

John O'Meara, P.E.
Executive Director



DRAFT FULL ARC MEETING SUMMARY ALLIANCE OF ROUGE COMMUNITIES

December 2, 2024, 1:00pm – 2:30pm
Schoolcraft College VistaTech Center, Center Room VT500CD
18600 Haggerty Rd., Livonia

1. Welcome (Doug Moore, Chair)

a. Roll Call /Determination of Quorum - Roll call was taken. The 30 members listed below were in attendance, which was sufficient for a quorum.

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

Others in attendance were: Chris O'Meara, Tennille Newsome, John O'Meara, Emily Levine and Noel Mullett – ARC Staff; Ashley Flintoff, Sally Petrella, Kathryn Arnold - Friends of the Rouge (FOTR); Mark Hoeurf – MSU Ext DPFLI; Jack Cotrone, Christine Caddick, Lishba Varughese – EGLE; Dan Gold – GLWA; Kaitlyn Steeves – Arch Environmental Group; Erma Leaphart-Sierra Club; Priya Mohan – Dearborn; Nate Murphy - Washtenaw County Road Commission

b. Additions or Changes to the Draft Meeting Agenda

Chris O'Meara mentioned that Jen Tewkesbury was unable to attend in person for her presentation on BUI's Needed to Remove AOC Designation and will be presented at the next meeting.

c. Approval of June 13, 2024 Meeting Summary

The motion was made by Southfield, to approve the June 13, 2024, Full ARC meeting summary. The motion was seconded by Birmingham and passed unanimously.

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

2. Executive Director Report

a. Grant Status Report

John O'Meara reviewed the grant report that was included in the handouts to ARC members.

b. MS4 Permit Update

Noel Mullett reported the following:

- Modified and submitted revised collaborative PPP, PEP, IDEP and TMDL Plans to EGLE in August 2024
- Supported ARC members with EGLE audits and MS4 Permit Re-applications as needed in response to EGLE staff comments
- Initiated outfall dry weather screening planning and implementation work
- First season of Erb grant funding complete – 37 sites for 20 consecutive weeks throughout the summer and working with Wayne County in collecting the data they collected on the lower branch.

c. Call for Projects

John O'Meara reminded the members of the [form that is available on the ARC's website](#) if you have potential projects in your community that you would like the ARC to keep in mind when grant opportunity's open up.

3. Treasurers/Finance Committee Report

a. A/R, A/P and Profit/Loss Reports

Rebecca Runkel reviewed the A/R, A/P and profit/loss reports. Chris O'Meara reported that we are currently waiting on Village of Franklin's dues.

b. 2023 Single Audit

Rebecca Runkel reported that the 2023 single audit was completed with no issues of non-compliance and is included in the agenda packet. Chris O'Meara said if there were any questions to let her know.

The motion was made by Birmingham to accept the 2023 Single Audit as presented by the Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Oakland County, and passed unanimously.

c. Ratify E-mail Votes

Rebecca Runkel reported on the following email votes to ratify by the Full ARC:

- 8/27/24 - 9 yea and 0 nay: Budget amendment adding EPA15, GLRI grant in the amount of \$3,500,000 to the ARC with no match required along with the corresponding ECT Work Order. The project period is from October 1, 2024 – December 31, 2027. This new grant is for the Rouge River AOC – Inkster Park Wetlands and Fish Habitat Structures.

The motion was made by Birmingham, to approve the ratification the email vote of 8/27/24 as presented by the Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Farmington Hills and passed unanimously.

d. Budget Amendments

FC5 Rouge River AOC Habitat Restoration-Perrin Design, EPA16 adds \$400,000 with \$50,000 in 2024 budget and the remaining in future budgets.

The motion was made by Southfield, to approve the 2024 Budget Amendment adding FC5 Rouge River AOC Habitat Restoration-Perrin Design, EPA16 in the amount of \$400,000 with \$50,000 in 2024 budget and the remaining in future budgets as presented by the Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Birmingham, and passed unanimously.

e. Contract Revisions/Amendments

ECT Work Order 2024 Habitat ECT1, EPA16 Perrin Design

John O'Meara reviewed Work Order 2024-Habitat ECT1 for EPA16 Perrin Design which adds a maximum cost not to exceed \$400,000 to ECT's contract. This grant work is for fieldwork and design.

