



Annette DeMaria, P.E., PMP
Executive Director

Auburn Hills
Beverly Hills
Bingham Farms
Birmingham
Bloomfield Hills
Bloomfield Twp.
Canton Twp.
Commerce Twp.
Dearborn Heights
Farmington
Farmington Hills
Franklin
Garden City
Henry Ford College
Inkster
Lathrup Village
Livonia
Melvindale
Northville
Northville Twp.
Novi
Oak Park
Oakland County
Orchard Lake
Plymouth
Plymouth Twp.
Redford Twp.
Rochester Hills
Romulus
Schoolcraft College
Southfield
Troy
University of Michigan-Dearborn
Van Buren Twp.
Walled Lake
Washtenaw County
Wayne
Wayne County
Wayne County Airport Authority
West Bloomfield Twp.
Westland
Wixom

DRAFT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

April 19, 2021, 9:00 a.m. - Online

1. **Welcome** – Doug Moore, Chair

2. **Roll Call of Members**

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

ARC Executive Committee			Attended Meeting
Officers			
Chair	Doug Moore	Livonia	Y
Vice-Chair	Charles Markus	Bloomfield Twp.	Y
Treasurer	Kate Richardson	Novi	Y
Past Chair & Interim Treasurer	Brandy Siedlaczek	Southfield	Y
Counties			
Oakland Co. – Rep.	Jim Nash	OCWRC	N
Oakland Co. – Alt.	Jim Wineka, Jacy Garrison	OCWRC	Y-JG, Y-JW
Washtenaw Co.- Rep.	Evan Pratt	WCWRC	N
Washtenaw Co.- Alt.	Heather Rice	WCWRC	N
Wayne Co. - Rep.	Noel Mullett	WCDPS	N
Wayne Co. - Alt.	Vacant	WCDPS	
SWAGs			
Main 1 & 2 - Rep.	Brandy Siedlaczek	Southfield	Y
Main 1 & 2 - Alt.	Olivia Olsztyn-Budry	Bloomfield Township	N
Main 3 & 4 - Rep.	Paul Horen	Redford Township	Y
Main 3 & 4 - Alt.	Vacant		
Upper - Rep.	Karen Mondora	Farmington Hills	Y
Upper - Alt.	Trisha Gabriel	Livonia	N
Middle 1 - Rep.	Bob Belair	Northville Township	N
Middle 1 - Alt.	Kate Richardson	Novi	Y
Middle 3 - Rep.	Ramzi El-Gharib	Westland	N
Middle 3 - Alt.	Invitation sent Kristina Kramarz	Dearborn Heights	N
Lower 1 - Rep.	Brad Lear	Canton Township	N
Lower 1 - Alt.	Vacant		
Lower 2 - Rep.	Mike Buiten	Wayne	Y
Lower 2 - Alt.	Jerome Bivins	Inkster	N
Lower 2 - Alt.	Kathy Hood	Romulus	Y

Others Present: Rebecca Runkel, City of Novi

Annette DeMaria, John O'Meara, Chris O'Meara, Tennille Newsome, ECT Staff

Cooperating Partners:

Cranbrook Institute of Science
Friends of the Rouge
Great Lakes Water Authority
Rouge River Advisory Council
SEMCOG
Southeastern Oakland County Water Authority
The Henry Ford

3. Additions or Changes to Draft Agenda

Annette DeMaria asked that item 7.b Rouge River Forum be added to the agenda.

4. Summary of September 15, 2020 Executive Committee Meeting

The motion was made by Jacy Garrison, Oakland County to accept the September 15, 2020 meeting summary. The motion was seconded by Charles Markus, Bloomfield Township, and passed unanimously.

5. Executive Director Report (ARC Staff)

a. 2020 Executive Director's Annual Report

Chris O'Meara reported she added the link for the Executive Director's Annual report into the digital Agenda and it was also sent out last month and available on the ARC's website under the member information/documents section. Annette asked the Committee if there were any questions. No questions were asked.

b. MS4 Permit Update

Annette DeMaria reported that many communities are getting their draft permit, have received their permit or are on public notice. Annette also mentioned there will be a discussion on post construction standards later in the agenda.

Karen Mondora mentioned she received her draft and sent an email of questions/issues. She has not heard anything back yet and is wondering if she was on public notice. Annette confirmed she will be emailed a public notice draft before it is on public notice.

