



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

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

DRAFT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

November 9, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. – Livonia DPW Office

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			
Officers			Attended Meeting
Chair	Doug Moore	Livonia	Y
Vice-Chair	Charles Markus	Bloomfield Twp.	Y
Treasurer	Rebecca Runkel	Novi	Y
Past Chair & Interim Treasurer	Brandy Siedlaczek	Southfield	Y
Counties			
Oakland Co. – Rep.	Jim Nash	OCWRC	N
Oakland Co. – Alt.	Jacy Garrison	OCWRC	Y
Washtenaw Co.- Rep.	Evan Pratt	WCWRC	N
Washtenaw Co.- Alt.	Heather Rice	WCWRC	Y
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.	Tom Rowland	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	Y
Middle 1 - Alt.	Rebecca Runkel	Novi	Y
Middle 3 - Rep.	Ramzi El-Gharib	Westland	N
Middle 3 - Alt.	Vacant	Dearborn Heights	N
Lower 1 - Rep.	John Selmi	Canton Township	Y
Lower 1 - Alt.	Vacant		-
Lower 2 - Rep.	Mike Buiten	Wayne	N
Lower 2 - Alt.	Jerome Bivins	Inkster	Y
Lower 2 - Alt.	Kathy Hood	Romulus	N

Others Present:

Annette DeMaria, Tennille Newsome, John O'Meara, Chris O'Meara - ECT Staff, Marie McCormick and Renato Marimón, Friends of the Rouge

A 501(c)(3) Organization – www.allianceofrougecommunities.com

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3. Friends of the Rouge Update

Marie McCormick wanted to thank the ARC for letting her come to the meeting today to give an update of the Friends of the Rouge's activities. Marie reported the following update:

- Annual Elections for Board Candidates is launching tonight. There are three new incumbent and two new pending. Marie stated if anyone is interested in attending the meetings to let her know and she will send out the link. Beginning next year, registration will be online.
- Kicked off the Yearend Appeal, \$62,000 was cleared last year.
- FOTR Brand and audit revision (logo, website and color palette) will include some changes. The new website will be live in Fall 2023
- FOTR will go through their second round of strategic planning in Fall 2023 and their last strategic planning was adopted in 2013. The existing strategic plan is available on their website under Organizational Documents.
- Rouge River Revived book was published and Annette DeMaria has a chapter in the book. There will be a panel discussion on Zoom on Thursday, November 17th from 7pm-8:30pm and is organized by the U of M Dearborn Environmental Center. If you order your book, you will get a 30% discount.
- The Rouge store is open and available for Spring plant and rain barrel sale.
- New Funding sources: FOTR received grant from Sustain our Great Lakes for \$338,000 for tree planting; grant from Community Foundation in Southeast Michigan for cross programmatic outreach and education.
- Wrapping up their last EGLE NPS 319 grant for \$48,000 to support closing out the park rain gardens.
- Staff: 10 full time; 5 part time; 6 independent contractors; Hiring 4 additional team members
- Presentation tour tomorrow at FOTR offices (11/10) for the ARC Executive Committee officers

Marie asked if there were any questions. Annette DeMaria asked if FOTR was going to continue having their board meetings virtual next year. Marie answered, she believed so and they are looking into getting a 360 camera.

Renato with FOTR gave an update on the Lower Rouge Reforestation project:

- 5,000 trees will be planted this spring; 30 acres need to be planted
- Weed mats installed
- Volunteer participation: 355 participants in 20 work days, 4 hours a day, 1,420 volunteer hours

John O'Meara stated the project Renato is giving is an update on an ARC AOC project and that Friends of the Rouge is the contractor that was selected for tree planting through the public process. There is 80 acres throughout the Lower Rouge.

Bob Belair asked if the trees are protected, Renato stated yes.

4. Additions or Changes to Draft Agenda

None.

5. Summary of July 25, 2022 Executive Committee Meeting

The motion was made by John Selmi, Canton, to accept the July 25, 2022 meeting summary. The motion was seconded by Bob Belair, Northville Twp, and passed unanimously.

