



**ANNUAL REPORT  
2020**

**Jeffery J. Wenzel  
ST. JOSEPH COUNTY  
DRAIN COMMISSIONER**

**Traci Wenzel  
ST. JOSEPH COUNTY  
DEPUTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER**

**Michigan Drain Code of 1956  
Act 40 of 1956**

An act to codify the laws relating to the laying out of drainage districts, the consolidation of drainage districts, the construction and maintenance of drains, sewers, pumping equipment, bridges, culverts, fords, and the structures and mechanical devices to properly purify the flow of drains; to provide for flood control projects; to provide for water management, water management districts, and subdistricts, and for flood control and drainage projects within drainage districts; to provide for the deposit of funds for future maintenance of drains; to authorize public corporations to impose taxes for the payment of assessments in anticipation of which bonds are issued; to provide for the issuance of bonds by drainage districts and for the pledge of the full faith and credit of counties for payment of the bonds; to authorize counties to impose taxes when necessary to pay principal and interest on bonds for which full faith and credit is pledged; to validate certain acts and bonds; and to prescribe penalties. History: 1956, Act 40, Imd. Eff. Mar. 28, 1956; Am. 1970, Act 144, Imd. Eff. Aug. 1, 1970; Am. 1973, Act 208, Imd. Eff. Jan. 11, 1974; Am. 1982, Act 449, Eff. Mar. 30, 1983.

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## SUMMARY

2020 was a relatively normal year as far as precipitation went. There was a bit of relief with rain than in years past that we have dealt with. The Drain Commissioner's office received calls throughout the year regarding lake levels and drainage issues in county drains.

During the year, 151 SESC permits were issued which includes waivers and extensions. As the County Enforcing Agent, either Traci or I review the plans, visit the site, and issue the permit with specific recommendations if needed. We then re-visit the site periodically and after significant rain events for program compliance along with a final inspection once the project is complete. My deputy and I are both state certified for Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control and Stormwater Construction Management which allows us both to be able to issue SESC permits and do the inspections. The number of permits was a bit down than in prior years due to Covid-19, many contractors were put on hold during the year. Even during the pandemic, Traci and I were still able to perform inspections on open permits.

The Drain Commissioner performed several drain maintenance projects on different county drains throughout the year meaning less cost for constituents in the drainage districts, the county, MDOT, and the townships. There were twenty-one drain maintenance permits given to local farmers and constituents for them to do maintenance at their own expense. Since this is a cost savings for all of those in a drainage district (landowners, townships, state, county, and local municipalities) it is greatly appreciated by the drain office.

The Drain Commissioner's office over the course of 2019 has been working with engineers and legal counsel on three different petitioned drainage projects. The Nye Drain located in Sturgis Township and the City of Sturgis was petitioned in 2018. There have been many meetings pertaining to this project with the City of Sturgis to find a solution to the flooding problem. A project was completed at the end of the year and vegetation & completion will take place in the spring of 2021. Corey Lake Intercounty Drain located in Fabius Township in St. Joseph County and Newberg Township of Cass County has been a very contentious project with many meetings and public hearings held at the Fabius Township Hall and via Zoom when the Covid-19 pandemic started. There are many lakes involved with this project which is making this a long process. In the fall, we chose a project alternative to move forward with. The Wildcat Drain which is in the City of Three Rivers and Lockport Township, MDOT has petitioned our office and agreed to pay full expenses on this drainage project. The project is in the works and we are still in the process of obtaining easements. The survey work that was done for this project by Fleis & VandenBrink, won an ACEC Engineering & Surveying Excellence Award. I attended an award ceremony in Grand Rapids in March for this.

The Drain Commissioner is also responsible for maintaining legal lake levels throughout the county and we received several phone calls regarding lake levels over the year. I tried to maintain the court ordered legal lake levels around the county as best as possible.

In the winter, the Lake Templene dam was dismantled and taken to Holland for repairs on the gates and new galvanization to help the dam function properly. The dam is 60 years old.