Brandy Siedlaczek received her draft and their City is on public notice as confirmed in her email. The public notice was placed on the entrance to City Hall and building of the Engineering Department.

c. Grant Report

John O'Meara reported the following:

EPA Wayne County Rouge AOC Habitat Projects

- **Henry Ford Estate Dam Fish Passage**
 - Contractor is conducting vegetation maintenance. Lowering of the water control will not take place for up to another year depending on vegetation establishment.

EPA Rouge River AOC Habitat Restoration Design- Tamarack/Fish Hatchery (\$583,220)

- Johnson Creek Fish Hatchery Restoration project was bid April 2020 & Tamarack was bid February 2021
- Final report for grant completed and submitted to EPA for grant closure

EPA Rouge River AOC Habitat Restoration Implementation - Tamarack/Fish Hatchery (\$3,367,559)

- **Johnson Creek Fish Hatchery Restoration**
 - Construction started in August 2020 & substantial completion in December 2021
 - Contractor working on punch list items and vegetation maintenance for 2021
- **Tamarack Creek Restoration**
 - Pre-construction meeting April 2021
 - Construction to begin May 2021 & substantial completion anticipated 11/21

EPA Rouge River AOC Seeley Creek Habitat Restoration (\$815,000)

- Permit is in the process of being reviewed by EGLE
- Oakland County Water Resources is reviewing their piece
- There is potential for a grant extension to be requested but not until the contractor's schedule is received

Karen Mondora asked John O. if the trees were down that were needed to be done. John O. will get with Alice and Farmington Hill's local person.

EGLE Rouge River AOC PAC Support (\$95,000)

- Grant amendment increased budget by \$20k to include FOTR support on Concrete Channel discussions and ARC support to develop an electronic project mapping

Wayne County EPA Rouge River AOC Wayne County Parks (5) Habitat Restoration Design (\$731,000)

- Lower Rouge Restoration design & initial log jam investigation completed
- Sherwood Park habitat restoration design completed & EGLE permit application submitted March 2021
- Bell Creek Park habitat restoration design 75% completed
- Lola Valley Park habitat restoration design 50% completed
- Riverview (Levan Knoll) habitat restoration design 75% completed

EPA Rouge River AOC Habitat - Colonial & Venoy Restoration (\$1,834,000)

- EGLE Permit Application developed and submitted
- Contract Document Development
- Anticipated construction Fall 2021; this project may also have a contract extension but will wait until contractor's schedule received

EPA Rouge River AOC Habitat Restoration Implementation- Wayne County Parkland (\$4,222,090)

Restoration at the 5 Wayne County parkland sites (Lower Rouge River, Riverview, Bell Creek, Lola, and Sherwood)

- QAPP was submitted to EPA in November 2020
- Lower Rouge Reforestation to be solicited in May 2021 and run Fall 2021 -Spring 2023
- Lower Rouge Log Jams to be solicited in July 2021
- Sherwood construction to be bid in May 2021 and anticipated start in August 2021
- Bell and Lola construction anticipated 2022 & Riverview construction anticipated 2023

GLRI USDA Forest Service – Reducing Runoff in the Rouge River AOC (\$261,780)

- IAAs being developed March/April 2021
- Communities have been notified to start acquiring trees for planting

GRANTS AWARDED

Rouge River AOC Habitat Restoration – LTU Wetland Habitat Design (\$125,000)

EPA has notified the ARC that they will receive (anticipated May 2021) a GLRI grant to design a wetland system on Lawrence Technological University's campus. The design will be developed in collaboration with LTU.

SUBMITTED GRANTS

Annette DeMaria reported the following:

EGLE NPS Middle Rouge River Daylighting Design (\$40,000)

The project will design daylighting approximately 1,100 feet of river that is currently enclosed under the Northville Downs Racetrack property. Objectives are to develop a conceptual design for public review, feasibility study and renderings for the daylighting that has the buy-in of the City, public and developer. These items will be used to secure grant funding for future daylighting of the river.

EGLE NPS Johnson Creek Subwatershed Action Plan (\$60,000 - \$54,000 Grant/\$6,000 match)

Development of a Johnson Creek Subwatershed Action Plan will address the issue of increased impervious surfaces and altered hydrology and provide a subwatershed level assessment of current conditions and restoration opportunities by assessing wetlands, AOP barriers, vegetative practices, stormwater retrofits and stream restoration needs.

