

## **Meeting of the ROMA Board**

**February 23, 2014**

**AMO Office  
200 University Avenue, Suite 801  
Toronto, Ontario**

**9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**

### **MINUTES**

#### **PRESENT:**

##### **ROMA Executive:**

ROMA Chair Ron Eddy, Mayor, County of Brant (Zone 3)  
Past Chair Bill Vrebosch, Mayor, Township of East Ferris (Zone 9)  
First Vice-Chair Doug Thompson, Councillor, City of Ottawa (Zone 8)  
Second Vice-Chair Chris White, Warden, County of Wellington (Zone 2)

##### **Zone and AMO Rural Caucus Representatives**

Bill Bilton, Mayor, Township of Dawn-Euphemia (Zone 1)  
Bill Davis, Deputy Reeve, Township of Dysart et al (Zone 5)  
Roy Hardy, CAO, Municipality of South Huron (AMO Rural Caucus)  
Ronald Holman, Mayor, Township of Rideau Lakes (AMO Rural Caucus)  
Eleanor Renaud, Councillor, Township of Elizabethtown-Kitley (Zone 7)  
Jim Sheedy, Councillor, Township of Laurentian Valley (Zone 6)  
Allan Thompson, Councillor, Town of Caledon (Zone 4)

##### **Staff:**

Pat Vanini, AMO Executive Director  
Nancy Plumridge, ROMA Executive-Treasurer  
Monika Turner, AMO Director of Policy  
Lorna Ruder, AMO Executive Assistant

##### **Also in attendance:**

AMO President Russ Powers, Councillor, City of Hamilton

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1. Chair's Welcome

Chair Ron Eddy welcomed Board members to the meeting and to the conference.

2. OGRA President

OGRA President Joanne Vanderheyden and Executive Director Joe Tiernay welcomed the ROMA Board to the conference. President Vanderheyden presented Chair Eddy with a cheque from the conference proceeds. Executive Director Joe Tiernay provided a conference update.

3. Declaration

- Pecuniary interest – none
- Early departure – none

### **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

4. ROMA Board Minutes January 17, 2014

**Moved by: Bill Vrebosch**  
**Seconded by: Jim Sheedy**

***"That the minutes of the ROMA Board meeting held January 17, 2014 be approved as circulated."***

**CARRIED**

5. Executive-Treasurer's Report

Nancy Plumridge reviewed the unaudited 2013 year-end financial statements and the January 2014 profit and loss statement.

**Moved by: Roy Hardy**  
**Seconded by: Eleanor Renaud**

***"That the Executive Treasurer's Report be received."***

**CARRIED**

6. Change of May 8, 2014 meeting date

Due to various scheduling conflicts the ROMA Board agreed to meet on April 29, 2014 instead of May 8, 2014. The ROMA Board also agreed that if the agenda is

light, the meeting may be held via conference call, or cancelled, at the call of the Chair.

**Moved by: Eleanor Renaud**  
**Seconded by: Chris White**

***“That the May 8, 2014 meeting date be changed to Tuesday, April 29, 2014.”***

### **CARRIED**

#### 7. Briefing on Key Issues

Pat Vanini reviewed the briefing materials on key issues for the ROMA conference: OPP Billing Model; Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund; Joint and Several Liability; Small, Rural, Northern Municipal Infrastructure Fund; Provincial Policy Statement; Planning Act Review; and energy concerns.

Roy Hardy said that the material went beyond the conference and would be incorporated as part of ROMA’s communications strategy, and website updates. He will work with Director of Policy Monika Turner and AMO staff on this.

### **RECEIVED**

## **POLICY ITEMS**

#### 8. Joint and Several Liability

Monika Turner provided an update on the Attorney General’s willingness to explore some version of limited proportionate liability where a plaintiff has some negligence, noting that this needs to be a legislative priority.

**Moved by: Bill Vrebosch**  
**Seconded by: Bill Davis**

***“That the report be received.”***

### **CARRIED**

#### 9. Requests for ROMA Endorsement

Monika Turner reviewed two requests from researchers seeking endorsement/support for projects:

- Project 1: Climate Change and Rural Emergency Preparedness in Ontario
- Project 2: The implications of approval of developments in rural Ontario that are serviced by privately operated sewer and water services

**Moved by: Roy Hardy**  
**Seconded by: Eleanor Renaud**

*"That ROMA, by letter, confirm that it cannot support Project 1;*

*That ROMA, by letter, advise that Project 2 is of interest, and requests John Fitzgibbons to give a presentation at the April 10, 2014 ROMA Board meeting."*

**CARRIED**

10. Policy Update

In addition to the issues outlined in the memo before the board, providing an update on Community Attractiveness Indicators for Newcomers, and Loss of Agricultural Land Study, Monika Turner provided an update on waste issues, the Prompt Payment Act, and others being tracked by the AMO policy team.

**Moved by: Roy Hardy**  
**Seconded by: Allan Thompson**

*"That ROMA write to the Standing Committee on Regulations and Private Bills, and to the leaders of the three Ontario provincial parties, outlining the potential negative impacts of the bill on municipalities, other public sector organizations, provincial government ministries and agencies, and potentially residents and homeowners."*

**CARRIED**

11. OPP Update

See item 7.

**REPORTS OF AMO and ROMA COMMITTEES**

12. i) Human Wildlife Conflict Group

No report.

ii) Drainage Working Groups

Bill Bilton provided an update, noting that after a long hiatus, the Drainage Action Working Group would meet March 13, 2014.

- ii) Rural Ontario Institute (ROI)  
No report.
- iii) Bobolink Working Group  
Allan Thompson provided an update. He will forward a letter to Monika Turner.
- iv) Greenbelt Consolidation Policy Group  
Allan Thompson provided an update.
- v) 911 Ontario Advisory Board  
Bill Davis provided an update.
- vi) Other  
No report.

## **RECEIVED**

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

13. Letter from Glen Sterrett, Public Works Superintendent, Town of Grand Valley

The ROMA Board agreed to monitor the issue and wait for Transportation Minister Glen Murray's response.

## **INFORMATION ITEMS (14 – 23)**

Pat Vanini provided an update on the new Building Canada Fund.

**Moved by: Eleanor Renaud**  
**Seconded by: Doug Thompson**

***"That the Information Items be received."***

## **CARRIED**

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

24. Other business brought forward by members

No further business.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

25. Next meeting: Thursday, April 10, 2014, 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., AMO Office, 200 University Avenue, Suite 801, Toronto.

26. Adjournment

Chair Eddy declared the meeting adjourned.