Roller, \$43,600; and an asphalt drag paver, \$18,230.

We completed our 2-year program to replace our current two-way radio system with Multi-Agency Radio Communications System (MARCS) radios. In 2018, we spent \$59,475 to purchase and install the rest of the new radios.

We also entered into lease-to-own contracts for two pieces of equipment: a 2017 Massey Ferguson model 5711SL Tractor with a 50" Diamond Boom Mower - a 6 year lease at \$22,919.88 per year; and, a John Deere model 135G FT4 Excavator - a 10 year lease at \$25,068.51 per year.

WINTER 2017-2018 SNOW PATROL

Our crews were out 17 times during the winter of 2017 - 2018, and drove a total of 35,544 miles. We used 1,897 tons of salt, and 1,251 tons of 50% cinders/50% salt mix.

SAFETY ISSUES

The County Engineer's Office had no reportable accidents in 2018. Our last lost time accident was June 22, 2017. As of the end of 2018, we have gone 557 days without a lost time accident. Thank you to all employees for working safely and looking out for each other every day.

BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS

We undertook no significant building improvements in 2018.

Our Solar Array to generate electricity for our office and garage has now been in service for over a year. For calendar year 2017 the system generated 19% of the electricity we used.

ACCESS MANAGEMENT

Permit activity in 2018 was busy. We issued 193 access permits, which generated \$4,850 in fees. Of that total, 19 were minimum volume drives which include new field drives, oil well drives, etc.; 7 were temporary minimum volume drives; 87 were very low volume drives being mostly residential drives; 18 were low volume commercial drives; and one access management variance request.

We continue to monitor all OUPS tickets on a daily basis. We use this information to determine if the proposed work is going to adversely impact our roads and to see if the proper permits have been acquired. If necessary, we contact the caller to get the details of the work and schedule a site visit. These visits result in corrective work at some locations, permit applications in others, and the opportunity to counsel folks on our permitting requirements.

We reviewed 132 proposed property splits for the Coshocton County Regional Planning Commission at no charge to the Planning Commission or the applicant. Two were not approved as presented. However, both were resolved by re-configuring the proposed layout.

We issued 45 right-of-way permits for installations within the right-of-way of various county roads.

As a reminder, any work activities within the public road right-of-way requires a permit. Contact the County Engineer's Office for details.

COSHOCTON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

We completed our first full year as the Director / Administrator for the Regional Planning Commission. We answer questions from property owners, realtors, developers, and surveyors with regard to splitting property. We also coordinate all of the reviewing agencies reports and issue approvals or denials for the proposed splits or subdivisions. All fees are processed through our office and any necessary field reviews or inspections are performed by County Engineer's Office personnel.

COSHOCTON COUNTY UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

We entered into an agreement with the Village of West Lafayette to be our contract operator for the Pearl / Fresno Sanitary Sewer System. Dave Kadri, Operator 3 for the Village, is our Operator of Record. The Village also provides services for our monthly billing.

We have been investigating the pump station at Pearl Valley Cheese and the force main from Pearl to Fresno to insure all the components are operating properly and the line is not constricted. We will be replacing some components in 2019.

MAJOR ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

Our 2018 resurfacing program consisted of a combination of MVG funding and Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) grants.

We administered all aspects of the OPWC Round 32 resurfacing projects. County Engineer's personnel administered the contracts and provided the bulk of the construction inspection. Entities that were participants in these projects included the Coshocton County Engineer; the City of Coshocton; the Townships of Franklin, Lafayette, and Tuscarawas; and the Village of West Lafayette. By collaborating and sharing services with various other governmental entities we are able to provide a better, more economical project for all involved.

County roads resurfaced in 2018 were:

- CR 6, asphalt, TR 306 to CR 286, 2.50 miles, Jackson & Virginia Townships, \$273,073
- CR 19, asphalt, CR 33 to TR 22, 1.00 miles, Monroe Township, \$140,649
- CR 23, asphalt, US Route 36 to CR 55, 1.54 miles, Jackson Township, \$185,493
- CR 23, asphalt, US 36 to Bridge 5, 0.49 miles, Bethlehem Township, this was a Public-Private Partnership with the Shelly Company
- CR 33, asphalt, CR 19 to CR 22, 0.40 miles, Monroe Township, \$33,987
- CR 4, single seal, CR 436 to SR 60, 2.30 miles, Washington Township, \$37,117
- CR 25, single seal, CR 24 to mm 2.95, 2.95 miles, Bethlehem Township \$41,278
- CR 88, single seal, SR 93 to County Line, 0.25 miles, Crawford Township, \$2,957
- CR 93, single seal, US Route 36 to County Line, 6.15 miles, Oxford & Adams Townships, \$85,632
- CR 186, single seal, SR 643 to SR 621, 2.58 miles, Keene Township, \$35,977
- CR 236, single seal, CR 10 to SR 93, 3.07 miles, Crawford Township, \$41,473
- CR 297, single seal, CR 6 to SR 541, 4.83 miles, Virginia & Jackson Townships, \$64,497
- CR 406, single seal, SR 621 to CR 186, 2.12 miles, Keene Township, \$27,196
- CR 439, single seal, SR 60 to CR 6, 2.56 miles, Washington Township, \$30,899

Cold Mix Production for in-house use:



Although we have no roads classified as critical, many are deteriorating from their original road surface and many sections are reverting to gravel. These are certainly not the conditions we want to provide to our constituents, but it is the harsh reality of insufficient funding.

