

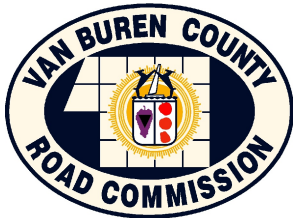
Van Buren County Road Commission 2010 Summer Newsletter

BETTER HIGHWAYS: SAVE LIVES, SAVE TIME, SAVE MONEY

Van Buren County Road Commission • 325 West James Street • Post Office Box 156 • Lawrence, MI 49064 • (269) 674-8011

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Federal and State Funds Provide Boost to 2010 Road Program

While Michigan Transportation Funds (MTF) have declined for the fifth (5th) consecutive year, and additional significant decreases have been projected for 2010, Federal and State funds will continue to provide a boost to the Road Program in 2010. These Federal and State funds are leveraged utilizing a portion of the County Wide Road Millage, which is a major component of Van Buren County's project funding, and also through MTF funds.

In 2010 Federal and State Aid for road and bridge projects is estimated to exceed \$4 million on projects in Van Buren County as follows:

- Vertical curve modification work along 71½ Street from 2nd Avenue northerly to Baseline Road; including hot mix asphalt paving, crushing and shaping, trenching, shoulder and centerline rumble strips, guardrail, signs, and pavement marking work;
- Hot mix asphalt paving work at the intersection of 66th Street and County Road 378; including concrete curb and gutter, rumble strips, signs, and pavement marking work;
- Aggregate and hot mix asphalt shoulder widening work along County Road 652 from County Road 358 northerly to the south village limits of Mattawan; including shoulder rumble strips, guardrail, signs, and pavement marking work;
- Superstructure work for the structure which carries 48th Avenue over the Paw Paw River;
- Vertical curve modification work at the intersection of County Road 669 and Old Swamp Road/40th Street; including hot mix asphalt paving, centerline and shoulder rumble strips, permanent signs, and pavement marking work;
- Superstructure work for the structure which carries CR380 over the Black River;
- The removal and replacement of the structure which carries County Road 653 over the North Branch of the Paw Paw River;
- Superstructure work for the structure which carries 59.50 Street over the Paw Paw River;
- Widening of CR687 approaches at CR388, with right-hand turn lanes and tapers, taper lengthening on CR388, and vertical curve reduction to improve sight distance; and,
- Trench and widen CR652 from CR354 North to CR358 to bring road section up to county standards, rumble strips along shoulders, and signs.

SAFETY EDUCATION EFFORT CONTINUES



The Van Buren County Road Commission continues to improve the safety awareness of children through its student outreach programs and through attending child safety programs.



March was a busy month for student education efforts at the Road Commission. On March 3rd Road Commission staff members visited Cedar Street Elementary School to discuss safety with the 3, 4 and 5-year-olds. The children were also able to get an up-close look at a snowplow truck, and watch a video on the dangers of playing where snow plows pass. School staff was very happy with the presentation and plan to have the Road Commission come back again next year.

The Road Commission's Lawrence Garage was also visited by Lawrence Elementary School's second graders in March for a first hand look at a the Road Commission's equipment, salt pile, and maintenance garage. Students were able to ask questions, and learn about the duties and responsibilities of the Road Commission.

And on March 13th the Paw Paw Fire Department invited the Road Commission to attend their Child Safety and Protection Festival. The event was held at Two Paws Ford in Paw Paw. Road Commission staff provided contact information, safety information and Road Commission facts to help boost interest and awareness. The event included certified child passenger safety technicians, representatives of the Paw Paw Fire Department, Allegis Credit Union, New York Life, and more.

If you are interested in scheduling a safety or education event, please contact the Road Commission at 269-674-8011. Education matters!

Southern District Superintendent Retires After 38 Years

Southern District Maintenance Superintendent, Robert "Bob" Golladay, retired from the Road Commission on May 27, 2010 after 38 years of employment with the Road Commission.

Bob was first employed by the Road Commission in 1972 as a Mechanic. In 1997 he was promoted to his current position as Maintenance Superintendent for the southern half of the county. At its May 5, 2010 meeting, the Board of County Road Commissioners recognized Bob's dedication to the performance of his work assignments throughout Van Buren County.



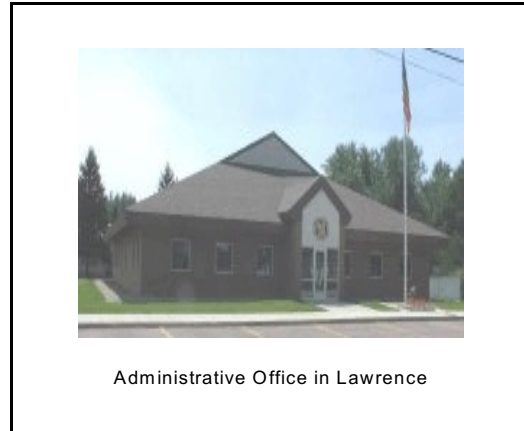
Larry Hummel & Bob Golladay

Bob and his wife, Judy, currently reside in Paw Paw. He plans to keep busy in his woodworking shop, and with the American Legion, McGowan-Johnson Post #68, of which he is an active member. Please join the Road Commission in congratulating Bob and wishing him the very best in his retirement years!