**The Michigan Drain Code (Act 40 of Public Acts of 1956, as amended) is the law that governs the responsibilities of the Drain Commissioner.**

**GENERAL DRAIN COMMISSIONER DUTIES**

- Provide for the operation and maintenance of more than 187 county and inter-county drains, platted basins, and numerous other stormwater collection systems necessary for storm water management, drainage, flood prevention and stream protection to agricultural and developed lands
- Recover the costs of operation by levying special assessments on local governments, private property owners, Michigan Department of Transportation, and others who benefit from drainage and storm water management
- Finance drain projects through the sale of bonds and notes
- Maintain records of the establishment and operation of each drain district
- Oversee the management of all drainage district financial accounts
- Review and issue approval to plans for private storm water systems in new developments and redevelopments
- The St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners has delegated the administrative duties to the St. Joseph County Drain Commissioner to oversee lake level projects. The Drain Commissioner must determine the apportionment of costs incurred and assess for maintenance of the lake level. St. Joseph County is responsible for twelve lake level control structures: Fish Lake, Lake Templene and Sand Lake, Corey Lake, Beaver Lake, Palmer and Long Lake in Colon Township, Klinger Lake, Long Lake in Fabius Township, Kaiser Lake, Pleasant Lake, Omena Lake, Clear Lake, and Eberhard Lake. The Inland Lake Level Act (**Act 146, P.A. of 1961**) requires inspection of all lake level control structures on all inland lakes that have normal levels established under this Act to be completed once every three years by a licensed professional engineer.
- On May 15, 2012 the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners delegated the Drain Office to be the County Enforcement Agent (CEA) for Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control serving all of St. Joseph County under Part 91, Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 452, as Amended. The primary objective is to protect the watercourses within the county from sediment loads caused by unchecked soil erosion. The Soil Erosion County Enforcement Agent (CEA) is responsible for the administration, management, and enforcement of the provisions of the Act. The CEA has the responsibility of overseeing all non-agricultural earth change activities within St. Joseph County, that are one or more acres in area and/or within 500 feet of a watercourse or lake.

- Serve on the Parks and Recreation Commission, Board of Public Works, Colon Lake Board, and Lake Templene Lake Board.
- Work with local property owners, county municipalities, The St. Joseph County Conservation District, The St. Joseph County Road Commission, The Michigan Department of Transportation, and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Department of Environmental Quality, and the Michigan Department of Agriculture

## SOIL EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION CONTROL (SESC)

For the calendar year 2020 the drain office permitted 151 SESC permits including new permits and extensions. \$8,915.00 was deposited for the year for Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control. The numbers were a lot lower than in years past due to the Covid-19 pandemic putting a lot of projects and contractors on hold. Below is the number of permits issued per township from January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020.

|                       |                   |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Burr Oak Township     | 10                |
| Colon Township        | 9                 |
| Constantine Township  | 4                 |
| Fabius Township       | 25                |
| Fawn River Township   | 3                 |
| Florence Township     | 1                 |
| Flowerfield Township  | 3                 |
| Leonidas Township     | 2                 |
| Lockport Township     | 7                 |
| Mendon Township       | 8                 |
| Mottville Township    | 2                 |
| Nottawa Township      | 20                |
| Park Township         | 9                 |
| Sherman Township      | 25                |
| Sturgis Township      | 0                 |
| White Pigeon Township | 14                |
| City of Sturgis       | 5                 |
| City of Three Rivers  | 4                 |
| <b>TOTAL</b>          | <b><u>151</u></b> |

## PETITIONED DRAIN PROJECTS

On August 6, 2018 the St. Joseph County Drain Commissioner's office received a petition for maintenance and improvement of the Nye Drain from Sturgis Township. This project was started in December and is expected to be seeded and vegetated in the spring of 2021.

In July 2019, the St. Joseph County Drain Commissioner's office received a petition for maintenance and improvement of the Corey Lake Intercounty Drain from the residents on Corey Lake. This intercounty drain is in Fabius Township, St. Joseph County and Newberg Township, Cass County. In November 2020, there was a Zoom meeting held and a motion was passed to move forward with the project which extends the Corey Lake Intercounty Drain and improve the lakes connections in the area.

