

Annette DeMaria, P.E., PMP
Executive Director



DRAFT FULL ARC MEETING SUMMARY ALLIANCE OF ROUGE COMMUNITIES

August 11, 2022, 1:00pm – 2:30pm
Microsoft Teams

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

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	N	Oakland County Road Commission	Y
Bingham Farms	Y	Oak Park	Y
Birmingham	N	Orchard Lake	Y
Bloomfield Hills	N	Plymouth	Y
Bloomfield Twp.	Y	Plymouth Twp.	Y
Canton Twp.	Y	Redford Twp.	Y
Commerce Twp.	Y	Rochester Hills	Y
Dearborn Heights	N	Romulus	N
Farmington	N	Schoolcraft College	N
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	Y	Walled Lake	Y
Lathrup Village	Y	Washtenaw County	Y
Livonia	Y	Wayne	Y
Melvindale	N	Wayne County	N
Northville	N	Wayne County Airport Authority	Y
Northville Twp.	Y	West Bloomfield Twp.	Y
Novi	Y	Westland	Y
		Wixom	Y

Others in attendance were: Marie McCormick, Renato Marimon - Friends of the Rouge (FOTR), Jack Cotrone, Lishba Varughese- EGLÉ, Hassan Sheikh - City of Dearborn, Leah Medley - EPA, Charles Humphriss, Chris O'Meara, Tennille Newsome, John O'Meara and Annette DeMaria – ECT, Erma Leaphart and Bill Craig,

b. Additions or Changes to the Draft Meeting Agenda

There were no additions or changes to the agenda.

c. Approval of March 24, 2022 Meeting Summary

The motion was made by Novi, to approve the March 24, 2022 Full ARC meeting summary. The motion was seconded by Northville Twp and passed unanimously.

2. Executive Director Report

a. MS4 Update

Annette DeMaria reported that most communities in the Rouge will have to reapply for the permit on April 1, 2023, which should be more of a simple process. Annette reviewed the need

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

for support from ARC staff so it can be included in next year's budget. Annette reported there was a draft/template application from Washtenaw County as a guide. Annette asked EGLE if that would be a good approach - to use Washtenaw County.

Annette also advised ARC members if they receive a letter from EGLE regarding auditing to contact ARC staff for support.

Monsanto PCB Settlement

Annette reported she emailed ARC members information early last month regarding a \$550 million class action settlement that includes MS4 permittees that have PCB impairments in their watershed. ARC communities will be eligible for a portion of those funds. All ARC members are listed in the class action lawsuit as class members, except the townships. The lead attorney for the settlement was asked why Michigan Townships were excluded while townships in other states were included. The attorney indicated that 1) the State of Michigan does not report Charter Township populations separately in the U.S. Census, and 2) Charter Townships are not identified specifically in the settlement class definition (although townships are included). Annette contacted SEMCOG who indicated that the State's don't have a role in reporting population data to the Census, and that SEMCOG obtains population for townships from the Census just like they do for cities. Therefore, Annette encourages the Charter Township representatives to talk to their attorneys to see if they want to take any action. Annette stated as of now the cities do not need to do anything. Annette asked if there were any questions.

Patrick asked how much communities could potentially receive because that could play a part in how much Charter Townships look into it. Annette stated their potential allocation would be \$27,000 per community/permittee (this was later corrected to \$17,000). Bob Belair asked if Annette could get a memo stating that information for him to send to the Michigan Township Association (MTA) to respond formerly as a joint group. Annette agreed and stated she would email the response received along with the class action notice to the Charter Township representatives.

b. Grant Status Report

Annette DeMaria reported the following on John O'Meara's behalf:

EGLE PAC Support Grant

- FOTR is doing the fish surveys this summer
- Draft Bylaws have been developed
- Meetings organized and held
- Grant ends August 2023

EPA Wayne County Henry Ford Estate Dam Fish Passage

- Contractor is conducting vegetation maintenance.
- Partial opening of the fishway will be done this summer. Full opening will occur in July/August 2023.
- Protective fencing will be reinstalled along the fishway. Pedestrian barriers will be in place at the maintenance bridge and under the road through this October.
- Contractor will be working to remove sediment deposition within the channel.
- Working on social media to get message out about public assistance in helping the site get established by not entering the project area.

EPA Johnson Creek Fish Hatchery and Tamarack Creek Restoration Implementation

- Fish Hatchery - Contractor working vegetation maintenance and some punch list items this summer
- Tamarack - Contractor performing final site work and vegetation maintenance.