6. Executive Director Report (ARC Staff)

a. MS4 Permit

Annette DeMaria reported that permit re-application is due April 1st. Following the last meeting, Annette received a copy from Heather Rice and the State of the draft application from Mi-Waters. That draft was sent out to the ARC. The 2023 budget requests will support the communities with the permit re-application, if approved.

Annette DeMaria asked Charles with Bloomfield Twp if they had their audit and Charles stated it will be the week of Thanksgiving. Karen Mondora reported Farmington Hills heard from EGLE on their adoption ordinance for post construction and want to schedule the adoption process.

b. GLWA Investigational Sampling Update

Annette DeMaria reported that there has been a lot of support for the program. This means there will be more *E. coli* sampling in the river and microbial source test tracking for human DNA in select stormwater outfalls to identify illicit discharges. This will directly support the MS4 permit. GLWA will not oversee this program. Rather, the work will be completed at the county level. Oakland and Macomb counties have already budgeted for the work. Annette met with Wayne County and they are supportive of the program for the area that serves the Rouge Valley Sanitary Sewer District - although it needs the approval of the District. Wayne County asked if the ARC would be interested in performing the services under an Interagency Agreement with the District. Annette is looking to the Executive Committee to see if there are any objections to such an Agreement. No objections were voiced.

Karen Mondora asked how much administrative effort would be and would it affect the ARC's budget. Annette stated they would cover it within the scope of work and that she sees no impact to the ARC budget.

Call for Projects

Annette discussed an interesting opportunity for communities who are interested in performing stream restorations. The State has recently begun enforcing stream mitigation rules resulting in developers needing to find mitigation sites for stream restoration. Mitigation sites require a conservation easement so eliminates County drains as potential mitigation sites (because the counties won't want to operate under an easement). The State is referring the developers to the ARC for mitigation sites.

As part a previous Call for Projects, Livonia brought forward to the ARC the Bell Creek/Denmar Drain project where they were looking for funding to naturalize a concrete lined stream. The site was inspected, and conceptual design developed in the hopes of funding the project through the Rouge River Area of Concern (AOC). AOC funding was not obtained, but this site is now being discussed as a potential mitigation site for a development in Van Buren Twp.

Karen Mondora asked if there were requirements of what areas could serve as mitigation sites. Generally, the State likes to keep the project in the same watershed. However, in more developed areas, the State will allow mitigation in neighboring watersheds. The State advises the developer where the site can potentially be located, and the length of stream needed. The site will also be part of a conservation easement.

Karen Mondora asked if the publicly owned land that they would need a conservation easement. Annette responded yes; she believes so.

Annette stated she will bring this information to the Full ARC to encourage municipalities to think about their needs.

c. Grant Report

John O'Meara reported the ARC has approximately 14 grants and 13 are with EPA. Grant funds with the projects total over \$10,000,000. The ARC just received two grants. One for the implementation at LTU in Southfield and one for the implementation at Phoenix and Wilcox Lake.

John O'Meara stated he took EPA on a tour to some of the grant projects in July. Since the tour, the EPA would like to look at connectivity /usage work in underserved communities that we are doing habitat projects in such as Inkster. John O. will send out the draft and will advise when a response is back from EPA.

Annette DeMaria reported the ARC is turning in a grant for the USDA Forest Service – Reducing Runoff in the Rouge River AOC – this is for additional trees and green infrastructure for Rouge communities. The grant is due Monday.

Annette and John reported on the PAC support grant. John stated the PAC support grant will be for the next three years and will mean more monitoring for Friends of the Rouge and the RRAC support that the ARC provides. It is in draft form and will go to the RRAC voting members to review and total is \$150,000 for three years.

7. Standing Committee Reports

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

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

Rebecca Runkel reviewed the A/R, A/P and profit/loss reports. Chris O'Meara reported there was no outstanding payables and that there were some members that had outstanding dues.

2021 Single Audit

Chris O'Meara reported the process for the 2021 Single Audit has been completed and a report is available to any member who would like to receive. Chris O'Meara also mentioned there were no instances of non-compliance and the ARC needed the Single Audit due to the amount of grant funds that the ARC is receiving.

