



Working together, restoring the river

James W. Ridgway, P.E.
Executive Director

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

Wednesday, March 18, 2009, 1:30 p.m.

Northville Township

Allen Park
Auburn Hills
Beverly Hills
Bingham Farms
Birmingham
Bloomfield Hills
Bloomfield Twp.
Canton Twp.
Commerce Twp.
Dearborn
Dearborn Heights
Farmington
Farmington Hills
Franklin
Garden City
Inkster
Lathrup Village
Livonia
Melvindale
Northville
Northville Twp.
Novi
Oak Park
Oakland County
Orchard Lake
Plymouth
Plymouth Twp.
Pontiac
Redford Twp.
Rochester Hills
Romulus
Southfield
Superior Twp.
Troy
Van Buren Twp.
Walled Lake
Washtenaw County
Wayne
Wayne County
Wayne County Airport
Authority
West Bloomfield Twp.
Westland
Wixom
Ypsilanti Twp.

1. Welcome – Tim Faas, Chair

2. Roll Call of Members

ECT took roll call of members and others present. A quorum was present.

ARC Executive Committee			Attended Meeting
Officers			
Chair	Tim Faas	Canton	Y
Vice-Chair	Gary Mekjian	Southfield	Y
Treasurer	Jennifer Lawson	Troy	Y
Past Vice-Chair	Wayne Domine	Bloomfield Township	Y
Counties			
Oakland Co. – Rep.	John McCulloch	OCWRC	N
NOakland Co. – Alt.	Phil Sanzica	OCWRC	Y
Oakland Co. – Alt.	Joseph Colaianne	OCWRC	N
Washtenaw Co. - Rep.	Janis Bobrin	WCDC	N
Washtenaw Co. - Alt.	Michelle Bononi	WCDC	N
Wayne Co. - Rep.	Kurt Heise	WCDOE	Y
Wayne Co. - Alt.	Kelly Cave	WCDOE	N
SWAGs			
Main 1 & 2 - Rep.	Brandy Siedlaczek	Southfield	Y
Main 1 & 2 - Alt.	Meghan Bonfiglio	Bloomfield Township	N
Main 3 & 4 - Rep.	Jim Murray	Dearborn	Y
Main 3 & 4 - Alt.	Eric Witte	Melvindale	N
Upper - Rep.	Tom Biasell	Farmington Hills	Y
Upper - Alt.	Jim Zoumbaris	Livonia	Y
Middle 1 - Rep.	Jill Rickard	Northville Township	Y
Middle 1 - Alt.	Aaron Staup	Novi	Y
Middle 3 - Rep.	Jack Barnes	Garden City	N
Middle 3 - Alt.	Kevin Buford	Westland	N
Lower 1 - Rep.	Bob Belair	Canton Township	Y
Lower 1 - Alt.	Dan Swallow	Van Buren Township	N
Lower 2 - Rep.	Ramzi El-Gharib	Wayne	Y
Lower 2 - Alt.	Tom Wilson	Romulus	N

Others Present: Gary Zorza, Vice-Chair – Technical Committee; Zachare Ball, ECT Staff and Chris O’Meara, ECT Staff

3. Summary of December 4, 2008 Executive Committee Meeting

A motion was made by Jim Zoumbaris to accept the December 4, 2008 meeting summary. The motion was seconded by Wayne Domine. Motion passed.

4. Additions or Changes to Draft Agenda

The following addition was made to the agenda: Under Standing Committee Reports, Finance Committee, item (iv.) Executive Director Services review.

