



Working together, restoring the river

## DRAFT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

Tuesday, October 6, 2009, 1:30 p.m.  
Canton DPW Office Conference Room

James W. Ridgway, P.E.  
Executive Director

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

**Others Present:** Gary Zorza, Vice-Chair – Technical Committee; Tom MacDonald, Wayne; Zachare Ball, ECT Staff, Annette DeMaria, ECT Staff and Chris O’Meara, ECT Staff

### **3. Summary of June 10, 2009 Executive Committee Meeting**

A motion was made by Jim Zoumaris to accept the June 10, 2009 meeting summary. The motion was seconded by Kevin Buford. Motion passed.

### **4. Additions or Changes to Draft Agenda**

One addition was made to Agenda Item 5. Executive Director Report for discussion/action regarding the upcoming GLRI grants.

### **5. Executive Director Report**

#### **a. Regional financial hardship argument to the state and federal governments and the courts – on stormwater, SSO and CSO**

Jim Ridgway summarized the meeting held by the Organizational Committee to discuss a strategy regarding the regional financial hardship argument as it relates to the new storm water permit. Some members felt that the ARC should take a more active role in the contested case. No decision to take action was made at this time.

#### **b. Watershed Management Plan (WMP) Update**

J. Ridgway said that ARC staff met with MDEQ to talk about the WMP revisions. MDEQ staff were very receptive and agreed that minor changes would make the WMP acceptable under 319. Communities would have to commit to one activity for each objective (under the goals) and potential projects could be considered “wish list” items rather than become part of their existing SWPPIs. Communities will not be required to undertake wish list items. Priority areas must be created for each subwatershed. He said there is also the potential of having one umbrella SWPPI and possibly one annual report which goes with the web-based annual reporting system that the ARC is preparing. As soon as ECT gets approval to proceed with the budget amendments all revisions will be made to the WMP by February, 2010. SWAG meetings will be set up soon to start the revision process.

J. Ridgway informed the committee that their discussions with the MDEQ also included the contested case permit. They discussed the elective option which is not subject to MDEQ approval. The Alternative option needs to be approved. Executive Director staff talked with MDEQ about the possibility of an alternative (or Rouge only permit) that would require MDEQ approval but would recognize our past work. The MDEQ was very interested in discussing this possibility. J. Ridgway stated that the ARC Staff would incorporate comments from both the Executive Committee and the communities, review it with the lawyers and then present it to the MDEQ (at no additional cost to the ARC). This would, if accepted by the MDEQ, allow the ARC to go after 319 money in subsequent years. Jim Wineka asked about the communities that are in other watersheds as well as the Rouge. J. Ridgway discussed the permit option that allows a community to name its primary watershed. Tim Faas asked how different this version is from the one the ARC originally edited. J. Ridgway said we revised the original ARC edited permit. J. Ridgway said that the title would be changed from general to Rouge Permit. There was discussion of whether it could be incorporated to be more general and could be shared with other communities not in the Rouge. Tom Biasell asked who prepared the draft. J. Ridgway stated that ECT did the revisions after meeting with the MDEQ at no additional cost to the ARC. J. Ridgway stressed that certain plans in the permit would be implemented by the ARC not individually by a community. What was focused on in a specific community could be used by all under the ARC. This would be a larger watershed approach, not individual. K. Cave stated that this version took everything we have been working on and put it into the permit. J. Ridgway stated that this permit does not include road commissions.

#### **c. ARC Foundation**

J. Ridgway stated that the ARC Foundation Form 1023 is ready to file with the final approval of the ARC on the structure. Due to the quickly declining Rouge funding and the concerns about

current members leaving the ARC, the current application package provides for a separate charitable organization named the ARC Foundation. The ARC Foundation has a separate corporate existence and will have its own 501(c)(3) status. The separate structure will allow the ARC Foundation to continue even if the current ARC someday dissolves. K. Cave made the motion to recommend to the Full ARC for approval the Form 1023 to file for a separate charitable organization named the ARC Foundation. The motion was seconded by K. Buford, motion passed.

**d. GLRI Grant**

SEMCOG is leading the effort to organize projects in hopes of getting this federal funding. The full details of how much money will be available and when the RFP will be out has not been released yet. SEMCOG is working with each community on a list of what might be funded and grouping projects together to develop a watershed approach. The state would apply for the money and then hand it out. Some sample projects are rain gardens, green infrastructure, measuring success and other restoration projects. The list focuses mainly on projects that are in the Area of Concern (AOC) delisting documents. T. Faas stated that the ARC will make a formal submission to SEMCOG by the end of the week and will focus on large watershed activities. The EPA has stated that they would like to allocate to large watershed groups.