In June 2019, the St. Joseph County Drain Commissioner's office received an application and petition for laying out and designating a county drainage district. The Wildcat Drain is in the City of Three Rivers and Lockport Township and this project is still in progress.

## DRAIN ACTIVITY

### **Ainsley Drain, Leonidas Township**

A drain permit was obtained to place a 30" culvert in the drain at Hacker Road at the permittee's expense.

### **Bennett and Birch Drain, Leonidas Township**

A drain permit was issued to a farmer to remove deadfall and sediments from the drain at his own expense as necessary.

### **Burr Oak County Line Drain, Burr Oak Township**

A local farmer received a drain permit to remove deadfall, cut vegetation from the ditch at his own expense.

### **Corey Lake Drain, Fabius Township**

The Corey Lake Drain is an intercounty drain with Newberg Township, Cass County. Several meetings were held via Zoom regarding the Corey Lake Drain and how to move forward with a project. There was a Zoom meeting held with our engineer and Blake Winstead from the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, & Energy to discuss permitting with different alternatives as a project moves forward. In November, there was another Zoom meeting held and a motion was passed to move forward with the project which extends the Corey Lake Intercounty Drain and improve the lakes connections in the area. We have been working closely with an engineer, legal counsel, and MDARD to get this process going as fast as possible despite the pandemic.

**Eberhard Drain, Burr Oak Township**

A drain permit was received by a farmer to fix culverts and pull trees out of the drain to help the flow of the drain.

**Fawn River Drain, Fawn River Township**

A few drain permits were issued to replace culverts in the road right-of-way.

**Felker Drain, Park Township**

The drain was plugged due to beavers and they were removed from a constituent that receives our beaver permit yearly issued from the DNR.

**Garman and Foster Drain, Mendon and Park Townships**

Permission was granted to a local farmer to remove deadfall and cut vegetation out of the drain at their expense and were issued a drain permit for the year to do so.

**Grover and Coohon Drain, Colon Township**

A couple of drain permits were issued to constituents on the drain to remove deadfall and cut vegetation from the drain at their expense on their own properties.

**Leonidas, Mendon, Little Portage Drain, Mendon and Leonidas Townships**

A maintenance permit was given to a local farmer to remove deadfall, sedimentation, and debris, and remove vegetation in the drain.

**Little Swan Creek Drain, Colon Township**

A contractor received a drain permit to dip the drain to make the ditch flow.

**Marvin Drain, Colon Township**

A farmer was issued a drain permit to fix culverts in the drain on fields that he farms.

**Moe Drain, Fawn River Township**

The St. Joseph County Road Commission received a drain permit to replace a culvert on Plumb School Road.

**Nottawa #1 Drain, Nottawa Township**

Detweiler Excavating received a permit to do maintenance work on the drain which included dipping and cleaning out deadfall.

**Nye Drain, Sturgis Township and City of Sturgis**

The Drain Commissioner's office received a petition for maintenance and improvement of the Nye Drain from Sturgis Township. A project got started in December to construct the Nye drain branch which included culvert work.

**Portage Lake Drain, Mendon Township**

Permission was granted to a local farmer to remove deadfall and cut vegetation out of the drain at their expense and were issued a drain permit for the year to do so.



### **Section Line Drain, Mendon Township**

A drain permit was issued to the county Road Commission to replace the bridge in the drain with a culvert on Stienbarger Road at the Road Commission's expense.

### **Section Twenty-Eight Drain, Mendon Township**

A local farmer was granted a permit to clean a portion of the drain on his property.

### **Smith and Tyler Drain, Mendon Township**

A drain permit was issued to a local farmer to clean out the Smith and Tyler drain.

### **Stewart Lake Drain, Burr Oak Township**

Maintenance was done on the drain and also a culvert was replaced on Maystead Road.

### **Tutewiler Drain, Leonidas Township**

Permission was granted to property owners along the drain to remove deadfall and cut vegetation out of the drain at their own expense to help the flow of the drain.

