



Working together, restoring the river

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

December 4, 2008

City of Southfield Parks and Recreation Building

1:30 p.m. ~ 3:30 p.m.

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, Chairperson

T. Faas opened the meeting by thanking Gary Mekjian who has served as interim Chairperson since Kurt Giberson resigned in May 2008. Tim also welcomed the opportunity to continue to serve with Gary and now Jennifer, the ARC's first female officer.

2. Roll Call of Members

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

In Attendance:

Chair.	Tiim Faas	Canton Twp.
Vice-Chair	Gary Mekjian	Southfield
Treasurer	Jennifer Lawson	Troy
Past Vice-Chair	Wayne Domine	Bloomfield Township
Oakland County Alt.	Joseph Colaianne	OCDC
Wayne County-Rep.	Kurt Heise	WCDOE
Main 3-4 Rep.	Jim Murray	Dearborn.
Upper Alt.	Jim Zoumbaris	Livonia
Lower 1 Rep.	Bob Belair	Canton
Lower 1 Alt.	Dan Swallow	Van Buren Twp.
Executive Director	Jim Ridgway	ECT

Not In Attendance:

Upper Rep.	Tom Biasell	Farmington Hills
Middle 3 Rep.	Jack Barnes	Garden City
Middle 3 Alt.	Kevin Buford	Westland
Main 1-2 Rep.	Brandy Siedlaczek	Southfield
Main 1-2 Alt.	Meghan Bonfiglio	Bloomfield Twp.
Wayne County Alt.	Kelly Cave	WCDOE
Oakland County Alt.	Phil Sanzica	OCDC
Oakland County Rep.	John McCulloch	OCDC
Lower 2 Rep.	Ramzi El-Gharib	Wayne
Lower 2 Alt.	Tom Wilson	Romulus
Middle 1 Rep.	Jill Rickard	Northville Twp.
Middle 1 Alt.	Aaron Staup	Novi
Washtenaw County Rep.	Janis Bobrin	WCDC
Washtenaw County Alt.	Michelle Bononi	WCDC
Main 3-4 Alt.	Eric Witte	Melvindale

Others Present: Gary Zorza, Vice-Chair – Technical Committee; Zachare Ball – ECT Staff and Kelly Karll – ECT Staff

3. Summary of September 11, 2008, Executive Committee Meeting

A motion was made by Jim Zoumaris to accept the September 11, 2008 meeting summary. The motion was seconded by Bob Belair. Motion passed.

4. Additions or Changes to Draft Agenda

The following additions were made to the agenda: Under Executive Director's report, item (d) WMP presentation and (e) Draft 2009 Calendar of ARC meetings, and (f) DWSD status.

5. Executive Director Report (Ridgway)

a. Contested Case Update

J. Ridgway reported there has been no action on the contested permit case. He said the designated attorneys continue to request information from the ARC and communities. Kelly Karll reported that Beth Kudla, one of the five attorneys representing the communities in the administrative law hearing, asked for copies of the document ECT created that shows the discrepancies in what the EPA rules say about the permit and what the State is actually requiring in the permit. K. Heise indicated that Charlie Dunn, who represents Oakland and Wayne counties, come to the full ARC meeting and give an update to ARC members.

b. 501(c)3 designation

J. Ridgway reported that ECT staff is working on a 501(c)3 designation for the ARC, but that J. Colaianne questioned if the ARC is 501(c)3 eligible. J. Murray said the importance of getting the 501(c)3 designation is to solicit donations, but J. Colaianne said the ARC could start a foundation to solicit donations and get the not-for-profit designation for the foundation.

c. MDEQ Response on grant eligibility

J. Ridgway reported that based on a letter shown to him by Betsy Nightingale from MDEQ, MDEQ has decided that the ARC *is* eligible to apply for 319 grants. However, the ARC has not received that letter, which would be in response to a letter sent to MDEQ questioning its opinion that the ARC is not eligible.

d. Watershed Management Plan Update

Kelly Karll gave a powerpoint presentation overview of the draft Watershed Management Plan. The same presentation will be made to the full ARC on December 16 in Novi.

e. Draft 2009 Calendar

J. Ridgway distributed the draft 2009 ARC calendar for review.

f. DWSD Update

K. Heise reported that there was a hearing in Judge John Feikens' courtroom Tuesday (12/2). Attendees included the judge's representatives, Tom Lewand and Tim O'Brien, and Wayne, Oakland and Macomb Counties. K. Heise said the parties are very close to ending the 1977 DWSD lawsuit, which had included all the Rouge River Watershed communities. He said if the lawsuit ended, that would mean Judge Feikens would no longer have oversight of the activities in the Rouge River Watershed. It would also end any possible appeal the ARC communities could make to Judge Feikens about the contested storm water permit. He said if everyone agrees to the stipulations of the lawsuit, there would be a six month due diligence period. He said one result would be that a Directors' Council would be created to handle any water disputes through a dispute resolution process to avoid litigation. The members would be the Wayne, Oakland and Macomb County drain commissioners and DWSD. He said there is also a model sewer contract on the table that Wayne and Oakland counties could use for their sewer systems. He stressed that these negotiations are continuing.