**6. Standing Committee Reports**

**a. Finance Committee**

2009 Budget Status Report

J. Lawson reviewed the 2009 Budget Status Report and informed the committee that a handful of communities owe their 2009 dues. All have been contacted and have payments being processed. J. Lawson was informed by Superior Township that it will not be an ARC member any longer. J. Lawson stated that she is waiting for written notice from Superior Township. It was requested by the committee that the ARC staff do a survey of members for participation in the ARC in 2010. It was also requested that ARC staff prepare a slide show outlining the 2010 budget items and how the activities support compliance with the storm water permit.

2009 Budget Amendments

J. Lawson reviewed the 2009 budget amendment for FC1 – 501(c)(3) application. After discussion the motion was made by Ramzi El-Gharib to recommend approval of the amendment to the full ARC. The motion was seconded by K. Buford, motion passed. J. Lawson reviewed the 2009 budget amendment for OC2- WMP Revisions. After discussion the motion was made by K. Buford to recommend approval of the amendment to the full ARC for approval. The motion was seconded by Jim Zoumbaris, motion passed. J. Lawson reviewed the 2009 budget amendment for TC4-Land Cover Inventory. Gary Zorza briefly discussed with the committee the termination of the contract with MTRI and the selection of Sanborn to complete the work. Sanborn was the ARC's second choice from the bids received in combination with the interview process. G. Zorza stated that Sanborn will be using part of a grant with the MDEQ to reduce the cost to the ARC by \$10,000. K. Cave asked why the ARC couldn't be the recipient of the funding. G. Zorza stated that he didn't know the specifics of the grant that Sanborn received on behalf of the three ARC communities, however, there would be costs incurred with administering the grant and organizing the volunteers etc. The motion was made by Jill Rickard to approve and move forward with the \$62,124 +/- Land Cover contract with Sanborn. The motion was seconded by J. Zoumbaris, motion passed. After discussion the motion was made by J. Zoumbaris to recommend approval of the 2009 Budget Amendment for TC4-Land Cover Inventory to the full ARC. The motion was seconded by J. Wineka, motion passed.

### 2010 Budget Requests

J. Lawson reviewed the draft 2010 budget requests totaling \$735,741 as presented in the handouts. J. Lawson stated that the ARC member dues will not change in 2010. The budget items are as follows:

- OC1 – Executive Director Services
- OC2 – ARC Insurance
- OC3 – Accounting/legal Services
- PIE1 – Green Infrastructure Campaign
- PIE2 – Riparian Corridor Mgt. Booklet
- PIE 3 – Pub. Ed. Material
- PIE4 – ARC Website Maintenance
- PIE5 – Friends of the Rouge
- PIE6 – WMP Revisions
- TC1 – Rouge River Watershed Monitoring Activities
- TC2 – Collaborative Storm Water Action Plan Imp.
- TC3 – Pursuing Grant Opportunities
- TC4 – Land Cover Inventory – Gary Zorza informed the committee that this is a continuation of the above discussion regarding the MTRI termination and hiring of Sanborn.

After discussion the motion was made by Wayne Domine to recommend that the full ARC approve the proposed ARC 2010 budget totaling \$735,741, as presented by the Treasurer and supported by the budget documents. The motion was seconded by R. El-Gharib, motion passed.

J. Lawson informed the Executive Committee that the contract with ECT for the Executive Director services would need to be extended for the 2010 fiscal year. She informed the committee that the ARC officers will be doing the annual performance review of ECT's services. K. Cave stated that she will ask Razik to review the grant requirements to make sure that the ECT contract can be extended for a second year or if a new contract needs to be developed. The motion was made by R. El-Gharib, pending Wayne County review of the current EPA grant, to approve the extension of the service contract with ECT for the 2010 fiscal year in an amount not-to-exceed \$324,371 as presented by the Treasurer and outlined in the budget documents, and further authorize the ARC Chairperson to sign the contract on behalf of the ARC. The motion was seconded by J. Rickard, motion passed.

**b. Organizational Committee**

K. Cave stated that in addition to the regional hardship issue discussed in the Executive Director's Report, the Organizational Committee also talked about developing a policy or changing the existing purchasing policy to address the outside funding requests that the ARC receives. There will be other requirements incorporated for these other entities.

**c. Grants Committee**

Annette DeMaria, ARC Staff, reported on behalf of the grants committee. The ARC submitted a TMDL grant for investigative sampling. This required a 10% match of \$5,000 and had to be in an ARC priority area and from a community who was not contesting the permit. It was suggested that the Grants Committee be dissolved because it is included in the Executive Director services. T. Faas asked that the Organizational Committee review the grants procedure to incorporate this change.

**d. PIE (Public Involvement and Education) Committee**

Brandy Siedlaczek reported that the PIE Committee has completed the update to the Detention Pond Manual and it will be sent to members. The PIE Committee completed three Green Infrastructure workshops and three related bus tours in August.