EGLE NPS Collaborative Development of an Investigational Water Quality Sampling Work Plan for SE Michigan

The ARC is a partner in GLWA's grant application for EGLE funding to develop a regional water quality monitoring plan to conduct investigational sampling to identify illicit connections in GLWA's wastewater service area which includes most of the Rouge watershed.

National Fish & Wildlife Foundation SOGL- Invasive Species Treatment at Newburgh Lake Grow Zones (\$200,000 - \$100,000 grant/\$100,000 match) – NOT AWARDED

The ARC applied for grant funding to combat invasive species in, and adjacent to, the "Grow Zone" sites at Newburgh Lake in Livonia.

6. Standing Committee Reports

a. Finance Committee (Richardson, Treasurer/C. O'Meara)

A/P, A/R Report & Profit/Loss Report

Kate Richardson reviewed the A/R, A/P and profit/loss reports.

2021 Membership Dues

Kate Richardson reported the first set of dues were sent in February and the second set will be sent in May.

Ratify E-mail Votes

1/18/21 8 yay and 0 nay votes, passed

2019 ARC Single Audit – The Single Audit was prepared and received as attached with no issues of non-compliance.

2021 Budget Amendment FC12021 Budget Amendment adding FS42020-2022 US Forest Service Reducing Runoff in the Rouge River AOC - This line item adds the recently awarded Forest Service grant (21-DG-11094200-007) in the amount of \$261,780 which will intercept 1.3 million gallons of annual runoff by planting 895 trees and installing 2.9 acres of green infrastructure throughout the Rouge River Watershed in 17 communities and across 3 counties. The grant requires matching funds in the amount of \$65,445. The ARC anticipates that member community activities associated with the grant and tree costs in excess of the \$150 per tree will be used as match effort in the form of cash or

in-kind services in the amount of \$61,445. In addition, it is anticipated that FOTR volunteer hours to assist in the installation of the green infrastructure will also be used as match with an estimate of \$4,000

2021 ECT Contract Work Order 2021-2 FS Reduce Runoff – This Work Order will add \$36,130 to ECT’s contract to provide grant administration and engineering services for the Forest Service grant 21-DG-11094200-007. In addition to coordinating the tree installation, ECT will provide design/engineering services for the green infrastructure sites including raingardens, bioretention installation and expansion, and native plant grow zone areas.

2/26/21 11 yay and 0 nay votes, passed

This vote awarded the Tamarack Creek Stream and Wetland Restoration Project contract in the amount of \$1,867,200.67 to Anglin Civil, LLC.

3/26/21 10 yay and 0 nay votes, passed

This vote approved the budget adjustment adding \$7,200 to ECT’s contract for the EPA3-Tamarack/Johnson Creek Design Project.

The motion was made by Mike Buiten, City of Wayne to recommend ratification of the email votes. The motion was seconded by Jacy Garrison, Oakland County, and passed unanimously.

2021 Budget Amendments & Adjustments

John O’Meara requested a budget amendment for the FC1-SPAC11 adding \$20,000. The ARC applied for a grant increase for the PAC support grant. It increase went from \$75,000 to \$95,000 to add two scope items:

- Concrete Channel Support: FOTR will attend meetings that occur quarterly with EPA, ACOE and potential project partners regarding the concrete channel discussion. The ARC will provide support but no through this grant effort.
- Mapping Rouge Projects: This will develop an interactive map that would be available on the ARC’s website. This will include AOC projects with project information and locations listed.

The motion was made by Jacy Garrison, Oakland County to recommend to the Full ARC the approval of the 2021 Budget Amendment adding the additional grant funds in the amount of \$20,000 to FC1-SPAC11 Rouge River AOC PAC Support as presented by the Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Karen Mondora, City of Farmington Hills, and passed unanimously.

ECT Contract Amendment

John O’Meara reported that the contract amendment for the SPAC11 with ECT’s Work Order 2020-2 will add the mapping scope and \$15,000 increase associated. There is no match required and is paid for by grant funds.