CURRENT CONDITION RATINGS OF OUR 350 MILES OF ROAD:

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Critical
'18	23	228	86	13	0
'17	36	216	82	16	0
'16	47	202	92	10	0
'15	37	185	106	24	0
'14	31	206	89	24	0
'13	39	215	80	18	0
'12	58	175	93	26	0
'11	56	172	88	36	0
'10	51	167	99	35	0
'09	87	121	135	9	0

AMISH STEERING COMMITTEE

The following table shows the amount contributed and expenditures of our office on contract repairs on CR 10 and CR 12 in Crawford and Mill Creek Townships:

YEAR	CONTRIBUTION	CONTRACT EXPENDITURE
2011	\$8,541	\$32,000
2012	\$8,246	\$22,936
2013	\$9,145	\$21,214
2014	\$10,008	\$29,154
2015	\$9,586	\$791,195
2016	\$23,204	\$628,724
2017	\$23,204	\$242,188
2018	\$26,454	\$0

We continue to meet regularly with the Northeast Coshocton County Infrastructure Connection (NECCIC) to discuss the state of businesses and infrastructure in the northeastern part of our county. The committee consists of a combination of business owners, both Amish and "English," and local government officials. Needs, wants, and how to pay for improvements, are all on the table. In 2018, two small projects were identified and completed at very little cost. We coordinated an intersection improvement to address truck turning problems at the intersection of Mill Creek TR 219 and CR 126. We were able to realign and widen this intersection to allow semi-trucks to make the turn without having to back up. The second project improved a bad sight distance problem at the intersection of CR 12 and Holmes CR 600. This was truly a public-private partnership completed with community volunteers and a local excavating company, B & M Excavating, donating their time and equipment, to remove a hedge and embankment to greatly improve the visibility at this busy intersection.

BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION

In 2018, we were able to replace three structures utilizing grants and local funds. These bridges included projects on County Road 38, County Road 10, and Township Road 178. The bridges on CR 10 and CR 38 were replaced with four-sided concrete boxes, and the bridge on TR 178 was a total replacement, including new abutments and concrete pre-stressed box beams. County personnel built all three projects.

County personnel also replaced a 48" diameter culvert with an 8' by 4' four-sided concrete box on CR 19. County personnel partnered with McConnell Construction to replace a deteriorated timber pier and re-deck Clark TR 419 bridge 1.



Based upon ODOT's sufficiency ratings, the breakdown at year's end is as follows:

	'18	'17	'16	'15	'14	'13	'12	'11	'10	'09	'08	'07
Bridges	270	270	267	271	273	276	277	284	288	288	289	290
Excellent	102	106	125	124	123	108	105	103	98	95	91	85
Good	140	137	118	122	116	95	90	91	91	91	93	104
Fair	19	17	20	18	24	59	49	52	65	69	73	72
Poor	8	9	4	7	10	14	29	38	34	33	32	28
Critical	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
% Post-ed	9.3	10.0	11.2	14.0	13.5	16.3	17.0	20.1	22.2	21.1	22.4	26.6

The General Appraisal Summary of our bridges is as follows:

	GA9	GA8	GA7	GA6	GA5	GA4	GA3
'18	11	30	66	89	49	20	5
'17	13	30	64	91	46	19	7
'16	9	31	69	82	48	23	5
'15	9	27	94	56	57	22	7
'14	7	25	95	62	56	20	8
'13	3	20	93	68	57	26	9
'12	2	17	96	68	54	27	13
'11	0	14	95	70	60	34	11
'10	0	11	100	65	64	37	11
'09	0	13	94	69	67	39	6
'08	0	17	87	70	75	34	6
'07	0	4	82	76	83	30	15

PENDING ROAD PROJECTS

Our 2019 resurfacing program will be funded through a combination of County Engineer's Office funds, and a pending OPWC grant. No general fund monies are allocated to the County Engineer's Office. The planned projects, providing funding is available, include:



- CR 24, asphalt, SR 83 to CR 207, 3.35 miles, \$ 373,300
- CR 193, asphalt, SR 83 to SR 621, 2.12 miles, \$228,400
- Between 25 and 30 miles, single seal, on various county roads
- Various County Roads, drag spot pave, in various townships.

