



James W. Ridgway, P.E.  
Executive Director

- Auburn Hills
- Beverly Hills
- Bingham Farms
- Birmingham
- Bloomfield Hills
- Bloomfield Twp.
- Canton Twp.
- Commerce Twp.
- Dearborn
- Dearborn Heights
- Farmington
- Farmington Hills
- Franklin
- Garden City
- Henry Ford Community College
- Lathrup Village
- Livonia
- Melvindale
- Northville
- Northville Twp.
- Novi
- Oak Park
- Oakland County
- Orchard Lake
- Plymouth
- Plymouth Twp.
- Redford Twp.
- Rochester Hills
- Romulus
- Southfield
- Troy
- University of Michigan-Dearborn
- Van Buren Twp.
- Walled Lake
- Washtenaw County
- Wayne
- Wayne County
- Wayne County Airport Authority
- Westland
- Wixom
- Cooperating Partners:
- Cranbrook Institute of Science
- Friends of the Rouge
- Rouge River Advisory Council
- Southeastern Oakland County Water Authority
- The Henry Ford
- Wayne State University

**DRAFT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY**  
March 5, 2014, 2:00 p.m., Wayne County Commerce Court

1. **Welcome** – Brandy Siedlaczek, Treasurer
2. **Roll Call of Members**  
ECT took roll call of members and others in attendance. A quorum was present.

<i>ARC Executive Committee</i>			<i>Attended Meeting</i>
<b>Officers</b>			
<b>Chair</b>	VACANT		
<b>Vice-Chair</b>	Jim Murray	Dearborn	N
<b>Treasurer</b>	Brandy Siedlaczek	Southfield	Y
<b>Past Chair</b>	Gary Mekjian	Farmington Hills	Y
<b>Counties</b>			
<b>Oakland Co. – Rep.</b>	Jim Nash	OCWRC	N
<b>Oakland Co. – Alt.</b>	Jim Wineka	OCWRC	N
<b>Washtenaw Co.- Rep.</b>	Evan Pratt	WCWRC	N
<b>Washtenaw Co.- Alt.</b>	Heather Rice	WCWRC	N
<b>Wayne Co. - Rep.</b>	Kelly Cave	WCDPS	N
<b>Wayne Co. - Alt.</b>	Noel Mullett/Razik Alsaigh	WCDPS	Y
<b>SWAGs</b>			
<b>Main 1 &amp; 2 - Rep.</b>	Wayne Domine	Bloomfield Township	N
<b>Main 1 &amp; 2 - Alt.</b>	Charles Markus	Bloomfield Township	N
<b>Main 3 &amp; 4 - Rep.</b>	VACANT		
<b>Main 3 &amp; 4 - Alt.</b>	VACANT		
<b>Upper - Rep.</b>	Karen Mondora	Farmington Hills	Y
<b>Upper - Alt.</b>	Don Rohraff	Livonia	N
<b>Middle 1 - Rep.</b>	Tom Casari	Northville Township	Y
<b>Middle 1 - Alt.</b>	Adam Wayne	Novi	Y
<b>Middle 3 - Rep.</b>	Kevin Roney	Garden City	N
<b>Middle 3 - Alt.</b>	VACANT		
<b>Lower 1 - Rep.</b>	Bob Belair	Canton Township	Y
<b>Lower 1 - Alt.</b>	VACANT		
<b>Lower 2 - Rep.</b>	Ramzi El-Gharib/Mike Buiten	Wayne	Y
<b>Lower 2 - Alt.</b>	Roberto Scappaticci	Romulus	N

**Others Present:** Annette DeMaria, John O’Meara, and Chris O’Meara, ECT Staff

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

There were no additions or changes to the agenda.

### **4. Chair Vacancy**

Given Kevin Buford's resignation from the City of Westland, the committee asked that the ED or one of the Officers contact Jim Murray to verify if he was willing to serve as interim chair through the end of 2014. This is an election year so new officers will be elected in December for the term of 2015-2016.

### **5. Summary of November 12, 2013 Executive Committee Meeting**

The motion was made by Karen Mondora, Farmington Hills, to accept the November 12, 2013 meeting summary. The motion was seconded by Tom Casari, Northville Township. Motion passed.

### **6. Executive Director Report**

#### **a. 2013 Executive Director's Annual Report**

Annette DeMaria informed the Committee that the draft 2013 Executive Director's Annual Report is done and ready to be forwarded to the Full ARC. She asked that the Committee review it and forward any comments to the ARC staff. Otherwise, it will be included in the handouts at the Full ARC meeting on March 13 and will be added to the ARC website for members to use with their stormwater progress report.

