

Annette DeMaria, P.E., PMP
Executive Director



DRAFT FULL ARC MEETING SUMMARY ALLIANCE OF ROUGE COMMUNITIES

April 6, 2023, 1:00pm – 2:30pm
Farmington Hills HAWK Center, Harrison Hall

1. Welcome (Doug Moore, Chair)

a. Roll Call /Determination of Quorum - Roll call was taken. The 24 members listed below were in attendance, which was sufficient for a quorum.

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

Others in attendance were: Sally Petrella - Friends of the Rouge (FOTR), Jack Cotrone, Lishba Varughese, Jessica Dimilio, Kathleen Sexton- EGLE, Chris O'Meara, Tennille Newsome, John O'Meara, Emily Levine and Annette DeMaria – ECT, Dan Gold – GLWA, Nate Jessee - RCOC

b. Additions or Changes to the Draft Meeting Agenda

There were no additions or changes to the agenda.

c. Approval of November 16, 2022 Meeting Summary

The motion was made by Livonia, to approve the November 16, 2022 Full ARC meeting summary. The motion was seconded by Rochester Hills and passed unanimously.

d. Salt Watch Program

Sally Petrella with FOTR shared the screen for her presentation on the Salt Watch Program. Some highlights were:

- Rouge River Bug Hunt Scores 2001-2023
- Stonefly 2002-2023
- Road salt history and characteristics

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

- Road salt downsides
- Road salt and watershed health
- Road salt limits
- Salt watch chloride readings – winters 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023
- Reducing salt use

Karen Mondora with Farmington Hills explained their city's procedures in reducing the amount of salt with using brine, anti-icing with pre-wet salt. Karen invited FOTR and others to visit their facilities to learn additional information. Karen agrees their needs to be more outreach with school districts, private parking lots on reducing the amount of salt. Annette DeMaria asked if there was a capital investment to switch over to brine. Karen responded no and the savings was invested into the equipment. Karen also mentioned the APWA does a lot of training at the annual snow conference. Sally was interested in the number of communities who already use brine and many communities raised their hands.

2. Executive Director Report

a. Executive Director's 2022 Annual Report

Annette DeMaria shared her screen for the presentation of the 2022 Executive Director's Report summarizing the 2022 activities. The 2022 Executive Director's Report can also be found on the ARC's website. Some highlights were:

- Grant funded projects (ongoing and completed)
- Advocacy/Partnerships
- Recognition of awards (Tamarack Creek, Johnson Creek Fish Hatchery and Certificate of Excellence – Michigan Natural Resources Commission)
- MS4 permits
- IDEP Initiatives: Investigations and Training
- Water Quality Sampling Results
- Public Education Initiatives
- 2022 PIE materials distributed

Annette asked if there were any questions, there were none.

b. MS4 Update

Annette DeMaria informed the Full ARC that 30 permit reapplications were submitted on time by April 1st. In addition, all of the collaborative plans for IDEP, TMDL, PEP and PPP were updated and submitted to EGLE prior to the deadline.

c. Investigational Sampling Update

Annette reviewed the status of the agreements that are in progress with the 3 sanitary sewer districts (Western Townships Utilities Authority-WTUA, Evergreen-Farmington Sanitary Disposal System-EFSDS and Rouge Valley Sanitary Disposal System-RVSDS). WTUA's board has approved the scope of work, pending approval of the other two sewer districts. At OCWRC's request (on behalf of EFSDS), the ARC provided a limited scope of work for 2023 to be in line with their annual budget. OCWRC recently provided approval of the proposal on behalf of EFSDS. RVSDS is still considering how the work can be contracted.

e. Grant Status Report

John O'Meara reported there is a grant update document in this meetings packet. John report summarized as follows:

- The ARC has approximately 11 direct funded grant projects that total over \$18,000,000.
- The ARC is also partnered with 2 other grants for around \$3,000,000.
- John reminded the members that the ARC is 501(c)(3) and also a governmental agency under state law which allows them to get direct funding to the ARC without competing.
- John mentioned there are some outstanding grant applications out: USFS Reducing Runoff for additional trees and three with the EPA's environmental justice initiative (working with WC Parks, City of Inkster, and Westland).

f. Call for Projects

John O'Meara reminded the members of the [form that is available on the ARC's website](#).

g. Great Lakes Restoration Celebration at The Henry Ford 9/22/23

Chris O'Meara informed the committee that the ARC will be sponsoring the 4th Annual Great Lakes Restoration Celebration at The Henry Ford on September 22, 2023. The Henry Ford, SEMCOG and ECT are providing in-kind services. This summit will showcase the restoration projects in Southeast Michigan. Attendees will be local, state and federal elected officials. Local watershed groups will be celebrated along with the work they are doing with GLRI funding. There is no cost to the ARC for the event. The ARC is asking ERB to sponsor the event, as well.