EPA Seeley Creek Habitat Restoration

- Coordination with Oakland County for Contract Document Approval and easement development
- Anticipated bidding here in July (or early August)

EPA Colonial & Venoy Restoration

Colonial

- Construction work started in June
- Phrag treatments conducted
- Grading for wetland/wet meadow areas done
- Plantings this early fall

Venoy

- Construction work started end of June
- Clearing work started

EPA Wayne County Parkland Implementation

Sherwood Restoration

- Construction work started June
- Clearing and invasive work completed
- Grading for wetlands
- Native seeding in riparian area done
- Plantings to be completed late summer

Bell Restoration

- Construction work started end of June
- Clearing and access work started

Lola Restoration

- Construction work started end of June
- Site grading ongoing

Lower Rouge

- Reforestation work on pause to be completed next spring 2023
- Lower Rouge Log Jams work has been completed

Riverview Restoration

- Anticipation of bidding project for construction late this fall 2022.

EPA LTU Wetland Habitat Restoration Design

- Design has been completed and EGLE permit application package submitted
- Construction bidding anticipated for later fall with construction in 2023

EPA Wilcox/Inkster/Phoenix Restoration Design

Wilcox Lake Restoration

- Survey work completed
- Wetland field assessment completed
- Tree identification to be done July
- Fish monitoring to be done in July
- Design is underway and initial concept layout complete
- Construction bidding anticipated for winter with construction in 2023

Phoenix Lake Restoration

- Survey work completed
- Wetland field assessment completed
- Design is underway and initial concept layout complete
- Construction bidding anticipated for winter with construction in 2023

Inkster Restoration

- Survey work completed
- Wetland field assessment completed
- Design is underway and initial concept layout complete

USDA Forest Service – Reducing Runoff in the Rouge River AOC

- Requested extension granted by USDA
- Communities in process of acquiring trees for planting
- Some communities decided not to plant so redistribution of some trees to others
- Green Infrastructure design and implementation underway

Regional Investigational Monitoring Work Plan for Southeast Michigan

- Monitoring plan and budget drafted
- Completed outreach to several sanitary sewer districts and GLWA leadership
- Evaluating cost allocation options

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

c. Lower Rouge Reforestation Presentation

Renato Marimon with FOTR and Charles Humphriss with ECT gave a project presentation on the Lower Rouge Reforestation project. Charles shared his screen and provided background information on the project. Highlights of the presentation were:

- Project vicinity including Wayne, Westland and Inkster communities
- Project funding through EPA/GLRI: project was divided into two projects. One for Lower Rouge Logjams which is being handled by Inland Lakes Landscaping and one for Lower Rouge Reforestation which is being handled by Friends of the Rouge
- Project goals: improve wildlife habitat that was lost to the emerald ash borer; 80 acres of improve riparian forest habitat

Renato Marimon shared his screen and provided implementation information on the project and highlights were:

- Project location
- Work Summary to date of trees planted and number of acres of planted areas in open areas and forested areas
- Native species were planted and additional trees are scheduled for Spring 2023
- Volunteer participation: 355 participants in 20 work days, 4 hours a day, 1,420 volunteer hours
- Media coverage and marketing: TV news/interviews, social media and E-news (Rouge Rundown)
- Volunteer training on introduction to the projects, planting methodology by FOTR
- Plantings areas were in Inkster Park, Colonial Park, Inkster Valley Golf Course, Venoy Road, Dynamite Park and residential areas by Newburgh Road and John Hix Road.
- Next Steps of the project: Weed mats to be installed this summer 2022, 30 acres of land will be reforested during the spring 2023, a total of 4,467 native trees are to be planted.
- Acknowledgements: ARC, WCP, Canton Township Public Works and Volunteers

Annette asked if the protection tubes around the tree are biodegradable or do they need to be removed later. Renato indicated they would need to be removed in 2-3 years. Annette asked if there were any questions, there were none.

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. 2022 Member Dues

Chris O'Meara reported there are still communities with outstanding dues and if a new copy of the dues invoice is required to get with her.

c. Final 2020 Census and 2023 Dues

Chris O'Meara shared screen of a final spreadsheet regarding the census data and how the dues were calculated for members to review. At the next Full ARC meeting the new 2023 dues will be included in the 2023 budget for voting. Chris stated that if there were any questions to let her know.

d. Ratify E-mail Vote

Rebecca Runkel reported on the following email votes to ratify:

- 6/7/22: 26 yay 0 nay – Extension and budget amendment for SPAC11 – RRAC 2020-2022 Support adding \$33,500 to bring the grant total to \$128,500 and the grant is extended to 8/31/22. This also included contract work order amendments for ECT and FOTR.

The motion was made by Auburn Hills, to approve the ratification email vote of 6/7/22. The motion was seconded by Northville Twp and passed unanimously.

e. 2022 Budget Amendment

Rebecca Runkel sought approval for the amendment adding \$77,000 to the 2022 budget for continued construction oversight/field engineering services for the construction of the Henry Ford Estate Dam Fishway.

