



Working together, restoring the river

James W. Ridgway, P.E.  
Executive Director

**MEETING SUMMARY**  
**ALLIANCE OF ROUGE COMMUNITIES**  
**May 6, 2008**  
**Novi Civic Center**  
**45175 W. Ten Mile Rd., Novi, Michigan**

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  
Oakland County  
Oak Park  
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 – Kurt Giberson, ARC Chair**

K. Giberson began the meeting with acknowledging Oak Park as being a member of the ARC.

- a. Roll Call /Determination of Quorum** - Roll call was taken. The 33 members listed below were in attendance; sufficient for a quorum.

**The following were in attendance:**

Auburn Hills	Farmington Hills	Oakland County	Washtenaw County
Beverly Hills	Garden City	Plymouth Twp.	Wayne
Bingham Farms	Inkster	Pontiac	Wayne County
Birmingham	Lathrup Village	Redford Twp.	West Bloomfield Twp.
Bloomfield Hills	Livonia	Rochester Hills	Westland
Bloomfield Twp.	Melvindale	Southfield	
Canton Twp.	Northville	Superior Twp.	
Commerce Twp.	Northville Twp.	Troy	
Dearborn	Novi	Walled Lake	
Farmington			

**The following were not in attendance:**

Allen Park	Orchard lake	Van Buren Twp.	Wixom
Franklin	Plymouth	Wayne County Airport Authority	Ypsilanti Twp.
Oak Park	Romulus		

**b. Approval of December 12, 2007 Meeting Summary**

A motion was made by Jim Zoumbaris, Livonia, to approve the meeting summary. It was seconded by Tom. Biasell, Farmington Hills, and passed unanimously.

**c. Additions or changes to the Draft Meeting Agenda**

There were no additions or changes made to the draft meeting agenda.

**2. Treasurers/Finance Committee Report (Tim Faas - Treasurer)**

**a. Status of Alliance Invoice Payments**

Information was given on the payments. T. Faas stated that we have received 14% of

the ARC payments. He did note that not all of the invoices for 2008 have been mailed out. They go in two phases depending on when the community's fiscal year ends.

**b. Financial Status Report for 2008**

Information was given on the 2008 Budget/Expenditures Report. T. Faas did inform the ARC that he received a budget amendment request from the PIE Committee for an additional \$20,000 to conduct a fall fertilizer reduction advertising campaign for this fiscal year. There was a carryover from 2007 that was \$25,000 more than expected. T. Faas stated that he will bring this amendment to the Finance Committee on May 12 for review.

**c. Task Status Report for 2008**

The Task Status Report for 2008 was handed out for review.

**3. Executive Director Report**

**a. Executive Director Annual Report**

The Executive Director Annual Report was passed out for information.

**b. NPDES Phase II Permit Update**

**i. ARC position letter on the Phase II permit**

Jim Ridgway, Executive Director, informed the ARC that the permit is not out yet. The county drain commissioners, SEMCOG and others have been trying to work with the MDEQ on the major issues that they all have with the permit. J. Ridgway summarized the efforts to date with the MDEQ. J. Ridgway gave a brief summary of the ARC position letter on the Phase II permit. The ARC has three major complaints with the draft permit: 1) the amount of mapping and data collection requirements, 2) the amount of monitoring requirements, and 3) the post-construction runoff control requirements. The letter goes on to suggest six basic changes as follows:

-Limit the mapping, data collection and monitoring to outfalls that discharge to the waters of the state.

-Limit monitoring to flexible, but useful, data collection that is directly applicable to identifying and removing pollutant sources and/or statistically significant data that can be used to measure the success of the program.

-Allow permittees to develop and specify post-construction standards that are representative of permittee and watershed conditions.

-Seek MDEQ's support to modify the existing Michigan Storm Water Rules

-Revisit how TMDLs are addressed in the permit.

Accept the requirement to public notice all Storm Water Pollution Prevention Initiatives (SWPPIs)

There was a discussion regarding the continued efforts by both the ARC and the MDEQ to get a workable permit.

Jim Wineka, Oakland County Drain Commissioner's office, asked if the MDEQ has given any indication when the new permit will be out. J. Ridgway and Amy Mangus, SEMCOG, both said that the MDEQ has not given any date. J. Ridgway stated that some communities may file for a contested case hearing which would allow their current permit to remain in effect until the matter has been decided. Jill Rickard, Northville Township, asked if the ARC will represent the communities in a contested case. J. Ridgway stated that the ARC could look into that and that the

Counties are also looking at what they can do. J. Ridgway informed the ARC that at this point we are waiting for the MDEQ's next step.

J. Ridgway also informed the ARC that the position letter was reviewed and discussed by the Executive Committee. Washtenaw County Drain Commissioner Janis Bobrin had some concerns with the TMDL issue and J. Ridgway has since tried to address those issues in this draft of the letter.

The motion was made by Kurt Heise, Wayne County, to adopt the ARC Executive Director's letter to the MDEQ dated 4/28/08 as the ARC's position regarding the current draft NPDES Phase II Storm Water permit (4/11/08 draft). The motion was seconded by Wayne Domine, Bloomfield Township, and passed unanimously.