This list gets shorter every year due to lack of adequate funding and ever increasing prices.

PENDING BRIDGE PROJECTS

Bridges planned for construction in 2019, provided funds are available, include:

- Township Road 379 Culvert, (MVG-Lindsay) Perry Township (box culvert)
- County Road 80, Bridge 2, (MVG-Mack) Pike Township (box culvert)
- County Road 12, Bridge 2, (ODOT-Let) Keene Township (box beam)
- County Road 75, Bridge 2, (MVG-Repair) Virginia Township (abutment)
- Township Road 383, Bridge 2, (MVG-Repair) Perry Township (abutment)
- Township Road 53, Bridge 3, (MVG) Bedford Township (box culvert)
- Township Road 351- Bridge 1 (OPWC 18) in Tiverton Township (box culvert)
- Township Road 330- Bridge 1 (OPWC 18) in Monroe Township (box beam)
- Township Road 330- Bridge 2 (OPWC 18) in Monroe Township (box culvert)
- County Road 27, Bridge 3, (OPWC 18) in Bethlehem Township (box culvert)
- Township Road 77, Bridge 1, (OPWC 18) Bedford Township (box culvert)
- Township Road 437, Bridge 2, (OPWC 18) Washington Township (box culvert)
- County Road 92, Bridge 1, (OPWC 19) Newcastle Township (box culvert)
- Township Road 232, Bridge 1, (OPWC 19) Crawford Township (box culvert)
- Township Road 236, Bridge 3, (OPWC 19) Crawford Township (box culvert)

In addition, our crews will be performing various maintenance activities on our inventory of 270 bridges. This includes re-decking, channel work, signage, waterproofing, and any emergency work as needed. We will also be looking for more potential bridge to culvert conversions.

DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS & CULVERT REPLACEMENTS

County crews completed 12 different installations on our County road system in 2018 at a total cost of \$151,929.62. These installations ranged in size from 12" up to 60" diameter plastic pipe and one 8 foot by 4 foot concrete box culvert.

GIS / TAX MAP

Our GIS / Tax Map Office is staffed by two people, Jona Lee Mikesell, who handles our survey and deed reviews and T. J. Hootman, who handles our mapping and GIS system. I provide professional support and guidance to help these two with the many challenges they face dealing with all aspects of land records in our county. We keep an electronic log of every instrument submitted for approval. You can view it at www.coshoctoncounty.net, select Agencies, select GIS/Tax Map, select Deeds, and then click on Deed and Survey Review Log to ascertain the status of the instrument. In addition, we have scanned all the boundary surveys we have in our files and have them available on website as well. Because all of the records we have in the Map Office are accessible through our website, our office is figuratively open 24/7/365. In addition, we post many other datasets on our website for download free of charge.

In 2018, we reviewed 1,259 (1,313 in '17) documents of transfer, of which 60 (130 in '17) were Sheriff's deeds and three (two in '17) were the new "Auction Sale by Private Auctioneer" in lieu of the Sheriff Sale. We performed 128 description reviews for realtors and others to advise them whether or not the property would need surveyed prior to transfer. We reviewed 168 (160 in '17) property surveys as well.

1,964 parcels transferred in 2018 compared to 1,745

parcels in 2017. Of these transfers, 222 parcels transferred twice, 15 transferred 3 times, and two transferred four times.

102 parcels were split in 2018; 53 surveys combined two or more parcels; 55 new surveys of existing tracts were put on record; and 10 parcels had their minerals separated from the fee parcel.

We performed 247 Current Agricultural Use Valuation (CAUV) calculations for the County Auditor.

We assigned 78 new addresses in 2018.

We still have not come to a permanent website hosting solution. For the time being Ohio University is still hosting our website.

We provided GIS mapping services for many other governmental entities in Coshocton County including: the City of Coshocton; the Village of West Lafayette (Utility Map) ; many of our 22 townships; the Coshocton County Offices of the Auditor (Value Analysis Map, Board of Revisions Map); Dog Warden (High Volume Dog Breeders Map), Probate and Juvenile Court; Prosecuting Attorney; Risk Loss Coordinator (Probate Court Building Floor Plan); Coshocton County Emergency Management Agency; Coshocton Soil and Water Conservation District; the Coshocton Port Authority; and the Coshocton Convention and Visitors' Bureau (Wine Trail Map, Motorcycle Tour Map, Antique Trail Map).

FLOODPLAIN ADMINISTRATION

Floodplain permits issued in 2018 included six blanket utility permits and ten project specific permits.

We continue to answer inquiries from property owners, and potential property owners, with regard to floodplain development conditions and limitations. In addition, we provide floodplain administration support to both the City of Coshocton and the Village of Warsaw.