The motion was made by Northville Twp, to approve the FC2 WCEPA1 budget amendment adding \$77,000 for a total budget of \$493,000. The motion was seconded by Auburn Hills and passed unanimously.

f. 2013 ECT Contract Amendment

Rebecca Runkel sought approval for the ECT 2013 contract amendment for Revision 3 to Appendix M adding the \$77,000 associated with the WCEPA1 budget amendment.

The motion was made by Auburn Hills, to approve Revision 3 to Appendix M adding \$77,000 to the 2013 ECT Contract Amendment . The motion was seconded by Northville Twp and passed unanimously.

4. Standing Committee Reports

a. Organization Committee

Nothing to report.

b. PIE Committee

Jacy Garrison reported the following:

- ARC survey is active on Water Quality Changes in the Rouge River to help direct our future activities, ends September 30 – please share on your communities Facebook. It has reached almost 6,000 just through Facebook. We have received almost 3,000 responses to the survey with initial responses showing success with our Collaborative PEP activities. For example, in 2017 32% of people surveyed thought they lived in a watershed (the rest said they didn't or didn't know), in 2022 75% of people think they live in a watershed! Progress as this was one of our main message we were trying to get across to people that they ALL live in a watershed.
- PIE materials available and banners available to schedule – get with Tennille
- Ours to Protect watershed signage, getting a few stragglers to provide where they are going to install the signs – once we have that signs will be ordered, then delivered to communities. 6 communities do not have the staff to install their signs so Oakland County will do theirs for a fee and an outside vendor will install the ones in Wayne County as Wayne County declined to install their communities. Chris O'Meara added that communities should have received an email asking for contact person, name, email and address of where to deliver the signs. The signs will be delivered to communities within the coming weeks.

- We will be preparing a new brochure, article, ad graphic and traveling banner educating commercial/industrial/educational/institutional entities (permit requirement) that will be available to distribute and display at their facilities.
- Will be polling ARC Members on potential PIE activities in preparation for drafting the next permit cycle's Collaborative PEP which is due spring 2023 to the state.

c. Technical Committee

Karen Mondora reported the following:

- The collaborative IDEP and TMDL annual permit activities and investigations:
 - Collaborative IDEP progress report was completed and submitted to communities to provide to EGLE
 - IDEP investigations are continuing BV51 in Beverly Hills. CCTV inspection video is being reviewed.
 - Assisting Livonia with their investigations around St. Mary's Hospital
 - Assisting Plymouth with their investigations into a possible connection on Holbrook Street
- TMDL sampling is continuing and more data collection is still needed

5. Report from Cooperating Partners

Friends of the Rouge

Marie McCormick reported the following:

- FOTR will host their Heart of the Rouge fundraiser tonight that starts at 5:00 pm at the Phoenix Mill. Annette reported for Marie that ARC members are invited to the event.
- There are updates through their e-newsletter and feel free to sign up.

6. Report from Counties

Oakland County

Jacy Garrison reported the County's Stormwater Summit is scheduled for October 21 at LTU. A save the date will be coming. She also shared that the Rouge River Water Festival at Cranbrook is set for September 13-16 and that Oakland County is still looking for presenters and if interested reach out to Jacy or Chris O'Meara. She reported that the 18th annual kids clean water calendar contest will be underway soon to 4th and 5th graders. Entries will be received from September through October 7th. Jacy would like communities to assist in promoting.

Washtenaw County

Heather Rice reported Washtenaw County is in the planning phase for next year rain gardeners course working collaboratively with Friends of the Rouge. An in person course will be in the spring and information will follow. The Conservation District for Washtenaw County is opening their fall tree and native plant sale on August 15th and trees come in September 30th.

7. Report from EGLE

Lisha reported on the abbreviated MS4 application that she would send an example to Annette for permittees. Lisha also reported they are performing their audits and inspections throughout the Warren District office coverage area. EGLE is still in the process of reviewing post construction ordinances. Lisha said if there were any questions to reach out to her.

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 the March 24, 2022 Full ARC meeting summary
- The motion was approved the ratification email vote of 6/7/22 with 26 yay 0 nay for extension and budget amendment for SPAC11 – RRAC 2020-2022 Support adding \$33,500 to bring the grant total

to \$128,500 and the grant is extended to 8/31/22. This also included contract work order amendments for ECT and FOTR.

- The motion was approved the 2022 Budget Amendment FC2 WCEPA1 adding \$77,000 to the 2022 budget for a total of \$493,000.
- The motion was approved the ECT 2013 Contract Amendment Revision 3 to Appendix M adding \$77,000 for a total budget of \$493,000 for work associated with WCEPA1.

11. Adjourn

The motion was made by the Auburn Hills, to adjourn the Full ARC meeting. The motion was seconded by Commerce Twp and passed unanimously.