5. Executive Director Report

a. St. Clair River-Detroit River Drinking Water Monitoring Network

Jim Ridgway talked briefly about Macomb County's drinking water monitoring project and the possibility of hosting a brief presentation at the next full ARC meeting to inform the members of the project. Macomb County received funding to install the Lake St. Clair drinking water project and provide online access to the results. The project consists of water sampling locations from Port Huron to south of the city of Detroit. Tim Faas asked if the project will incorporate the DWSD monitoring. J. Ridgway stated that they will work hand in hand with the City of Detroit. The project is currently trying to get homeland security funding. The committee decided to have Macomb County present at the end of the Full ARC meeting so that others may be invited and ARC members can leave if they are not interested in hearing about the project.

b. Contested Case update

J. Ridgway said that ARC staff summarized community comments for the attorneys. The parties contesting the case are represented by five attorneys. There was discussion regarding the continued ARC staff efforts and the fact that not all members are contesting the permit. It was decided that the Executive Committee would ask the attorneys to report their progress as information to the ARC.

c. Stimulus Monies

J. Ridgway reported that some of the stimulus money went to the SRF fund which will be divided by MDEQ. There is some money available through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) targeted at streams/coastal grants for AOC projects designated by the RRAC. ARC staff have identified 5 of the most likely projects to be funded and the ARC would partner with the Great Lakes Commission. The total request for the 5, shovel-ready, projects is \$4.3 million. Z. Ball stated that no match is required but that in-kind services will help on the score. J. Ridgway stated that FEMA money is available for properties that can be rebuilt as wetlands and GLIFR under the Army Corps of Engineers has money for dams.

Kurt Heise, Wayne County, informed the committee that Wayne County has asked for \$100 million under the Omnibus for the Rouge Project. K. Heise stated that we are all asking for money for the Rouge. J. Ridgway agreed that we need to keep the projects in the Rouge coming because we don't know where the money may come from in the end.

d. WMP Update: Stream Classification/Modeling

J. Ridgway reviewed the email that was sent to the MDEQ regarding the WMP stream classifications/modeling. The email stated that the revised ICM would have no impact on the stream classifications included in the Watershed Management Plan.

e. ARCommunication quarterly newsletter

J. Ridgway stated that ARC Staff would continue the ARCommunication to its members on a quarterly basis starting with the first quarter 2009. ARC members should look for it in their email inbox within the week.

f. Friends of the Rouge Funding Request for 2010

The committee discussed the possibility of FOTR requesting future program funding from the ARC versus going directly to the communities. There was discussion regarding using part of future ARC budget to possibly fund FOTR through the PIE committee. The services provided by

FOTR would fill the public education portion of the permit requirements. It was decided that FOTR needs to prepare a defined proposal and present it to the ARC Finance Committee, who would present it to the Executive Committee/Full ARC for review as a 2010 budget request.

g. Mi EARTH (www.miearth.org)

J. Ridgway discussed the interactive website being prepared by WTVS-Channel 56 public television called MiEARTH and the potential for the ARC's involvement. This website will consist of promoting programs throughout the state while incorporating interactive, multi-media programming similar to that of MiVOTE that was popular during the presidential election. MiEARTH has asked for the ARC's support in a one-time cost of \$25,000. The PIE committee will prepare a budget amendment recommending the ARC support the project. The ARC was provided with free ad space in the PBS Signal magazine, which reaches approximately 60,000 donors to Channel 56.

h. SWAG meetings

Zachare Ball stated that SWAG meetings are planned for April to discuss the MDEQ comments on the draft Watershed Management Plan. However, SWAG chairs in attendance at the meeting said they were not inclined to have a meeting unless there is specific items to discuss. It was agreed that if MDEQ submits its comments on the draft watershed management plan by April 15, SWAG meetings would be scheduled.

i. Review of NRC Urban Storm Water Management

J. Ridgway informed the committee that WEF is conducting an internal analysis of the National Research Council's 2008 Report "Urban Stormwater Management in the United States." The analysis of the Report will be used to update the 1992 WEF Position Statement "Point Source Stormwater Discharges" and, if deemed appropriate, develop a consensus-based memorandum to the Environmental Protection Agency that outlines how WEF believes the Agency should respond to the Report. J. Ridgway stated that he will follow the progress of the group for the ARC but asked if anyone was interested in getting involved to let him know. The committee also asked that the email regarding the review be forwarded to the ARC members.