### **Wildcat Drain, City of Three Rivers and Lockport Township**

In June 2019, the St. Joseph County Drain Commissioner's office received an application and petition for laying out and designating a county drainage district. This project is ongoing as we continue to work close with engineers and legal counsel. We are in the process of obtaining easements. The survey work that was done for this project by Fleis & VandenBrink, won an ACEC Engineering & Surveying Excellence Award and an award ceremony was held in Grand Rapids that I attended before the pandemic hit in March.

### **Wasepi Drain, Nottawa Township**

Detweiler Excavating obtained a drain permit to remove deadfall and remove sedimentation and debris from the drain for better flow.

### **Wood and Watson Drain, Burr Oak Township**

The county Road Commission received a drain permit to replace a failing culvert in the Currier Tire parking lot, road right-of-way.

## **LAKE ACTIVITY**

### **Clear Lake, Fabius Township**

The drain office received several calls from constituents on the string of lakes that include Long, Clear, Mud, Kaiser, and Corey. When Long Lake pumps water to lower their lake level it affects all the other lakes previously listed. If Long Lake is pumping water because their lake level is high, the other lakes are also high at that time especially Clear Lake. Many constituents become concerned about the excess water they will be receiving as their lake is already above their legal lake level. As drain commissioner, I do the best I can to control the legal lake levels without flooding everyone else out on the other lakes.

### **Corey Lake, Fabius Township**

Corey Lake receives water from Clear Lake, Long Lake, Harwood Lake in Cass County, Mud Lake, and Kaiser Lake as well. The Corey Lake outlet is closely watched and maintained as best as possible. We are continuing to work with our engineers and legal counsel for a project for the Corey Lake Intercounty Drain to help alleviate flooding issues in the string of lakes.

### **Fish Lake, Sherman Township**

The Fish Lake control structure must be cleaned out multiple times per year due to blockage. A screen cover was installed at the drain outlet to keep debris from blocking the drain. I watch this control structure frequently.

### **Klinger Lake, White Pigeon Township**

The Klinger Lake Dam is maintained on a regular basis. The drain office continues to work closely with the Klinger Lake Association on any issues that arise pertaining to the Klinger Lake dam.

### **Lake Templene/Sand Lake, Nottawa & Sherman Townships**

The legal lake level for Lake Templene is monitored on a regular basis. There was not a drawdown that took place in the fall of 2020, but a new permit was applied to EGLE for a drawdown. Weed control and aeration played a big role in improving the quality of the lake, determining the best strategy for lake improvement is very time consuming. Sand Lake residents feel that when the Lake Templene has their drawdown over the winter that this helps improve their lake as well. In the winter, the dam was dismantled and repaired in Holland.

### **Long Lake, Fabius Township**

The legal lake level was monitored often using a gauge installed by Mostrom Surveying. The new gauge helps us keep better track of the lake level. Pumping occurs when necessary by approval from the Drain Commissioner. Turning the pump on and off again is necessary due to the string of lakes (Long, Clear, Mud, Kaiser, and Corey) that are all affected when Long Lake is pumping water to lower its lake level. The pump ran off and on all season. At the end of the season the pump was winterized, once the weather breaks the pump will be ready for spring.

### **Omena Lake, Sherman Township**

A permit was received from EGLE as well as our office (soil erosion) for a dredging project to take place on the channel between Omena Lake and Little Omena Lake in order for the channel to be passable.

### **Palmer and Long Lake, Colon Township**

The Lamberson Dam is controlled by the Village of Colon personnel. The Lamberson Dam controls the water levels of Palmer and Long Lake. Repairs and maintenance are also done by the Village. I am a Colon Lake Board member and therefore I am kept up to date on any issues that arise pertaining to these two lakes.