The motion was made by Livonia, to approve the contract amendment adding a not to exceed maximum of \$400,000 to ECT's contract for Work Order 2024-Habitat ECT1 as presented by the Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Troy, and passed unanimously.

f. Patton Park (Detroit) Grant

John O'Meara reported that the City of Detroit's Patton Park is listed as one of the AOC habitat projects. The City reached out to the ARC via letter and asked if the ARC would act as the fiduciary for the grant because they don't have the capacity or ability. The Executive Committee agreed that it would be beneficial to the watershed and agreed to act as the fiduciary if and when the EPA approves the project.

John O'Meara stated that it may allow for an open discussion with the City to become a member of the ARC now that there is formal contact. Setting up a meeting is the next step for discussion of any interest in membership.

g. 8-Year Plan and 2025 Budget Recommendations

Chris O'Meara stated the budget recommendations were in the handouts. These include the ARC's insurance, accounting and legal services, executive director services, PIE committee, and Technical committee activities.

The 8-year plan was updated based on Erb events and the rollover balance from the single audit. As discussed at the Finance Committee, ECT reduced their budget by \$10,000 for grants and took another \$10,000 to be reconciled back if the rollover from 2024-2025 is larger than anticipated to avoid "showing" a negative cash flow in future years.

PIE Committee items will include:

- Facebook posts; boosting
- New ad graphic
- New article
- Distribute posters to community organizations
- Displaying banners
- Distribution of homeowner education materials to organizations and communities
- Stewardship workshop through a community organization
- Promote volunteer activities; promote monitoring activities
- Near Perfect Media will promote ARC activities and projects through the media. Funding was paid in previous budgets.

Sally Petrella asked a question about BMP8 and if the ARC will be funding volunteer monitoring. Chris O'Meara stated no, the ARC will be promoting and supporting the activities. If an ARC member community hosts an event at their facility, that will go toward meeting their permit requirements.

Noel reported Technical Committee items will include:

- TC1 tasks: annual permit requirements which include updating GIS map
 - o Continue IDEP investigations
 - o Support regional IDEP training
 - o Support to the pollution complaint responses
- TC2 tasks: five year activities
 - o Bi-annual progress reports
 - o Outfall screening prioritization process and implementation
 - o TMDL wet weather screening
 - o 2025 – continue Erb funded work

The motion was made by Birmingham, to approve the 2025 Budget Recommendations as presented by the Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Rochester Hills, and passed unanimously.

h. Work Order 2025-ECT1

John O'Meara reviewed ECT's Work Order 2025-ECT1, which is for standard services, tech and PIE support, and collaborative plan work.

The motion was made by Birmingham, to approve the 2025-ECT1 Work Order as presented by the Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Livonia, and passed unanimously.

4. BUI's Needed to Remove AOC Designation Presentation – Jen Tewkesbury (EGLE)

Jen T. was unable to attend and the presentation will be given at the next meeting.

5. Standing Committee Reports

a. Organization Committee

Trisha Gabriel reported that in 2025 the ARC will develop a Whistle Blower Policy for the ARC to conform with the requirements to stay current with federal guidelines. Chris O'Meara mentioned this is associated with EPA grants and will need to be reviewed as part of OMB in 2026 for the ARC's pre-grant approval recertification.

b. PIE Committee

Jacy Garrison reported the following PIE activities

- Seasonal poster distribution – ARC Staff have contacted libraries in the watershed to distribute the ARC's seasonal posters to display in the library or handout to patrons.
- Public education materials in your communities – reminder that you should be placing your order for items throughout the year to be displayed in your facilities as part of your permit requirements.
- Article and ad graphic on flooding in the watershed was sent out for use by members on website, community newsletters and social media platforms.
- Mechanism to report pollution complaints or illicit discharges – this is a new requirement as part of your permit. Make sure you have a way for the public to report on your website.

c. Technical Committee

Tyler Sonoga reported the following:

- Still requesting any GIS updates, any cities that are updating their outfalls to make the data as clear as possible
- Held two IDEP trainings; the 2025 dates will be announced
- Dry and wet weather sampling has started. Asking for communities to provide assistance with dry weather. Any communities that are involved a streamlined process will be set up.
- Erb grant work will continue next year

d. Nomination Committee

Bob Belair reviewed the Officer Slate for 2025-2026:

- Doug Moore – Chair (Livonia)
- Charles Markus – Vice Chair (Birmingham)
- Rebecca Runkel – Treasurer (Novi)

The motion was made by Wixom, to approve the 2025-2026 Officer Slate as presented by the Nomination Committee. The motion was seconded by West Bloomfield, and passed unanimously.

