

## Meeting of the ROMA Board

Thursday, October 13, 2016

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**

Liz Danielsen, Deputy Reeve, Township of Algonquin Highlands (Zone 5)  
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)  
Robert Pasuta, Councillor, Ward 14, City of Hamilton (Zone 3)  
Bill Vrebosch, Mayor, Township of East Ferris (Zone 9)  
Mark Wales, Councillor, Township of Malahide (AMO Rural Caucus)  
Chris Wray, CAO/Clerk-Treasurer, Municipality of Wawa (AMO Rural Caucus)

#### **Staff:**

Afshin Majidi, ROMA Executive-Treasurer  
Cathie Brown, AMO Senior Advisor  
Lorna Ruder, AMO Executive Assistant  
Jessica Schmidt, AMO Policy Advisor

#### **Regrets:**

Bill Bilton, Councillor, Township of Dawn-Euphemia (Zone 1)  
Past Chair Ron Eddy, Mayor, County of Brant  
First Vice-Chair Allan Thompson, Mayor, Town of Caledon (Zone 4)

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#### 1. Chair's Welcome

Chair Ron Holman welcomed Board members and staff to the meeting.

#### 2. Declaration

- Pecuniary interest – none
- Early departure – Chris White and Eli El-Chantiry departed at noon.

## ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

3. Approval of August 14, 2106 ROMA Board Meeting Minutes

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

*"That the Minutes of the ROMA Board meeting held on August 14, 2016 be approved as circulated."*

**CARRIED**

4. Executive-Treasurer's Report

Afshin Majidi reviewed the Financial Statements.

**Moved by Mark Wales**  
**Seconded by Chris Wray**

*"That the Financial Statements be accepted as presented."*

**CARRIED**

The Board discussed the costs ROMA paid to allow the use of credit card payment for ROMA conference registration, and decided this is a necessary cost.

5. December 8, 2016 ROMA Board conference call meeting

**Moved by Liz Huff**  
**Seconded by Liz Danielsen**

*"That the ROMA Board hold an additional meeting by conference call 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. on December 8, 2016."*

**CARRIED**

- 5a. ROMA Zone 6 Vacancy

Pat Vanini advised that in order to hold the election the ROMA Board will need to appoint an election returning officer. Pat also made recommendations as to the timing of the election and announcement of the results: that the nominations be issued no later than October 24, 2016, the election be held on January 30, 2017 at 11am, and the results be announced at the end of the Annual General Meeting on January 30, 2017.

**Moved by Liz Danielsen**  
**Seconded by Liz Huff**

*"That Pat Vanini be appointed as ROMA Election Returning Officer."*

**CARRIED**

**Moved by Robert Pasuta  
Seconded by Chris Wray**

*"That the election for the Zone 6 Representative to the ROMA Board be held on Monday, January 30, 2017, 11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m."*

**CARRIED**

**Moved by Eli El-Chantiry  
Seconded by Bill Vrebosch**

*"That the results of the election for the Zone 6 Representative be announced at the end of the Annual General Meeting on Monday, January 30, 2017."*

**CARRIED**

6. Agriculture-Wildlife Conflict Working Group

Cathie Brown advised that OMAFRA is looking for representatives for an Agriculture-Wildlife Conflict Working Group. Mark Wales expressed interest in joining the group on behalf of ROMA.

**Moved by Chris Wray  
Seconded by Bill Vrebosch**

*"That the Board confirms the appointment of Mark Wales to the OMAFRA Agriculture-Wildlife Conflict Working Group."*

**CARRIED**

**TIMED ITEMS**

6a. Parliamentary Assistant Lou Rinaldi, Ministry of Municipal Affairs

Infrastructure funding: PA Rinaldi indicated that the government is attempting to move to simplified funding applications.

Energy costs and natural gas: The government is committed to exploring energy storage. In remote areas, micro grids may be a solution. The government is not considering banning natural gas.

Broadband: Funding is committed for infrastructure outside the GTA, including for broadband.

Assessment and taxation: MMA staff will follow up with MCSCS staff to ask for further information on a letter regarding the proposal to remove certain lands from the policing assessment and taxation base. MMA staff indicated that consultations on this issue are planned for the near future.

Social services: It is useful to the government if ROMA members can provide specifics on issues and suggest solutions, for example the sprinkler requirement in small rural retirement homes issue. This helps the government address these issues.