Van Buren County Road Commission Permits Department

The Board of County Road Commissioners amended its Fee Schedule Policy effective January 10, 2010. The Fee Schedule more comprehensively addresses application/permit fees for utilities, transportation, maintenance and other Road Commission authorized work, as well as photocopies, plotter prints, etc. in order to allow the Road Commission to recover a portion of its necessary and actual costs for the issuance of permits and for review of the proposed activity, inspection and related expenses.

The VBCRC Permit Department is responsible for processing a wide range of permits, including residential and commercial driveway permits, road right-of-way permits, special event permits, and oversize and overweight load permits. This extensive process includes reviewing applications and plans submitted by property owners, truckers, developers, and public utility companies as well as on-site inspections, and the issuance of permits.



The VBCRC Permit Department includes three employees consisting of Gordon Hover, Engineering Technician-Permit Officer; Jeff Mitchell, County Weightmaster and Special Operations Officer; and LuAnn Johnson, Secretary/Receptionist. The Permit Department processes over 650 permits during a typical year, and over 500 moving logs.

The Van Buren County Weighmaster patrols roadways under the jurisdiction of the Van Buren County Road Commission to enforce laws pertaining to commercial vehicles in accordance with the Michigan Vehicle Code. His role is especially important during seasonal weight restrictions, which takes place during the spring thaw when roads are most vulnerable.

The Permit Office is located at 325 West James Street, Lawrence Michigan 49064. Summer hours (May 5-October 2) are Monday through Thursday, 6:00 AM to 4:30 PM. Most permit applications require two business days advance notice.

Road Commission Presents Guidelines for Improved Communications

The Board of County Road Commissioners presented its Guidelines for Attendance/Communication with its Township Partners to the County Commissioners at their January 26, 2010 board meeting. The Guidelines enhanced communication procedures which were already in place with Local Elected Officials by providing not only additional communication opportunities, but also improved communication opportunities between the Road Commission and its Township Partners.

The Board of County Road Commissioners, and the staff of the Road Commission are committed to efficient and cost effective service for the motoring public and the citizens of Van Buren County. We appreciate the opportunity to communicate with our Township Partners, as well as the constituents of Van Buren County to address all concerns and answer any questions regarding Road Commission operations.

Road Commission staff can be reached at 269-674-8011, or via email at ybcrc@comcast.net. In addition, the Road Commission's website provides valuable information and can be found at www.ybcrc.org. Or visit us on Facebook.

Visit us on the Web:
www.vbcrc.org

 **Become a fan and get Facebook updates**

Road Commission Calendar

Regular Meetings of the Board of County Road Commissioners:

May 5 and 19
 June 2 and 16
 July 7 and 21
 August 4 and 18
 September 1 and 15
 October 7 and 21
 November 4 and 18
 December 2 and 16

All meetings are held at the Administrative Offices in Lawrence at 7:00 PM, unless posted otherwise.

The Road Commission will be closed for holidays as follows:

May 31	Memorial Day
July 5 & 6	4th of July
September 6	Labor Day

Road Commission Summer Hours

May 3rd - October 1st

Daily Work Schedule

6:00 AM to 4:30 PM (Monday through Thursday)

If there is an emergency situation when we are closed, please call the Sheriff's Department (269-657-3101) and they will contact the Emergency Duty Superintendent.

Road Commission Staff

Lawrence B. Hummel.	County Highway Engineer-Manager.	vbcrchummel@comcast.net
.	Department of Public Works Director	
Barry Anttila.	Highway Engineer.	vbcrcanttila@comcast.net
Brian Cornish	Foreman.	vbcrc@comcast.net
Lynn Boitnott.	Northern District Maintenance Supt..	vbcrc@comcast.net
Gregory Pardike.	Board Secretary/Accountant.	vbcrcpardike@comcast.net
Gordon Hover.	Engineering Technician/Permit Officer.	vbcrchover@comcast.net
Joel Hoort.	Jr. Engineering Technician.	joelhoort@vbcrc.org
Jeff Mitchell.	Special Operations Officer.	vbcrcmitchell@comcast.net
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Warren Sell.	Purchasing Officer.	warrensell@vbcrc.org
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Linnea Colgren.	Account Clerk.	linneacolgren@vbcrc.org
.	Board of Public Works, Secretary/Accountant.	
LuAnn Johnson.	Secretary/Receptionist.	vbcrc@comcast.net

Road Commissioners & County Board Representatives

Gregory H. Kinney . . . (Phone: 269-423-2302).	12-31-14
Chester "Chip" Ray . . . (Phone: 269-628-2098).	12-31-10
John T. Rosevelt . . . (Phone: 269-782-7197).	12-31-10
Alain E. Svilpe . . . (Phone: 269-668-3274).	12-31-12
Jean A. Stein . . . (Phone: 269-637-2579).	12-31-12
County Comm. Tom Erdmann.	Board Representative
County Comm. Richard Freestone.	Board Representative

NOTE: If you do not wish to receive this Newsletter, please contact Jill Brien at the Road Commission Office either by phone at 269-674-8011, or by email at jillbrien@vbcrc.org.