**c. Watershed Plan Update**

J. Ridgway reviewed the draft Public Participation Plan (PPP). Jennifer Lawson, Troy, noted that three public meetings are scheduled for June 12, 23 and 24.

The motion was made by Marshall Labadie, W. Bloomfield Township, to approve the PPP as submitted and authorize the ARC Executive Director to submit the PPP to the MDEQ for review and approval. The motion was seconded by W. Domine and passed unanimously.

**4. Rouge Program Office Report**

Kelly Cave, Wayne County, informed the ARC that the next round of grants (Round 9) will be available in the amount of \$1.5 million and would expire at the end of 2010. These would be for CSO/SSO and storm water projects. K. Cave will forward the information to Gary Zorza, Farmington Hills and chair of the Technical Committee, to have the committee review it. These will be due in July with the notice of award in September with the signing and executing of the IAAs following. Hopefully, she said, there will be more funding in 2010 in addition to this \$1.5 million.

K. Cave stated that the county was able to find funding to continue the monitoring of DO flow and temperature data this year at four locations in the Uper, Main, Middle and Lower Rouge. She stressed the importance of continuing to show progress in the watershed.

K. Cave informed the ARC that subgrants are ending this year and that some of the records do not need to be kept any longer. Wayne County will be sending a letter informing communities which projects they need to retain documentation for and which can be discarded.

K. Cave stated that the RREMAR is available on the Rouge website. She suggested that the document would be helpful when preparing the watershed plan updates.

K. Cave stated that Wayne County is getting ready to publish the 2007 Rouge Program Office annual report. This will summarize the projects that are using grant funding, their successes, and progress that has been made. This will be forwarded when it is available.

**5. Standing Committee Reports**

**a. Organization Committee**

**i. Strategic Plan**

K. Heise informed the ARC that the Strategic Plan has been reviewed by the ARC since the last meeting and is ready for approval. Shawn Keenan, Auburn Hills, expressed his concern with the effort to investigate having one permit for the

watershed. After a discussion it was decided that the document would be amended to say a single permit “could” (instead of would) be investigated. J. Lawson made the motion to approve the Strategic Plan with the amendment. The motion was seconded by J. Rickard and passed unanimously.

**ii. Nominating Process Policy**

K. Heise reviewed the nominating process policy and informed the ARC that it was reviewed by the Executive Committee. The motion was made by Michelle Bononi, Washtenaw County Drain Commissioner’s office, to adopt the nominating process policy as submitted. The motion was seconded by S. Keenan and passed unanimously.

**iii. Purchasing Policy**

K. Heise reviewed the draft purchasing policy stating that much of it was taken from Van Buren Township’s purchasing policy. The motion was made by D. Dembiec, Birmingham, to adopt the purchasing policy as submitted. The motion was seconded by T. Biasell and passed unanimously.

**b. PIE Committee**

J. Lawson report that the PIE Committee reviewed the PPP. The PIE Committee has put the Household Hazardous Waste guide on the ARC website. This is an interactive PDF that can be downloaded. The PIE is also redesigning the website and hopes to have it completed by the end of May. The Main 3-4 poster is scheduled to be completed for the Rouge 2008 event in the fall. J. Lawson also informed the ARC that they are drafting a septic system reminder card or magnet. The next PIE Committee meeting is scheduled for July 10 at Howard Knorr’s home in Beverly Hills. .

**c. Technical Committee**

G. Zorza informed the ARC that the next meeting will be May 12 in Farmington Hills and expected agenda items will be the watershed management plans, a monitoring plan and developing a working group to investigate pursuing coverage under one Phase II permit.

**d. Grants Committee**

Nothing to report at this time.

**6. Public Comment**

Friends of the Rouge stated that the annual Rouge Rescue will be held on June 7 and that flyers were available.

L. Dean informed the ARC that the Oakland Conservation District is selling rain barrels and that flyers were available.

**7. Summary of Actions of Full Alliance**

- The December 12, 2007 meeting summary was approved.
- The ARC position letter regarding the Phase II permit was accepted.
- The ARC Public Participation Process was adopted.
- The ARC Strategic Plan, with corrections, was adopted.
- The ARC Nominating Process Policy was adopted.
- The ARC Purchasing Policy was adopted.

**8. Upcoming Meeting Schedule**

- Main 3-4 SWAG Meeting Dearborn DPW May 7, 2008 1:30 p.m. (cancelled)
- Middle 3/Lower 2/Main 3-4 SWAG Meeting Livonia DPW May 8, 2008 1:30 p.m.

- Finance Committee Wayne County DOE, Commerce Court, Wayne May 9, 2008 1:30 p.m.
- Technical Committee City of Farmington Hills May 12, 2008 9:30 a.m.
- Middle 1/Lower 1 SWAG Meeting, Northville Twp. Hall, June 5, 2008 9:30 a.m.
- Main 1-2 SWAG and Upper SWAG Meeting, Farmington Hills, June 10, 2008 1:30 p.m.

**9. Adjourn**

K. Giberson informed the full Alliance that he will be retiring at the end of the month and expressed his thanks for the wonderful work that the ARC has done and will continue to do. J. Ridgway thanked K. Giberson on behalf of the full Alliance for all his years of service in keeping the ARC on the right track.

The motion was made by J. Zoumbaris to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by S. Keenan and passed unanimously.