Rural economic development: The administration costs for the plethora of programs the government operates was identified as high, and the RED program was eliminated in an attempt to minimize the cost of program administration. There are two programs that would replace it: one through OMAFRA and one through another ministry. The OMAFRA program will be released soon.

7. Rural Libraries – Brian Masschaele, Director of Community and Cultural Services, County of Elgin

Brian Masschaele presented an overview of ARUPLO, the issues concerning rural libraries, and how ROMA and ARUPLO might work together on issues of shared interest. These issues include static funding and funding delays for rural libraries from the Province, as well as the high costs of ebooks to rural libraries.

**Moved by Chris Wray**  
**Seconded by Liz Danielsen**

*“That the ROMA Board send a letter to the Ministry of Culture, Tourism, and Sport to outline that grants to rural libraries are insufficient, emphasize the need to move away from per capita funding, and to encourage action on the ebooks issue; and*

*That ROMA write a second letter to ARUPLO to thank Brian Masschaele for his presentation and to indicate that ROMA would like to collaborate on issues of mutual interest in the future, and to encourage collaboration with the group that represents rural libraries in northern Ontario.”*

**CARRIED**

## **POLICY ITEMS**

8. Changes to the *Residential Tenancies Act*

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

*“That the ROMA Board have staff write a letter outlining ROMA’s concerns with*

*the changes to the Residential Tenancies Act to be sent to the appropriate legislative committee when Bill 7 is referred. "*

**CARRIED**

9. Bill 13 and the Cancellation of LRPII Update

Cathie Brown provided an update on the impacts of Bill 13 and LRPII.

10. Policy Update

Cathie Brown provided updates on:

- What's Next Ontario resolution
- Ontario Municipal Board Review
- Canada Post
- ROMA Strategic Planning
- Energy Event invitation

**Moved by Liz Huff**

**Seconded by Mark Wales**

*"That the Policy Update be received."*

**CARRIED**

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

11. Financial Support for Sprinkler Installation – Liz Huff

No discussion necessary.

12. New Registration on End of Life Vehicles – Ron Holman

For information- no discussion necessary.

13. Sand Hill Cranes and Elk – Ron Holman

Staff to look into whether the government is taking any action on this issue.

14. Reinstatement of RED – Ron Holman

No discussion necessary.

15. OPP – Chris Wray

Chris Wray met with a group of CAOs to discuss costing for OPP. Various alternative ways of operating were considered to achieve cost savings.

16. Municipal World Article – Chris Wray

Chris Wray's article has been submitted to Municipal World.

17. Hydro Zones – Ron Holman

No discussion necessary.

18. OPP Property Counts letter – Ron Holman

Ron Holman outlined upcoming changes to OPP Property counts as outlined in a recently received letter from the Province.

19. Merged Lots – Ron Holman

This is an ongoing issue. The Ministry of Municipal Affairs is pursuing whether the issue is in lawyer interpretation or whether a change in the *Planning Act* is necessary.

**RECEIVED**

**REPORTS OF AMO and ROMA COMMITTEES**

20. i) AMO Rural Caucus Update – Ron Holman & AMO Rural Caucus (Pages 85 – 87)  
ii) ROMA Conference Committee Report – Ron Holman  
iii) Rural Ontario Institute (ROI) – Chris White  
iv) Workforce Planning Board – Chris White  
v) Greenbelt Consolidation Policy Group – Allan Thompson  
vi) Drainage Working Groups – Bill Bilton  
vii) Other

**Moved by Liz Danielsen  
Seconded by Chris Wray**

*"That the Committee Reports be received."*

**CARRIED**

**INFORMATION ITEMS (Items 21 – 33 & Supplemental Package)**

**Moved by Liz Huff  
Seconded by Mark Wales**

*"That the Information Items be received."*

**CARRIED**

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

34. Other business brought forward by members

Liz Huff indicated that ROMA may want to work with ROI to advocate that rural municipal governments receive a portion of cap and trade revenue.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

35. Next meeting: Thursday, November 10, 2016, 9:30 – 1:30 p.m., AMO Office, 200 University Avenue, Suite 801, Toronto, Ontario

36. Agenda items to bring forward:

- Biosolids – Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change
- Liz Huff asked that the relationship with ROI and potential collaborative work be brought forward.

37. Adjournment

**Moved by Bill Vrebosch**  
**Seconded by Liz Danielsen**

*“That we do now adjourn to meet again.”*

**CARRIED**