6. Standing Committee Reports

a. Finance Committee

2008 Budget Status Report (final)

Jennifer Lawson reviewed the final financial reports for 2008 prepared by Wayne County.

2009 Budget Status Report

J. Lawson stated that Chris O'Meara, through the Executive Director Services contract, has taken over the financial management of the ARC from Wayne County as planned for 2009. C. O'Meara stated that a checking account has been set up with two signatures required for every check. Signers include J. Ridgway, T. Faas and J. Lawson. C. O'Meara reviewed the new reports that will be used to provide the financial information to the ARC. The reports give the same information that Wayne County has in the past but will look different because staff is using the Quickbooks software to manage the ARC books. C. O'Meara stated that there are various reports available through the software and asked that if anyone would like to see something more detailed to contact her. C. O'Meara stated that the first round of ARC invoices has been sent and 2009 membership dues are starting to come in.

501 (c)(3) designation

C. O'Meara discussed the importance of the ARC becoming a 501(c)(3). She informed the committee that the accountant who initially prepared the non-profit application stressed the fact that the ARC will be either for-profit (and pay taxes) or non-profit. If the ARC will eventually ask for donations from major companies, those companies will want their donation to be tax deductible and the only way to do that is to become a 501(c)(3). C. O'Meara stated that at the September 2008 full ARC meeting the ARC approved the required changes to the ARC bylaws to

allow the ARC to become a non-profit. Those changes are being made and our application should be turned in within the next week or so. The approval process can take up to 3 months.

Executive Director Services Review for 2008

J. Lawson thanked the members that provided comments on the review of ECT's Executive Director Services provided in 2008. Of the 7 areas reviewed, three (3) items (annual report, grant applications and communication) were discussed in detail with ECT at the review. J. Lawson stated that the annual report would be finalized within the next week and provided to the Executive Committee and Full ARC. J. Lawson stated that they discussed future planning of grant applications. She also stated that some grant planning, such as applying for stimulus funding, is being done behind the scenes. J. Lawson said that the officers received comments saying that there are not enough SWAG meetings being held and that SWAG members don't know what is going on. Z. Ball stated that the ARCommunication quarterly newsletter should help with this. Gary Mekjian stated that the SWAGs can meet without the ECT ARC staff being there. J. Lawson stated that the ARC has three SWAG meetings budgeted for 2009 with the first being scheduled in April. J. Lawson stated that the overall grade given to ECT is an A-. J. Ridgway expressed ECT's excitement of providing this service to the ARC and that he wouldn't want to do anything else.

Organizational Committee

K. Heise stated that the Organizational Committee sent a letter to the City of Detroit inviting them to join the ARC. The city responded positively but stressed the need for time to adjust to the new leadership.

c. PIE (Public Involvement and Education) Committee

Brandy Siedlaczek reported that the PIE Committee is moving forward on the update to the Detention Pond Manual and is scheduling two septic workshops and three green infrastructure planning workshops along with a self-guided tour.

B. Siedlaczek reported that the PIE Committee received 17 applications for the Green Infrastructure projects. 4 were disqualified. All of the remaining 13 will be funded. The motion was made by Jim Murray to approve the mini-grants to fund the 13 green infrastructure projects, seconded by Jill Rickard. Motion passed.

d. Technical Committee

CMI grant

Gary Zorza stated that the Technical Committee submitted a grant to CMI to focus their actions on targeting the e. coli hotspots and working with communities to fix them.

Land Cover RFP/Proposed Contractor

G. Zorza reported that eight proposals were received and reviewed for the Land Cover RFP and two finalists will be invited to interview in April. The two finalists were Sanborn and Michigan Tech. Research Corp. There were five classes of land cover that would fit within the budget. The proposals were scored on a point system and cost was factored into the points. After the interviews, the Technical Committee will recommend a contract to the Executive Committee and then to the full ARC in May for approval.

