

Weekly Operations Update

Van Buren County Road Commission

Week of January 13, 2020

Maintenance Operations

- Tree trimming/removals, various locations Almena, Decatur and Hamilton Townships.
- Boom Mowing, Primary Roads in Geneva and Columbia Townships.
- Storm clean-up in Porter Township.
- Pot-hole patching, county-wide.
- Washout repair county-wide.
- Addressing gravel maintenance service requests county wide.

Miscellaneous

- **REMINDER:** The 2020 Road Planning form should have been returned by *December 31, 2019*. We are currently missing Planning forms from the following townships: ***Bangor and Decatur***.
- On March 10th at the Presidential Primary voters will be asked to consider a four-year county-wide road millage **renewal request** of 0.9769-mills. Sums generated by the millage are distributed to the Road Commission, as well as directly to the 11 cities and villages in the county, by the County Treasurer. In addition, the Road Commission allocates approximately \$987,000 to the 18 townships in Van Buren County for their use on the certified road system. The Board increased these allocations in 2020 due to the County Treasurer's anticipated collections.

Millage funds received by the Road Commission are first utilized to leverage Federal and State funds to do larger, more expensive road and bridge projects as the Road Commission is required to fund from 5% to 20% of the project, in addition to providing the design engineering and the construction engineering, depending upon the funds leveraged. Millage funds are also used to accomplish many other annual improvements and upgrades to the county-wide road system through a selection process that takes into consideration asset management, budget constraints, traffic volumes, and township priorities.

The Road Commission will be hosting public information meetings about the millage **renewal** request. Please see the attached flyer for additional information.