#### **b. Grant Projects Status**

**NOAA Habitat Restoration Grant – Oxbow Phase III Design** -The ARC was completed NOAA contract documents for the grant to design Phase III of the Oxbow at The Henry Ford (Greenfield Village) in Dearborn, which will provide for the final open connection the Oxbow to the channelized portion of the Rouge River. ARC staff will complete the semi-annual reporting for NOAA in April 2014. ARC Staff have completed the QAPP and submitted to NOAA for approval. Monthly team meetings have been ongoing with internal project staff and external agencies. A meeting with MDEQ and USACE has been set for March 11, 2014. Additionally discussions have been on going with the USACOE.

**Transforming the Rouge** -The Transforming the Rouge project is complete. The final report was approved by EPA and the grant was closed.

**Wayne Road Dam Removal** - The Wayne Road Dam Removal project is complete. The final report was approved by EPA and the grant was closed.

**MI Water Quality Monitoring Grant** - The Water Quality Monitoring project is complete. The final report was accepted by MDEQ.

The investigation indicated that human *E. coli* sources are likely impacting Pernick and Pebble creeks.

In the Pernick Creek subbasin, the suspected *E. coli* sources were:

- One or more failing septic systems that serve homes on Farmbrook Road near the creek, and/or
- Illegal dumping of wastewater from a recreational vehicle.

In the Pebble Creek subbasin, the suspected *E. coli* sources were:

- One or more failing septic systems that serve homes at the north end of Green Acre Street;
- One or more failing septic systems that serve homes located between Northwestern Hwy., Wellington Street, Salem Street, Harwich Drive, and Weymouth Court;
- Exfiltration from the sanitary pump station located at Harwich Drive north of New Bedford Drive.; and/or

- Runoff impacted by dog feces.

Recommended actions for the local municipalities (Southfield and Farmington Hills) were provided in the report.

**Emerald Ash Borer U.S. Forestry/GLRI 2011** - The nursery delivered most of the fall planting trees in November 2013. Some due to the conditions and availability are being held until spring. ARC staff have continued to work with the communities to work through some of the discrepancies between where trees may be and types of species. ARC staff began development of the final report of the activities that have occurred to date for the grant. The ARC has received a grant extension and budget adjustment with the U.S. Forest Service to extend the grant until July 1, 2014 to allow for another planting by Wayne County and additional verification services. Wayne County will be purchasing and planting additional trees this spring.

**2012 Public Advisory Council/Great Lakes Commission** -The 2012 PAC project is complete. The Rouge River Beneficial Use Impairment Report Card was completed by Wayne County, MDEQ, and the RRAC. ARC staff prepared the final progress and financial reports and submitted them to the GLC and MDEQ.

**Erb Foundation Capacity Building for the Alliance of Rouge Communities** -The ARC withdrew the proposal for the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study in the Lower Rouge Main Channel (The project was short \$210,000 in match). MDEQ has indicated their desire to lead the effort. ARC Staff have requested that Erb allow the ARC to rescope the remainder of the funding (\$88,748) to focus on green infrastructure and public education including support of our Municipal Grow Zone Program, rain barrel sales to homeowners, and riparian corridor management for homeowners.

No response has been received yet from Erb other than that they wanted to talk to the MDEQ.

**2013 Area of Concern/Public Advisory Committee Grant** - ARC staff is working with RRAC, MDEQ, MDNR and EPA to develop a "short-list" of projects needed to remove the Habitat Beneficial Use Impairment. This includes mapping of problem areas and project sites, as well as discussions with communities on potential project sites.

**HOW Federal Grant Writing (Freshwater Futures)** - The Alliance of Rouge Communities (ARC) has received a \$15,000 grant to write 3 federal NOAA grant applications. Two grant applications were submitted at the end of February 2014 to NOAA GRLI Habitat Restoration.

#### **Outstanding Grant Applications**

**U.S. Forest Service/GLRI Mitigate Emerald Ash Borer Impacts Grant** - This grant was not awarded.

**SAW Grant: Monitoring and Stormwater Management Planning** - The ARC applied for a SAW grant in December, 2013 for \$1,741,667 which requires \$358,333 in match. About 27% of the match has already been earned or is in the 2014 budget. The grant covers collaborative plan development and ecosystem monitoring to support to reapplication of the MS4 permits. More specifically, the grant covers:

- Development of a collaborative Public participation plan,
- Development of a collaborative Public education plan,
- Development and implementation of a public attitudes survey,
- Development of a collaborative illicit discharge elimination plan,
- Community specific ordinance review for compliance with the IDEP Ordinance requirements,
- Development of a collaborative total maximum daily load plan,

- Ecosystem monitoring including water quality (dissolved oxygen, E. coli, phosphorus and sediment), macroinvertebrates, and flow,
- Site-specific standard operating procedures (SOPs) development for municipal facilities that impact stormwater quality, and
- Development of a stormwater funding framework in collaboration with the Alliance of Downriver Watersheds.