5. Report from Cooperating Partners

Friends of the Rouge

Sally Petrella reported:

- New Executive Director is Ashley Flintoff
- If anyone didn't see the article in Detroit News about the Rouge, they should check it out
- Wrapping up field season
- Will send out reports when available
- Kathryn was hired as an intern under the Orin Gelderloos Leadership

Great Lakes Water Authority

Dan Gold reported GLWA is continuing working with USGS to continue their regional E.coli monitoring program that was part of their 2020 wastewater master plan. USGS is running behind schedule for installation. If anyone has any questions you can reach out to Dan.

6. Report from Counties

Oakland County

Jacy Garrison reported the following:

- 22nd Annual Rouge River Water Festival was held at Cranbrook Institute of Science in mid-September. There were over 1,300 students; 54 classes from 21 schools
- 20th Annual Kids Calendar Contest is going strong. 734 entries; 32 schools. More than half of the classes submitted were from the Rouge Watershed. The calendar will be ready in mid-December. If any member would like calendars, let Jacy know. 15 calendars automatically get sent to Oakland County communities.
- Virtual Master Rain Gardener's class in collaboration with Washtenaw County and several watershed councils will be January through end of February in 2025. Thursday's from 10:00am-3:00pm. Last year there was over 100 people who took the class. Jacy is looking for assistance to help promote through social media.

7. Report from EGLE

Lisha V. reported that Kathleen Sexton is now within a different division of EGLE and they hope to have a replacement by early next year. The stormwater utility bill was voted on and hope for ARCs continued support. John O'Meara encourages community member administrations to support.

Jack Cotrone stated the following:

- Non-Point Source grants for watershed councils are due this week
- 319 Implementation grant RRWMP – RFP to be released January 2025
- Request for targeted monitoring in 2025; The Rouge River is priority-based. This process will include being able to request EGLE staff to do monitoring

8. Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no public comments.

9. Other Business

None.

10. Summary of Actions of the Full ARC

- Approved for the Full ARC meeting summary of June 13, 2024
- Accepted the 2023 Single Audit
- Approved the 2025 Budget Recommendations
- Approved the 2025-ECT1 Work Order
- Approved the ratification of the email vote from 8/27/24
- Approved the 2024 Budget Amendment adding FC5 Rouge River AOC Habitat Restoration Perrin Design Grant (EPA16) in the amount of \$400,000 with \$50,000 in the 2024 budget and the remaining in the future budgets
- Approved the contract amendment adding ECT Work Order 2024-Habitat ECT1 Perrin Design with a maximum cost not-to-exceed \$400,000
- Approved the 2025-2026 officer slate

11. Adjourn

The motion was made by Birmingham to adjourn the Full ARC meeting. The motion was seconded by Troy and passed unanimously.

Alliance of Rouge Communities Attendance List

Meeting Date: 12/21/24

Name	Community	Attended	Initials
	Henry Ford College	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Wayne County Airport Authority	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Northville (OHM Eng.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Allen	Ashley	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Allen	Ashley	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Allen	Ashley	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Allen	Ashley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AA
Allen	Ashley	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Allen	Ashley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AA
Allen	Ashley	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Anjum	Humna	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Baldante	Steve	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SB
Ballnik	Dan	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Belair	Bob	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RB
Bivins	Jerome	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Boote	Marty	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Burton	Amy	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Byrd	Brad	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Byrd	Jim	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Cassady	Erin	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Coatta	Melissa	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MC
Craig	Bill	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Cullen	Patrick	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Danci	John	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Dib	Ali	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Domine	Mike	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Meeting Date: 12/2/24

Name		Community	Attended	Initials
El-Gharib	Ramzi	Westland	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Eudy	Charles	Farmington	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CE
Fellrath	Patrick	Plymouth Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Finlay	Scott	Troy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SF
Flintoff	Ashley	FOTR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ASF
Fogle	David	University of Michigan-Dearborn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JS
Gabriel	Trisha	Livonia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JH
Garrison	Jacy	Oakland County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JG
Gee	Sherri	Great Lakes Water Authority	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Gerlach	Adam	Plymouth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AG
Grantham	Katherine	SEMCOG	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Gray	Larry	Commerce Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Green	Steve	Schoolcraft College	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SG
Greene	Mike	Lathrup Village	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Grisamer	Kara	Oak Park	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	KG
Hanna	Karen	Friends of the Rouge	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Hartman	Laura	West Bloomfield Township	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LH
Hefner	Jason	Auburn Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Hysinger	Angela	Bloomfield Twp.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
James	Jay	Commerce Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Johnston	Neil	Village of Beverly Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Karll	Kelly	SEMCOG	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Keffer	Dean	Westland (OHM)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DK
Kozlowski	Alex	Bloomfield Township	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AK
Leach	Josh	Farmington	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Lear	Brad	Northville Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Levine	Emily	ECT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	EL

