

## December 2023 Monthly Highway Report

### Winter Operations

We have been busy getting ready for winter operations and preparing all of the equipment. On November 27<sup>th</sup> we had our first salt delivery. We had 200 tons of untreated salt delivered which was a total cost of \$16,579.08. This will be mixed with sand to be used as material in upcoming winter events.

We have also been hauling in cold mix asphalt to be used as patch during the winter season. Normally, our department would make their own cold mix/pug to be used as patch but when I first took over there was very little patch left for the winter and the pug mill machine was down. So far, we have hauled in 576 tons of cold mix, after a few more hauling's that should be enough to get us moving on the winter patching but depending on the conditions of the roadways and how much patch we need to use this winter we may need to haul more.

In the upcoming weeks/months when we start seeing snowfalls there are common questions and concerns regarding the plowing practices. I have listed out some of those questions/concerns for your review.

**1) Why can't you clear the roads like INDOT?**

- A) They can afford to run full crews 24 hours a day.
- B) They can afford to use brine and pure salt at a level we cannot
- C) The roads are all hot mix asphalt/easier to plow
- D) Higher traffic volumes

**2) You plowed my driveway in!**

- A) Approximately 10,000 driveways in Starke County
- B) If each driver opened up each of their 500 driveways at 1 minutes it would add 7.5 hours to their plow route

**3) The plow hit my mailbox!**

- A) Plows rarely hit mailboxes. If they do there is almost no sign of the mailbox left.
- B) Slush and heavy snow coming off the plow is what causes most of the damage
- C) We follow the mailbox policy for replacement

**4) You did not clean up the intersection!**

- A) During heavy prolonged snowfalls we clear the roads first and then finish the intersections the next day.
- B) We do not handle State Road intersections.

**5) The driver is going to fast!**

- A) The plows seem like they are going much faster than they are due to the snow coming off the blade at three times the speed of the truck
- B) We have GPS and check the speeds of our plow trucks.

**6) Plow my road first!**

- A) We prioritize routes by traffics volume use (Schools/Businesses) and mobility. Paved main routes first, then secondary paved roads, then subdivisions and dead ends. Gravel roads are last.

## **Training**

LTAP visited the Starke County Highway Department December 11<sup>th</sup> for a Snow Plow Training event. All Starke County Highway Department employees along with several employees from Marshall and Pulaski County Highway Department spent the first three hours of the day in classroom setting with the remainder of the day being put to the test with different hands on plow training exercises.



## Revenue/Distributions

### 1176 MVH

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
2018	\$282,229.21	\$254,335.50	\$292,270.69	\$334,512.78	\$343,398.99	\$271,237.08	\$312,144.20	\$133,764.07	\$256,744.00	\$262,896.81	\$249,026.65	\$254,825.62	\$3,247,385.60
2019	\$250,376.19	\$243,946.60	\$133,394.05	\$140,702.32	\$137,348.33	\$127,271.76	\$125,014.53	\$126,899.23	\$133,443.32	\$132,348.08	\$132,111.49	\$127,269.52	\$1,810,125.42
2020	\$124,825.83	\$119,979.46	\$143,132.09	\$143,163.71	\$117,594.97	\$94,548.12	\$101,610.51	\$63,442.66	\$128,485.47	\$132,661.05	\$132,311.23	\$127,519.84	\$1,429,274.94
2021	\$118,351.68	\$127,323.35	\$136,988.00	\$138,651.52	\$136,262.53	\$274,362.29	\$141,419.22	\$79,060.12	\$141,036.10	\$148,798.78	\$139,241.27	\$134,629.96	\$1,716,124.82
2022	\$142,697.13	\$139,923.56	\$145,113.37	\$148,899.22	\$153,569.95	\$139,330.79	\$155,478.42	\$79,324.46	\$134,129.46	\$118,010.70	\$160,156.00	\$131,113.63	\$1,647,746.69
2023	\$144,325.65	\$0.00	\$155,112.25	\$155,326.50	\$155,441.83	\$141,913.97	\$149,829.97	\$80,260.86	\$144,585.37	\$148,088.15	\$148,857.48	\$0.00	\$1,423,742.03