## **DRAIN PERMITS**

**Drain permits were issued in 2020 for the following drains:**

|  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| Bennett & Birch Drain                  | Plug Drain          |
| Garman Foster Drain                    | Portage Lake Drain  |
| Grover-Coohon Drain                    | Section 28 Drain    |
| Klady Drain                            | Smith & Tyler Drain |
| Leonidas, Mendon, Little Portage Drain | Tutewiler Drain     |
| Park Drain                             |                     |

Drain maintenance permits are necessary when a property owner wishes to work on a county drain at their own expense. Drain permits are granted upon approval by the Drain Commissioner. Those requesting permits are often farmers. Permits are also necessary when someone wants to cross or parallel an established county drain and replace a culvert. This often occurs when utility companies or new developments need to work in or around a county drain. Multiple conditions must be met to assure that proper drain maintenance is achieved. As Drain Commissioner, I often go to inspect the drain multiple times for a project that was permitted to assure proper procedures were followed per the permit requirements.

## **BEAVER PERMITS**

Beavers along with the high waters created an issue in county drains over the year. As the St. Joseph County Drain Commissioner, I apply for a permit from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources each year to trap beavers in established county drains. Once a permit is received from the MDNR, a permission letter to trap per the drain office permit is granted to multiple local beaver trappers so that beavers can be trapped in established county drains when necessary in the off season. Eighteen permission letters were granted in 2020 and 55 beavers were trapped within our county drains. The St. Joseph County Road Commission works closely with the drain office when they see beaver trapping is necessary in county drains as well. This assistance is greatly appreciated.

## FINANCIAL

### ASSESSMENTS:

The following assessments were filed with the St. Joseph County Clerk on September 29, 2020:

Beaver Lake Drain, Colon Township  
\$1,500.00 (Maintenance Assessment) **Year 1 of 1**

Hoover-Kelly Joint Drain, Flowerfield Township and Marcellus Township in Cass County  
\$7,224.79 (Maintenance Assessment) **Year 2 of 2**

Park Drain, Park and Lockport Townships  
\$20,000 (Maintenance Assessment) **Year 2 of 2**

Nottawa #1 Drain, Nottawa Township  
\$7,500.02 (Maintenance Assessment) **Year 1 of 1**

Fletcher Drain, Mendon Township  
\$1,500.00 (Maintenance Assessment) **Year 1 of 1**

Stewart Lake Drain, Burr Oak Township  
\$7,200.00 (Maintenance Assessment) **Year 1 of 1**

Handshaw Drain, Lockport Township  
\$1,000.00 (Maintenance Assessment) **Year 1 of 1**

Wilcox Drain, Nottawa and Lockport Townships  
\$8,800.00 (Maintenance Assessment) **Year 1 of 1**

Wasepi Drain, Nottawa Township  
\$2,500.00 (Maintenance Assessment) **Year 1 of 1**

Lake Templene & Sand Lake Assessment, Nottawa and Sherman Townships  
\$48,916.40 (Maintenance Assessment) **Year 1 of 1**

**Total Drain and Lake Assessments 2020 --- \$106,141.21**

## DRAIN AND LAKE LEVEL FUNDS

Below are the summaries for the drain and lake level accounts:

| FUND   | Balance 12-31-2020  |
|--|---------------------|
| Long Lake Revolving Fund (Fabius)            | \$3,413.95          |
| Drain Assessment Fund (*)                    | <b>\$128,465.98</b> |
| Klinger Lake Level Fund                      | \$20,383.88         |
| Revolving Drain Fund                         | \$149,280.40        |
| Revolving Drain Maintenance Fund             | \$0.00              |
| Omena Lake                                   | \$16,954.07         |
| Palmer & Long Lake Level Fund (Weed Control) | \$0.00              |
| Fish Lake Drain Fund                         | \$7,633.30          |
| Eberhard Lake Level                          | \$852.94            |
| Grey Lake Level Study Fund                   | \$818.76            |
| Corey Lake                                   | \$17,646.07         |
| Pleasant Lake                                | \$7,551.77          |
| Clear Lake                                   | \$5,394.07          |
| Kaiser Lake                                  | \$5,220.75          |
| Debt Service                                 | \$0.00              |
| Beaver Lake                                  | \$4,768.03          |
| Lake Templene                                | \$490.19            |
| Minnewaukan Lake                             | \$0.00              |
| Lamberson Dam                                | \$92.10             |
| <b>TOTALS</b>                                | <b>\$368,966.26</b> |

