The Dirt

Volume 6, Issue 5



Moving the Earth Since 1951

July 10th, 2008

Ground Breaking on the Impoundment

Good news travels fast, but in this case, the work travels faster. We already had about 1.5 miles stripped by the time we got around to the ground breaking ceremony on June 24th. The board members were impressed by the amount already accomplished and are looking forward to the finished product. There's been a little publicity on the project as well. The Warren Sheaf and Grand Forks Herald had articles on the project. As a matter of fact, the Herald article stated, "That first phase is scheduled to take about two years. But Zavoral & Sons, an East Grand Forks contractor, is looking at completion within the year, according to Nick Drees, administrator of the MSTRWD." Well boys, now that it's out there, we mustn't let the public down! Let's get busy building that dike!



(left)
June 19th,
the *real*ground
breaking

(right)
The same
spot on June
24th for the
ceremony



Project Updates:

07.194	EGF 13th St SE	Hurrying to finish before school opens
08.203	Polk County DAC building	Parking lot work to do in August
08.204	NDDOT - Near Pembina	Three underpasses left to work on
08.206	Lengby	Just pickin' rocks left
08.207	Nielsville Bridges	Mid August
08.208	Polk County Box Culverts	Not started yet, but soon
08.210	Ashtabula Wind Project	Installing culverts and fly ash
08.211	Blair Road - Naytahwaush	Clearing and grubbing with the ditch to start soon
08.212	M-S-T Impoundment	10% Complete with the clay hauling
08.213	Alton Fertilizer Expansion	Starting up this week
08.214	Polk County 41	Ditches are out, still some balancing to do
08.215	Mar-kit Grain - Argyle	80% complete and putting gravel on next week
08.216/217	Roseau County Ditches	Mobilize and start up next week

Welcome aboard

It seems like every June/July we get a few faces around, and this year is no exception. If you happen to see one of these guvs around, welcome them the RIZ team!

Francis Schanilec - you'll remember Francis from the Corps work in EGF, we've pulled him out of retirement to help us with a little supervision.

Toby Holthusen - If Toby looks familiar, that's cause his dad Darald and uncle Gerry work for us too. He's had lots of experience working with concrete and now is ready to move some dirt.

Dustin Burke - Dustin may look familiar too, he worked here a couple a years ago and is back in the scraper.

Ben Gergen - Ben's with us for the summer to help before he heads to his real job as a Math teacher in Thompson.

Darin Moen - Darin is normally a farmer, who is helping us out for the summer.

Greg Mohrbacher - Greg comes to us from Patio World where he was a landscape supervisor.

Lance Efteland and Matt Waltman - Lance and Matt come to us from the Central Lakes College in Staples. They will be doing their internship with us this summer.

Mike Taylor - Mike joined us recently from Molstad Excavating where he ran loader for an underground crew.

Andrea Horken - Andrea is helping us out in the office this summer. She's the new cheery voice you hear answering the telephone calls.

July B-Days

Dan Zavoral - Tuesday the 1st

Grandma Z - Friday the 11th

Troy Hammargren - Saturday the 12th

Darald Holthusen - Saturday the 19th

Wade Forsberg - Saturday the 26th

Marty Sazama - Saturday the 26th

Pete Zavoral - Sunday the 27th

Scott Enright - Monday the 28th

Happy Birthday from the RJZ Family

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We've had a couple of complaints from the public about drivers of our company vehicles and their actions/driving habits. Please remember if there is a R.J.Z. sticker on the truck, you are representing the company, and you should drive and act appropriately. Driving company vehicles is a privilege, not a right. So please drive responsibly.

Commuter Vehicles

"The only thing that overcomes hard luck is hard work." - Harry Golden

And you think work is a circus?

The Biggest and Best Circus ever at the East Grand Forks Civic Center is coming on Tuesday July 22nd. Even though the Elephants won't be staying at the Old Shop, we do have some tickets/coupons available if you would like to take your family, or if you just want to see some real clowns in action. Give Dave a call if you are interested.

Pete's Point of View

I hope everyone got rested up over the fourth of July. Some people think that after the fourth, summer's on its downward turn. But we are just hitting our stride! We still have many projects to complete before our summer ends. I'm thinking there isn't a group of guy's or gal's that can get this accomplished other than our crew. Thanks for all the hard work. I've always said I would take our company over any other I've ever seen. Let's have a safe and productive second half of the summer!

Cooter's Corner

Helpful maintenance tips from your friendly mechanic.

The biggest influence on tire life is inflation pressure. At normal speeds, running tires at 20% under recommended pressure reduces tire mileage by 16% and fuel mileage by 2%. Be sure to check your tire pressure at least once a week, and if you don't know what the proper pressure is, check with Terry or your supervisor.

Did you know?

That overpasses on the interstate that do not have off/on ramps are actually called **separations** because they separate the grade of two or more intersecting roadways.