The motion was made by Brandy Siedlaczek, City of Southfield to recommend to the Full ARC the approval of the ECT contract amendment associated with the Rouge River AOC PAC Support 2021 budget amendment adding \$15,000 to ECT Work Order 2020-2. The motion was seconded by Mike Buiten, City of Wayne, and passed unanimously.

John O’Meara reported that the contract amendment for ECT’s Tamarack/Johnson Creek Implementation Contract Work Order adding an increase of \$38,790. This would increase the total

for the project from \$403,569 to \$442,359 as the project has been extended and will be paid for with grant funds. This does not increase the overall budget.

The motion was made by Jacy Garrison, Oakland County to recommend to approve the amendment to ECT's Tamarack/Johnson Creek Implementation Contract Work Order adding \$38,790. The motion was seconded by Karen Mondora, City of Farmington Hills, and passed unanimously.

2022 2% Dues Increase

Kate Richardson reported in 2022 there will be 2% dues increase. The ARC will send out an email to the communities reminding them of the increases for preparation of their budgets.

The motion was made by Mike Buiten, City of Wayne to recommend to the Full ARC the 2% dues increase for 2022. The motion was seconded by Karen Hood, City of Romulus, and passed unanimously.

ARC Treasurer Position

Kate Richardson reported that the ARC Treasurer position will be open. She informed the Committee that she is leaving Novi and will be unable to perform the duties. She also reported that Rebecca Runkel with the City of Novi has volunteered to take on the position. Rebecca is currently a Project Engineer and has been involved with the ARC in some capacity in the past few years.

The motion was made by Brandy Siedlaczek, City of Southfield to recommend to the Full ARC the approval of Rebecca Runkel, Novi as Treasurer for the remainder of 2021 and 2022. The motion was seconded by Jacy Garrison, Oakland County, and passed unanimously.

b. Organization Committee

Policy for Communication with Limited English Proficiency

Chris O'Meara on behalf of Noel Mullett reported that with continued grant opportunities, the EPA recommended that the ARC develop a policy for those who are not English proficient. The policy has been drafted and was reviewed by the Organization Committee.

The motion was made by Mike Buiten, City of Wayne to recommend to the Full ARC approval of the Policy for Communication with Persons with Limited English Proficiency as presented by the Organization Committee. The motion was seconded by Kathy Hood, City of Romulus, and passed unanimously.

Conflict of Interest Policy Renewal

Chris O'Meara reported the Executive Committee members will need to review the conflict of interest policy and a link has been sent out with the Executive Committee meeting handouts to the survey. Chris will also send out the link in an email.

c. PIE Committee

Jacy Garrison reported the following:

Reminder to make sure ARC members have the ARC's link to the website, as well as the Facebook page.

Pet waste containers, kneeling pads and fertilizer clips have been restocked and if you need any of these items for distribution to contact Tennille Newsome.

The Rouge Watershed ARC banners are available to reserve for two weeks at a time, as well as the new chemical banners promoting best practices and safe use and disposal. These banners displayed in your facility will help with your community's MS4 permit requirements. Please reserve these banners through Tennille Newsome or the sign up genius link previously given out.

The ARC is planning to create one new article and ad graphic, as well as new sticker or vehicle magnet. Chris O'Meara will reach out to members later for a survey regarding potential subjects.

The ARC will host a new webinar this fall. Topic is to be determined.

The ARC is wrapping up the survey results for the "Ours to Protect" metal watershed signs. ARC staff will finalize the maps documenting locations, potential new locations and condition. ARC Members will be surveyed later on where ARC members would like new signs located. These are budgeted for 2022.

Chris O'Meara reported that she and Annette DeMaria met with the One Water campaign staff to discuss activities. They plan to do a larger video and would like to have little snips for each organization and communities to use on social media/cable tv. Annette DeMaria would be the speaker for the ARC's portion of the video. ARC staff envision Annette speaking on site about some of the ARC restoration projects while incorporating stewardship activities for the general public. Chris O. asked the Executive Committee if they had any comments or suggestions on the direction of the video. The Committee supported the direction shared by Chris O. Chris O. mentioned the ARC's draft script will be shared with Jacy Garrison to review.

d. Technical Committee

Annette DeMaria reported the TC approved the IDEP Investigation Work Plans for Wayne County and ARC staff. Those investigations have started. In Oakland County, we have followed up on two corrected outfalls (one in Beverly Hills and one in Northville). They water quality is much better. Annette believes those two can be closed out.