### **DRAIN**

|                          |            |
|--------------------------|------------|
| AINSLEY                  | \$0.00     |
| AMBS                     | \$0.01     |
| BARTHOLOMEW/SPRING CREEK | \$2.86     |
| BEAVER LAKE              | \$2,732.95 |
| BEAVER LAKE & EXTENSION  | \$1,042.43 |
| BENEDICT LAKE            | \$1,994.82 |
| BENNETT & BIRCH          | \$795.39   |
| BERKLEY & REED           | \$451.46   |
| BLACK RUN                | \$2,011.49 |
| BRICKER                  | \$121.62   |
| BRISTOL                  | \$5.46     |
| BROOKS                   | \$6.62     |
| BURR OAK VILLAGE         | \$1.47     |
| BURR OAK/COUNTYLINE      | \$5,976.04 |
| CALVERT & FOUR COUNTY    | \$2,372.70 |
| CARL                     | \$71.84    |
| CARTER-BOWER             | \$156.32   |
| CLARKS                   | \$2.72     |
| CLYDE                    | \$2,330.54 |

|                                |              |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| COLE & DARLING                 | \$37.91      |
| COLON NO.1                     | \$51,196.25  |
| COOPER                         | \$35.70      |
| COPENHAFFER                    | \$1,480.82   |
| COREY LAKE (DRAIN)             | -\$92,745.40 |
| DAVIS TILE                     | \$27.98      |
| DELONG                         | \$3.18       |
| DENT EXTENSION                 | \$3.34       |
| DRY LAKE                       | \$2.57       |
| FABIUS NEWBERG                 | \$0.00       |
| EBERHARD LAKE (DRAIN)          | -\$584.44    |
| EDWARDS-STARKWEATHER           | \$1.00       |
| FARNHAM                        | \$45.31      |
| FAWN RIVER                     | \$26.14      |
| FELKER                         | \$2,579.25   |
| FLETCHER                       | -\$356.00    |
| FOUR COUNTY                    | \$40.20      |
| FOUR COUNTY BRANCH             | \$39.26      |
| FOWLER                         | \$32.32      |
| FREEMAN                        | \$5,303.27   |
| GARMAN FOSTER BRANCH           | \$6,628.99   |
| GEMBERLING                     | \$230.04     |
| GILL & TRY                     | \$331.88     |
| GILLET                         | \$7.06       |
| GOOSE LAKE                     | \$91.52      |
| GRAVES                         | \$17.56      |
| GROVER-COOHON                  | \$32,594.42  |
| HALLWOOD-BRANCH #1             | \$262.41     |
| HANDSHAW                       | -\$1,140.00  |
| HASBROOK & MUMBY               | \$0.15       |
| HASSINGER                      | \$978.30     |
| HAZZARD                        | \$45.54      |
| HENRY                          | \$39.45      |
| HEPNER-COOK                    | \$100.00     |
| HILL                           | \$159.41     |
| HIMBAUGH & NOBLE               | \$21.92      |
| HOG CREEK & BRYANT LAKE        | \$606.44     |
| HOOVER-KELLY                   | -\$7,081.09  |
| JOHNSON & KELLY                | \$408.59     |
| KEIGHTLY                       | \$217.62     |
| KIBBIE & AKEY                  | \$3.42       |
| KISER & BICKLE                 | \$0.00       |
| KLADY                          | \$0.00       |
| LAIRD TOMPKINS & DOANE         | \$5.31       |
| LEONIDAS VILLAGE               | \$20.59      |
| LEONIDAS/MENDON/LITTLE PORTAGE | \$886.57     |
| LITTLE PORTAGE CREEK EXTENSION | \$0.00       |
| LEVERANCE & REED               | \$246.59     |
| LITTLE PORTAGE CREEK           | \$200.00     |
| LITTLE SWAN CREEK              | \$5,024.69   |
| MARVIN                         | \$21.33      |
| MCCAULEY                       | \$100.00     |