### 1173 MVH Restricted

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
2018	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2019	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$133,394.05	\$140,702.31	\$137,348.32	\$127,271.76	\$125,014.53	\$0.00	\$133,443.32	\$132,348.08	\$132,111.48	\$127,269.51	\$1,188,903.36
2020	\$124,825.82	\$119,979.46	\$143,132.08	\$143,163.71	\$117,594.96	\$94,548.12	\$101,610.50	\$63,442.66	\$128,485.47	\$132,661.05	\$132,311.23	\$127,519.83	\$1,429,274.89
2021	\$118,351.68	\$127,323.35	\$136,987.99	\$138,651.51	\$136,262.52	\$0.00	\$141,419.22	\$79,060.11	\$141,036.09	\$148,798.78	\$139,241.26	\$134,629.96	\$1,441,762.47
2022	\$142,697.12	\$139,923.55	\$145,113.37	\$148,899.21	\$153,569.94	\$139,330.78	\$155,478.42	\$79,324.46	\$134,129.45	\$118,010.69	\$160,155.99	\$131,113.63	\$1,647,746.61
2023	\$144,325.64	\$0.00	\$155,112.24	\$155,326.50	\$155,441.83	\$141,913.98	\$289,273.78	\$80,260.85	\$144,585.37	\$148,088.15	\$148,857.49	\$0.00	\$1,563,185.83

### 1169 LRS

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
2018	\$35,894.64	\$37,104.54	\$35,836.55	\$35,130.69	\$40,201.14	\$36,188.51	\$42,233.73	\$13,359.23	\$46,231.69	\$36,712.15	\$33,883.52	\$35,906.02	\$428,682.41
2019	\$36,852.68	\$35,609.11	\$36,010.37	\$34,782.10	\$37,083.77	\$37,369.52	\$38,436.22	\$16,778.22	\$41,216.43	\$41,378.64	\$38,826.68	\$40,473.24	\$434,816.98
2020	\$37,362.41	\$36,706.84	\$37,917.40	\$35,442.43	\$34,181.35	\$27,887.49	\$31,527.29	\$17,145.58	\$39,590.21	\$39,762.95	\$38,466.29	\$38,856.60	\$414,846.84
2021	\$35,257.46	\$37,138.14	\$35,979.62	\$34,049.39	\$40,693.21	\$39,591.17	\$41,222.46	\$20,379.09	\$42,080.30	\$43,740.75	\$40,777.99	\$41,061.63	\$451,971.21
2022	\$40,989.21	\$39,918.84	\$37,673.62	\$36,463.26	\$42,919.87	\$40,261.72	\$43,292.95	\$23,053.28	\$38,872.01	\$43,256.33	\$46,514.83	\$40,272.47	\$473,488.39
2023	\$41,756.63	\$40,281.95	\$40,744.45	\$39,226.12	\$42,590.37	\$41,694.43	\$42,739.99	\$23,155.42	\$44,275.02	\$46,388.34	\$42,580.99	\$0.00	\$445,433.71

## Bridges

**Bridge 137 – CR 300 E over the Yellow River, just South of CR 50 N – Letting will be in 2024. NOFA Grant**

**Bridge 59 – CR 700 S over Bogus Run – Letting will be in 2027. NOFA Grant**

**Bridge Structural Completion – United Consultants are starting on Phase 1A of the Bridge Inspections. I have listed below the breakdown of phases and how much those phases cost.**

Phase I (Oct. 2024): Full inspection of the county. 57 bridges with a full report. Will include a presentation to the commissioners early in 2025 once report is submitted.

Phase IA (Oct. 2025): Only inspect the bridges on the 12-month cycle, typically your bridges on the replacement list. 3 bridges in 2025. Also includes an underwater inspection on Bridge 137.

Phase II (Oct. 2026): Full inspection of the county. 57 bridges with a full report. Will include a presentation to the commissioners early in 2027 once report is submitted.