Meeting Date: 12/2/24

Name		Community	Attended	Initials
Luckett	Larry	Van Buren Twp.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RL
MacDonell	Matt	Washtenaw County Road Commis	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Malcomson	Kirk	Wayne	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	KM
Markus	Charles	Birmingham	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CM
Marten	Ken	Bingham Farms	<input type="checkbox"/>	
McCallum	Gerry	Orchard Lake Village	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AS
McGill	Lisa	Farmington	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Menzies	Eric	Walled Lake	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Michalak	Steve	Garden City	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Modica	Jeff	Schoolcraft College	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JM
Mondora	Karen	Farmington Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Moore	Doug	Livonia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DM
Mullett	Noel	ECT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NMJ
Nash	Jim	Oakland County	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Neary	Amy	West Bloomfield Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Newsome	Tennille	ECT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	tn
Ohman	Brad	Garden City	<input type="checkbox"/>	
O'Meara	John	ECT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JO
O'Neill	Jacob	Wayne County Airport Authority	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ordus	Larrie	Melvindale	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Palace	Paul	Bloomfield Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Parkinson	Lizz	Cranbrook Institute of Science	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Pesta	Chelsea	Walled Lake	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CP
Petrella	Sally	FOTR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Pollizzi	Tim	Rochester Hills	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TP
Porman	Chris	Plymouth	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Pratt	Evan	Washtenaw County Water Resour	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Meeting Date: 12/21/24

<i>Name</i>		<i>Community</i>	<i>Attended</i>	<i>Initials</i>
Randol	Kade	University of Michigan-Dearborn	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Rice	Heather	Washtenaw County Water Resour	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Rohraff	Don	Livonia	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ross	Cyndi	FOTR	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Rowland	Tom	Redford Township	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TR
Rudolph	Shane	Rochester Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Runkel	Rebecca	Novi	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RR
Rushlow	Jacob	Farmington Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Rushlow	Jacob	Farmington Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Saif	Sermed	Orchard Lake Village (Tri-Co. Eng.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Saums	Todd	Van Buren Twp.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Scappaticci	Roberto	Romulus	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Schmidt	Dave	Wayne	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DS
Schubert	Meg	Village of Franklin	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Schultz	Leigh	Southfield	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Selmi	John	Canton Township	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	B
Senkbeil	Sean	Redford Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Siddall	Sheryl	Washtenaw County Road Commis	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Siedlaczek	Brandy	Southfield	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BS
Sikma	Tim	Wixom	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SP
Smrtka	Barb	Farmington Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sonoga	Tyler	Farmington Hills	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TS
Stogiera	Jay	Henry Ford College	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Straub	Don	Romulus	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DS
Szczepaniak	Elizabeth	Melvindale	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Triplett	LaToria	Inkster	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Visel	Sarah	Plymouth Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Meeting Date: 12/2/24

<i>Name</i>		<i>Community</i>	<i>Attended</i>	<i>Initials</i>
Wilson	Jennifer	Oak Park	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Zdrowski	Michelle	Great Lakes Water Authority	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Meeting Date: 12/2/24

Name	Community	Attended	Initials
Nate Jessee	Road Commission Oakland	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NJ
Kaitlyn Steeves	Arch Environmental Inc	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	KS
Amara Saif	City of Orchard Lake	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AS
Mark Andrew Hoerauf	INSU Extension DPFLI	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MAH
Jack Corione	EGLE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JS
Christine Caddick	EGLE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CC
Wishu Varghese	EGLE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WV
Priya Mohan	City of Dearborn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PM
NATE MURPHY	WCRC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NM
Kathryn Arnold	Friends of the Forest	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	KA
Dan Gold	GLWA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	D.G.
Susan Thompson	Washtenaw County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ST
ERIC TUCKER	INKSTER/BENESH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ET
Erma Loaphart	DETROIT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	EL
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