

# Annual Report 2008

Randolf L. Germann, P.E., P.S.  
County Engineer



## Engineer's Staff

Randolf Germann, P.E., P.S.  
*County Engineer*

Tim Schumm, P.E., S.I.  
*Assistant Engineer*

Patrick McColley, E.I.  
*Highway Engineer*

Ronald Wentling, P.S.  
*County Surveyor*

Dave Kretzer  
*Tax Map Draftsman*

Steve Knipp  
*Bridge Inspector*

Robin Ball  
*Account Clerk*

Nancy Johnston  
*Tax Map Assistant*

Larry Hohenberger  
*Superintendent*

## Increase in Material and Construction Costs

In Ohio, the County Engineer's revenue relies heavily on gasoline taxes and motor vehicle registration fees. Currently, Ohio's gas tax is 46.4 cents (52.4 cents for diesel) and has not been increased since 2003.

A major problem facing Ohio's transportation departments is the drastic increase in material and construction costs, specifically salt and asphalt. These increases will result in fewer roads and bridges being replaced or upgraded.

Until there is some stabilization in construction prices or more adequate transportation funding is provided, Henry County's and the Nation's infrastructure will continue to deteriorate at an alarming rate.

There is one bright side to this problem. New pavement and bridge building technologies are being developed. Employing these new technologies will allow our office to better keep up with Henry County's road and bridge construction needs.

## Rock Salt

Earlier this year the Henry County Engineer's Office received 6 no bid responses from salt companies. Since that time, the engineer's office has reached an agreement with ODOT to purchase 500 tons of salt at a price of \$75/ton from ODOT's Lucas County Garage. The Henry County Highway Department goes through an average of 700 tons of salt a year.

Annual Report 2008

January 2009



Randolf Germann, P.E., P.S.  
County Engineer

## Inside this issue:

U.S. 24 Project	2
Paving the Fairgrounds	2
Surveys Online	2
Highway Mileage	3
RXR Crossing Grant	3
GRS Wingwalls	3
Budget	4
2008 Projects	5

*"We're experiencing the perfect storm in terms of maintaining the nation's highways."*

— John Horsley, AASHTO  
Executive Director

## U.S. 24 Project Underway



*Assistant County Engineer Tim Schumm (right) speaks with Deputy Director Dave Dysard (left) at the District 2 U.S. 24 Ground Breaking Ceremony*

As the U.S. 24 project continues several significant milestones are underway or have been completed:

- The right-of-way has been purchased
- The trees east of Township Road 10 to the county line have been removed
- The grading for the new lanes east of Napoleon is progressing
- Construction of the State Route 109 interchange and the County Road 4A overpass is underway
- The Glenwood Avenue (County Road 14B) overpass construction is continuing

The County Engineer's Office appreciates the good communication and quick responses from ODOT — District 2.

## Paving the Henry County Fairgrounds



*Gerken Crews paving one of the fairground's entrances*

This past year the Henry County Engineer received bids to have the fairground entrances paved. Approximately 115 tons of asphalt were used. This is a project the entire county can enjoy for years to come. County Crews performed the preparation work and Gerken Materials, Inc. paved the entrances.



*Gerken Crews paving one of the fairground's entrances*

## Surveys and Plats Now Online

This past summer the Henry County Engineer's Office received quotes to scan in all the surveys and plat maps, with the hope of one day putting them online for the whole county to access. At the end of the summer this hope became a reality. Currently all surveys and plats are now online and can be accessed at [www.henrycountyengineer.com](http://www.henrycountyengineer.com). Our office appreciates County Auditor Kevin Nye and County Recorder Sara Myles enthusiasm and support for this project.