7. Report from WCDOE

K. Heise stated that a settlement between Oakland and Macomb counties and the DWSD was approved by the Detroit City Council. There will be a due diligence period to study the transfer of the Oakland/Macomb Interceptor (OMI) to a drainage district who will be responsible for the maintenance and running of the facility. There will be a director's council that will meet regularly to oversee the OMI. They have asked for stimulus money. K. Heise expects that the 1977 lawsuit will be dismissed by Judge John Feikens. The remaining action will be to order Detroit to adopt new sewer rates and to provide new sewage service agreements with the counties.

8. Report from SWAGS

There was nothing to report.

9. Summary of Executive Committee Actions

- Approval of 12/4/08 Executive Committee Meeting Summary
- 13 Green Infrastructure Mini-grants were approved
- ARC Staff to schedule an Executive Committee meeting in late April to approve Land Cover RFP and MiEARTH budget amendment
- Drinking Water Monitoring Project to present at the end of the Full ARC meeting in May
- Attorneys provide a contested case update at Full ARC meeting in May
- Friends of the Rouge to prepare a detailed request to the Finance Committee for 2010 funding
- PIE investigate and prepare budget amendment for MiEARTH
- Executive Director to forward info regarding the NRC Urban Storm Water Management review
- ARCommunication quarterly newsletter to go out
- 2008 Final Report will be sent out
- ARC staff to get dates for SWAG meetings in April

10. Upcoming Meeting(s)

- Finance Committee meeting, 2:00 p.m., April 21, Wayne County commerce Court
- Executive Committee meeting, 1:30 p.m., April 22, Livonia DPW
- Full ARC, 1:30 p.m., May 5, 2009, Lloyd A. Stage Environmental Interpretive Center, Troy
- Finance Committee, 1:30 p.m. June 4, 2009, Wayne County Commerce Court
- PIE Committee Meeting, noon, July 9, 2009, Beverly Hills (Howard Knorr's house)

11. Adjourn

The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by J. Lawson and seconded by J. Zoumbaris. The motion passed.

ARC Executive Committee Attendance List

Meeting Date: _____

Name	Community	Attended	Initials
Alsaigh Razik	WCDOE	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ball Zachare	ECT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ZBM
Barnes Jack	Garden City	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Belair Bob	Canton Township	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RB
Biasell Thomas	Farmington Hills	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	THB
Bobrin Janis	Washtenaw County	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Bonfiglio Meghan	Bloomfield Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Bononi Michelle	Washtenaw County	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Buford Kevin	Westland	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Buiten Mike	Wayne	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Cave Kelly	Wayne County	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Colaianne Joe	Oakland County	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Domine Wayne	Bloomfield Township	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WA
El-Gharib Ramzi	Wayne	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RJE
Faas Tim	Canton Township	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TF
Heise Kurt	Wayne County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	KH
Janus Demetria	ECT	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Meeting Date: _____

<i>Name</i>		<i>Community</i>	<i>Attended</i>	<i>Initials</i>
Lawson	Jennifer	Troy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	je
McCulloch	John	Oakland County	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
Mekjian	Gary	Southfield	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	GM
Mullett	Noel	WCDOE	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
Murray	Jim	Dearborn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JM
Payne	Dave	Bloomfield Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
Rickard	Jill	Northville Township	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JR
Ridgway	Jim	ECT	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
Sanzica	Phil	Oakland County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PS
Siedlaczek	Brandy	Southfield	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BS
Staup	Aaron	Novi	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AS
Swallow	Dan	Van Buren Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
Wilson	Tom	Romulus	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
Witte	Eric	Melvindale	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
Zorza	Gary	Farmington Hills	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	GZ
Zoumbaris	Jim	Livonia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JMZ