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.

b. 2023 Member Dues

Rebecca Runkel stated the first round of invoices went out previously and the next round of invoices will go out in May 2023.

c. Ratify E-mail Vote

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

- 12/13/22: 23 yay 0 nay – Officer slate 2023-2024 of Doug Moore-Chair, Charles Markus-Vice Chair, Rebecca Runkel-Treasurer

The motion was made by Oakland County, to approve the ratification email vote of 12/13/22. The motion was seconded by Birmingham and passed unanimously.

d. 2023 Budget Amendment

John O'Meara reviewed the 2023 budget amendment adding the new EGLE AOC PAC Support grant for RRAC facilitation and monitoring under account SPAC12. The grant award is for \$154,500 over three years with no match required. ARC staff activities include facilitation, web site development, Rouge dashboard updates. FOTR will provide monitoring and business activities like EJ work. This contract is pending contract signature approval by EGLE.

The motion was made by Farmington Hills, to approve the 2023 Budget Amendment adding SPAC12 for AOC PAC Support Grant for the RRAC activities as presented by the Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Rochester Hills and passed unanimously.

e. 2023 ECT and FOTR Work Orders

John O'Meara stated the two Work Orders for ECT and FOTR are pending contract signature approval from EGLE. ECT's work order 2023-2 is in the amount of \$54,500 which covers activities for the AOC PAC Support grant SPAC12. The Friends of the Rouge work order is for \$100,000 and includes activities related to the AOC PAC Support grant SPAC12.

The motion was made by Oakland County to approve the ECT Work Order 2023-2 and FOTR Work Order 2023-2, upon agreement signature, which adds the activities related to SPAC 12 RRAC Support Grant as presented by the Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Farmington Hills and passed unanimously.

f. 2024 Member Dues

Rebecca Runkel stated that the 2024 dues will have a 2% increase. The information is in the agenda packet.

4. Standing Committee Reports

a. Organization Committee

Trisha Gabriel reported that there have been no activities under the Organization Committee.

b. PIE Committee

Jacy Garrison reported the following PIE activities that are planned in 2023:

- 1 article and ad graphic
- 1 static display
- 1 workday (Canton) and rain barrel sale (Livonia) at an ARC community GI site (FOTR)
- Volunteer monitoring (FOTR)
- Final report/map for Ours to Protect watershed road signs. Chris O'Meara stated she is currently still waiting on some information from communities and to get her the information if you have not already. The signs need to be installed by communities by June 1 to meet permit requirements.

Jacy Garrison reviewed the [results of the 2022 public survey on water quality changes in the Rouge River](#) and informed the committee that it is available on the ARC's website. The overall results of the 2022 survey suggest that the ARC's focus should continue to educate the public on watershed and stormwater concepts and what they mean, encouraging activities the public can do to help protect the Rouge River, and promoting restoration projects and the continued improvement of water quality in the Rouge River.

Jacy Garrison reminded the group that the ARC banners are being reserved through the ARC website including the ARC General Information banner, ARC Proper Chemical Use and Disposal banner, and the new ARC Best Management Practices (BMPs) for Businesses in the Rouge banner.

c. Technical Committee

Karen Mondora reported that the collaborative IDEP and TMDL plans have been approved by the ARC and submitted to EGLE. These reports are available on the ARC's website. MS4 permit reapplications have been completed and submitted. IDEP investigations will be ongoing this year. The TMDL metric summary report is almost complete and will be available for ARC member review soon.

5. Report from Cooperating Partners

Friends of the Rouge

Sally Petrella reported:

- 2022 annual report is available on the website
- Annual meeting will be held virtually on April 13th
- Volunteer appreciation in person event on June 22nd
- New website development and hopes to be launched in fall 2023
- Upcoming events:
 - April is Earth month: Woody debris workday in Inkster and others
 - May is Rouge Rescue month
- FOTR store is open
- Marie McCormick joined John O'Meara and Patrick Judd in Washington DC
- Current projects with RRAC and ARC: AOC PAC Support grant to support fish and bug monitoring; continuing planting 13,000 trees in the lower rouge; FOTR is partnering with the AOC PAC Support grant to the ARC and their involvement with the pending ARC grant application for environmental justice projects in Inkster and Venoy-Dorsey.
- FOTR is working on a full watershed report card funded through the Erb Family Foundation
- Frog and toad surveys: there are 200 people surveying 200 blocks
- Erb Family Foundation is funding FOTR \$212,000 for cross programmatic outreach and education, asset mapping, community engagement while doing watershed wide assessment and working with AOC adjacent communities, trying to develop local stewards for the long term of the project after completion.