Phase IIA (Oct. 2027): Only inspect the bridges on the 12-month cycle, typically your bridges on the replacement list. 2 bridges expected in 2027. Also includes an underwater inspection on Bridge 137.

<b>Starke Inventory (2024-2027)</b>	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028*	<b>TOTAL</b>
Total	\$55,000	\$55,000	\$60,000	\$50,000	\$5,000	<b>\$250,000</b>
<b>STARKE MATCH</b>	<b>\$11,000</b>	<b>\$11,000</b>	<b>\$12,000</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>

### **Camera System**

The camera system has been ordered and will be install in March or early April of 2024.

### **Community Crossings Grants**

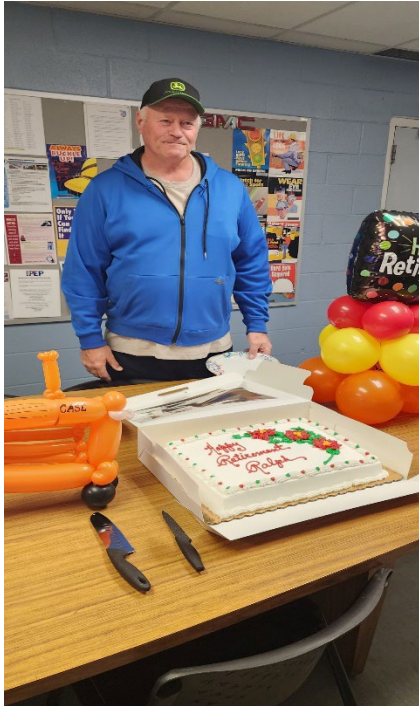
2023-02 CCMG Grant for Chip Seal Program. Bids will be opened today and this project will be completed in the Spring of 2024. The project consists of a total of 15 miles which will include Toto Rd between Hwy 23 and County Line (1200 E). Also, 1150 E. between 225 S. and 625 S.

### **Vehicles**

The 2 Western Star tandems that the Board of Commissioners approved this year during the summer are now at Terry’s Truck Equipment getting the wheelbase readjusted. They will then be on their way to Lindco to have the rest of the body of the truck completed. The timeline for this is 6-8 months.

The two freightliner tandems that were approved for purchase almost 2 years ago, I still do not have a build date on and we have made a total of 17 payments towards that purchase.

## **Retirement**



Ralph Saine Started at the Starke County Highway Department in 1981. He retired this month and we had a retirement party for Ralph celebrating the 42 years of service he has given the Starke County Highway Department.

## **Grant Award**

A few weeks ago, I had applied for a \$5,000 grant from the Starke County Community Foundation for the purchase of hi-vis safety winter gear for the entire department. I am happy to say that last week we were awarded the \$5,000. We have already placed our order for the hi-vis safety gear. This included sweatshirts, winter coats, hats, gloves, and first aid kits.

## 2024 Material Quotes

<b>2024 Material Prices</b>		
	<b>US Aggregates</b>	<b>Heidelber Materials</b>
<b>INDOT #2 Stone</b>	<b>\$12.60</b>	<b>\$13.00</b>
<b>INDOT #8 Stone</b>	<b>\$15.30</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>IDOT #9 Stone</b>	<b>\$16.20</b>	<b>\$13.00</b>
<b>INDOT #11 Stone</b>	<b>\$16.00</b>	<b>\$17.00</b>
<b>INDOT #12 Stone</b>	<b>\$20.70</b>	<b>\$17.00</b>
<b>INDOT #24 Stone Sand/#4 SBBB</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>\$12.00</b>
<b>INDOT #53 Crushed Stone</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>INDOT #53 Stone</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>	<b>\$13.00</b>
<b>INDOT #73 Stone</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>	<b>\$13.00</b>
<b>INDOT REVTMENT RIP RAP</b>	<b>\$24.75</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>
<b>Rip Rap Class I</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>\$37.00</b>

**Both of these businesses are located in Francisville and Heidelber Materials used to be called Hanson Materials. These prices reflect a 20% increase from 2023.**