**ROAD MILEAGE BY TOWNSHIP**

<b>Township</b>	<b>Township Roads</b>	<b>County Roads</b>	<b>Total</b>
Ridgeville	33.47	12.93	46.4
Freedom	34.85	19.95	54.8
Liberty	28.68	32.14	60.82
Washington	39.9	31.11	71.01
Napoleon	42.51	27.1	69.61
Harrison	34.08	21.19	55.27
Damascus	29.01	34.43	63.44
Flatrock	21.28	39.1	60.38
Monroe	28.52	29.82	58.34
Richfield	36.22	33.61	69.83
Pleasant	27.5	44.14	71.64
Marion	42.23	30.76	72.99
Bartlow	25.93	44.26	70.19
<b>Total</b>	<b>424.18</b>	<b>400.54</b>	<b>824.72</b>

**U.S. and State Highways** **176.4**

**RXR Crossing Grant Money**

This year marked the first year the Henry County Engineer’s Office received Supplemental Assistance Program Grants from PUCO. This grant provides funding up to \$5,000 per crossing, which is to be used for improved signage, rumble strips, improved pavement markings, brush clear, and other improvements. Grant money was received for 5 crossings. Improvements made consisted of erecting improved signs and installing preformed thermoplastic markings and symbols.



*Randy Zachrich laying the preformed thermoplastic tape*

**County Forces Work On New Wing Walls**

Wing walls were constructed using Geosynthetic Reinforced Soil Technology. This process consists of layering geosynthetic fabric every 8 inches with a compacted stone filling between the layers. Utilizing this new technology results in a cost savings and provides a more aesthetically pleasing culvert. Our office got the idea to use these walls from Defiance County Engineer Warren Schlatter. Our office would like to thank Warren and his staff at the Defiance County Highway Garage for their support.



"America has to get serious about its infrastructure and get serious fast."

— Governor Ed Rendell (PA)

"Without adequate infrastructure to quickly and safely move goods and people our economy and our traffic will stop dead in its tracks."

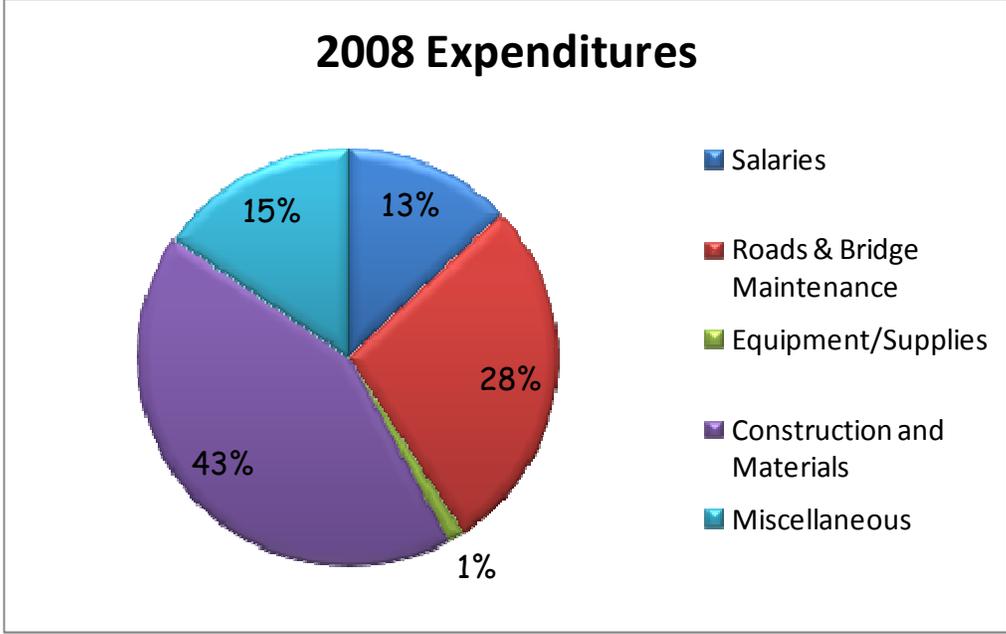
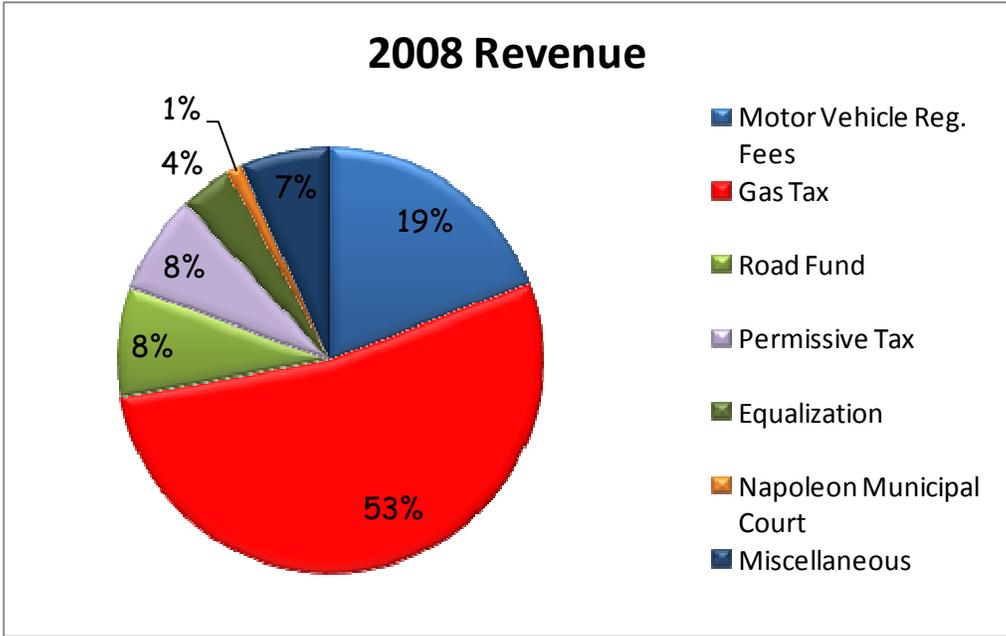
— Governor Schwarzenegger (CA)