- FOTR received \$360,000 National Fish and Wildlife Federation grant making green stormwater infrastructure work for public spaces in southeast Michigan. With that, FOTR will be installing a rain garden in Redford and a natural playground at an elementary school in Dearborn.
- Invasive species work
- FOTR has a \$60,000 request into DNR fish and habitat partnership to do culvert inventories in the lower Rouge. This will help prioritize where projects that could be done to improve the river/fish.
- FOTR is growing with 4 new hires and now currently have 19 employees

Great Lakes Water Authority

Dan Gold reported GLWA is working with USGS to install monitoring equipment locations in the Detroit, Clinton and Rouge River watersheds. There are eight phase 1 sites and are currently on the USGS website. They are close to finalizing phase 2. GLWA is currently working on the regional E.coli monitoring program for GIS mapping. GLWA is also working on a couple pilot procedure projects. One with OHM for in situ monitoring equipment. GLWA is working with Wayne State University on perivial source tracking. Dan stated if there were any questions he can be reached at outreach@glwater.org.

6. Report from Counties

Oakland County

Jacy Garrison reported that Oakland County is updating their website so if members have links to pages they may need to be updated. Jacy also reported that their Regional Stormwater Summit will be held on October 13, 2023 at Lawrence Tech University.

7. Report from EGLE

Kathleen Sexton reported there were 30 Rouge MS4 reapplications received, and they are expected to be expedited with permit numbers staying the same. EGLE acknowledged receipt of the collaborative plans and they are in process of reviewing and approving. EGLE is currently doing permit evaluations and are in the field doing audits.

Jack with EGLE reported they have \$600,000 available to support general organizational administration as well as conservation and educational activities. Applications are due on May 17.

8. Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no public comments.

9. Other Business

There was no other business discussed.

10. Summary of Actions of the Full ARC

- The motion was approved for the November 16, 2022 Full ARC meeting summary
- The motion was approved for the ratification email vote of 12/13/22
- The motion was approved for the 2023 Budget Amendment adding SPAC12 AOC PAC Support Grant for the RRAC activities as presented by the Finance Committee
- The motion was approved for the ECT Work Order 2023-2 and FOTR Work Order 2023-2, upon agreement signature, which adds the activities related to SPAC 12, RRAC Support Grant as presented by the Finance Committee

11. Adjourn

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

Alliance of Rouge Communities Attendance List

Meeting Date: 4/6/23

Name		Community	Attended	Initials
		Wayne County Airport Authority	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Henry Ford College	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Northville	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Allen	Ashley	Birmingham (HRC)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Allen	Ashley	Village of Franklin (HRC)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AA
Allen	Ashley	Troy (HRC)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Baldante	Steve	Auburn Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ballnik	Dan	RRAC	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Barrett	Robert	Oak Park	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Belair	Bob	Northville Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Bivins	Jerome	Inkster	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JB
Boote	Marty	ECT	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Borton	Cory	Bloomfield Township	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CB
Bratschi	Pamela	Lathrup Village	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Buiten	Mike	Wayne	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Burton	Amy	Bloomfield Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Burton	Jamie	Bloomfield Hills (HRC)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Byrd	Jim	Wixom	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Byrd	Brad	Canton Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Cassady	Erin	Friends of the Rouge	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Coatta	Melissa	Birmingham	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MC
Conrad	Robert	Dearborn Heights	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Craig	Bill	RRAC	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Cullen	Patrick	WCESD	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Davis	Paul	Rochester Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
DeMaria	Annette	ECT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DD