**e. Technical Committee**

MTRI termination/Sanborn Recommendation

G. Zorza stated that this item was covered during the 2009 budget amendment and 2010 draft budget discussions.

Payments made by fringe communities for Land Cover Inventory

G. Zorza discussed the change in cost between MTRI and Sanborn's cost to the fringe communities for the additional areas outside the Rouge River watershed. The cost for some is a substantial increase in what MTRI was offering. The Technical Committee with the help of ECT will be sending out letters to those fringe communities explaining the change and offering the same service at the additional cost or offering a full refund if the fringe communities no longer want to purchase the additional coverage.

**7. Report from WCDPS**

K. Cave reported that the Department of Environment is now under the Wayne County Department of Public Services. She stated that there are no major changes on environmental matters.

K. Cave stated that they are waiting on two grant amendments from EPA. She stated that there will be another round of sub-grants for next year.

K. Cave stated that Wayne County has received three FOIA requests from Joel Thurtell regarding Rouge River activities.

**Report from SWAGS**

There was nothing to report.

**9. Summary of Executive Committee Actions**

- Approval of 6/10/09 Executive Committee Meeting Summary
- Organizational Committee to review the grants procedure and incorporate the Executive Director performing the Grant Committee activities.
- Executive Committee members to review the draft permit and provide comments to ECT by October 13.
- Executive Director staff to draft changes to purchasing policy to include outside funding requests and present to the Organizational Committee for review.
- A motion was made and approved to recommend to the full ARC for approval the budget totaling \$735,741, as presented by the Treasurer and as depicted in the attached budget documents for the 2010 Budget of the Alliance of Rouge Communities.
- A motion was made and approved to move forward with the \$62,124 +/- contract with Sanborn.
- Executive Director staff to prepare a slide show to the full ARC to explain how the budget meets the permit requirements.
- The motion was made and approved to recommend to the full ARC for approval the Form 1023 to file for a separate charitable organization named the ARC Foundation.
- A motion was made and approved to recommend to the Full ARC for approval the 2009 Budget Amendment for FC1-501(c)(3) application.
- A motion was made and approved to recommend to the Full ARC for approval the 2009 Budget Amendment for OC2-WPM Revisions.
- A motion was made and approved to recommend to the Full ARC for approval the 2009 Budget Amendment for TC4-Land Cover Inventory.
- The Officers will perform the Executive Director Performance review prior to the next full ARC meeting and will request comments/concerns from all members prior to the review.

- A motion was made, pending Wayne County review of the current EPA grant, to approve the extension of the service contract with ECT for the 2010 fiscal year in an amount not-to-exceed \$324,371 as presented by the Treasurer and outlined in the budget documents, and further authorize the ARC Chairperson to sign the contract on behalf of the ARC.
- The motion was made to recommend to the full ARC for approval the budget totaling \$735,741, as presented by the Treasurer and as depicted on the budget documents for the 2010 budget of the Alliance of Rouge Communities.

**10. Upcoming Meeting(s)**

- PIE Committee Meeting, October 15, 2009, 1:30 p.m. at the U of M-D Environmental Interpretive Center
- Full ARC Meeting, October 21, 2009, 1:30 p.m., location TBD

**11. Adjourn**

The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Gary Mekjian and seconded by J. Lawson. 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 type="checkbox"/>	—
Biasell	Thomas	Farmington Hills	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TBB
Bobrin	Janis	Washtenaw County	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
Bonfiglio	Meghan	Bloomfield Township	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MAB
Bononi	Michelle	Washtenaw County	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
Buford	Kevin	Westland	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	K.C.B
Buiten	Mike	Wayne	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
Cave	Kelly	Wayne County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	KAC
Colsianne	Joe	Oakland County	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
Domine	Wayne	Bloomfield Township	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WD
El-Gharib	Ramzi	Wayne	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RGE
Faas	Tim	Canton Township	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TF
Heise	Kurt	Wayne County	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
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"/>	<i>JL</i>
McCulloch	John	Oakland County	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
Mekjian	Gary	Southfield	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>GM</i>
Mullett	Noel	WCDOE	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
Murray	Jim	Dearborn	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
Payne	Dave	Bloomfield Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
Rickard	Jill	Northville Township	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>JR</i>
Ridgway	Jim	ECT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>JRW</i>
Sanzica	Phil	Oakland County	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
Siedlaczek	Brandy	Southfield	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>BS</i>
Staup	Aaron	Novi	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
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"/>	<i>GRZ</i>
Zoumbanis	Jim	Livonia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>JZ</i>

Meeting Date: \_\_\_\_\_

<i>Name</i>	<i>Community</i>	<i>Attended</i>	<i>Initials</i>
Anne De Maria		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____
Jim Winkert	WRR ALT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____
Tom MacDonald	Wayne	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____
		<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
		<input type="checkbox"/>	_____