### 2008 Budget

#### 2008 Revenue

#### 2008 Expenditures

Motor Vehicle Registration Fees	\$870,906.04	Salaries	\$532,337.92
Gas Tax	\$2,415,819.46	Roads & Bridge Maintenance	\$1,133,068.32
Road Fund	\$380,450.14	Equipment/Supplies	\$56,107.05
Permissive Tax	\$343,164.56	Construction and Materials	\$1,733,480.45
Equalization	\$178,908.91	Miscellaneous	\$629,266.27
Napoleon Municipal Court	\$49,249.27	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,084,260.01</b>
Miscellaneous	\$311,328.43		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,549,826.81</b>		



## Paving Projects



The 2008 paving program consisted of overlaying 6.1 miles of road and widening and overlaying 2 miles of road. The widened sections were County Road 2 between County Roads L and M and County Road 2 between County Road E and Deshler's North Street. Approximately 10,000 tons of asphalt was used for the 2008 Paving Program. The 2008 Paving Program consisted of the following roads:



Gerken Crews Paving C.R. 17 (top) and C.R. P (bottom)

<u>Road</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Miles</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
2	L-M	1	Widen to 20'
T	12 to 13	1	
2	E to North St.	1	Widen to 18'/20'
P	S.R. 65 to 5a	1.5	
P	17 to Jahns Rd.	1.5	
H	S.R. 108 to 14	1	Slurry Seal
17	S.R. 18 to F	1	
	Fairgrounds	0.1	
		8.1	

## Bridges and Culverts Replaced

The Henry County Engineer's Office bid out the construction of 2 bridges. B'Hillz, of Wayne, Ohio, received the contract for the construction of a bridges 17C-2.05 and F1-0.70. The bridge and culvert program consisted of:

<u>Bridge/Culvert</u>	<u>Between Roads</u>	<u>Contractor</u>
17C-2.05	C.R. M2 and C.R. N	B'Hillz
F1-0.70	C.R. 13 and C.R. 10A	B'Hillz
C-14.00	At C.R. 5	County Forces
2-21.00	At C.R. V	County Forces
17E-0.00	At C.R. T	County Forces
10-17.50	U.S. 24 and C.R. S	County Forces
18-16.20	C.R. P and C.R. Q1	County Forces
5B-0.60	C.R.S and C.R. T	County Forces



B'Hillz constructing bridge 17C-2.05



Culvert 5B-0.60



**WE'RE NOW ON THE WEB!**

**WWW.HENRYCOUNTYENGINEER.COM**

**Henry County Engineer's Office**  
**Randolf L. Germann, P.E., P.S.**  
**County Engineer**

Henry County Courthouse  
 660 North Perry Street  
 Napoleon, Ohio 43545

Phone: (419) 592-2976  
 Fax: (419) 592-5508  
 E-mail: hce@henrycountyohio.com  
 Website: www.henrycountyengineer.com