



**City of Pataskala Utility Department**  
**Chris Sharrock, Utility Director**

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➤ **Utility Department Updates**

• **Biosolids program**

- Contract between Agri-Sludge and the City was approved and signed after the council meeting on March 4.
- Agrisludge has begun the process of getting soil samples at the fields
- The City has begun the process of getting cake samples as required by the EPA before the product can leave the facility
- The sludge storage building is filling up quickly. About 2 weeks of space left
- I contacted Terry Sutherland, the field owner, to keep him up to date with the programs progress and to inform him that we will be using Agri-Sludge to do the work

• **Staffing**

- Steve Crane rendered his resignation unexpectedly and effective immediately on Mar 1
  - The position will be advertised until April 5
  - We have conducted some cross-training prior to this that will allow both Field Technicians to assist at the billing window as needed

• **Water Reclamation Facility**

- WRF Upgrade
  - Design Loan agreement and Exhibit have been issued by the OEPA. Funds to be made available on March 28
  - Proposal has been signed and the Purchase Order written to begin the design phase

• **Water Treatment Plants**

- HS pump at WTP2

- Soft start for pump was replaced on March 22
  - Painting
    - Operators are beginning the process of painting the pipes inside of WTP1 as part of the routine maintenance
  - Iron Filter at WTP1
    - The motor for the aeration step of one of the iron filters at WTP1 is kicking out. Electrician scheduled to diagnose the problem. There are three iron filters at WTP1
    - Eric has been monitoring iron levels every day since the problem began and there is no effect on the iron levels in our filtered water
  
- **Distribution and Collection System**
  - Booster Pump Upgrade Project
    - Project is now complete and performing well. The Booster pumps have gone from a combined run time of 18-24 hours a day to an average of 6-8 hours a day
  - Creek Road Lift Station
    - Buckeye Pumps is rebuilding one of our pumps that failed
  - 389 Shawnee Loop South
    - A hole in the copper service line was discovered. The service line from the saddle to the curb box was replaced with a plastic service line.
  - Mill St water main leak
    - A leak was found on the water main along Mill St where it crosses the intersection of Main St
    - There was no way to valve off the leaking area. The main was dug up on both sides of Main St and capped off. This is a portion of the main that is getting abandoned with the Mill St Waterline Project
  - Mill Street Waterline Project
    - This is a continuation of a project started last year. It is to abandon a trouble section of old 6" water main on Mill St between Main and Jefferson.
    - The water main will be looped in to an existing 8" water main in the same area.
    - Five water services will be transferred from the old 6" water main to the new 8" water main.
    - Project expected to last for one week beginning the first week of April

- Notices for the project were taped to the front door of all affected customers on 3-18 and again on 3-26. Notice was given to Fire, Police, Mail, Trash and Schools for road closure. Notice also posted on facebook
- **Billing Team**
  - Rate Structure
    - Discussions have begun regarding the best way to move forward with a rate increase
  - Continued efforts in regards to providing excellent customer service
  - It should be noted that Stephanie Tallman is picking up the slack while the billing clerk position is open and she is doing an outstanding job
- **Director**
  - I have finished the Annual WRF Facility Report and included it with the council packets
    - This report is a similar report to the Water CCR, only covering the wastewater process
    - It is not required by the OEPA, but is something the department does for informational purposes
  - I have submitted the Annual Water Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) as required by the OEPA for review by the OEPA
    - This report explains the water treatment process and test results from the previous year
    - This report is due in July
  - SEOWEA section meeting April 11
    - The department has volunteered to provide a tour of the WRF as a part of the SEOWEA section meeting. Two groups of 25 people are expected to attend.
    - Ryan Brown will lead one group and Chris Sharrock will lead the other
    - This tour will count for one contact hour towards Wastewater Licenses for anyone who attends as well as the presenters
  - Safety Program
    - I have compiled a system of safety talks available through the BWC website that the superintendents will go over with their respective teams
    - This will be a bi-monthly meeting with a sign in sheet that I will track to ensure participation

- I have nominated the Treatment Team and the Systems Team for a safety award through OWEA
- Construction Specifications and Drawings
  - A review was done to update our Construction Specs and Drawings so that they will reflect our current standards
- I & I water
  - The EPA has suggested that they will require a plan to address our I & I water getting into the collections system
  - I have met with engineers from both Hull and Strand to get a proposal from each to develop a plan to address the I & I issue in order to be proactive
- Training
  - The Plant Superintendent, Systems Superintendent, Billing Manager and myself attended a leadership training given by SGR in New Albany on March 25
  - Trent Howell and Connor Johnson will attend a one day training giving an overview of the EPA backflow requirements
  - Connor Johnson will be attending a workshop on the call before you dig service (OUPS)
- Backflow Prevention Task Force
  - Held the first meeting with the new Backflow Prevention Task Force

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