|                             |              |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| METTY RICE                  | \$45.01      |
| MOE                         | \$1,157.78   |
| MOORE & BURGNER             | \$19.18      |
| MOOREPARK                   | \$39.49      |
| NEEDHAM                     | \$100.00     |
| NOTTAWA LOCKPORT            | \$57.68      |
| NOTTAWA NO.1                | -\$1,156.20  |
| NYE                         | -\$56,514.81 |
| OLDORF                      | \$19.99      |
| OUTWATER                    | \$4.65       |
| PARK                        | -\$29,156.87 |
| PIERCE-SHERMAN              | \$10.50      |
| PLUG EXTENSION              | \$44.66      |
| PLUM                        | \$0.01       |
| PORTAGE CREEK INTERCOUNTY   | \$140.50     |
| PORTAGE LAKE DRAIN          | \$36,883.88  |
| PROFILE (LAKE)              | -\$14.77     |
| RAILROAD STREET & TRY       | \$55.42      |
| REED                        | \$317.86     |
| REED & HAGER                | \$1.44       |
| RUMSEY                      | \$0.00       |
| SADAWASSER                  | \$4,068.41   |
| SAMUEL CLYDE                | \$16.93      |
| SAM METTA                   | \$0.00       |
| SANBORN & HOG CREEK         | \$172.01     |
| SECTION FIFTEEN             | \$100.00     |
| SECTION FOUR                | \$1,993.20   |
| SECTION FOUR & FIVE         | \$33.47      |
| SECTION LINE                | \$491.46     |
| SECTION SEVEN               | \$150.50     |
| SECTION SIXTEEN             | \$0.91       |
| SECTION THIRTY-ONE          | \$23.18      |
| SECTION TWENTY-EIGHT        | \$9.20       |
| SHAW & AKEY                 | \$4.08       |
| SIMPSON                     | \$6.91       |
| SKIRVIN                     | \$7.69       |
| SMITH & TYLER               | \$150.00     |
| SMITH WOODWORTH             | \$37.11      |
| SNAKE                       | \$614.90     |
| STEPHENSON                  | \$331.32     |
| STEWART LAKE                | \$16,059.57  |
| SWEET LAKE                  | \$0.00       |
| THORNTON-BEAVER MARSH       | \$27.73      |
| TRECKLE                     | \$2.64       |
| TUTEWILER, TOWN LINE & PLUG | \$2,784.61   |
| WAITS                       | \$13.38      |
| WANEER                      | \$87.29      |
| WASEPI                      | -\$854.88    |
| WILCOX                      | -\$5,327.45  |
| WILDCAT                     | \$137,918.71 |
| WINGER                      | \$0.00       |
| WOOD & WATSON               | \$2,186.56   |

|                |                     |
|----------------|---------------------|
| YAPLE          | -\$10,739.85        |
| YEATTER JOINT  | \$1.93              |
| YODER          | \$82.45             |
| <b>TOTALS*</b> | <b>\$128,465.98</b> |

(\*) This fund is the total of the individual drain accounts included with this report.

## **PROFESSIONAL**

Besides office hours and field inspections, the Drain Commissioner also attended the following meetings and conferences:

- MACDC – Winter Conference
- MACDC – Spring Southwest District Meeting
- MACDC – Summer Conference
- MACDC – Fall Southwest District Meeting – Hosted at the Covered Bridge Farm in 2017
- Friends of the St. Joe River Association Meetings-Board Member
- Board of Public Works Meetings
- Park and Recreation Board Meetings
- Colon Lake Board Meetings
- Lake Templene Lake Board Meetings-Treasurer
- Lake Association Meetings
- Michigan Lake and Stream Annual Meeting
- Midwest Aquatic Plant Management Society Conferences
- Jones SGA Conservation Member
- Farm Bureau Annual Meeting
- Other various County, Township, Village, and City Meetings

**Thank you for the privilege of  
serving as your  
County Drain Commissioner**

**Jeffery J. Wenzel  
St. Joseph County  
Drain Commissioner**