The motion was made by Karen Mondora, Farmington Hills, to recommend to the Full ARC acceptance of the 2021 Single Audit as presented by the Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Jerome Bivens, Inkster, and passed unanimously.

Ratify E-mail Votes

Rebecca Runkel reported on the following email votes to ratify: There was no discussion.

- 9/6/22: 8 yay 0 nay - 2022 Policy revisions and creation of Personnel Policy and revisions to the ARC Accounting Procedures Manual for EPA and Office of Management & Budget compliance
- 9/22/22: 9 yay 0 nay - 2022 Budget Amendment adding \$5,008,595 in grant funds for EPA10 Wilcox/Phoenix Implementation and corresponding ECT Work Order in the amount of \$795,850 and \$810,000 in grant funds for EPA11 LTU wetland Implementation and corresponding ECT Work Order in the amount of \$147,810.
- 10/5/22: 10 yay 0 nay - Award construction contract for the Seeley Creek Restoration project to Anglin Civil

The motion was made by Karen Mondora, Farmington Hills, to ratify the email votes. The motion was seconded by Bob Belair, Northville Twp, and passed unanimously.

2023 Budget Recommendations

Annette DeMaria reviewed the 2023 budget recommendations and spreadsheet showing the request of \$418,944 for 2023. The recommendations are consistent with the 5 year plan and includes TC4 - Permit Reapplication Support.

The motion was made by Brandy Siedlaczek, Southfield, to recommend to the Full ARC the approval of the 2023 Budget Recommendations as presented by the Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Jerome Bivens, Inkster, and passed unanimously.

2023 ECT and FOTR Work Orders

Annette DeMaria reviewed the two Work Orders for ECT and FOTR. ECT's work order is in the amount of \$157,000 which covers TC4 and IDEP investigations. The Friends of the Rouge work order is for \$12,000 and includes a monitoring event, 1 volunteer work day and 1 rain barrel sale.

The motion was made by Jerome Bivens, Inkster to recommend to the Full ARC the approval of the ECT and FOTR Work Orders as presented by the Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Karen Mondora, Farmington Hills, and passed unanimously.

b. Organization Committee (N. Mullett/C. O'Meara)

Chris O'Meara reported that the EPA contacted the ARC and requested an update of the ARC's Policies and Procedures. Chris reported that the updated Policies and Procedures were sent out to the ARC members for approval, the vote passed. Chris O'Meara also reported the ARC is in compliance with the Policies and Procedures and is Pre Award Certified through the EPA/OMB until 2026.

In addition, Chris reported that Noel Mullett, Wayne County will be resigning from his position as Chair with the Organization Committee and then asked members for any volunteers to fill the position. Doug Moore volunteered and suggested Trisha Gabriel with Livonia.

c. PIE Committee (J. Garrison)

Jacy Garrison reported the following:

- Rouge Friendly Business practices brochure is being drafted and should be out to PIE Committee for review within the next few weeks.
- Once the brochure is set an ad graphic, newsletter article and traveling banner will be developed. Chris reported the vision of the new brochure will be geared towards Best Management Practices for businesses (in, around and under your building).
- Reminder to send Chris an email once your Rouge watershed road signs have been installed
- Collaborative PEP and PPP are being drafted for the 2023 permit reapplication with activities starting in 2024. Planned activities were approved by the PIE Committee at the meeting on October 3.
- Remember that ARC brochures and giveaways are always available to order from the ARC website under the ARC Member tab.

d. Technical Committee

Karen Mondora reported the following:

- IDEP training was held on October 19 and additional training is scheduled for November 9 at The HAWK Center in Farmington Hills via hybrid. There will be two modules hosted by SEMCOG.

Annette DeMaria reported that an illicit connection was found at St. Mary's Hospital in Livonia. The issue had been fixed and there is possibly another one. Karen Mondora asked if it was a missed connection. Doug with Livonia stated it was from the sanitary at the old emergency room and was tied to the hospital storm and going to the parking lot. A more detail technical committee report will be given to the Full ARC.