Annette also reported work on the Perrin Drain has begun. The results have been conflicting so will need to figure out how to move forward. This is in the City of Inkster.

Annette mentioned she had a conversation with Oakland University prompted by OCWRC to have another option for conducting the DNA testing for the IDEP work. Currently, the DNA testing goes to MSU and there is an interest of getting someone more local. Oakland University has agreed to do the DNA testing and price matched what MSU charges.

7. Report from Counties

Jacy Garrison, Oakland County reported they are having an Oakland County Stormwater Standards virtual meeting Tuesday, April 20th from 1:30pm-3:30pm to introduce the new standards and receive feedback. If you did not receive the invite, please get with Jacy or Jim W. and they will forward it to you.

Karen Mondora asked if there was going to be 200+ people on a zoom call and concerns about training and not getting all the information in with the two hour time limit.

Jim Wineka responded this will be an overview of the standards and questions and comments can be sent through chat like Wayne County when their Standards came out. Follow up meetings and information will be sent out to address issues.

Karen Mondora wondered if it would be a good idea to get the Technical Committee involved to utilize the materials available for the communities. Jim Wineka agreed and reported they will have a comprehensive PowerPoint for the communities. There will be a lot of work on the communities end to adopt the standards. Jim Wineka also mentioned there is a summary which OHM is working on and that can be adopted but more details need to be added to the it. Jim Wineka believes within the next month or two the Standards will be able to be sent out. Karen Mondora does not believe adopting the summary will work for her community.

Annette DeMaria asked Jim Wineka if there was any way the ARC could assist with the process. Jim responded that the ARC could assist by helping the communities come up with an ordinance appropriate for them to adopt in reference to the Oakland County standard and any changes. Annette also asked Karen Mondora the same question and she responded that the subject needed to be revisited later this week after OC's presentation.



7. Other Business

a. Post Construction Standards (discussed above as well in “Report from Counties”

Annette DeMaria asked the Wayne County community members how the ARC could assist with the stormwater standards. Mike Buiten with City of Wayne indicated they anticipate adopting WC's standards and want their engineering consultant to know what is necessary for compliance. Mike Buiten thinks it would be helpful for the ARC to host a meeting with the communities and their engineers to explain the requirements for adoption. Annette responded that she agrees and is leaning towards county specific meetings (one in WC and one in OC) rather than watershed wide.

b. Rouge River Forum

Annette DeMaria reported was contacted by Jon Allan (formerly, Office of Great Lakes now with University of Michigan) about holding a Rouge River Forum in the Fall. Jon Allan has been asked by EGLE to start the process of gathering support for remediation of sediments in the Lower Rouge Main Channel. The ARC could co-host/support the forum with them as well as present our efforts over the past few years. Annette asked if there was any concerns or discussions. There were none. Annette mentioned she will formally accept their invitation. She does not anticipate needing additional budget to support UofM.

8. Summary of Executive Committee Actions

- The September 15, 2020 meeting summary was approved.
- The motion was approved to recommend ratification of the email votes.
- The motion was approved to recommend to the Full ARC the approval of the 2021 Budget Amendment adding the additional grant funds in the amount of \$20,000 to FC1-SPAC11 Rouge River AOC PAC Support as presented by the Finance Committee.
- The motion was approved to recommend to the Full ARC the approval of the ECT contract amendment associated with the Rouge River AOC PAC Support 2021 budget amendment adding \$15,000 to ECT Work Order 2020-2.
- The amendment to ECT's Tamarack/Johnson Creek Implementation Contract Work Order adding \$38,790 was approved.
- The 2% dues increase for 2022 was approved and will be shared with the Full ARC.

- The motion was approved to recommend to the Full ARC the approval of Rebecca Runkel, Novi as Treasurer for the remainder of 2021 and 2022.
- The motion was approved to recommend to the Full ARC approval of the Policy for Communication with Persons with Limited English Proficiency as presented by the Organization Committee.
- Doug Moore reminded the Executive Committee to review/sign the Conflict of Interest Policy.

9. Upcoming Meeting(s)

- Full ARC meeting, April 27, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. (virtual)

10. Adjourn

The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Karen Mondora, City of Farmington Hills and seconded by Charles Markus, Bloomfield Township. The motion passed.