

## Meeting of the ROMA Board

Thursday, June 11, 2015

9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

AMO Office  
200 University Avenue, Suite 801  
Toronto, Ontario

### MINUTES

#### **PRESENT:**

Chair Ronald Holman, Mayor, Township of Rideau Lakes (Zone 7)  
Second Vice-Chair Chris White, Mayor, Township of Guelph-Eramosa (Zone 2)

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

Bill Bilton, Councillor, Township of Dawn-Euphemia (Zone 1)  
Eli El-Chantiry, Councillor, City of Ottawa, West Carlton-March Ward (Zone 8)  
Liz Huff, Councillor, Township of Leeds & the Thousand Islands (AMO Rural Caucus)  
Bill Vrebosch, Mayor, Township of East Ferris (Zone 9)  
Chris Wray, CAO/Clerk-Treasurer, Municipality of Wawa (AMO Rural Caucus)

#### **Staff:**

Cathie Brown, AMO Senior Advisor  
Lorna Ruder, AMO Executive Assistant  
Matthew Wilson, AMO Senior Advisor

#### **Regrets:**

Past Chair Ron Eddy, Mayor, County of Brant (Zone 3)  
First Vice-Chair Allan Thompson, Mayor, Town of Caledon (Zone 4)  
Liz Danielsen, Deputy Reeve, Township of Algonquin Highlands (Zone 5)  
Robert Pasuta, Councillor, Ward 14, City of Hamilton (Zone 3)  
Jim Sheedy, Councillor, Township of Laurentian Valley (Zone 6)

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#### 1. Chair's Welcome

Chair Holman welcomed the ROMA Board to the meeting.

#### 2. Declaration

- Pecuniary interest – none
- Early departure – none

## ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

3. Approval of May 14, 2015 ROMA Board Meeting Minutes

**Moved by:** Chris Wray  
**Seconded by:** Liz Huff

***“That the Minutes of the ROMA Board meeting held on Thursday, May 14, 2015 be approved as circulated.”***

**CARRIED**

## TIMED ITEMS

4. Joint Conference Update

Joe Tiernay provided on the joint conference.

- 4a. Asphalt Paving Deterioration

At the request of ROMA members, Joe Tiernay briefed the Board on OGRA's Cement Quality Steering Committee.

**Moved by:** Liz Huff  
**Seconded by:** Bill Vrebosch

***“That, in coordination with OGRA, and using science based information, ROMA write to the Minister of Transportation expressing concern about the deterioration of asphalt paving in the Province of Ontario.”***

**CARRIED**

5. Fiscal Sustainability Update

Matthew Wilson provided an update on AMO's fiscal sustainability project, What's Next Ontario. ROMA board members provided feedback from their varied local and regional perspectives. The AMO President will report on this to membership at the August Conference.

The ROMA Board directed staff to send a letter to the AMO President, indicating that they will continue to consider the issue and will provide formal feedback at a future meeting.

6. ROMA Video Content

The Jacqueline Demers of Redbrick Communication, Cathie Brown and the ROMA Board discussed key messages and audience for the ROMA video project.

7. Minister of the Environment and Climate Change

Ashley Snow, Divisional Program Specialist, Program Services Section, and colleagues from the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change, gave a presentation on the D Series guidelines, with specific focus on D-5-5: Technical Guideline for Private Wells: Water Supply Assessment. Changes to the guidelines are now underway, with the D-5-5 likely to be a separate document. Eli El-Chantiry requested clarity in the language used, i.e. 'Shall not' vs 'guidance' for local municipal usage.

**Moved by:** Eli El-Chantiry  
**Seconded by:** Liz Huff

***"That ROMA write to the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change requesting clarity on how this directive is intended to be interpreted."***

**CARRIED**

**POLICY ITEMS**

8. Aerodromes and Transport Canada Review

Cathie Brown provided an update. It was agreed to bring this back to a future meeting when Allan Thompson could attend.

9. Policy Updates

Cathie Brown provided updates on Waste management/blue box, Bill 73, aggregates, and Hydro One sale. The ROMA Board will continue to monitor the Hydro One sale potential impacts on rural municipalities. Staff will also follow up with additional information from CN on rail safety.

**REPORTS OF AMO and ROMA COMMITTEES**

10. i) AMO Rural Caucus Report

As the AMO Board of Directors had not met since March 2015, there was no report.

ii) ROMA/OGRA Conference Committee Report

Chair Holman advised that the next joint committee meeting would be in June.

ii) Rural Ontario Institute (ROI)

No report.

- iv) Greenbelt Consolidation Policy Group

No report.

- v) Drainage Working Groups

Bill Bilton reviewed the history of the Drainage Action Working Group for the new ROMA Board members. The federal government has changed the *Fisheries Act* so that drainage superintendents can now carry out maintenance measures, without intervention from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans as long as certain guidelines are met. Drainage superintendents still must pay attention to the *Endangered Species Act*, and he noted that there is still no appeal system in place for decisions made under *Fisheries Act*.

- vi) Other

No report.

**Moved by: Bill Bilton**  
**Seconded by: Bill Vrebosch**

***“That the Committee Reports be received.”***

**CARRIED**

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- 11. Volunteer Firefighters

Chris Wray advised that two ministries overseeing volunteer firefighters is a problem from an emergency management perspective. He said that ROMA should find out if members are concerned about this and bring it to the next meeting.

- 12. Posting on website

Ron Holman discussed posting of materials on the ROMA website, as part of the updated ROMA communications strategy. Staff to follow up and provide an update.

- 13. Power Dams

Chris Wray discussed the problems with the compensatory payment plan that affects 111 municipalities. Cathie Brown said that she would get an update for the next meeting. Chris Wray said that the municipalities involved are requesting delegations with the Minister of Finance at the AMO Conference, and will also be asking questions from the floor during the Ministers' Forum.

## **INFORMATION ITEMS (Items 14 - 23)**

**Moved by:** Chris White  
**Seconded by:** Chris Wray

*"That the Information Items be received."*

**CARRIED**

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

24. Other business brought forward by members

Liz Huff thanked staff for the information provided on rural retirement homes.

25. Agenda items for future ROMA Board meetings

- Aerodromes
- Volunteer firefighters
- Fiscal sustainability
- Power dams
- Use of ROMA website
- OGRA contract negotiations

## **ADJOURNMENT**

26. Next meeting: AMO Annual Conference, Sunday, August 16, 2015, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m., Scotia Bank Convention Centre, Niagara Falls, Ontario.

27. Adjournment

**Moved by:** Eli El-Chantiry  
**Seconded by:** Bill Bilton

*"That we do now adjourn to meet again."*

**CARRIED**