7. Report from Counties

Oakland County

Jacy Garrison, Oakland County reported the County's Stormwater Summit was held on October 21 at LTU with 160 attendees. Jacy stated the event was recorded and will be available on LTU's YouTube channel and if anyone is interested, she will send the link to Chris O'Meara. A second annual virtual Master Rain Gardener course in February/March of 2023 is being planned in partnership with Washtenaw County and area watershed councils, WCRC and OCWRC. Jacy will send out the information to Chris O'Meara for members to promote. Jacy mentioned that the 18th annual kids clean water calendar contest had over 700 entries with 42 schools. The calendars will be available in December with 5,500 printed. Jacy asked if you would like some calendars to distribute to let her know.

Washtenaw County

Heather Rice reported they are partnering with Oakland County for their online Master Rain Gardener program. The Master Rain Gardener handbook has been updated and is available online with links provided for rain barrels, etc.

John O'Meara reported Washtenaw County just received the implementation grant in the amount of \$5,000,000 for the Johnson Creek Intercounty Drain project. The project will be bid this winter.

9. Other Business

Nothing to report.

10. Summary of Executive Committee Actions

- The July 25, 2022 meeting summary was approved.
- The motion was approved to recommend to the Full ARC the acceptance of the 2021 Single Audit as presented by the Finance Committee.
- The motion was approved to ratify the email vote of 9/6/22 - 2022 Policy revisions and creation of Personnel Policy and revisions to the ARC Accounting Procedures Manual for EPA and Office of Management & Budget compliance; 9/22/22 - 2022 Budget Amendment adding \$5,008,595 in grant funds for EPA10 Wilcox/Phoenix Implementation and ECT Work Order and \$810,000 in grant funds for EPA11 LTU wetland Implementation and ECT Work Order; 10/5/22 - Award construction contract for the Seeley Creek Restoration project to Anglin Civil
- The motion was approved to recommend to the Full ARC the approval of the 2023 Budget recommendations as presented by the Finance Committee.
- The motion was approved to recommend to the Full ARC the approval of the 2023 ECT and FOTR Work Orders as presented by the Finance Committee.

11. Upcoming Meeting(s)

Chris O'Meara reported there is a Full ARC meeting on November 16, 2022 at 1:30 p.m. via Teams

12. Adjourn

The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Karen Mondora, Farmington Hills, and seconded by Jerome Bivens, Inkster. The motion passed.

ARC Executive Committee Attendance List

Meeting Date:

11/9/22

Name	Community	Attended	Initials
Belair Bob	Northville Township	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>BAR</u>
Bivins Jerome	Inkster	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>JB</u>
Buiten Mike	Wayne	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
DeMaria Annette	ECT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>AD</u>
El-Gharib Ramzi	Westland	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
Fellrath Patrick	Plymouth Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
Gabriel Trisha	Livonia	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
Garrison Jacy	Oakland County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>JG</u>
Hood Kathy	Romulus	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
Levine Emily	ECT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>EL</u>
Markus Charles	Bloomfield Township	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>CM</u>
Mondora Karen	Farmington Hills	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>KM</u>
Moore Doug	Livonia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>DM</u>
Mullett Noel	WCDPS	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
Nash Jim	Oakland County	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
Newsome Tennille	ECT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>TH</u>
Olsztyn Olivia	Bloomfield Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	—

Meeting Date: 11 / 9 / 22

Name	Community	Attended	Initials
O'Meara John	ECT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JO
Pratt Evan	Washtenaw County Water Resour	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Rice Heather	Washtenaw County Water Resour	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HR
Rohraff Don	Livonia	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Rowland Tom	Redford Township	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TR
Runkel Rebecca	Novi	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RR
Scappaticci Roberto	Romulus	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Selmi John	Canton Township	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JS
Siedlaczek Brandy	Southfield	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BS
Smith Jade	Canton Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Smrtka Barb	Farmington Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Staup Aaron	Novi	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Wilson Tom	Livonia	<input type="checkbox"/>	
McCormick, Marie	Friends of the Rouge	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MM
		<input type="checkbox"/>	
		<input type="checkbox"/>	
		<input type="checkbox"/>	
		<input type="checkbox"/>	