Meeting Date: 4/6/23

Name		Community	Attended	Initials
Dib	Ali	Dearborn Heights	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Domine	Mike	Northville	<input type="checkbox"/>	
El-Gharib	Ramzi	Westland <i>Dean Keffe on behalf</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>DK</i>
Eudy	Charles	Farmington	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>CE</i>
Fellrath	Patrick	Plymouth Township	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>PF</i>
Finlay	Scott	Troy	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Fogle	David	University of Michigan-Dearborn	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Gabriel	Trisha	Livonia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>TL</i>
Garrison	Jacy	Oakland County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>JG</i>
Gee	Sherri	Great Lakes Water Authority	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Gerlach	Adam	Plymouth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>AG</i>
Gray	Larry	Commerce Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Green	Steve	Schoolcraft College	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Grisamer	Kara	Oak Park	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Hanna	Karen	Friends of the Rouge	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Hood	Kathy	Romulus	<input type="checkbox"/>	
James	Jay	Commerce Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Johnston	Neil	Village of Beverly Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Keenan	Shawn	Auburn Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Kozlowski	Alex	West Bloomfield Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Laird	Carrie	Birmingham	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Lamott	Bill	Village of Franklin	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Levine	Emily	ECT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>ESL</i>
Luckett	Larry	Van Buren Twp.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>LD</i>
MacDonell	Matt	Washtenaw County Road Commis	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Markus	Charles	Bloomfield Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Marten	Ken	Bingham Farms	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Meeting Date: 4/6/23

Name		Community	Attended	Initials
McCallum	Gerry	Orchard Lake Village	<input type="checkbox"/>	
McCormick	Marie	Friends of the Rouge	<input type="checkbox"/>	
McGill	Lisa	Farmington	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Michalak	Steve	Garden City	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Modica	Jeff	Schoolcraft College	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Mondora	Karen	Farmington Hills	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	KM
Montenegro	Sue	Lathrup Village	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SM
Moore	Doug	Livonia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A
Mullett	Noel	WCESD	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Nash	Jim	Oakland County	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Neary	Amy	West Bloomfield Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Newsome	Tennille	ECT	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ohman	Brad	Garden City	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	B.O
Olsztyn	Olivia	Bloomfield Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
O'Meara	John	ECT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	W
O'Neill	Jacob	Wayne County Airport Authority	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ordus	Larrie	Melvindale	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Parkinson	Lizz	Cranbrook Institute of Science	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Pesta	Chelsea	Walled Lake	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Petrella	Sally	FOTR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SP
Pollizzi	Tim	Rochester Hills	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TK
Porman	Chris	Plymouth	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Pratt	Evan	Washtenaw County Water Resour	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Queen	Ed	Wayne	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Randol	Kade	University of Michigan-Dearborn	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Rice	Heather	Washtenaw County Water Resour	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Rohraff	Don	Livonia	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Meeting Date: 4/6/23

Name		Community	Attended	Initials
Ross	Cyndi	FOTR	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Rowland	Tom	Redford Township	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RR
Runkel	Rebecca	Novi	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RR
Rutkowski	Kristin	Village of Beverly Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Saif	Sermed	Orchard Lake Village (Tri-Co. Eng.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SS
Saums	Todd	Van Buren Twp.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Scappaticci	Roberto	Romulus	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Schultz	Leigh	Southfield	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LS
Selmi	John	Canton Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Senkbeil	Sean	Redford Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Siddall	Sheryl	Washtenaw County Road Commis	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Siedlaczek	Brandy	Southfield	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sikma	Tim	Wixom	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Smrtka	Barb	Farmington Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sonoga	Tyler	Farmington Hills	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TS
Staup	Aaron	Novi	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Stogiera	Jay	Henry Ford College	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Szczepaniak	Elizabeth	Melvindale	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Tucker	Eric	Inkster	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Visel	Sarah	Plymouth Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Whitt	L. Dennis	Walled Lake	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Wilson	Tom	Livonia	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Zdrowski	Michelle	Great Lakes Water Authority	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Zeimet	Tom	Northville Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Meeting Date: 4/6/23

Name	Community	Attended	Initials
JENNIFER WILSON	OAK PARK	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JW
Olga MacDonald	Navi	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OM
✓ Kathleen Sexton	EGLE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	KS
✓ Nate Jesse (RCOC)	RCOC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NJ
Ashley Allen	Bingham Farms (HR)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AA
Emily Aulse	Tru	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ECA
Coley Almas	BLUENFIELD TWP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CA
Semred Smith	Orchard Lake	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SS
Tyler Songer	Farmington Hills	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TS
Dean Krefka	Westland	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DK
✓ Jessica Dimilia	EGLE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JD
✓ Lisha Vavughe	EGLE	<input type="checkbox"/>	LV
✓ Dan Gold	GLWA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	D.G.
✓ Jack Cotrone	EGLE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	J.C.
JAY JAMES	Commerce Twp	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JJ
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