

## Meeting of the ROMA Board

Thursday, January 15, 2015

Conference Call

9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.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)  
Second Vice-Chris White, Warden, County of Wellington (Zone 2)

##### Zone and AMO Rural Caucus Representatives

Bill Bilton, Mayor, Township of Dawn-Euphemia (Zone 1)  
Ronald Holman, Mayor, Township of Rideau Lakes (AMO Rural Caucus)  
Jim Sheedy, Councillor, Township of Laurentian Valley (Zone 6)  
Allan Thompson, Councillor, Town of Caledon (Zone 4)  
Chris Wray, CAO/Clerk-Treasurer, Municipality of Wawa (AMO Rural Caucus)

##### Staff:

Nancy Plumridge, ROMA Executive-Treasurer  
Cathie Brown, Senior Advisor  
Nicholas Ruder, AMO Policy Advisor  
Lorna Ruder, AMO Executive Assistant

---

#### 1. Chair's Welcome

Chair Ron Eddy welcomed the ROMA Board to the meeting.

#### 2. Declaration

- Pecuniary interest - none
- Early departure - no

#### 3. Approval of November 13, 2014 ROMA Board Minutes

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

***“That the Minutes of the ROMA Board meeting held Thursday, November 12, 2014 be approved as circulated.”***

**CARRIED**

**TIMED ITEMS**

4. OGRA/ROMA Conference

Joe Tiernay provided an update on conference program and planning.

5. Executive-Treasurer’s Report

ROMA/OGRA Combined Conference Agreement: Nancy Plumridge and the ROMA Board discussed the correspondence from Joe Tiernay regarding the joint conference agreement.

**Moved by: Bill Bilton**  
**Seconded by: Allan Thompson**

***“That a meeting date be confirmed as soon as possible, for the ROMA and OGRA working groups to review the joint conference agreement;***

***That the ROMA and OGRA Executives meet on Sunday, February 22, 2015 at the conference, to discuss ROMA’s requirement to audit the joint conference’s revenue and expenses;***

***That the Sunday, February 22, 2015 ROMA Board meeting begin at 10:30 a.m. to discuss the audit; and***

***That the Executive Treasurer send OGRA Executive Director Joe Tiernay a promotional piece for the 2015 OGRA/ROMA Joint Conference for review.”***

**CARRIED**

ROMA Twitter Account/Policy:

**Moved by: Ron Holman**  
**Seconded by: Allan Thompson**

***“That ROMA pay AMO \$1,000 to manage the Twitter account;***

***That the discussion of the ROMA Twitter account and social media policy be deferred to the Sunday, February 22, 2015 ROMA Board meeting; and***

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

**CARRIED**

6. Rural Lens

Doctor Wayne Caldwell reviewed the draft rural lens "A Voice for Rural and Northern Ontario." The final version will be launched and distributed at the OGRA/ROMA Conference, February 22 – 25, 2015.

**Moved by: Allan Thompson**

**Seconded by: Bill Vrebosch**

***"That ROMA Chair Ron Eddy be given the authority to approve the costs of printing the rural lens materials; and***

***That those costs come out of reserves."***

**CARRIED**

**POLICY ITEMS**

7. OPP Update

Chris Wray provided an update on a conference call with the CAOs OPP Billing Reform Discussion Committee.

**RECEIVED**

8. Power Dam Special Payment Program Update

Chris Wray provided an update on the Power Dam Special Payment Program.

**RECEIVED**

9. Policy Update

Cathie Brown provided an update on *Bill 52, Protection of Public Participation Act, 2014* (Anti-SLAPP legislation), the Electricity Distributors Association's Project Green Light, and on Canada Post's plan to discontinue door to door mail delivery.

She congratulated the ROMA Board on its successful 3500 MHz Rural Broadband campaign.

Board members discussed their five top issues for the upcoming Small Town Forum to be held on Sunday, February 22 at the conference. Cathie Brown will forward the information to staff at OGRA.

## **REPORTS OF AMO and ROMA COMMITTEES**

10. ii) Drainage Working Groups

Bill Bilton provided an update, noting environmental assessments will be a thing of the past.

ii) Rural Ontario Institute (ROI)

No report.

iv) Greenbelt Consolidation Policy Group

No report.

v) 911 Ontario Advisory Board

The vacancy on the 911 OAB will be filled after the conference by the 2015 – 2019 ROMA Board.

vi) Other

No report.

**RECEIVED**

## **INFORMATION ITEMS (11 – 23)**

**RECEIVED**

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

24. Other business brought forward by members

No further report.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

25. Next meeting: 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Sunday, February 22, 2015, the Boardroom, Fairmont Royal York Hotel, OGRA/ROMA Conference
26. Adjournment

Chair Ron Eddy declared the meeting adjourned.