**NOAA GLRI habitat Restoration: Henry Ford Estate Dam Fish Passage (Design)** - The ARC has applied for \$259,596 in federal funding to provide final design for a fish passage at the Henry Ford Estate Dam. Restoring fish passage at the HFE Dam would provide access to 18 to 36 river miles of the Main, Middle, and Upper Rouge Rivers depending on branch. The design will build upon the previous work done by the USACOE.

**NOAA GLRI habitat Restoration: Fish Barrier and Habitat Fragmentation (Study/Design)** - The ARC has applied for \$145,664 in federal funding from NOAA to examine and prioritize fish barriers and habitat fragmentation in the Rouge River. The MDNR 1998 Fisheries Assessment states there are 62 dams on the Rouge River. Many of these dams and other barriers serve to fragment the system and block movement of aquatic organisms. This project would prioritize fish passage barriers and prepare conceptual design for one or two priority projects.

#### **c. Permit Update**

Karen Mondora, Farmington Hills, requested that the website include a “permit” section under the documents tab to assist members in finding the available information to support their permit reporting. She asked that as communities go through their audit it would be appreciated if they could share anything the MDEQ gives a response on that might apply to and help others. In addition, Karen asked ARC staff if we had feedback from the MDEQ on permit re-applications that have been submitted within the past year for communities in other watersheds. Annette DeMaria indicated that the communities along the St. Clair River submitted their applications on April 1, 2013 and the MDEQ is just starting to comment on them. So far, the comments have been reasonable. Applications for those in the Lake St. Clair Direct Drainage area are due April 1, 2014. Annette indicated that comments may vary from watershed to watershed because of different interpretations from the MDEQ permit coordinators. Annette said that she would pass along anything that is learned in some of the Lake St. Clair – St. Clair River communities.

#### **d. 2010 Census and 2015 ARC Dues**

Annette DeMaria informed the Committee that the 2010 Census has been finalized and ARC staff are in the process of updating the dues calculations based on the population changes. Changes to the ARC dues will not take effect until the 2015 budget year. ARC Staff will have the draft dues calculations for the next Executive Committee meeting.

### **7. Standing Committee Reports**

#### **a. Finance Committee (B. Siedlaczek, Treasurer)**

##### **2013 Audit**

Brandy Siedlaczek, Southfield, informed the Committee that ARC staff have started working with the ARC’s accountants to gather the required 2013 files for our audit.

##### **2014 Dues**

Brandy Siedlaczek reported that the first round of invoices were sent out in February and we have started receiving dues from members.

### **A/R and A/P Reports**

Brandy Siedlaczek reviewed the accounts receivable and stated that at the time of the report there were no payables to report.

### **2014 Budget Amendment**

#### **HOW1 Federal Grant Preparation**

Brandy Siedlaczek informed the Committee that the ARC has received a \$15,000 grant to write three (3) federal grant applications.

The ARC staff will develop three grant applications in 2014 for federal funding. It is anticipated that the grant applications will include a narrative, budget, timeline and letters of support for the following projects:

- Henry Ford Estate Dam Fish Passage
- Rouge River Fish Barrier and Habitat Fragmentation
- Oxbow Implementation

The motion was made by Gary Mekjian, Farmington Hills, to recommend to the Full ARC approval of the 2014 Budget Amendment adding the HOW1 grant to fund the preparation of three federal grant applications as presented by the Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Tom Casari, Northville Twp., and passed unanimously.

### **2011 ECT Contract Amendment**

#### **Extension and Reappropriation of USFS Emerald Ash**

Brandy Siedlaczek reviewed the contract amendment to the scope of services for the Executive Director Services with ECT extending the contract date and increasing the original contract amount by \$30,660 for project oversight/planning, installation coordination, community location coordination and reporting, field verification and grant reporting as described in Appendix I to the 2011 ECT Contract.

The motion was made by Karen Mondora, Farmington Hills, to recommend to the Full ARC approval of the 2011 ECT ED Services Contract amendment extending and reappropriating Appendix I as presented by the Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Bob Belair, Canton, and passed unanimously.

### **2013 ECT Contract Amendment**

Brandy Siedlaczek reviewed the contract amendment adding Appendix D which increases the original contract amount by \$15,000 to prepare three grant applications under the HOW Grant.

The motion was made by Gary Mekjian, Farmington Hills, to recommend to the Full ARC the approval of the 2013 ECT Contract Amendment adding the HOW Grant at Appendix D as presented by the Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Bob Belair, Canton, and passed unanimously.

#### **b. Organization Committee**

Razik Alsaigh reported on behalf of Kelly Cave that the Organization Committee has not met yet in 2014 and had nothing to report.