6. Standing Committee Reports

a. Finance Committee

- i. 2008 Budget Status Report: J. Lawson directed the Executive Committee's attention to the attachments regarding the 2008 Budget report.
- ii. Final ARC 2009 Budget: J. Lawson reported that the attached 2009 Budget was approved at the September 23, 2008 ARC meeting. Wayne County is in the process of completing the 2009 dues invoices.
- iii. 2009 Interagency Agreement Update: The IAA has been signed transferring the fiscal responsibility from Wayne County to the ARC.
- iv. Fiscal Year 2010 DEQ Fee Proposal Storm Water Fees: J. Lawson reported that T. Faas wrote a letter to MDEQ on behalf of the ARC requesting the 50% fee increase proposed by delayed.

b. Organization Committee

K. Heise reported that there has not been an Organizational Committee meeting. He suggested that it might be a good time to re-approach the City of Detroit about becoming an ARC member. J. Ridgway said he would write a letter to the Mayor of Detroit inviting the City to become a member. K. Heise said that Kelly Cave had drafted a letter several years ago that could be used as a template. T. Faas said he is trying to compile materials to give to the full ARC that would be helpful in reaching out to potential members including the City of Detroit.

c. PIE (Public Involvement and Education) Committee

T. Faas announced that Brandy Siedlaczek, City of Southfield, was appointed as the PIE Committee Chair, replacing J. Lawson, who became Treasurer. B. Siedlaczek was unable to make the meeting, so J. Lawson gave the PIE report. She said that the PIE Committee had its last meeting for the year in October in Southfield. She said the Nutrient Reduction Media Campaign has been ongoing since the fall with ads on local cable television and in the newspaper. Z. Ball reported that a request for projects for the PIE Committee's 2009 Grow Zone initiative has been drafted and will be sent to ARC members the week of December 8, 2008. Proposed projects are due to the PIE Committee at the end of January. The Main 3-4 Measuring Our Success Poster is done and was distributed at Rouge 2008 on October 24, 2008. The WMP video was completed and distributed to about 15 communities. The rest will be distributed at the full ARC meeting.

d. Technical Committee

G. Zorza reported that the Technical Committee is creating an RFP for the CityGreen initiative for 2009. W. Domine made a motion for the committee to move forward with the RFP. J. Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed. The RFP will be advertised on the Michigan Intergovernmental Trade Network.

e. Grants Subcommittee

There was nothing to report

f. Nominating Committee (Heise)

K. Heise reported that the Nominating Committee has completed its work this year and asked that the committee be removed from the standing agenda.

7. Report from WCDOE

K. Heise said there was nothing to report.

8. Report from SWAGS

There was nothing to report.

9. Summary of Executive Committee Actions

- Approval of 9/11/08 Executive Committee Meeting Summary.
- The full financial package is to be sent to the full ARC.
- The WMP presentation will be made to the full ARC.
- A press release will be prepared to announce the public comment period has started for the WMP.
- A letter will be prepared inviting the City of Detroit to become a member of the ARC.
- The tree canopy RFP can proceed.
- The Executive Director will prepare a letter to the MDEQ regarding the proposed increase in storm water fees.
- The meeting summary for the Dec. 4, 2008 Executive Committee Meeting will be prepared.

10. Upcoming Meeting(s)

2008

- ARC Meeting: December 16, 2008, 1:30 p.m. at the Novi Civic Center.

2009

- PIE Committee Meeting, Canton Township, 1:30 p.m. January 15, 2009
- Technical Committee: City of Farmington Hills, 1:30 p.m. January 21
- Finance Committee, Location TBD, January 23
- Organizational Committee, Location TBD, February 3
- Executive Committee, Location TBD, February 15
- SWAG Meetings, Week of Feb. 9

11. Adjourn

The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by K. Heise. Seconded by J. Zoumbaris, Motion passed.

ARC Executive Committee Attendance List

Meeting Date: 12-4-08

<i>Name</i>		<i>Community</i>	<i>Attended</i>	<i>Initials</i>
Alsaigh	Razik	WCDOE	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
Ball	Zachare	ECT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ZB
Barnes	Jack	Garden City	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
Belair	Bob	Canton Township	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BB
Biasell	Thomas	Farmington Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JWC
Domine	Wayne	Bloomfield Township	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WD
El-Gharib	Ramzi	Wayne	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
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>
Karl	Kelly	ECT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	KCK
Lawson	Jennifer	Troy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JL
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 type="checkbox"/>	
Ridgway	Jim	ECT	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sanzica	Phil	Oakland County	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Staup	Aaron	Novi	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Swallow	Dan	Van Buren Township	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DS
Wilson	Tom	Romulus	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Witte	Eric	Melvindale	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Zorza	Gary	Farmington Hills	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ARZ
Zoumbaris	Jim	Livonia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JMZ