### **c. PIE (Public Involvement and Education) Committee**

#### **Home Garden Design workshops**

Annette DeMaria reported that the PIE Committee's first workshop was in Novi on February 19. There was a good turnout with approximately 20 attendees (of which 15 were registered) and 5 volunteers. The evaluations were all positive, with all but 1 stating they were very likely to install a native garden. The next workshop is March 5 at 6 pm at the Livonia Civic Center Library. There are over 80 people registered for the workshop, and 30 of those have registered for the expert help after the presentations. The remaining 2 workshops will be Monday, March 31 at Cranbrook and Tuesday, April 5 in Dearborn Heights. All workshops are from 6-8pm.

The Grow Zone Maintenance workshop is yet to be scheduled and will likely target a broader audience than we have focused on in the past.

The PIE committee will be working on the Collaborative PEP in the next couple of months and may request feedback from ARC members. The PIE's first (and only) meeting in 2014 will be at the end of the month.

### **d. Technical Committee**

Karen Mondora, Farmington Hills, reported that the Technical Committee has not met yet in 2014 and are in the process of scheduling the first (and only) meeting for 2014. The 2014 County IDEP work plans will be reviewed for approval at the upcoming meeting. A suggestion was made after some issues were found in previous IDEP work, to have local community staff present when Oakland County, Wayne County and ARC staff are investigating so that the community is present when problems are discovered.

### **8. Report from WCDPS**

Razik Alsaigh, Wayne County, reported on behalf of Kelly Cave that the Rouge grant is ending this year and asked that communities finalize any projects and attempt to use all Rouge grant money available.

### **9. Other Business**

Annette DeMaria reviewed some grant applications that ARC staff are currently working on:

ARC Staff are working on a grant application for habitat improvement within Fish Hatchery Park which is located in Northville along Johnson Creek. MDNR indicated that the scope of work was viable, Northville and Northville Twp. agreed to provide match, and the ARC officers gave Staff permission to proceed with the application in late February. The cost is approximately \$400,000 with \$200,000 in match from Northville Parks and Recreation Commission.

ARC Staff asked for permission to proceed with a PAC grant application which is due at the end of March. This grant would continue facilitation of the RRAC meetings along with developing a list of projects that are needed to restore habitat in the watershed.

The Officers gave their support of development of the PAC grant application and asked that the ARC Staff proceed with submitting it.

Karen Mondora asked about the potential of submitting any grants under the 319 funding. Annette DeMaria stated that we have no anticipated applications at this time. The grant money is very competitive. She stated that maybe we will look at 319 funding for the Johnson Creek project if the other funding does not get approved.

**10. Summary of Executive Committee Actions**

- The motion was approved to accept the November 12, 2013
- The motion was approved to recommend to the Full ARC the approval of the 2014 Budget Amendment adding the HOW1 line item.
- The motion was approved to recommend to the Full ARC the approval of the 2011 ECT ED Services Contract Amendment extending and reappropriation of the FS1 line item.
- The motion was approved to recommend to the Full ARC the approval of the 2013 ECT ED Services Contract Amendment adding the HOW1 line item.

**11. Upcoming Meeting(s)**

- Full ARC Meeting, March 13, 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m., Farmington Hills.

**12. Adjourn**

The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Tom Casari, Northville Twp., and seconded by Karen Mondora, Farmington Hills. The motion passed.

# *ARC Executive Committee Attendance List*

*Meeting Date:* March 5, 2014

<i>Name</i>	<i>Community</i>	<i>Attended</i>	<i>Initials</i>
Alsaigh	Razik	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>ETA</i>
Belair	Bob	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>FAB</i>
Buiten	Mike	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>MLB</i>
Casari	Tom	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>TAC</i>
Cave	Kelly	<input type="checkbox"/>	---
DeMaria	Annette	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>AD</i>
Domine	Wayne	<input type="checkbox"/>	---
El-Gharib	Ramzi	<input type="checkbox"/>	---
Fellrath	Patrick	<input type="checkbox"/>	---
Markus	Charles	<input type="checkbox"/>	---
Mekjian	Gary	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>G.M.</i>
Mondora	Karen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>KM</i>
Mullett	Noel	<input type="checkbox"/>	---
Murray	Jim	<input type="checkbox"/>	---
Nash	Jim	<input type="checkbox"/>	---
Pratt	Evan	<input type="checkbox"/>	---
Price	Meghan	<input type="checkbox"/>	---



Meeting Date: March 5, 2014

Name	Community	Attended	Initials
Rice Heather	Washtenaw County Water Resour	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Ridgway Jim	ECT	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Rohraff Don	Livonia	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Roney Kevin	Garden City	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Scappaticci Roberto	Romulus	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Siedlaczek Brandy	Southfield	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BS
Smrtka Barb	Farmington Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Wayne Adam	Novi	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AW
Wineka Jim	Oakland County	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
O'Meara John	ARC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____
_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
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